



editorial

A message from the new Editors of the European Health Psychologist

Dear Readers,

We would like to take this opportunity to express our thanks and best wishes for the future to the outgoing editors of the European Health Psychologist (EHP), Dr Falko Sniehotta and Dr Vera Araujo-Soares. During Falko and Vera's two year editorship we have seen an outstanding stream of high quality contributions from leading scientists in the field, which has enabled the EHP to go from strength to strength. Falko and Vera provided excellent leadership for the EHP and will continue to support the work of the new editorial team for 2008-2009.

The EHP editorial board has four new members and we look forward to working with them over the next year. Dr Lukasz Kaczmarek from Poland, Dr Richard De Visser from the UK, Rik Crutzen from the Netherlands and Dr Jenny Fidler from the UK joined as co-editors in October 2008 and we would like to wish them a warm welcome to the EHP team.

The EHP has advanced over the last two years in several respects and in particular it has played an increasingly important role in stimulating key debates in the discipline. The EHP published an article written by Professor Keith Petrie that addressed a number of issues relating to the (in)visibility of international research in US health psychology journals, which was followed up in a next EHP issue by a debate about the internationalization of health psychology. At the 2008 combined EHPS/DHP conference in Bath this discussion was continued by Professor Robert Kaplan, editor of the leading American Psychological Association journal *Health Psychology*. This clearly demonstrated that the EHP is having a significant impact on shaping debate regarding the development of the discipline internationally. Most of the established peer-review journals in the field do not cater for this

kind of contribution or exchange; a void that the EHP is uniquely positioned to fill.

It is our hope that the EHP can continue in this vein to encourage self-reflection among those working in health psychology and provide a forum for setting out new directions for research and practice in the field. Authors are invited to submit scientific contributions including position papers (think pieces), overview papers, research letters, interviews, controversial debate, and country or research group profiles. The EHP provides guidance for potential authors on its website: <http://www.ehps.net/ehp/>.

We would like to stress that authors should not feel constrained by these suggestions. We welcome and consider pieces of any format that may be of interest to the wider health psychology community. Please feel free to contact either of the editors if you have an idea for a contribution that may not fit into any of the conventional categories. In our term as editors we would like to embrace the Einsteinian principle that, "Imagination is more important than knowledge" and we look forward to receiving contributions from the EHPS community and beyond. Relevant contributions from those who may not consider themselves as part of the health psychology community per se provide an ideal vantage point for identifying and evaluating the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats to our burgeoning discipline.

We look forward to receiving further interesting work and relevant information for publication in the EHP ■

Emely de Vet & Gerry Molloy, *EHP Editors*

