ehps 2009 – meet the expert

"Meet the Expert" 2009 at 23rd Annual Conference of the European Health Psychology Society in Pisa

"Meet the Expert" pre-conference sessions provide a unique opportunity for early career scientists to talk and get advice about their research ideas and career plans from experts in their field in a relaxed and friendly environment.

The group of experts are established research leaders with numerous scientific publications and an outstanding record as academic teachers in health psychology. Five experts, Profs. Lucy Yardley (UK), Linda Cameron (New Zealand), Robbert Sanderman (Netherland), Denise de Ridder



(Netherland) and **Paschal Sheeran** (UK) agreed to facilitate the initiative this year. The above group of experts proposed a very broad range of health psychology domains for consultation; developing and evaluating interventions, self-regulation, cancer screening, health communication and implementation intentions are only a few of the domains.

The consultations are 30-minute one-on-one or small-group consultation sessions that will take place on the morning before the opening of the annual conference in Pisa. Participants are asked to send in some information about themselves and their study and prepare some questions in advance. This way the experts will have the opportunity to study this information carefully and thus made optimal use of the meeting time. The consultation aims to respond to the needs of each participant and includes the provision of advice on:

- Research perspectives and ideas (in order to encourage research originality).
- Issues relevant to study design (e.g. research tools selection and outcome measures).
- How to combine clinical practice with research and specifically, how to develop interventions and combine this with research.
- Important papers or books (where this was relevant, experts can provide references and other materials).
- How to apply for and obtain funding.
- Career development and networking opportunities.
- Strategies for designing research programmes that address both the development and refinement of theory and the development and assessment of interventions.

Feedback collected systematically last year showed that these sessions fulfilled participants' expectations and they found the sessions to be very useful and supportive, of high quality and optimal length. Many participants added their impressions from this experience:

- 'The atmosphere was very friendly'
- 'Excellent experience, the expert I met with was very helpful and gave me some clear and practical advice that I needed for my PhD'
- 'Although it was a group session, I had the time to answer all the questions I had, and it was nice to meet others with common interests.'
- 'My expert was very generous and helped me plan my research'
- "Excellent initiative, keep it up"





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Angeliki Bogosian (UK), who participated in "Meet the Expert" last year, has joined the organizing team and we hope that this will be a success again.

We invite you to take part in this effort!

Registration deadline:

31st July 2009

For more information or to apply click here

Evie Kirana and Angeliki Bogosian

On behalf of the EHPS Executive Committee

Meet the Expert 2009



Lucy Yardley



Robbert Sanderman



Linda Cameron



Denise de Ridder





Paschal Sheeran