

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Dr Lynette Rentoul, a consultant clinical psychologist with Barnet Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust, has been given six months' leave of absence to take on the role of Clinical Director (Child and Adolescent Services) of Project Liberty in New York, responsible for the mental health recovery of young people following the September 11th terrorist attacks.

Jane M. Ussher has been awarded a personal chair in the School of Psychology at the University of Western Sydney. Her new title is Professor of Women's Health Psychology.

Peter Wilcock has been appointed Visiting Professor in Healthcare Improvement at Bournemouth University. He also currently has the lead for developing the field of healthcare improvement for the NHSU.

Dr Chris Williams has retired from being Director of Psychological Services for the Devon Partnership Trust and has returned part time as consultant clinical neuropsychologist. He is continuing in his medico-legal practice for the remaining part of the week for the foreseeable future.

Dr Suzanne Zeedyk, University of Dundee, has been awarded her university's 2003 Award for Innovative Teaching for her efforts over the past eight years in organising the Psychology Undergraduate Student Dissertations Conference, in which final-year students present the results of their thesis to an audience of students, staff and interested community members.

DEADLINE

Copy deadline for Society contributions is **1 August** for the September issue

AWARD FOR PROMOTING EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY

Closing date for receipt of nominations is Friday 25 July (See *The Psychologist*, March 2003, p.157).
E-mail felhec@bps.org.uk for details.

Developments in clinical neuropsychology

SINCE the formation of the Society's Special Group in Clinical Neuropsychology in 1991 there have been plans to develop formal training in clinical neuropsychology for the UK. It has been a long process, but the qualification in clinical neuropsychology is now available and the first course on adults has been accredited. Further courses are due to start this September, and the qualification will be the entry requirement for Practitioner Full membership of the Division of Neuropsychology from 1 January 2004.

Following the pioneering work of some of the early practitioners, clinical neuropsychology is recognised as a core discipline in the provision of acute and rehabilitation services for

people with neurological disorders. As the demand for services has increased, so has the demand from employers and members for specialist training to supplement the core skills acquired in professional training, and a formal route that provides a 'gold standard' in terms of services offered in clinical neuropsychology in the UK. However, the advent of the qualification training is not designed to prevent psychologists with particular expertise offering neuropsychology services.

The concept of the qualification has been widely discussed and balloted upon by the membership of the Division of Neuropsychology and has been approved by both the Membership and Professional Training Board and by Council. The Division has three

membership categories:

- Practitioner Full – i.e. clinical practitioners;
- Full – those engaged in clinical research in neuropsychology, or those with relevant clinical experience in neuropsychology but which has a limited focus; and
- Affiliate – members of the Society with some demonstrable interest in clinical neuropsychology.

Those wishing to pursue the adult neuropsychology route must first have a qualification in clinical psychology; those for the paediatric neuropsychology route require a qualification in clinical or educational psychology. Other routes to Practitioner Full membership may be established.

The expected minimum

Fellowship citation

Dr Jennifer Ashcroft

DR Jennifer Ashcroft has had the honour of Fellow conferred upon her to mark her significant contribution to the advancement of psychology, in particular the training of clinical psychologists through the UK. Her major influence in this area has been through two initiatives, one local and one national in impact. In the first place, she was a leader in the transition from the Lancashire in-service training programme to the highly regarded doctoral programme in clinical psychology at Lancaster University. She is currently Course Programme Director and Honorary Senior Lecturer at Lancaster.



Jenny Ashcroft's national reputation as a trainer in clinical psychology has developed from the early 1990s when she was appointed as one of the examiners for the BPS Diploma in Clinical Psychology, through a period as chair of the Committee for Training in

Clinical Psychology, to her more recent role as Lead National Assessor for Teaching, Training and Research. Jenny was also a member of the Society's Committee for Quality Assurance in Psychology Training from 1997 to 2000.

Her publications cover two particular areas of expertise: psychological aspects of breast cancer and innovations in clinical training. It is for these many and varied contributions, and particularly for the impact she has had on progressing clinical training from a core placement model to one of core competencies, that the committee was pleased to award her Fellowship status within the Society.

duration of the course is two years, comprising written examinations and extended essays (examined by a board of examiners approved by the Society without attending a course, or by exemption having successfully completed an accredited course), a research component at an accredited higher education institution (with possible exemptions for recent published papers or recent research in clinical training) and a clinical portfolio (containing 80 hours supervised practice with an accredited supervisor, six written case studies, a clinical log and an oral examination). Further information is available in the Society's document *Regulations and Syllabus for Post-qualification Courses in Clinical Neuropsychology*. Candidates can enrol via the Registrar, contactable at the Society.

The Division is excited and pleased that after a long gestation the discipline of clinical neuropsychology has matured into a profession in the UK, with a qualification route and a clear identity. In addition, the Division is more than a grouping of clinicians, and has always sought to maintain close links with its academic and research roots. It will continue to offer a grade of Full membership, aimed primarily at those with a background in clinical research and for those clinicians who wish to retain their interest in clinical neuropsychology but do not wish to pursue the qualification route for Practitioner Full membership. The Division will continue to provide training events and study days suitable for all grades of membership, with regular updates in specific areas as well as professional practice issues. Study days are open to Society members who are not members of the Division and are advertised in *The Psychologist* and in *Clinical Psychology*.

Doctoral award winners

THE 2003 Award for Outstanding Doctoral Research Contributions to Psychology goes jointly to Dr Pam Heaton (Goldsmiths College, University of London) and Dr Rudolf Cardinal (University of Cambridge).

Dr Heaton's research into musical cognition in autism examined the extent that atypical information processing influences perception of music. The findings from her studies showed that levels of absolute pitch ability are higher in autism than in typical development, and that sensitivity to the holistic structures and emotional aspects of music are intact in autism.

Professor Linda Pring, supervisor and award nominator, described Dr Heaton's research as 'clever and inventive'. She adds: 'Her energy, enthusiasm and knowledge have helped her to make a very significant

contribution to the literature. She has been outstanding in her endeavour to bring together the psychology of music and autism in order to develop new and original ideas.'

Dr Heaton trained as a classical singer and worked as a musician and teacher before studying for her BSc (Hons) in psychology at Goldsmiths College, gaining an upper 2nd in 1992. She then stayed on to complete her PhD in 1999, and is now a lecturer there.

Dr Rudolf Cardinal's PhD thesis examined the neuropsychology of reinforcement processes. Applying animal learning theory in order to investigate the contribution of regions of the prefrontal cortex and ventral striatum to the control of behaviour by Pavlovian conditioned stimuli and to rats' capacity to choose delayed reinforcement. Part of this work established that damage to the ventral striatum can lead to

impulsive choice, also seen in attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and drug addiction. 'Perhaps there is a drive to study phenomena one exhibits oneself – I am fascinated by impulsivity,' said Dr Cardinal. 'I am honoured and delighted that the BPS selected me as one of this year's award winners.'

Dr Cardinal studied for his BA (Hons) in medical sciences and neuroscience at the University of Cambridge, gaining a triple first. He went on to study for the degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, gaining a distinction in 2001. Whilst studying clinical medicine, Dr Cardinal also completed a PhD in experimental psychology under the supervision of Professor Barry Everitt. Dr Cardinal served as a house physician and surgeon from 2001 to 2002 in Cambridge and Norwich, and at present works as a lecturer in neuroscience at the University of Cambridge.

SUBSYSTEM NOTICES

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Annual Conference 2004 – Call for submissions

7–9 January 2004, Stratford Moathouse, Stratford-upon-Avon

See June issue for details. The deadline for all submissions is

Monday 4 August 2003.

All enquiries and submissions should be addressed to the BPS conference office. Tel: 0116 252 9555; e-mail: conferences@bps.org.uk.

COGNITIVE PSYCHOLOGY SECTION

Election of officers and committee members

In accordance with its rules, the Section committee is looking to appoint two new members for next year.

Members of the committee assist

in organising conferences and workshops and represent the interests of cognitive psychologists at various BPS committee meetings. The officers of the committee must stand for re-election each year.

Could any candidates who wish to be considered for the committee or for any of the officer positions, please contact the secretary, Dr Geoff Ward, by **Friday 18 July 2003**. Candidates should support their application with a named nominator and seconder who are themselves members of the BPS.

Contact details: Dr Geoff Ward, Department of Psychology, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ. E-mail: gward@essex.ac.uk.

DIVISION FOR TEACHERS AND RESEARCHERS IN PSYCHOLOGY

The DTRP would like to invite proposals for 20-minute talks for a symposium on the teaching and application of research ethics in

psychology at the Society's Annual Conference in London in March 2004. Ideas might include:

- Making the BPS ethical guidelines relevant to real-world teaching and research
- Best practice and experience of running departmental research committees
- Do we need to teach ethics within psychology degree programmes?
- How to determine when a proposal is ethical enough
- Research ethics and necessary deception
- Do ethical guidelines prevent important research?
- Broadening ethical practice – authorship, declaring interests and contributions
- Gaining ethical approval in multidisciplinary contexts

Please pass suggested titles and 150-word abstracts to Dr Darren Van Laar, Department of Psychology, University of Portsmouth P01 2DY. E-mail: Darren.van.laar@port.ac.uk. Deadline: 1 October 2003.

DIVISION OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

Annual General Meeting and Call for nominations

The AGM will be held at 5pm on Thursday 4 September 2003 at Staffordshire University.

Nominations are invited for Honorary Treasurer, Chair Elect and committee members. Nominations require a proposer and seconder who must be full members of the Division of Health Psychology and the consent of the nominee to accept office, if elected, must be obtained in writing.

Nominations should be sent in writing to the Honorary Secretary of the DHP at the Leicester office, to arrive no later than **Friday 15 August**. Please include a biographical statement of less than 150 words.

DIVISION OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Post-qualification Training Day – Stroke Rehabilitation

Friday 12 September 2003, 9.30am for 10am at the Lister Postgraduate

Institute, 11 Hill Square, Edinburgh
Speakers include: Professor Nadina Lincoln – ‘The role of the clinical neuropsychologist within a multidisciplinary stroke rehabilitation team’; Professor Ian Robertson – ‘Measuring and rehabilitating attention and executive functions: ERP, fMRI, and

behavioural findings’; Dr Audrey Bowen – ‘Appraising the evidence for the rehabilitation of perceptual disorders’; Dr Alan Carson – ‘Depression after stroke and lesion location’; Professor Sergio Della Sala – ‘Just lying there, remembering cockroaches and amnesiacs alike’: A possible new

approach to rehabilitation anterograde memory problems’; Dr Alan Sunderland – ‘Understanding recovery as a basis for rehabilitation’

Contact Professor Michael Oddy, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust, 32 Market Place, Burgess Hill RH15 9NP. Tel: 01444 237287; e-mail: birt@disabilities-trust.org.uk

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 2003 AGM OF THE BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Notice of this Meeting was served to Members in the January 2003 issue of *The Psychologist*.

Date: Friday 14 March 2003
Centre, Bournemouth

Place of meeting: The Purbeck Lounge, Bournemouth International

1. Introduction

The President, Professor Graham Davey, was in the Chair and 41 Members signed as attending. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous Meeting

The Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting of the Society Incorporated by Royal Charter, held on 15 March 2002, were approved as a correct record.

3. Report of the Council

The Honorary General Secretary spoke to the Report of the Council. The Honorary Treasurer introduced the Financial Sections of the Report and the Audited Accounts at 31 December 2002 were approved.

The Honorary Treasurer reported that the rates for member subscriptions were held for a further year.

Thanks were given to the staff involved in the production of the Annual Report and Accounts.

4. Financial report

The Auditors, RSM Robson Rhodes, having expressed their willingness to serve, were reappointed.

The Treasurer responded to questions from the floor about the Accounts.

5. Report of the Committees of Council as outlined in the Annual Report 2002

The Chairs of the following Boards and Committees were invited to present their reports and answer questions:

- 5.1. Research Board
- 5.2. Professional Practice Board
- 5.3. Membership and Professional Training Board
- 5.4. Publications and Communications Board
- 5.5. Professional Conduct Board and Investigatory Committee
- 5.6. Ethics Committee
- 5.7. International Committee
- 5.8. Operations and Personnel

The reports were approved.

6. Reports of the Divisions, Sections, Branches and Special Groups of the Society, as published in the Annual Report 2002

The Reports of the Divisions, Sections, Branches and Special Groups of the Society, as published in the Annual Report were approved.

7. Commendation to Honorary Fellow

Following a eulogy read by the Honorary General Secretary, **Professor Miles Hewstone** was elected to an Honorary Fellowship.

8. Thanks to retiring Officers and Ordinary Members of Council

Noted 1. Thanks from the President were recorded to the following retiring Officers, Chairs of Boards and Standing Committees of Council and Ordinary Members of Council whose Term of Office had now come to an end:

Officers

Vice President (and Centenary President 2001) **Professor Vicki Bruce MBE**

Honorary General Secretary

Professor Ingrid Lunt

Chair, Research Board **Professor Steve Cooper**

Chair, Membership and Professional Training Board **Dr Norah Frederickson**

Retiring Ordinary Members of Council

Dr H.C.M. (Tim) Carroll

Karen Green

Dr David Torpy

Noted 2. That retiring Chairs of the Boards and Standing Committees of Council receive a letter of thanks from the retiring President.

9. Declaration of Officers of the Society elected unopposed

Having been unopposed in the election, it was resolved that those nominated be elected as follows: President Elect 2003/4 (who will be President in 2004/5): **Professor Steve Cooper**

Honorary General Secretary:

Professor Ann Colley

Honorary Treasurer: **Professor Geoff**

Lindsay

10. Declaration of Ordinary Members of Council elected unopposed for a three-year term to 2005

(THREE vacancies, two-year term, to retire 2004)

(FOUR vacancies, three-year term, to retire 2005)

TWO nominations had been received.

Call for Nominations published in *The Psychologist* (July 2002).

Having been unopposed in election, it was resolved that **Professor Tony Gale** and **Roger Miles** be elected to Ordinary Members of Council up to May 2006.

11. Declaration of Ordinary Member of the Professional Practice Board elected unopposed (two-year term)

(ONE vacancy, two-year term) Having been unopposed in election, it was resolved that **David Murray** be elected to Ordinary Member of the Professional Practice Board for a two-year term.

12. Any other business

There was no other business.

13. Thanks from the retiring President

The retiring President thanked all members of the Society's Committees who have given time to the Society and its work. He thanked the people who had produced the Annual Report, especially Dr Jon Sutton. He also thanked the Chief Executive and all the Society's staff for their support and hard work.

14. Thanks to the retiring President

Noted. The Honorary General Secretary gave thanks to Professor Graham Davey for his work as President.

The President declared the Annual General Meeting closed.

The meeting closed at 19.00 and was immediately followed by the Informal Open Meeting.

THE SOCIETY'S PARLIAMENTARY STRATEGY

The Board of Trustees has approved a parliamentary strategy for the Society.

Aims: To raise the profile of the discipline and the Society in Whitehall and Westminster; contribute psychological expertise to the decision-making process of politicians and civil servants, be an effective voice for the discipline in the legislative process, and improve relations with policy-making bodies in the devolved regions and EU.

Activities: Engagement with select committees, all-party parliamentary groups, and associate parliamentary groups, stand-alone subject meetings in Parliament, subject briefing for MPs and peers, seeking early notice of consultation documents and relevant policy developments.

Protocol: Members' request for support or assistance from the parliamentary officer should be made to the parliamentary representative, via the relevant Society board or subsystem chair.

SELECTED NEWS FROM THE BOARDS

Professional Practice Board (22 April 2003)

- *Payments for honorary officers of Divisions.* The board has been asked by the Board of Trustees to develop a policy. The chair of DCP has agreed to convene a working party, which will canvass views.
- *Protecting the public's psychological health.* Following on from discussions about the Society's role, it was agreed that a summary outlining the main psychological implications of war and conflict be brought back to the board with a view to a fuller report being produced in the future.
- *Regional issues.* Mechanisms to improve the link between the Society's Scottish office and the Society's Divisions were discussed. It was agreed that the Leicester office should ensure that regional officers were clear about the need to form appropriate links with all subsystems in relation to regional issues. Divisions were also encouraged to put forward representatives to take responsibility for regional issues.
- *Statutory regulation.* Detailed discussion has been taking place with the Health Professions Council. Statutory regulation may be moved forward to mid-2004. Work is being carried out on the legal aspects of the preparation for an Order in Council to bring about the required changes.
- *Screening for people applying for chartered status.* The proposal to introduce screening is now being considered by the Reformed Task Group to Review Regulatory Procedures in Relation to the Conduct and Health of Psychologists.

MEETING DATES

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Saturday 18 October 2003

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday 5 September 2003

Friday 17 October 2003 (pre-Council)

Friday 28 November 2003

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

Friday 12 September 2003

Saturday 22 November 2003

RESEARCH BOARD

Friday 24 October 2003 (followed by Visiting Psychologists Committee)

MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING BOARD

Friday 19 September 2003

Friday 7 November 2003

PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION BOARD

Thursday 23 October 2003

Thursday 18 December 2003

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

Thursday 11 September 2003

Friday 12 December 2003

FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE

Friday 3 October 2003

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BOARD

Tuesday 21 October 2003 (AGM)

GRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Thursday 11 September 2003

Thursday 13 November 2003

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday 4 September 2003

Thursday 6 November 2003

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Tuesday 9 September 2003

THE PSYCHOLOGIST POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday 3 October 2003

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Tuesday 30 September 2003

Wednesday 26 November 2003

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Thursday 18 September 2003

Wednesday 10 December 2003

FUTURE SOCIETY CONFERENCES, ETC.

London Lectures – Monday 1 December 2003

Annual Conference – 15–17 April 2004