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The faces of the four editors (at the corners of the array) have been blended together in progressive steps by using computer image processing techniques developed to study perception of facial information. Such composite portraits have their origins in the work of Galton who last century sought to define the facial qualities of 'criminality' by photographically averaging images of convicted felons. To Galton's surprise he found 'the special villainous irregularities disappeared [in his composite criminal face], and the common humanity that underlies them prevailed'. Here, the face of the average 'editor' has been synthesized, at the centre of the array, knowing now that the truth (and humanity) always lies somewhere in the middle.

P.J. Benson & D.I. Perrett
PROCESSING THE FACIAL IMAGE

A DISCUSSION ORGANIZED AND EDITED BY V. BRUCE, A. COWEY, A. W. ELLIS AND D. I. PERRETT

(Discussion held 9 and 10 July 1991)

[One plate]

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