

Allan Hobson's Questions to Invited Speakers

Dan Dennett

1. You have written a book called *Consciousness Explained*. Harsh critics have renamed it *Consciousness Explained Away*. Can you give us a concise definition of consciousness?
2. What is your position on the mind-body problem. Is it real? Is it solved? Can it be Solved? What would a solution look like?
3. You and I are fierce opponents of Cartesian dualism. But how are we to deal with phenomena like lucid dreaming when subjects tell us that they can watch their own dream unfold. Is this not the dreaded Cartesian theatre?

Giulio Tononi

1. Do you really think that consciousness can be mathematized?
2. Would you please summarize your new model of sleep function. Is the model testable?
3. Is dreaming, for you, an altered state of consciousness? What is the relationship between dreaming and waking?

Mark Mahowald

1. Do you consider RBD to be a dissociative state akin to sleep walking and hypnosis?
2. Should persons be held responsible for acts committed in their dreams? In their sleep?
3. From a neurological perspective, what model of consciousness appeals to you most?