

## BOOK AWARD 2006

### The Research Board invites nominations

**Award** – £500 annual award. The cheque and commemorative certificate will normally be presented at the Annual Conference at which the winner(s) will be invited to deliver a lecture.

**Eligibility** – Books published after 1 January 2003 that make a significant contribution to the advancement of psychology may be nominated, and the author or at least one co-author should be resident in the UK. Edited collections of papers are not eligible, nor are books published by the Society.

**Nominations** – Nominations should include:

- a letter giving the title of the book, name(s) of the author(s), publisher and date of publication
- a short statement (not more than one side of A4) explaining why the author(s) should receive the award
- copies of at least two **published** reviews of the book
- supporting statements by up to three additional referees with expertise in that field
- a copy of the book, whenever possible

Nominators may be individuals, authors, publishers or their agents.

Nominations should be sent to the Chair of the Research Board at the Society's office, to arrive no later than **Friday 30 September 2005**.

Further details from Lisa Morrison Coulthard at the Society's Leicester office (e-mail: [lismor@bps.org.uk](mailto:lismor@bps.org.uk)).

## AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS TO PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

### The Professional Practice Board invites nominations

**Award** – Life membership of the Society and commemorative certificate.

**Eligibility** – Current practitioners in any area of professional applied psychology who are making an unusually significant contribution to professional practice.

**Nominations** – nominations should include:

- a 1000-word narrative highlighting the candidate's achievements and grounds for proposing the candidate
- full CV
- names and addresses of three referees (including at least one work colleague of the candidate)
- any other relevant supporting documents

Nominations should be sent to the Chair of the Professional Practice Board at the Society's office to arrive no later than **30 September 2005**.

Further details from Nigel Atter at the Society's Leicester office (e-mail: [nigatt@bps.org.uk](mailto:nigatt@bps.org.uk)).

## 'TAKING PSYCHOLOGY TO SOCIETY' FUNDING FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT EVENTS 2005/6

### The Publications and Communications Board invites applications

The Society, through the Publications and Communications Board (P&CB), aims to increase the number of public engagement events, both national and local, as part of a mid- to long-term strategy of 'Taking psychology to society'.

Subsystems and individual members have a key role in this venture, and the P&CB wishes to encourage Society subsystems and members to undertake events by making funds available up to a maximum of £3000 per event. *Individual members are encouraged to approach their subsystem prior to application, both to widen their proposed event and to strengthen their application by collaboration.*

**Proposals must be focused on one or more of the following target audiences:**

- the general public
- school students (Key Stage 3 and 4 and above)
- higher education (non-psychology) students
- other professions and other learned societies
- government and other appropriate policy makers
- service users, including employers

**Proposals will be assessed in the light of the following headings:**

- target audience and likely impact on the audience
- rationale for the event
- description of the event
- how the event will 'advance and diffuse a knowledge of the discipline' (Royal Charter objective)
- how the event will be evaluated and value for money

**For an application form, contact Suzanne Jefford on [suzjef@bps.org.uk](mailto:suzjef@bps.org.uk) or telephone 0116 252 9577.**

**The deadline for the receipt of applications is Friday 24 June 2005; decisions will be communicated within one month.**



Graham Powell

Contact Graham Powell via the Society's Leicester office, or e-mail: [president@bps.org.uk](mailto:president@bps.org.uk).

*Some good* news following on from last month's column. I described how the Society was making the case that psychologists should be one of the professional groups able to fulfill the role of clinical supervisor as set out in the new Mental Health Bill. The report of the joint scrutiny committee to which we have been giving evidence is now available ([www.parliament.uk/parliamentary\\_committees/jcdmh/b.cfm](http://www.parliament.uk/parliamentary_committees/jcdmh/b.cfm)) and it is wholly supportive of the BPS position. The report states: 'We agree with the British Psychological Society that the fundamental role of the Clinical Supervisor is to assess and coordinate the patient's care and treatment needs...

Psychologists possess the competencies.' The scrutiny committee endorsed our views on emphasising a modern multidisciplinary team approach to mental health care, moving decisively away from seeing the prescription of medication as an essential core skill for this role. I also said that the Society would press for appropriate training for the role, and the scrutiny committee agreed that regulations should stipulate the appropriate standards and competencies to be demonstrated following training. The Society will ensure that such training is provided, and not restricted to any one Division. Obviously, many clinical psychologists will wish to continue their professional development in this direction, but so also will many of those from other groups, such as forensic and neuropsychology. Of course, since there will now be a new Parliament after the general election, it has become even harder to say what form any legislation will eventually take.

Thanks to all of you who have sent us your responses to the public consultation document on statutory regulation. We have been analysing and feeding back to you the spectrum of views on this, and a draft BPS response will be posted on our website by 10 May. This will give you a further chance to have your say before we submit our final response by 9 June. As before, all comments please to Mike Carpenter at [micar@bps.org.uk](mailto:micar@bps.org.uk).

Walking the streets of London is always a pleasure, even more so with a goal in mind. The last Representative Council gave clear support for the Trustees' decision to find a new London office that will not only be disability compliant but will allow us to develop membership services, for example by giving us our own venue for smaller conferences, and providing appropriate rooms for even our largest committees and boards, and indeed the Council itself. It will also provide the opportunity for an area of public access to displays and resources, and will be better able to host public engagement events. With this in mind, and now that the London business property market is

stabilising, we have been measuring lifts and inspecting properties, and we will keep reporting back. It might take a while as the sort of property we are looking for does not frequently come on the market, and we need to get it right.

We are also moving ahead with another of the strategic aims of the Society – to develop the Society as the point of contact for members on all matters pertaining to psychology. At the Trustees meeting in March we approved the development of a new Communication Centre, building upon our existing resources. It will facilitate not only our internal communications but work with the Policy Support Unit to enhance our relationship with the outside world, from public to Parliament, doing more to promote the development of psychological science and its dissemination into practice. In this regard, we continue to develop the regional offices, and will be appointing a new policy officer to support the already extensive input into the Scottish Parliament. I mentioned in my last column that the Representative Council will hold one of its meetings in Cardiff at the 2006 Annual Conference, and that we would support an event on psychological issues and needs in Wales. I discussed this when I was invited to the St David's Day celebrations at the Wales Office, meeting many Welsh MPs and members of the National Assembly for Wales, and I am sure that some will agree to contribute. Issues such as identity and coping with shifting patterns of work were raised. By way of entertainment, the Maesteg Gleemen Male Voice Choir was outstanding and spine-tingling.

As for our recent Annual Conference in Manchester, the diversity of the programme was impressive, and quality at all levels continues to strengthen. I was particularly pleased to see satellite events taking off, with, for example, the launch of the College of Fellows and the inaugural meeting on Psychology and Human Rights. The afternoon on human rights was very timely in view of the Society becoming more active in commenting on important social issues of the moment. Read on our website, for example, our declaration concerning torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatments.

Finally, our new chief executive will be with us shortly. Tim Cornford has been General Manager of NFER Nelson, an organisation well known to many of you, and has worked for government agencies such as the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. Tim will introduce himself fully in due course, but as will be evident from even this brief description his experience in assessment, government, publishing and business should well support the Society's growth. A warm welcome.

“The report of the joint scrutiny committee... is wholly supportive of the BPS position”

#### CORRECTION

In Ken Brown's final 'President's column' in March, Graham Powell was wrongly described as a 'Chartered Clinical, Forensic and Occupational Psychologist'. This should have read 'Chartered Clinical, Forensic and Health Psychologist, and a Practitioner Full Member of the Division of Neuropsychology'.