We are very pleased to inform you that the Österreichische Forschungsgemeinschaft [Austrian Research Foundation] has decided to bestow upon you, Professor Mischel, the Ludwig Wittgenstein Preis 2012 der Österreichischen Forschungsgemeinschaft [Austrian Research Foundation's Ludwig Wittgenstein Prize for 2012] in recognition of your outstanding achievements in the field of personality psychology. The award is endowed with an honorarium of €7,500.

The Österreichische Forschungsgemeinschaft was established in the year 1977 with the intention of eliciting new impulses in research policy, above all with the aim of encouraging research in Austria.

Since then we have embraced policy issues considered highly relevant to both research and higher education, such as the evaluation of scientific achievements, university system reforms, and problems particular to the Humanities stemming from conflicts between the field’s self-image and public expectations. Furthermore, we have participated in a number of partnerships, applying our insights and methodological experiences gathered in the areas of humanities, legal sciences and social sciences to interdisciplinary projects, symposia and discussions.

Similarly, the encouragement and support of young scientists and recognition of outstanding scientific achievement are prime concerns.

For the latter purpose, the statutes of the Austrian Research Foundation stipulate the establishment of the “Ludwig Wittgenstein-Preis”, which can be awarded in honor of either the outstanding accomplishments of an individual, or for a singular work of profound academic significance in the field of science. This prize can be awarded to acknowledge a single extraordinary achievement, as well as in recognition of excellence in a body of work.
built up over time. It may be awarded to persons who have conducted their scientific research work in Austria, as well as in honor of scholars whose academic work is of exceptional significance for Austria.

The process whereby the recipient of the award is determined is conducted by the Scientific Advisory Board of the Österreichischen Forschungsgemeinschaft, which is composed of representatives of a wide variety of scientific disciplines (see enclosure). In the year 2012, the prize will be awarded for the twelfth time since its inception. In the year 1988 we we were permitted to bestow this honor on Ernst Gombrich, in 1990 it went to Viktor Weisskopf, in 1993 to Oleh Hornykiewicz, in 1996 to Ottokar Uhl, in 1997 to Hermann A. Haus, in 2000 to Peter Berger, in 2002 to Hans Tuppy, in 2004 to Carl E. Schorske, in 2006 to Helmut Rauch, in 2008 to Ernst Steinkellner, and in 2010 to Barbara Hohn.

Professor Mischel, we would like to respectfully inquire as to whether you would be willing to accept this award and if the proposed ceremony date is acceptable. Also, we would be honored if you would consent to addressing our gathering, on the topic of your choice, in conjunction with this festive occasion.

The tentatively scheduled date for the ceremony is October 5, 2012. The ceremony will be, fittingly, conducted in the Main Ceremonial Chamber on the grounds of the University of Vienna. Our advisory board member, Christiane Spiel, will be organizing a symposium in your honor, also to be conducted on this day.

With our faithful and highest esteem,

Heinrich Neisser
Univ. Prof. Dr. Heinrich Neisser
President

Reinhard Neck
Univ. Prof. Dr. Reinhard Neck
Scientific Advisory Board Chairman

Enclosure
Mitglieder des Wissenschaftlichen Beirates (Members of the Scientific Board)

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Univ.Prof. Dr. Konstanze FLIEDL, Universität Wien, Institut f. Germanistik
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