



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Issue 2

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President's message

Dear Colleagues,

Galway, 2005

The response to our forthcoming annual conference in Galway, August 31st to September 3rd, has been (almost!) overwhelming. Of 871 abstracts submitted, 237 were accepted as oral presentations and 440 as poster presentations. These reflect an excellent range of both topic and country. In addition, both our pre-conference workshops *CREATE* and *Synergy* are oversubscribed. I have recently visited Galway and can confirm that preparations are well under way to make this a very exciting conference, both academically and socially. For anyone not yet registered, it is still possible!

Warsaw, 2006

And now is the time to put 30th August to 2nd September 2006 in your diary. Our Polish colleagues at the University of Warsaw will host the EHPS conference, "Social change and new challenges for health psychology".

Promoting Health Psychology in Southern and Eastern Europe

Following our EC Strategy meeting earlier this year, one of our decisions was to find ways of promoting the development of Health Psychology in Southern and Eastern Europe. This has been enacted by Efharis Panagopoulou (Greece), Adriana Baban (Romania), Marie-Carmen Neipp (Spain) and David French (UK) who have applied to the European Union for funding to promote Health Psychology training and collaboration across Europe, with an emphasis on Southern and Eastern Europe. The tables below were used to illustrate the imbalance of Health Psychology across Europe.

The proposal is for three training courses in Greece, Spain and UK to be followed by a conference in Romania, over the years 2006-2009. If this application is successful, full details will be circulated. This is an excellent initiative; many thanks to Efi and David for their hard work in pulling this together.

Health Psychology Review

PUBMED search engine

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF STUDIES
UK	4621
Germany	1151
Spain	533
Italy	585
Greece	78
Portugal	59
Romania	20

PSYCHINFO search engine

COUNTRY	NUMBER OF STUDIES
UK	462
Germany	402
Spain	164
Italy	150
Greece	26
Portugal	18
Romania	8

Thank you to all those who participated in the consultation about the development of our new journal, *Health Psychology Review*. More than 20 members contacted me with great enthusiasm and suggestions for possible founding Editors (17 names from nine countries). I am delighted to announce that the EC, in consultation with the publishers, Taylor and Francis, have appointed Prof Joop van der Pligt, director of the Psychology Research Institute at the University of Amsterdam, to be Founding Editor. We have also appointed Prof Denise de Ridder, scientific director of the Psychology & Health Research Institute at Utrecht University, to be the first Associate Editor. They have extensive editorial experience and high research profiles; their first task will be to propose a strong editorial team, reflecting a good regional and scientific balance. The Publications Sub-committee will meet before the conference and plans for the development and promotion of *HP Review* will be presented to the Members' Meeting in Galway.

Members Involvement

The Members Meeting will be held on Thursday 1st September 19.00-20.15. I would encourage all members in Galway to attend, as it is the one time of the year when you can hear directly from the EC about our activities and plans, and contribute your views and suggestions. Since we have so little time together and so much to discuss, we shall circulate reports of last year's activities in advance.

20 Years of Psychology and Health

The Members Meeting will be preceded by a reception, hosted by Taylor and Francis, to launch *HP Review* and to celebrate 20 years since the launching of *Psychology and Health*. These are two significant achievements, and we deserve to celebrate!

More and better

Finally, EHPS needs to grow! Our membership is barely over 300 members – it should be twice this. This could easily be achieved if each of us persuaded just one other colleague to become a member. I would ask you to do this and to use the conference as an excellent opportunity to recruit. The more members we have, the more we can do, and the better services and support we can provide for our members and for developing Health Psychology across Europe.

I look forward to meeting you in Galway. EC members will be wearing identifiable badges, so please take the opportunity to talk to us. We are interested in both your concerns and your dreams for Health Psychology!

With best wishes,

Susan Michie
President, EHPS