Announcing "Meet the Expert" 2010 at the Cluj Health Psychology Conference

Early career scientists, don’t miss this great opportunity!

We are excited to announce this year’s "Meet the Expert" sessions at the Health Psychology Conference in Cluj. These are pre-conference sessions providing a unique opportunity for all who are interested, particularly early career scientists to discuss and get advice on their research ideas from experts in their field in a relaxed and friendly environment. In light of the positive feedback received from previous MTE sessions over the past three years, the EHPS Executive Committee has decided to continue with this initiative.

A group of experts have been selected who are established research leaders with numerous scientific publications and outstanding academic experience in health psychology. Four experts, Profs., Michelle Fine (US), Michael Murray (UK), Suzanne Segerstrom (US), and Bas Verplanken (UK) have kindly agreed to facilitate the initiative this year. This group of experts has proposed a very broad range of health psychology domains for consultation. Below you can find the list of areas of expertise of each expert.

Professor Michelle Fine – The City University of New York, US
- Youth and injustice in schools, communities and prisons
- Critical inquiry, social theory and the politics of social justice for youth
- Participatory action research

Professor Michael Murray - Keel University, UK
- Critical psychology - critical social psychological approach to the study of health, illness, ageing and well-being
- Qualitative methods – arts-based approach and health
- Action research
- Community psychology - social representation and narrative theory

Professor Suzanne Segerstrom – University of Kentucky, US
- Personality, cognition, and emotion on the physiological effects of stressors
- Self-regulation of cardiovascular, neuroendocrine, and immune function
- Longitudinal study design
- The effects of repetitive thought on psychological and physical health in older adults

1 Preference will be given to early career researchers and to EHPS members but all conference participants are eligible to apply.
Professor Bas Verplanken, University of Bath, UK
- Habitual behaviours including mental habits and negative thinking
- Self-related processes (attitudes and attitude-behaviour relations), self-esteem, and self-regulation
- Health, consumer, and environmental behaviours
- Body image

The consultation sessions will be 30-minutes long and either one-on-one or in small groups. They will take place on the morning before the opening of the annual conference. Participants are asked to send in some information about themselves and their study and prepare some questions in advance. This would help the experts prepare for and make best use of the sessions. The consultations aim to respond to the needs of each participant and include the provision of advice on:

- Research perspectives and ideas encouraging research originality
- Issues relevant to study design such as research tools selection and outcome measures
- Combining clinical practice with research and developing and combining interventions with research
- Publishing in scientific journals
- Important references and other materials
- Applying for and securing funding

Feedback from last year showed that these sessions substantially exceeded participants' expectations. They found the sessions to be extremely useful, of high quality and ideal length. You will find some of their comments below:

- ‘... extremely valuable opportunity for young researchers ... hope it goes on with more and more experts continuing to donate their valuable time to such a worthwhile course ...’
- ‘... very interesting and fast-paced ... particularly liked the one-to-one sessions ...’
- ‘... Keep on doing them! ...’
- ‘... Absolutely great talk with an amazing atmosphere ...’

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

Registration deadline: 15th July 2010².
For the application form see: www.ehps.net > Meet the Expert
For more information contact Ayana Sato: A.Sato@bath.ac.uk

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² Please note that only people that have registered before this deadline can attend the sessions.