Executive Committee Members: A Brief Presentation.

Karen Morgan (Ireland)
President

I am the foundation lead in Psychology and Behavioral Science at Perdana University, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland School of Medicine in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. I have been here on secondment from the Division of Population Health Sciences, RCSI Dublin since 2011. My research focuses include ageing, quality of life and sexual health. Since moving to Malaysia I have become increasingly involved in studies of how culture influences health and health behaviour. Health psychology is very much in its infancy here but the potential for growth is significant. A member of EHPS since 2004, in the past I have been the local liaison for CREATE, Chair of CREATE, Chair of Synergy and Secretary of EHPS. I am very excited to be President of EHPS for the coming two years. We have a dynamic and experienced team who hope to build on the work of previous ECs. In February we will have our winter meeting in Dublin and this year we will have this meeting alongside the CREATE and Synergy boards. We hope this will facilitate more exchange of ideas and lead to some exciting developments over the next year!

Vera Araujo-Soares (Portugal/UK)
President Elect

I am a Senior Lecturer in Health Psychology in the Faculty of Medical Sciences, Newcastle University, UK. An EHPS member since 1997, I attended 15 EHPS conferences, served on two previous ECs, as a member of CREATE and Synergy organizing committees and as editor of the EHP. I completed my studies at Minho University in Portugal where I worked as an academic and a clinician. In 2006 I moved to Aberdeen as Senior Research Fellow in the Scottish Alliance for Self-Care Research before moving to Newcastle in 2010. My research targets the development and assessment of evidence-based interventions for the promotion of health behaviours, prevention and self-management of chronic conditions. I have published in leading international journals including the BMJ, Pain, Health Psychology and Health Psychology Review. I am passionate about translating theory and empirical evidence into practice and by doing so, refining theory. I am committed to open and transparent conduct/reporting of research. I am also a committed teacher, supervisor, and a team player. As President Elect I will contribute to decisions made by the EHPS-EC, chair the Early Career Award and the Herman Schaalma Award committee and will be part of the UN Committee group.
Robbert Sanderman (The Netherlands)
Past President

I am a full professor in Health Psychology at both the University Medical Center in Groningen (University of Groningen) and the University of Twente; both are in The Netherlands. I was trained as a clinical psychologist and got my PhD in 1988 on stress and depression. Shortly after that I started to study coping in people with a chronic illness (Cancer, Diabetes, COPD, Heartfailure), Issuing psychological and social adaptive processes. In addition, I am also involved in studies testing the efficacy of psychosocial interventions aimed at restoring quality of life among patients with a chronic disease. Currently I am also interested in e-Health as an exciting new tool for psychologist. Apart from my research I have been organising educational programs for both students in Medicine and Psychology. Furthermore, I have been on the board of many organisations. As I did the last couple of years in the EHPS which I enjoy very much. I am glad to have the opportunity to help out and bring in both experience and enthusiasm in the team. I like the fact that I have the opportunity to stay on for yet another two years as Past President and be part of the EC and try to help out.

Diana Taut (Romania)
Secretary

I am currently established at the Departement of Psychology, Babes-Bolyai University. My research experience includes identifying psychosocial determinants and facilitators of health interventions uptake, correlates and processes of self-regulation of health (eating and physical activity), and counselling of vulnerable groups. I have been a member of numerous European projects, and published in several international journals. As I have attended 8 EHPS conferences since 2007, I have witnessed the way EHPS network steadily grew and strengthened. Therefore, I think that the future of the society lies in its increasing visibility among scholars but also in its multiple grant and award opportunities for graduate students and young researchers. I will be happy to offer my support to the EHPS president and to the other members of the Executive Committee in my role of a Secretary.

Gudrun Sproesser (Germany)
Treasurer

I am a postdoctoral researcher in the Psychological Assessment and Health Psychology group at the University of Konstanz, Germany, where I finished my Ph.D. in 2012. My research focuses on psychological factors underlying eating behavior and health. Currently, I am working on an international project targeting the question why people eat in a traditional or modern way. Within this project, more than 8000 participants from ten different countries, such as Ghana and India, will be studied in phone and face-to-face interviews as well as in representative online surveys. I am member of the editorial boards of Health Psychology Bulletin and Frontiers in Eating Behavior and was member of the Scientific Committee for the EHPS Conference 2016. Moreover, I received the Early Career Award of the EHPS in 2016. Beyond that, I was treasurer of CREATE from 2009 until 2013. Since 2014, I am treasurer of the EHPS. In this role, I am responsible for all financial issues, for example, for keeping track of EHPS finances, overseeing and organizing payments, and assembling financial reports.
Marta Marques (Portugal)
Membership Officer

I am a Research Associate in Health Psychology at the University of Newcastle, United Kingdom, and member of the Self-Regulation-CIPER research group, Faculty of Human Kinetics, University of Lisbon, Portugal. I obtained my Ph.D. in Health Psychology from Leiden University, and I am a chartered clinical and health psychologist. My research focuses on motivational and self-regulation processes underlying health behavior change and maintenance, and developing and testing theory-based health behavior change interventions. Since I joined the EHPS in 2009, I have participated in most of the annual conferences and various workshops/expert meetings. In recent years I have been involved in various activities of society, which provided me valuable experience that I can use to enhance EHPS reach and initiatives. I was associate editor of the European Health Psychologist (2013-2016). Currently, I am chair of the E-courses Committee (since 2014), and member of the UN Committee Group (since 2012). In August 2016, I joined the EC, taking the role of Membership Officer. As membership officer, I am responsible for promoting recruitment of new members, and for maintaining good membership records.

Val Morrison (UK)
Ordinary Member

With 30 years of research experience including identifying sociocognitive predictors of polydrug use and injecting behaviour in the mid-late 1980’s before ‘health psychology’ had really emerged in the UK, to examining psychosocial predictors of illness outcomes, I am a latecomer to the EC!

Working with academic and NHS colleagues to address functional and emotional outcomes amongst a range of patient populations, we employ mixed methods in prospective designs, or within randomised controlled trials developing and delivering multidisciplinary, health psychology informed interventions (e.g. FEMUR trial; SLA Social & Leisure Activities after stroke trial; TOPCAT-G optimising follow-up in gynaecological cancers). Being awarded an Honorary appointment at UMCG Groningen in 2015 is facilitating further collaborations in dyadic research, as did the 2014 EHPS Network grant which culminated in the book Caregiving in Context, Palgrave 2015, written with fantastic colleagues in the Netherlands, Israel, USA, Poland, Singapore and Greece.

I try to ‘give back’ to my discipline through the textbook, Introduction to Health Psychology (Morrison & Bennett, 2006/09/12/16), core text for health psychology and medical students in

Rik Crutzen (The Netherlands)
Communication Officer

I am an Associate Professor at Maastricht University, the Netherlands. Moreover, I’m an Honorary Principal Research Fellow at Coventry University, UK. My research focuses on whether and how we can make sure that technology has added value in the field of health psychology. My first EHPS Conference was at my alma mater, Maastricht University, in 2007 and I’ve enjoyed being part of the society ever since. Together with Emely de Vet, I’ve edited the European Health Psychologist and this will be my second term in the Executive Committee. I’m happy to serve as a Communication Officer during this term.
many countries. However Robbert persuaded me that taking on an EC role would give even more back! What can I bring? Hopefully a breadth and depth of understanding of the current and future potential of Health Psychology.

Vangelis Karademes (Greece)
Co-opted National Delegate Officer

Evangelos (Vangelis) Karademas has completed his graduate studies at the University of Athens, Greece. He is a holder of a PhD degree in Health Psychology. Between 1999 and 2003 he was employed at the Department of Psychology, University of Athens as a research and teaching assistant. At the same time, he was serving as the Head of a mental health community center. Since 2004 he is a faculty member at the Department of Psychology, University of Crete. Moreover, he is teaching Health Psychology-related topics in two post-graduate programs at the Universities of Crete and Athens. In the past, he served as the Chair of the University of Crete Counselling Center for Students (2004 – 2014), and as the Chair of the Department of Psychology (2012 – 2014). He has authored one book, as well as more than 100 scientific articles and chapters in international and local journals and editions. He has also edited four books. His research interests include the role of stress in health and illness, self-regulation and health, adaptation to chronic illness, and quality of life and well-being. His role as a co-opted member of the EHPS Executive Committee is to coordinate the team of National Delegates, facilitate their actions and initiatives, and also liaise between National Delegates and the EC.

Gjalt-Jorn Peters (The Netherlands)
Co-opted Web Officer

Gjalt-Jorn is a health psychologist who originally started out studying computer science. Though the switch to psychology turned out to be a fortunate one, a strong affinity with ICT has remained. Combined with his innate compulsion to optimize any and all processes he is exposed to, this contributed to his secondment as Web Officer. In terms of research, he is mainly interested in recreational substance use and nightlife-related behaviors, the dynamics of effective behavior change, and methodology and statistics of health psychology. The latter comprises the majority of his teaching activities.

Sharon Cahill (Ireland)
Administrator

I’m Sharon, the EHPS Administrator. Originally from Ireland, but just moved to Beijing after living in Malaysia for the last few years. My duties include administrating to the needs of the society, dealing with membership queries and assisting with our new website. I enjoy being part of the EHPS team!