Imitation, Memory, and Cultural Changes:

Probing the *Meme* Hypothesis

Victoria College, Northrop Frye Hall, Room 205 (May 4-6, 2007)

PROGRAM

Friday, May 4, 3:00-5:30 pm

Opening

**Professor David Klausner**
Vice-dean for Interdisciplinary Affairs, Faculty of Arts and Science

Chair: **Professor Emeritus Paul Bouissac**
(University of Toronto, French)

**Dr. Alejandro Lynch**
(Toronto)
“*The Population Memetics of Bird Song*”

**Prof. Dr. George van Driem**
(University of Leiden, Linguistics)
*Symbiosis and the Leiden Definition of the Meme*

Saturday, May 5, 9:00-12:30

Chair: **Professor Maggie Toplak**
(York University, Psychology)

**Professor Keith Stanovich**
(University of Toronto, OISE)
“*Rationality, Evolution, and the Meme Concept*”

Coffee break

**Professor Michael Chazan**
(University of Toronto, Anthropology)
“*Is a Handaxe a Meme?*”

**Dr. Ethan Cochrane**
(University College London, Institute of Archaeology)
“How Useful is Memetics in Evolutionary Archaeology?”

Saturday, May 5, 2:00-5:00
Professor Michael Best  
(Georgia Institute of Technology)  
“Computational Memetics”

Professor Marion Blute  
(University of Toronto, Sociology)  
“The Role of Memes in Cultural Evolution: Memes if Necessary but not Necessarily Memes”

Sunday, May 6, 10:00-12:00

Chair: Professor Richard West  
(James Madison University, Psychology)

Professor Peter Jackson  
(University of Tromso, Religious Studies)  
“Some Thoughts on the Concept of Meme in Religious Studies”

General discussion

Please check the following website for additional papers and for video clips of this symposium:
http://www.semioticon.com/virtuals/imitation/index.html

Submissions of papers relevant to the topics discussed in this symposium (for inclusion in the virtual symposium website) are welcome. They should be sent in electronic form to Paul Bouissac (bouissa@attglobal.net) or Alejandro Lynch (alyynch@hopscotch.ca). Past symposia and other resources can be accessed through http://www.semioticon.com