



ST JOHN'S COLLEGE



St John's College in co-operation with the Johannesburg Institute for Advanced Study (JIAS) is privileged to host Prof Frans Verstraten for an evening talk:

PUSHING THE BRAIN IN ACTION: Psychology is so much more than a client on a leather sofa...

Wednesday 5 October 2016

17:30 for 18:00

At St John's College, Jeffrey Auditorium

This evening event is linked to the JIAS annual colloquium on

WHY THE BRAIN MATTERS.

Please book at <http://r.sjc.co.za/BrainTalk> for catering purposes



PUSHING THE BRAIN IN ACTION:

Psychology is so much more than a client on a leather sofa...

When asked about a psychologist, most people think of a therapist listening to a patient on a couch. However, in my presentation I will focus on a very different part of psychology. The part that is concerned with finding out how the mind/brain works, nowadays generally known as cognitive (neuro)science. My research philosophy is that in order to understand the brain and its underlying processes, the best way is to find out where the brain gives up or starts making big mistakes. So, push it to its limits! I will show many beautiful and sometimes mindboggling phenomena that will make you think and think again (and hopefully inspire you to think how to solve the problem in the future). I will also combine this with examples from the latest techniques to look into the brain in action. I will show that the multidisciplinary approach is the way to go. Everyone can contribute to finding out how the brain works. It doesn't matter whether you like STEM disciplines, philosophy, computer science, social sciences, or any other discipline. Together they will have to solve the problem of how the brain, and therefore how the mind, works.



Frans Verstraten - Professor of Psychology

Speaker Bio

Frans Verstraten is a Professor of Psychology at The University of Sydney and Utrecht University. He studied Experimental Psychology at Radboud University in Nijmegen, The Netherlands. In 1994 he was awarded a PhD from Utrecht University with the highest distinction. After post-doctoral positions at McGill University (Montreal), Harvard University and the Advanced Telecommunications Research Institute International in Kyoto, Japan, he received a Netherlands Academy of Arts & Sciences research fellowship to work again at Utrecht University. In 1999 he was appointed full professor at Utrecht University. He served as department head and scientific director of the Helmholtz Institute. While in Utrecht, he was elected Teacher of the Year three times by the psychology students. In 2002 he received a 1.65 million Euro Pionier Grant from the Netherlands Organisation of Scientific Research. He has (co-)authored over 100 papers, edited three books and wrote 'Psychology in a Nutshell' (Psychologie in een Notendop) for the wider audience. More recently, a four-CD audio-book with some of his lectures on how the brain works was published. He was elected to the Board of Directors of the Vision Sciences Society in 2009 and was the society's president in 2013. He served on several editorial boards and is currently editor-in-chief of journals Perception and i-Perception. In 2012 he moved to Sydney where he holds the prestigious McCaughey Chair of Psychology, the oldest chair in Psychology in Australia. He is also the Head of School.

Please join us to hear from an internationally renowned speaker.
