



## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Issue 3

September 2003

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### *President's Message*

Dear EHPS Colleagues,

The EHPS annual conference at Kos is fast approaching. In this newsletter you will find important information regarding the conference. The EC is very pleased with the upcoming conference both in terms of the quality of the scientific program and the attractive social program.

The Executive Committee has been very busy over the last few months in preparation for the several business meetings that will take place during the conference. In the newsletter you will find a *Summary Report of the Executive Committee Strategy Meeting*, which took place last June. This report will bring you up to date on the main developments and future plans for EHPS. Many of the issues covered in the report will be object of discussion at the Members' Meeting.

Inside you will find a *Call for the Members' Meeting*. I hope that many of you will come and contribute to the important discussions about the future of the Society. I would like to call your attention to the ongoing process of revision of the Articles and Standing Orders of the Society, which will be discussed during the Members' Meeting.

At Kos, you will also be introduced to the new venue for our 2004 conference in Helsinki. The scientific committee is organising the call for abstracts and program planning. The scientific program will be organised by tracks, with corresponding chairs and co-chairs. We hope that this format will provide a better coverage of the theme of the conference and will facilitate program preparation. I look forward to seeing you at Kos and hope that you have a safe and pleasant trip.

Teresa McIntyre  
*EHPS President*

## ***EHPS Conference 2003: Call for Members' Meeting***

### **At the 17<sup>th</sup> Conference of The European Health Psychology Society**



September 24 – 27 2003

[www.psychology-health.gr](http://www.psychology-health.gr)

*Conference President:  
Tanya Anagnostopoulou*

In accordance with Article 12 of the Articles and Standing Orders of the European Health Psychology Society, the Executive Committee notifies all EHPS members that the Members' Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 25, at 18:15, during the annual EHPS conference, in Kos.

The proposed agenda for the meeting is listed below:

1. Welcome and introduction of the new Executive Committee
2. Minutes of the previous meeting
3. President's report on EHPS activities and future plans
4. Executive Committee reports:
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Membership Officer
  - National Delegates' Officer
  - Education and Training Officer
  - EHPS newsletter Editor
5. Psychology & Health Editor's report
6. Create and Synergy report
7. Legalisation of the Society
8. Discussion and approval of changes to Articles and Standing Orders
9. Future Conferences
10. Closing statements

In accordance with Article 39 of the EHPS Articles and Standing Orders, members are notified that a proposal to change Articles and Standing Orders to meet requirements for the legalisation of the Society, is part of the proposed Agenda for the Members' Meeting. This proposal will be circulated to members prior to the meeting in accordance with Article 39.

The Executive Committee invites all members to attend this meeting. Member participation in the decision-making of the Society ensures its democratic functioning and is vital to its successful future.

Executive Committee  
*The European Health Psychology Society*

## Summary Report on the Executive Committee Meeting on EHPS Strategy

Portugal, June 2003



Photo: Andrea Horn

The newly elected Executive Committee deemed as an important step for the definition and implementation of its goals and strategy during its mandate, to hold a strategy meeting which took place in Braga, Portugal, June 15 and 16, 2003. The strategy meeting aimed at giving EC members an opportunity to reflect on what the Society is about, its identity and purpose, the means by which the Society aims to reach its goals, its resources (human and financial) and its model of functioning. The main points in the agenda reflect this purpose: short-term and medium range vision for EHPS, analysis of goals for officers and EHPS projects in view of the discussion on strategy, review of the regulations and procedures of the Society, and current issues (legalisation of the Society and upcoming conferences).

Perhaps the most important discussion during this meeting was on *what EHPS has become and what is our vision for its future*. It was agreed that the three main goals of EHPS are still three-fold: research, applications and interchange. Subsequent discussions focused on the identity of EHPS. In the past EHPS defined itself as primarily a scientific organisation and its main activities, i.e., the journal and the conferences reflect this focus. A consensus emerged that we need to preserve the primary focus on the scientific goals but may be able to accommodate in the future some professional concerns.

In terms of the *medium range development of EHPS*, three main goals emerged: 1. to formalise procedures, which regulate the functioning of the Society and its relationship with different partners, 2. to improve the quality of services and products provided to members, 3. to develop a balanced strategy for growth in terms of membership, resources and products.

In terms of the *formalisation of procedures*, the EC has initiated the process of legalising the Society in the Netherlands, which has required the drafting of new Articles and Standing Orders that will be brought before the Members' meeting at Kos for discussion and approval. The legalisation is essential for the Society to be able to open a bank account and conduct other transactions. Other documents that were revised during this meeting were the Procedures for Conference Organisation, The Guidelines for National Delegates, and the Create Statutes. We hope that these procedures will facilitate communication with partners.

Regarding the *improvement of quality in services and products*, three main areas emerged: handling membership needs, conference organisation and development of new products. There has been an effort to streamline the process of applications and renewals of membership by combining the roles of Membership Officer and Treasurer, setting up a mini-office with an assistant, opening an EHPS bank account and providing on-line safe credit card payment for membership. Another goal is to improve promptness of response to members. The EC agreed that the standards of quality could be improved in terms of the

scientific program of EHPS conferences and the relationship with local organisers. The EC reviewed existing procedures for conference organisation, which include a clear definition of proposal submission and appraisal, financial arrangements, conference planning and management, composition and functions of the scientific committee, scientific and social programme, and conference outputs. In terms of *a strategy for growth*, the EC considered that an increase in membership is key to accomplishing its goals and generating the necessary human and financial resources. A recruitment strategy document has been produced which outlines the initiatives which will aid in accomplishing this goal, such as the promotion of EHPS more widely and thoroughly, the improvement in membership services, the development of membership resources, and the improvement of quality of EHPS conferences.

In terms of *products*, the EC focused on examining existing publications, such as the EHPS Newsletter and the journal *Psychology & Health*. The EC is very pleased with the improved image and quality of the EHPS Electronic Newsletter, and its Editor suggested new ideas for continued improvement. The need for more participation of members and national delegates in this project was highlighted. Regarding the journal, the EC is renegotiating the contract with the Publisher and there will be conversations at Kos with Taylor & Francis to renegotiate this agreement. We have noticed good will on the part of the Publisher to render this agreement more reciprocal and favourable to EHPS.

In terms of new products, several ideas were ventilated, namely the development of web-based networks or resources that could stimulate research collaboration in this field. The EC has also been entertaining for a while the expansion of publications and is looking for a niche in terms of periodicals or other publications that EHPS could offer, which would appeal to the membership and the market while contributing to increased resources for the Society. Several contacts with publishers were planned with this goal.

EHPS has also played an important role in promoting education and training in Health Psychology across Europe. This will continue to be an important area of growth in terms of the organisation of seminars outside the conferences and with a more local focus, as well as the development of resources that will facilitate interchange, such as a regular update of the post-graduate programs guide. The existing interest groups, Create and Synergy have enriched EHPS by contributing to education and training, promoting interchange with younger researchers and innovation at EHPS conferences. The EC will continue supporting their initiatives.

Despite this very ambitious agenda, we are pleased that the EC was successful in covering its main topics and a very fruitful discussion arose from this opportunity. However, there was consensus that these meetings should be more regular (if possible, once a year outside the conference) in order for the EC to manage the Society in a purposeful and consistent manner. We hope that many EHPS members will be able to join us at Kos to continue this important discussion about what we see as a promising future for EHPS.

Executive Committee  
*The European Health Psychology Society*

## ***EHPS Conference 2004***

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### ***Announcing EHPS 2004***

#### ***Helsinki in figures***

*Founded 1550*

*Capital of Finland 1812*

*Population 560,000*

*Shoreline 98km, 315 islands*

*70 museums*

*7 universities*

*For more information on places to visit, see*

[www.finland.fi](http://www.finland.fi)

[www.helsinki.fi](http://www.helsinki.fi)

## **The 18<sup>th</sup> Conference of The European Health Psychology Society** ***Good Health – Person and Context***

**June 21 –24 2004**

**Helsinki, Finland**

Dear Colleagues,

We are delighted to invite you to the 18<sup>th</sup> Conference of the European Health Psychology Society, to be held in Helsinki, Finland from June 21 –24 2004.

**The Department of Psychology at the University of Helsinki** is an active and innovative centre for research and education. Not only is it the largest university department of psychology in Finland, it has also gained a top-ranking position in terms of both the quality of its scientific research and its educational achievements.

**Helsinki** offers an attractive setting for the conference, which will be held in the historic university premises dating back to the Russian regime of the 1830s. Located by the Baltic Sea with its beautiful archipelago, Helsinki is a renowned conference city. There is much to see and do during the long days and light nights of the summer months, in an atmosphere that is friendly, safe and relaxed.

For information about practical arrangements and reservations contact:

ehps-2004@congreator.com

Abstract submission on [www.ehps.net](http://www.ehps.net) only.

Submission time is between 2 January – 14 February, 2004;  
for posters between 2 January - 17 April 2004.

#### **For more information:**

Department of Psychology

University of Helsinki

P.O.Box 9, 00014 University of Helsinki

ehps-2004@helsinki.fi



## *Highlights from the National Reports, 2002*

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### **NATIONAL REPORT FROM SWEDEN**

At Lund University in Lund, Sweden, it is now possible to study Health Psychology as part of the fil. kand. (BSc) or fil.mag (MSc) exam. The 20-point course "Health Psychology", held in Swedish, consists of four parts: General Introduction to Psychology (5 points), Introduction to Health Psychology (5 points), Stress, Coping and Health (5 points), and Health, Individual and Society (5 points). This autumn's course includes 30 students (600 applied for admittance)

*The full National Reports can be accessed from:*

[http://www.ehps.net/count\\_annrep.html](http://www.ehps.net/count_annrep.html)

A book in Swedish by Sven Ingmar Andersson, "Hälsopsykologi – en introduktion" (Health Psychology – an Introduction") by Sven Ingmar Andersson has just been published.

In Sweden there is an increasing interest today in having psychologists work in primary health care. Developments of this sort largely began in 1989 with the introduction of the term "district psychologists", a function analogous to that of district physicians. They are responsible for psychological health care at a primary health care level (Andersson, 1989). An evaluation of this has been undertaken by Carlsson (2001), who argues that psychologists with broad competence for work of this sort are needed and that such primary health psychologists should be regarded then as possessing a level of competence corresponding to that of physicians in general practice.

Sven Ingmar Andersson, PhD  
EHPS National Delegate 2001-2 for Sweden

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### **NATIONAL REPORT FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM 2002**

#### *Division of Health Psychology (DHP) of the British Psychological Society*

Since 1997, health psychology in the UK has been formally recognised as a Division within the British Psychological Society. The division continues to expand, with currently over 1000 members, of whom nearly half are full members. The website of the Division is a valuable source of information: <http://www.health-psychology.org.uk>. At the time of writing, Prof Suzanne Skevington is Chair of the Division, Prof Jane Wardle is Deputy Chair, and Prof Derek Rutter is Chair Elect. Details of the rest of the committee are given on the Division website.

#### *Communications*

The British Journal of Health Psychology is an official journal of the British Psychological Society, currently edited by Prof Douglas Carroll. It is now on its seventh volume, with an impact factor of 1.15. More information is available at:



[http://www.bps.org.uk/publications/jHH\\_1.cfm](http://www.bps.org.uk/publications/jHH_1.cfm)

“Health Psychology Update” is a newsletter is produced by the DHP four times a year, and is designed to serve as a forum for discussion of issues of relevance to academic, practitioner and trainee psychologists working in the area of physical health. It is available on subscription to non-members of the DHP by contacting the DHP at the following address: The British Psychological Society, St Andrews House, 48 Princess Road East, Leicester LE1 7DR.

More information is given on the Division’s website.

#### *Professional qualification in health psychology*

The regulations for qualification as a health psychologist have now been implemented by the Division. These regulations define the minimum qualifications and experience required for Full membership of the BPS Division of Health Psychology, which is the major route to Chartered Health Psychologist status. Qualification as a Chartered Health Psychologist is a two-stage process. Stage 1 qualification can be satisfied by completing a MSc in health psychology that has been approved by the BPS, or by taking a BPS examination. There are currently 17 MSc Health Psychology courses in the UK that have been accredited by the BPS.

#### **UPDATE 2003**

##### *DHP Annual Conference*

The 2003 annual conference was held in Stafford, from 3 – 5 September, 2003. The keynote speakers were Prof Martin Fishbein of the University of Pennsylvania, Prof John Weinman of Kings College, London, and Prof Marian Pitts of La Trobe University, Australia. This year saw a record number of submissions (290 abstracts). The 2004 annual conference will be held from September 8-10 at Queen Margaret’s University College in Edinburgh. The keynote speakers will be Prof Ed Diener, University of Illinois, Prof Jim Prochaska, University of Rhode Island, and Prof Lucy Yardley, University of Southampton. Further information will appear as it becomes available on the conference website:

<http://dhpconf2004.qmuc.ac.uk>

##### *Committee of the DHP*

At the 2003 annual conference, Dr Chris Armitage became Chair of the Division, Prof Derek Rutter became Deputy Chair, and Derek Johnston Chair Elect. Details of the rest of the committee are given on the Division website.

David French, PhD  
National Delegate for UK

*Dear colleagues,*

*with this issue we conclude the publication of highlights from the National Reports for 2002. The National Reports for 2003 have been prepared and contain much new and updated information about health psychology activities in member countries. They will be discussed at the 17<sup>th</sup> EHPS Conference in a few days. Starting with the 2004 newsletter, we will be changing the format of this section. Instead of short highlights, we will be publishing one detailed Country Profile in each newsletter issue. The annual reports will continue to be posted on the EHPS website.*

*Thank you to the National Delegates for your contributions to this section!*

*Irina Todorova  
EHPS Newsletter Editor*

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## *Health Psychology International*

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### **Division 38 (Health Psychology) of the American Psychological Association: Twenty-Five Years and Going Strong**

During August, 2003 Division 38 of the American Psychological Association celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As fate would dictate, it was 25 years earlier during another annual APA convention also held in Toronto that the bylaws of a new APA division were adopted. I was not present at that first meeting, being at the time an undergraduate student. Those who were present and instrumental in founding the Division have noted that we were not actually received with open arms. One division rejected our request to join them and APA as a whole was not overly excited about forming new divisions. Not only were we something of an outsider within our own professional organization but the larger health care community saw little need for health psychology. Of course, who could blame them, the research base was only beginning to take shape and years of indoctrination in a strong biomedical model were not going to give way to a new paradigm easily - nor should they.

In the intervening 25 years, however, many things have changed dramatically. The research base to support health psychology is established and expanding at a dizzying pace. Although the medical community is still reluctant (at least in the U.S.) to embrace behavioural and emotional aspects of health care, the word is spreading and psychologists working within medical settings are not as likely to be viewed as eccentrics or somewhat out of place additions to the treatment team. And APA has now fully accepted us as their own. Not only is a health psychologist and Division 38 member the current CEO of APA (thank you Norman Anderson!) but promoting health has been added as one of the objectives of the parent organization. The Division has grown from an initial membership of less than 200 to a figure in the neighbourhood of 3,000, including more than 300 students alone.

The celebration in Toronto came off without a hitch. In the months leading up to the convention word of the SARS outbreak had many within APA wondering about the wisdom of going ahead with the convention. I suspect, based only on my casual observations, that overall attendance was indeed down. Nevertheless, the Division, under the capable leadership of Frank Keefe as President and Chris France as Program Chair put on a variety of activities including times for socialization, presentations on the history of the division along with new research findings pointing to the future, and symposia that brought together some of the "best and brightest" among our ranks. Overall it was a wonderful celebration that lifted our spirits and encouraged us to continue the important work of health psychology. I encourage all of you to join us for our 26<sup>th</sup> anniversary in Honolulu, Hawaii next July (2004). Appropriately enough, the theme for the meeting will be "International Health Psychology." See you there!

Kevin S. Masters, Ph.D.  
Editor, *The Health Psychologist* and member APA Division 38



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## ***Current Topics in Health Psychology: E- Health***

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### **Internet Information Use Among Women with Breast Cancer**

Internet use is one of the latest forms of new technology and probably impacts in many ways the readers of this newsletter. The current worldwide Internet universe is estimated to be approximately 606 million individuals. The current Internet technology can be useful in many ways including for commerce, information, communication, and support. From a psychological commerce perspective, non-profit and commercial organizations can advertise their products related to psychology and/or health. Information is freely available on the world wide web in many languages. Among those with medical illnesses and/or psychological conditions or psychological practitioners, they can seek this information on the Internet. Also, these groups can join in groups such as listservs to receive information and request information support. Communication in the form of e-mail or instant messaging allows for a more rapid form of communication than postal mail. They can join formal support groups on a variety of topics to discuss, clarify, and receive psychological support from these Internet based support groups. All these opportunities exist, with this new Internet technology currently impacting broad sections of our population, yet little research has been done. In my research program, I chose to focus on the impact of this Internet use among women with breast cancer.

Some of the questions that interested me included general Internet use questions while others combined my health psychology interests with this Internet phenomenon. These questions included: 1) Who are these individuals that use this Internet information? 2) Where do individuals obtain their information? 3) What aspects of the Internet do these individuals use? 4) Does this information potentially offer any psychological benefits? 5) Are there differences in these potential benefits among different racial/ethnic groups?

To answer these questions, I and my colleagues from October to December 2000, surveyed 188 women with breast cancer in New York City in the United States. We found that 42% of the women surveyed used the Internet for health information related to breast health issues for just under an hour a week. Higher education levels, higher income levels and a trend for being of white race/ethnicity were predictors of this Internet use. Age, length of time since diagnosis, and cancer stage were not significant predictors.

As anyone can publish information on the Internet, there is always the concern about the quality of the information obtained. Among these individuals, they used a total of 84 different websites or search engines. However, those websites that were used by at least three or more participants were all traditional and reputable sources with the exception of one website offering an alternative treatment approach.

Almost all the Internet users were using the Internet mainly in the form of the word wide web where 57% used it for general use and 42% for health information use. Surprisingly, although 53% used e-mail for general use, only 13% used e-mail for health information. Also, most of the individuals were not using it for formal psychological support groups.

This Internet health information use was related to increased social support and less loneliness while not being related to stress and coping. Decreased

depressive symptoms were only related in the univariate analysis but not in the analysis adjusting for the relevant covariates. Upon further analysing the social support subscales, greater belonging and appraisal but not tangible and self-esteem social support were associated with this Internet health information use.

In a comparison of those of white race/ethnicity to minorities (African American and Hispanic American) both Internet health information use groups had increased social support. However in the analysis of the social support subscales, minorities had greater tangible and appraisal but not belonging and self-esteem social support.

This research on health information use among women with breast cancer shows the potential impact of this Internet use as it relates to health psychology. It also shows that minorities are viewing this information as an important source of information with potential psychological benefits. This research may have potential implications for others besides women with breast cancer who search for health information on the Internet. It seems likely that using the Internet as a source of information could prove just as beneficial to people facing other health challenges as it did to these women with breast cancer. European health psychologists can further this research topic by studying Internet health information use topics and its potential impact on both psychological and physical health among a variety of populations.

Joshua Fogel, Ph.D.  
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## *Announcements*

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*Conference Announcements are submitted for the EHPS Newsletter by their organizers and by EHPS members, or are received from relevant mailing lists with the request to be disseminated. We look forward to your future contributions.*

### **German Congress of Health Psychology Gesundheit - Risiko, Chancen und Herausforderung "Health - Risk, Chances and Challenge"**

25. - 27.03.2004  
Leipzig, Germany

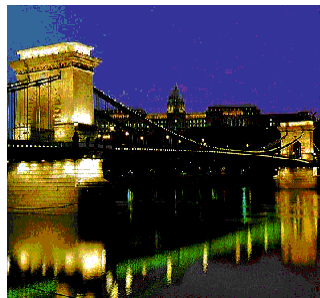
contact-address: Universität Leipzig, Institut für Angewandte Psychologie,  
Gesundheitspsychologie - Kongress, Seeburgstraße 14-20, 04103 Leipzig,  
Tel.: 0341/9735930, Fax 0341/ 9735939,  
E-Mail: [gespsych@uni-leipzig.de](mailto:gespsych@uni-leipzig.de),  
Internet: [www.uni-leipzig.de/~gespsych/kongress2004.html](http://www.uni-leipzig.de/~gespsych/kongress2004.html).

Congress language: German, singular posters and papers can be presented in English

## Satellite of the Eighth International Congress of Behavioral Medicine

BUDAPEST, HUNGARY, AUGUST 29-31, 2004

*The role of behavioural medicine in understanding and preventing the mortality and morbidity challenges occurring in Central and Eastern European countries*



***Deadline for abstract submissions  
and workshop proposals:  
1<sup>st</sup> February 2004***

The aim of the forum will be to facilitate the meeting of researchers, clinicians and health policy professionals from Hungary and other Central/Eastern European countries with behavioural medicine researchers from other countries. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide a forum for improved understanding of health trends in this important region of Europe and to examine how behavioural medicine research and practice can be used to understand the health issues of countries undergoing rapid transition and to address these health challenges in the future. It is expected that relevant researchers from European and other countries will attend this satellite meeting immediately following the preceding International Congress in Mainz, Germany. The Forum will include a small number of keynote presentations as well as panel discussions, small group discussions and submitted poster presentations. There will also be a couple of introductory workshops offered for research students and health professionals from the region.

Please check out Budapest Satellite program updates and other details on [www.selyesociety.org](http://www.selyesociety.org)

To receive more information on the meeting and any other details, please contact : Dr. Adrienne Stauder (email: [staadr@net.sote.hu](mailto:staadr@net.sote.hu))

Check also [www.icbm-2004.de](http://www.icbm-2004.de) for more info on ICBM Mainz, Germany, August 25-28, 2004

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## International Conference on Work-Life Balance across the Life Course

30 June - 2 July 2004

***Deadline: September 15, 2003***

The Centre for Research on Families and Relationships (CRFR) announces its forthcoming international conference on Work-Life Balance across the Life Course. Researchers conducting social research on families with an interest in work-life balance, policy makers and practitioners with an interest in work-life balance, are invited to submit papers for the following provisionally entitled streams:

Conceptualising families, time and work-life balance

Equalising gendered caring responsibilities: barriers and obstacles

Policy and practice arenas: states, labour markets, households and families

Work-life balance, families, health and well-being.

Abstracts (250 words max) may be submitted *before 15 December 2003* by e-mail [crfr@ed.ac.uk](mailto:crfr@ed.ac.uk) or by post to:

Centre for Research on Families and Relationships CRFR

The University of Edinburgh

For more information see <http://www.crfr.ac.uk>

### **The Cancer, Culture and Literacy (CCL) Institute 2004**

*Deadline for receipt of application:  
September 22, 2003*

The Cancer, Culture and Literacy (CCL) Institute consists of a series of educational activities intended for doctorally prepared cancer control researchers. This NCI R25 funded program includes a five-day hands-on intensive learning experience in Tampa, Florida, January 10-15, 2004, as well as monthly continuing educational modules delivered via the Web, and mentoring experiences with nationally recognized scholars involved in this area of scientific inquiry. A yearlong commitment is expected where participants apply new knowledge in their research activities. Tuition, transportation, lodging, meals and resources are provided to participants during the five-day program.

For more details about the Institute, application and eligibility requirements please visit our website at: <http://www.moffitt.usf.edu/promotions/cclinstitute>

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### **International Conference on Communication in Healthcare Call for Abstracts**

Abstracts are now invited for papers, posters, symposia and workshops at the second International Conference on Communication in Healthcare organised by EACH (European Association for Communication in Healthcare).

The conference will take place in **Bruges, Belgium, 14-17 September 2004** and will address the following topics:

*Authors should submit abstracts by 1 February 2004* online according to the guidelines at: <http://www.each-conference.com>

- \* Genetic counseling
- \* Communication using the new technologies
- \* Didactic materials used for teaching purposes
- \* The patient and carers experience of health communication
- \* Undergraduate and postgraduate teaching programs and their evaluation
- \* Approaches to shared decision making and empowerment
- \* The ethics of communication in healthcare
- \* Approaches in specific topics, with specific subgroups or in difficult situations
- \* The needs of healthcare professionals
- \* Communication in healthcare teams
- \* Communication differences in different healthcare systems
- \* Quality assessment and improvement
- \* Media and communication
- \* Communication in preventive healthcare

For further information and for a copy of the final programme, please visit:

<http://www.each-conference.com>

or contact Gill Heaton at the Conference Secretariat at:

[each@heaton-connexion.co.uk](mailto:each@heaton-connexion.co.uk)

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**Gender in the Mediterranean:  
Emerging Practices and Discourses**

5-7 March 2004

Intercollege, Nicosia, Cyprus

***Deadline for submission: October  
15th, 2003***

On the occasion of International Women's Day, the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS) in collaboration with the British Council organise a conference under the title "Gender in the Mediterranean: Emerging Practices and Discourses", for scholars, researchers, professionals, activists and policy makers to exchange experiences, knowledge and insights as these relate to the analysis and activism on gender issues in the Mediterranean. The conference aspires to highlighting the need for further interest in gender issues in the Mediterranean and the establishment of a network of activists and scholars committed to advancing them.

The conference will be structured around plenary sessions, poster presentations and thematic workshops related to specific themes of gender in the Mediterranean. The areas to address are the following: Human Rights · Social Exclusion – Otherhood – Discrimination · Interpersonal, Domestic, and Ethnic Conflict and Violence · The Role of Women in NGO - Resistance and Empowerment · Sexuality · Female Genital Mutilation · Trafficking of Women and Girls · Sustainable Development and the Environment · Language, Images and Representation/Media and Fiction · Governance, Leadership and Decision-Making · Gendered [Un]Employment · Religion · Immigration.

More information will become available for downloading on the conference website and by contacting Ms Katerina Andronikou at the British Council as from October 1st at: Email: [katerina.andronikou@britishcouncil.org.cy](mailto:katerina.andronikou@britishcouncil.org.cy)

FOR UPDATES CHECK:

[www.medinstgenderstudies.org](http://www.medinstgenderstudies.org) and [www.britishcouncil.org.cy](http://www.britishcouncil.org.cy)

or email: [info@medinstgenderstudies.org](mailto:info@medinstgenderstudies.org)

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**First Middle East and North Africa Regional Conference of Psychology**

December 13-18<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Dubai, United Arab Emirates

***Deadline for submissions:  
September 30, 2003***

This Conference is held under the auspices of the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPsyS), with the collaboration of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP) and the International Association for Cross Cultural Psychology (IACCP). You will find further information on this Conference on the following Web site: <http://www.menarcp.net> or by contacting the organizers: [menarcp@hotmail.com](mailto:menarcp@hotmail.com)

Michel Sabourin; IUPsyS Liaison to  
The Middle East and North Africa Regional Conference of Psychology

## 8th International Meeting on Psycho-Social Aspects of Hereditary Cancers

Barcelona

November 13, 14, 2003



Abstract submissions are welcome in the following main topics

• Counselling Models • Decision Making Processes • Coping with High Risk Status • Ethical and Social Implications of Predictive Genetic Testing • Barriers for the Participation in Genetic Testing Programs • Communications Skills • Distress and Psychiatric Morbidity among Participants in Genetic Testing Programs • Prophylactic Surgery and Mental Health • Health outcomes in cancer genetic testing • Predictive genetic testing in minors • Genetic counselling in rare hereditary cancer syndromes.

*Deadline for abstracts submission  
September 15, 2003*

For information visit the ICO website: [www.iconcologia.catsalut.net](http://www.iconcologia.catsalut.net)

Scientific correspondence:

Francisco Gil  
Psycho-Oncology Unit  
Hospital Duran i Reynals  
Institut Català d'Oncologia  
e-mail: [fgil@ico.scs.es](mailto:fgil@ico.scs.es)

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## Society of Paediatric Psychology National Conference on Child Health Psychology

April 15-17, 2004

Charleston, South Carolina

*Deadline for abstract submission  
October 15, 2003*

The SPP national conference focuses on the advancement of paediatric psychology and is designed for scientists and practitioners including psychologists, physicians, nurses, physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, and other professionals providing care to children. We encourage all interested health care providers and researchers to attend.

Keynote Presenters: Russell Barkley, PhD, Michael A. Rapoff, PhD, Anthony Spirito, PhD, Vida L. Tyc, PhD, Lonnie Zeltzer, MD

Call for Proposals in the following topics:

\*Adherence to Paediatric Medical Regimens  
\*Advances in Paediatric Pain Practice and Research  
\*Healthy People 2010  
\*Empirically Supported Assessment and Interventions in Paediatric Psychology

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