

EC report

A template for a European masters programme in Health Psychology



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The need for a European-wide Masters programme in health psychology has been a recurring theme in discussions among National Delegates of the

EHPS in recent years. The need has been more pressing in countries with few or new Masters degree programs. The Executive Committee has acknowledged the need and last year (at the Crete conference) it was decided set up a committee whose role was to write such a programme. Members of the committee are Winnie Gebhardt (NL), Christel Salewski (Germany) and Mark Forshaw (UK). Members have been involved in either setting up, reviewing, or evaluating Masters programmes in Health Psychology. The facilitator is National Delegates Officer, Efrat Neter.

The committee started its work by assembling materials—the programme objectives and programme content from various universities. Following several exchanges, the committee decided about the **scope** and **general principles** of its mission.

Scope

The committee decided to divide the goal into two stages. The *first* stage encompassed writing up of programme objectives and structure, and was to be realized within the current year. The *second* stage will involve applying for an EU grant for curriculum revitalization that will attempt to build a detailed programme including

course syllabi and objectives. The EU funding scheme is called TEMPUS, and it promotes partnerships between higher education institutions in the EU and the Partner Countries surrounding the EU. The average grant is 700,000 euro. The *second* stage depends on interest of potential applicants.

General principles

(1) Use the ECTS (=Education Credit Transfer System, following the Bologna Process) as the credit system; (2) Work on a 1-year programme and a 2-year programme so that countries with different Masters structures could benefit from the template.

The facilitator suggested a template to which members responded and made remarks. Corrections were made and several iterations took place. The committee is still engaged in this ongoing process. Originally, the committee had hoped to have a face-to-face meeting this year, but this is now unlikely. The committee expects to finish up its work by July, to send the materials to National Delegates and discuss responses in the Prague conference in August. EHPS-members who are or have been involved in developing a Master Program in their country are also invited to share their experience with us at the Prague conference. ■