

EUROPEAN HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY SOCIETY EMAIL NEWSLETTER - DECEMBER 2000

Presidential Message

Dear EHPS Colleagues,

Our 2000 Leiden EHPS Conference was a great success. Content and conditions of the conference were excellent. The CREATE Workshop represented a great boost for young health psychologists.

Preparations for the 2001 St Andrews EHPS Conference, to be held jointly with the BPS, are well underway. Keynote speakers are being invited, covering areas of major importance in health psychology. EHPS liaison officer Hannah McGee and EHPS President will discuss arrangements for trying to improve the financial situation of the EHPS in relation to this Conference.

I am pleased to report that the Portuguese Health Psychology Society will be hosting our 2002 EHPS Conference, with adequate representation of the EHPS in the organizing parties involved.

Preparations and discussions about our 2003 and 2004 conferences are well underway.

During the Integrating Psychology and Medicine Conference in Waiheke, New Zealand, and the International Society of Behavioural Medicine (ISBM) Conference in Brisbane, Australia, discussions were held regarding a possible joint venture in organizing the 2004 EHPS/ISBM Conference. EC members Maria Kopp, Ad Kaptein, and former EHPS EC members Paul Norman and Ralf Schwarzer discussed this issue during these two conferences with representatives of the ISBM (Brian Oldenburg, Kristina Orth-Gomer and Gunilla Burell). It was decided not to have a joined conference: the various representatives felt that the identities of both Societies would be somewhat hard to recognize for their respective members. At the same time, it was decided to explore areas of future cooperation.

Membership Officer Britta Renner and Treasurer Therese van Elderen, together with Secretary Adriana Baban, worked very hard over the last weeks to make sure our membership list is updated and that EHPS members continue their membership. This is an issue of crucial importance for our Society, and I want to thank these EC members for their work and dedication.

The financial situation of the EHPS is not sound. The membership dues are currently too low to ensure a solid financial basis for our Society. The percentage of the membership dues which is left, after deducting the subscription to Psychology & Health and banking costs, is very low. I will propose during our 2001 EHPS EC meeting in St Andrews, to increase the 2002 EHPS membership fee. I am afraid I had to decide to call for a halt in EHPS spending for the time being.

As I felt that combining EHPS Presidency with the role of Editor-in-Chief of Psychology & Health would represent too many responsibilities, I decided to step down as Editor-in-Chief as of 31 December 2000. I am pleased to inform you that Paul Norman, former EHPS Secretary, will be the new Editor-in-Chief. I will continue as Co-Editor for our Journal.

Can I please ask our National Delegates to keep up their good work in stimulating their national health psychology colleagues to join our Society, and develop plans to further the cause of health psychology.

Have a great festive season!
Ad Kaptein, President EHPS.

EHPS CONFERENCE 2001

Remember to put next year's conference on your list of New Year Resolutions! To make it a really special event, it is being jointly organised with the Health Psychology Division of the British Psychological Society as part of the BPS's centenary celebrations. Organisation is in the capable hands of former EHPS president Professor Marie Johnston and of Professor Derek Johnston at the University of St Andrews, Scotland. If this is your first opportunity to visit Scotland, then it is a treat not to miss. The conference is scheduled [in part] to allow you to attend the Edinburgh Theatre Festival; one of the world's premier theatre events. The festival is scheduled just before the conference. If theatre is not your choice, then you may be interested to visit St Andrews as one of the major golfing sites of the world. Whatever your leisure tastes, the conference itself promises to be an exciting scientific event -a landmark event for Health psychology in Europe. The conference dates are 5-8th September 2001 with a specialised early career training workshop to be held in advance of this.

Theme: Changing Behaviour: Health and Healthcare.

Keynote speakers:

Barbara Anderson [University of Ohio]

Johan Denollet [university of Tilburg]

Peter Gollwitzer & Gabrielle Oettingen [New York University]

Sarah Hampson [University of Surrey]

Dave Perrett [University of St Andrews]

Keith Petrie [University of Aukland]

Invited symposia include:

Health Services Research

Illness Representations

Coronary Heart Disease

Social Cognition Models

As is usual with EHPS conferences, the closing date for abstracts for this joint conference is February 14th 2001 so post your abstracts with your Valentine's cards! A later closing date for Rapid Communications by poster is also planned. Further details on the conference is available via the EHPS website [www.ehps.net] or from the conference page directly [www.st-andrews.ac.uk/academic/psychology/events/health2001.html]

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