



NEW RELEASE

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NEW INSIGHTS INTO THE MIND

Some of the world's leading authorities on the human brain will be at a two-day symposium in Sydney next week.

The Black Dog Institute and the University of New South Wales are jointly hosting the symposium, *Modeling and Imaging the Human Brain*.

One of the highlights will be the unveiling of new technology for understanding brain functioning, which may lead to breakthroughs in the treatment of depression and other mental illnesses.

"This is the first machine of its type in Australia," said UNSW Professor Philip Mitchell, the Head of the School of Psychiatry. "This innovative apparatus allows us to collect two sets of information on brain functioning at the same time."

"It is a very exciting development because it will give us a richer understanding of what is happening in the brain."

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) shows where the activity is taking place in the brain, while recordings from a specially developed electroencephalogram (EEG), show a representation of electrical functioning. This state of the art

technology combines the two processes at one time, while the patient is in the brain scanner.

“We hope that it will help us understand the neural mechanisms of perception, problem solving, memory, mood and other mental functions,” he said.

What: Modeling and Imaging the Human Brain: A Symposium

When: Monday 21 and Tuesday 22 February 2005

Where: The Black Dog Institute, Hospital Road, Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick.

Moving images are available upon request.

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