## **SYMPOSIUM**

Honoring

## John T. Bruer

on his 30 years of Leadership at James S. McDonnell Foundation

May 28-29, 2015

Knight Executive Conference Center, St. Louis, Missouri, USA

## THURSDAY, MAY 28, 2015

6:00 -7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception

7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Dinner

Testimonials by:

VIMLA L. PATEL, New York Academy of Medicine DAVID KLAHR, Carnegie Mellon University

JOHN F. MCDONNELL, James S. McDonnell Foundation

## Friday, May 29, 2014

8:00 – 8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast Available

8:50 - 9:10 a.m. Opening Remarks:

SUSAN M. FITZPATRICK, James S. McDonnell Foundation

9:15-10:30 a.m. Session 1: Advancing the Cognitive Science of Education

Chair: DAVID KLAHR, Carnegie Mellon University
Speakers: KEN KOEDINGER, Carnegie Mellon University

JUSTIN HALBERDA, Johns Hopkins University

10:30 - 10:50 a.m. Break

11:00 - 12:15 p.m. Session 2: The Cognitive Neuroscience of Attention

Chair: STEVEN PETERSEN, Washington University in St. Louis Speakers: STEVEN HILLYARD, University of California - San Diego

KIA NOBRE, University of Oxford

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. Session 3: Bringing Cognition & Complexity

to International Health Problems

Chair: FRANK C. KEIL, Yale University

Speakers: ROBERT J. STERNBERG, Cornell University LAUREN ANCEL MEYERS, University of Texas at Austin

1:30 - 2:15 p.m. Lunch

2:15 - 3:30 p.m. Session 4: Mapping Our Scientific Knowledge

Chair: LUCIANO FLORIDI, University of Oxford Speakers: KATY BÖRNER, Indiana University M. ÁNGELES SERRANO, University of Barcelona

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. Closing Remarks: JOHN T. BRUER

4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Reception at Whittemore House 6440 Forsyth Boulevard



John T. Bruer served as the president of the James S. McDonnell Foundation from 1986 through 2014. Dr. Bruer was the first full-time professional to head the McDonnell Foundation and developed and initiated major new programs for the Foundation. In collaboration with the Pew Chartiable Trusts, he established the McDonnell-Pew Program in Cognitive Neuroscience. His program Cognitive Studies for Educational Practice supported applications of cognitive science to improve educational outcomes.

Bruer's work in applied cognitive science resulted in the book, Schools for Thought: A Science of Learning in the Classroom, which explains in clear, straight-forward language why extending and applying the research base for education must be an integral component of any serious attempt at school reform. John's book The Myth of the First Three Years: A New Understanding of Early Brain Development and Lifelong Learning debunks many popular beliefs about the all-or-nothing effects of early experience on a child's brain and development urging parents and decision-makers to consider for themselves the evidence for lifelong learning opportunities.

