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The Society has offices in Belfast, Cardiff, Glasgow and London, as well as the main office in Leicester. All enquiries should be addressed to the Leicester office (see contents page for address).

The British Psychological Society was founded in 1901, and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1965. Its object is 'to promote the advancement and diffusion of a knowledge of psychology pure and applied and especially to promote the efficiency and usefulness of Members of the Society by setting up a high standard of professional education and knowledge'.

Extract from The Charter

News about Society matters and brief items for News of members are welcome. Please send to *The Psychologist* at the Society's office, or to psychologist@bps.org.uk. Subsystem notices: notices received from elected officers of subsystems of official meetings, events, conferences of Divisions, Sections, Branches and Special Groups of the Society are inserted free of charge. Items should be sent to susepp@bps.org.uk.

BPS responds to RAE consultation

OVER the summer the Research Board of the BPS set up a broadly based steering group, representing different research areas within psychology, to contribute to RB responses to consultations regarding the 2008 RAE. The board consulted its full membership and then had members of the steering group make additional submissions. The steering group included Dominic Abrams (chair), Trevor Harley, Derek Johnston, Tony Crocker, Peter Mitchell, Judi Ellis, Lindsay Moon, David Pearson and Nick Tarrier. After gathering submissions, the chair drafted a detailed response to the RAE consultation for Panel 44 (Psychology) and main Panel K (Psychology, Education, Sport Sciences), with cross-referral to other panels (particularly Panel 9). This draft was considered in detail and finalised at a meeting the Research Board Executive Committee.

The response submitted by the Research Board is consistent with that by the Association of Heads of Psychology Departments (AHPD). The response has also been endorsed by the Joint Committee for Psychology in Higher Education (JCPHE), which includes AHPD, the BPS and the Experimental Psychology Society. Our aim was to provide the RAE panels with as much information as possible to help them formulate an approach that will have consensual support among the research community, and will be regarded as having the

necessary levels of validity and transparency. The response (see tinyurl.com/abwxp) provides detailed answers (16 pages), relating to the nine consultation questions and also recommends specific cross-referencing both to Panel 9 and to non-psychology panels. We also explicitly asked those panels to refer to our submission for Panel 44.

The response to the consultation included 24 recommendations. The main points may be summarised as follows.

- The working methods and criteria were broadly welcomed. The board agreed with all three statements from the Main Panel, and agreed with six out of eight questions from Panel 44. For all of these questions the board made additional recommendations. The board did not agree that the range of indicators for excellence seemed sufficient and did not agree that the criteria were sufficiently developed in the case of practice-based and applied research.
- The complexity and diversity of our discipline means that psychologists are engaging in very diverse types of research in very different circumstances, with very different opportunities for dissemination and very different types of audience. This has a number of implications.
- The board takes the view that UK psychology is extremely visible internationally and is an extremely strong research-based discipline. We highlighted that it is important to use a criterion-referenced approach rather than (UK) norm referencing, and to bear in mind that the strengths in particular areas may well be spread across, not just within, organisations.
- World-class work may often have a national, rather than international, audience (e.g. particularly in applied areas where UK law or institutions are different from those overseas).
- The management of research should be given appropriate weight, as well as its production and outputs that are identifiable at the level of particular individuals. The relationship between individual and team-based products needs to be explicit.
- The situation of junior and part-time researchers, as well as those whose work has impact outside the academic peer review system, was highlighted. It was recommended that there should be more explicit information about how circumstances may affect the appropriate expectations for the volume and quality of outputs.
- We requested that more, and clearer, consideration should be given to how to operationalise the esteem and environment indicators (e.g. the potential double counting of numbers of

research council funded studentships in both indicators, the way research grants are 'scored', and attention to the context in which these have been secured).

- We asked the panels to give clearer guidance on how they will regard DClinPsy students (as taught students vs. as research students).
- We asked for greater clarity about the meaning of the boundaries between 4*, 3* and 2*.

The psychology panel(s) will face a challenging task in evaluating a large amount of diverse evidence. The

differences in research approaches and outputs within psychology span the differences between the social and natural sciences as a whole. This means that the psychology panels will have to deal with a similar set of questions to those that face main panels, or indeed the RAE as a whole, regarding comparability of indicators of excellence and esteem. We hope very much that our responses to the Consultation of Draft Criteria and Working Methods are useful for the psychology panels and to the RAE panels more generally.

Dominic Abrams, Chair BPS Research Board, Chair JCPHE

World War, he was commissioned as an Electrical Officer in the Fleet Air Arm. His talents were spotted by Alec Rodger, who arranged his transfer to the Department of the Senior Psychologist in the Admiralty for the rest of the war. On demobilisation, his interest fired by his practical experience of psychology in the Navy, Arthur entered the Psychology Department of University College London and graduated in psychology in 1949. He was awarded the top first in London University that year.

Arthur Summerfield joined the British Psychological Society as a student in 1947. He became an Associate Fellow in 1951, a Fellow in 1957 and received chartered status as soon as it was available in 1988. He made an immediate mark on the Society and was elected Honorary General Secretary in 1954; a role which he performed assiduously for five years. After three years as Deputy President he became President Elect. He was President in 1963 and Vice President in 1964.

Between 1953 and 1984 he served on the BPS Council for a record total of 27 years, providing an unparalleled period of advice for the Society and an unrivalled long-term memory for the Council. Perhaps his two most significant contributions were to achieve the Royal Charter for the Society in 1965 and in 1973 to define the reorganisation of the Society, including the appointment of a full-time psychologist as General Secretary, and the establishment of the Scientific Affairs Board and the Professional Affairs Board with devolved powers. He later became the first chair of the newly defined Scientific Affairs Board.

Beyond the Society, Arthur was highly influential in determining the role of

psychologists in education – through the Summerfield Report in 1968, and as chair of the DES Working Party on Psychologists in Education Services, which led to educational psychologists being granted legal status for the first time.

There was also a very strong internationalist dimension to Arthur's work. He was a member of the Assembly of the International Union of Psychological Science representing the UK for 27 years, serving as vice-president and then president from 1972 to 1980. He was a member of the American Psychological Association's Committee on International Relations, and was a director of the Vienna Centre. He served on the International Social Science Council and was its president from 1977 to 1981. From 1983 to 1987 he was a member of the International Council for Science (ICSU) study group on biological, medical and physical effects of large-scale use of nuclear weapons, which were matters of particular concern to him.

Arthur's life was one of service. He dedicated it to serving many organisations mostly at the highest level. After 15 years at University College London and 27 in the Chair at Birkbeck College he retired to set up a company of chartered psychologists providing psychological consultancy to British and European companies, with his wife Angela. He retired a second time from this successful activity in 2001 to spend a long-deserved and contented retirement supported by Angela, Arthur's two children Penny and Quentin and their families.

Professor David Legge

□ *If you would like to celebrate the life of Arthur Summerfield, contribute to our discussion forum via www.thepsychologist.org.uk.*

Arthur Summerfield 1923–2005

ON 10 September Professor Arthur Summerfield died in North Yorkshire after a short illness. A former President of The British Psychological Society, he was elected to Honorary Life Membership in 1993 in recognition of the sustained contribution that he had made to the Society.

As an academic for nearly 40 years, he moulded the lives of countless students instilling in them the virtues of clarity, accuracy and attention to detail. He published across a number of areas that would now be called cognitive psychology and was amongst the small group of researchers who pioneered psychopharmacology in Britain. He was the Scientific Editor of the three issues of the *British Medical Bulletin* on experimental psychology, cognitive psychology and psychobiology.

Arthur's early life was difficult, and he later felt that



his triumph over adversity could help others overcome seemingly impossible obstacles and develop their full potential. His mother died when Arthur was seven and his father when he was 15, forcing him to drop out of school in order to earn a living. Two Manchester Grammar School teachers intervened after a year, and he eventually went back to school. Arthur then proceeded to Manchester University and graduated in electrical engineering.

Called up for military service during the Second

SELECTED NEWS FROM THE BOARDS

Professional Practice Board (9 September 2005)

- *Draft Childhood Autistic Spectrum Disorder Position Paper:* The working party presented the draft position paper, which was welcomed by the board. Divisions are being consulted on the content and recommendations.
- *Draft Child Protection Portfolio.* The working party presented this document to the board. The board considered it a very good and necessary piece of work. There was a proposal to launch it on 1 April 2006 to coincide with the publication of the revised 'Working Together to Safeguard Children'. The public relations unit was asked to advise on the publication, launch and political implications of the portfolio.
- *Pro bono service.* Proposals for establishing a pro bono service were presented and welcomed by the board. Divisions are being consulted on the content and recommendations.
- *Widening Access Within Undergraduate Psychology Education Report.* Recommendations for action had been prioritised and would be commended to the Board of Trustees.
- *Mental Health Bill.* Amendments had been made to the community treatment order provisions, definition of a mental disorder and the nearest relative provisions. The impaired judgement criteria had not been amended. The bill is expected to become law in 2007.
- *New Ways of Working for Psychologists.* A meeting had been held between BPS Divisional representatives and NIMHE. It was a forum for discussion about the future of the profession along the same lines as the New Ways of Working for Psychiatrists position paper, which was welcomed by the board. Divisions are being consulted on the content and recommendations.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS IN COUNSELLING PSYCHOLOGY COORDINATORS OF TRAINING DAY

SATURDAY 3 DECEMBER 2005

The Board of Examiners for the Qualification in Counselling Psychology is pleased to offer another training day for coordinators of training of those candidates undertaking the independent route towards chartered status as counselling psychologists.

This one-day training event will provide an information and discussion forum to all those who are involved in coordinating the training of candidates on the independent route or who are considering doing so. The day's programme will look at planning the training, assessment and evidence requirements and the standards for submitted work, with a focus on how to assess competence.

The day will take the form of a workshop in which participants will have the opportunity to assess work themselves. It will also provide an opportunity to meet with other coordinators of training, which previous attendees have found very useful. This training day may also contribute to your CPD needs.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. For more information and to book your place please, contact John Duggan on 0116 252 9505 or exams@bps.org.uk.

SUBSYSTEM NOTICES

SPECIAL GROUP IN COACHING PSYCHOLOGY

Workshop programme 2005
Wednesday 2 November, at the BPS London office, 1.30pm to 5pm.
Registration from 1pm
Coaching supervision – Luxury or necessity? Facilitator Michael Carroll

Contact Gwen Ward, BPS subsystems department. Tel: 0116 252 9517; e-mail gwear@bps.org.uk. Full details and booking facilities also available at www.coachingpsychologyforum.org.uk.

National Conference

19–20 December 2005

For further details and full programme see the SGCP website: www.coachingpsychologyforum.org.uk.
For booking info contact

www.city.ac.uk. E-mail: S.Hunt-1@city.ac.uk.

Annual General Meeting
The AGM will be held on Monday 19 December 2005, 3.50pm, in the Oliver Thompson Theatre, City University, London.

HISTORY & PHILOSOPHY OF PSYCHOLOGY SECTION

2006 Annual Conference – Call for papers and symposia proposals

11–13 April 2006 at York St John College, York

We welcome proposals for individual papers or symposia dealing with any area of the history, philosophy and theory of psychology. Please send an abstract of your proposed paper of about 150 words in length together with

Student Writer Competition 2006

See p.690

Spearman Medal 2006 – Call for nominations

See p.706

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU

Vacancy	Person specification	Information (closing date)
Psychological Testing Centre website – Sub-editors	Chartered occupational or clinical/health psychologists who enjoy writing. Experience of editing websites would be an advantage.	Mala Pancholi – malpan@bps.org.uk, 0116 252 9536
Level A Verifiers	Chartered psychologists who hold a Level A Statement or Certificate of Competence in Occupational Testing and willing to become an assessor	Mala Pancholi – malpan@bps.org.uk, 0116 252 9536
Steering Committee on Test Standards – Members	Chartered psychologists with expertise in clinical psychology, neuropsychology or sport and exercise psychology. Experience of psychological testing an advantage.	Mala Pancholi – malpan@bps.org.uk, 0116 252 9536
Board of Examiners in Occupational Psychology – Chief Assessor	Chartered occupational psychologist (at least five years) with experience of board/committee functioning, DOP supervision and assessment processes, committee work involving establishing and maintaining standards, and assessing people, including being part of boards of examiners or similar in any context	John Duggan – johdug@bps.org.uk
Ordinary members of the main Boards	See advert on p.650.	Nichola Whitmore-Cooper – nicwhi@bps.org.uk, 0116 252 9521 (31 Jan)

a short bibliography. In the case of symposia, in addition to abstracts for each paper, please also include an indicative outline of the aims of the symposium. We especially welcome submissions from postgraduate students, who may apply for financial support when they submit their proposals.

Please prepare your proposals for blind refereeing (with name and contact details on a separate cover sheet). These should be sent to Jim Good, Department of Psychology, Science Laboratories, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE by 1 December 2005. Further details will be available in due course.

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

Annual General Meeting

The AGM will be held on Thursday 12 January 2006, 6.00pm, in the Island Suite, Glasgow Moathouse, Glasgow, during the DOP Annual Conference.

DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY SECTION

Annual Conference 2006 – Call for papers

7–9 September 2006 at Royal Holloway University of London
Keynote speakers: Margaret Harris,

Michael Tomasello, Maykel Verkuyten, Paul Harris.

Submissions, in the form of individual paper and poster presentations, symposia and workshops, are encouraged from any area of psychology relating to developmental issues. Proposals for poster submissions are particularly encouraged. Deadline for submissions is 28 April 2006.

For more details, including information on submission, registration and accommodation, visit www.pc.rhul.ac.uk/bps2006.

PSIGE

National Annual Conference – Call for papers

'Equality and Diversity for the Third Age', 5–7 July 2006, University of Sussex, Brighton

Submission of papers is welcomed in the areas of clinical psychology with older people and related practice. Submissions are encouraged about clinical practice, consultancy, research, and professional issues in the form of individual poster and oral presentations, symposia, seminars and workshops.

Keynote speakers: Professor Simon Biggs, Director of the Age Concern

Institute of Gerontology, Kings College London; Professor Sara Arber, Co-Director of the Centre for Research on Ageing and Gender, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey.

For more information on the conference and to access the online submission system for information and to submit please see www.bps.org.uk where the conference is listed or e-mail psige2006@bps.org.uk and we will send you the link for submissions.

DIVISION OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

Annual Conference 20–22 June 2006

Venue: University of Central Lancashire, Preston Campus

Conference information, registration forms and submission forms available from: www.uclan.ac.uk/other/hs/academic-conf.htm.

Deadline for submission of papers: 31 January 2006.

For further details contact Suella Harriman. E-mail: DFPConference2006@uclan.ac.uk; tel: 01772 892654. Or visit: www.bps.org.uk/dfp/events.cfm.

LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES MEMBERS VOTE FOR BRANCH

Following a proposal earlier this year to form a London and Home Counties Branch of the Society and approval by the Board of Trustees, Members within the proposed geographical area have voted in favour of forming the Branch, complying with Rules 36(a), (b) and (c) of the Royal Charter, Statutes and Rules.

Members will be receiving a postal notice of a resolution to be put to a General Meeting of Members. This will follow before the end of the year for final ratification as required by Rule 36(d).

MEETING DATES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Friday 31 March 2006

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday 9 December 2005 (London)

Friday 10 February 2006 (London)

Friday 17 March 2006 (Leicester)

Friday 5 May 2006 (London)

Friday 23 June 2006 (Leicester)

Friday 15 September 2006 (Leicester)

Thursday 26 October 2006 (London)

Friday 8 December 2006 (London)

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Saturday 11 February 2006

Saturday 6 May 2006

Friday 27 October 2006

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

Friday 3 February 2006

Tuesday 4 April 2006

Tuesday 6 June 2006

Friday 8 September 2006

Tuesday 14 November 2006

RESEARCH BOARD

Friday 27 January 2006 (followed by Book Award Committee)

Wednesday 29 March 2006 (followed by Spearman Medal Committee)

Thursday Friday 22 June 2006

(followed by Presidents' Award Committee) provisional

Friday 20 October 2006 (followed by Visiting Psychologists Committee)

MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING BOARD

Friday 4 November 2005

Friday 17 February 2006

Friday 16 June 2006

Thursday 14 September 2006

Friday 3 November 2006

PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION BOARD

Wednesday 30 November 2005

Thursday 9 March 2006

Thursday 29 June 2006

Thursday 28 September 2006

Thursday 30 November 2006

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

Thursday 8 December 2005

Friday 31 March 2006 (during Annual Conference)

Friday 7 July 2006

Friday 3 November 2006

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BOARD

Tuesday 14 March (OGM)

Tuesday 17 October (AGM)

FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE

Friday 27 January 2006

Thursday 18 May 2006

Friday 29 September 2006

GRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Thursday 10 November 2005

Thursday 19 January 2006

Thursday 2 March 2006

Thursday 27 April 2006

Thursday 22 June 2006

Thursday 7 September 2006

Thursday 9 November 2006

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday 3 November 2005

Thursday 12 January 2006

Thursday 23 February 2006

Thursday 27 April 2006

Thursday 8 June 2006

Thursday 7 September 2006

Thursday 2 November 2006

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Monday 16 January 2006

Thursday 16 March 2006

Monday 5 June 2006

Thursday 21 September 2006

THE PSYCHOLOGIST POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday 20 January 2006

Friday 19 May 2006

Friday 27 October 2006

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Thursday 1 December 2005

Thursday 19 January 2006

Thursday 30 March 2006

Thursday 25 May 2006

Thursday 27 July 2006

Thursday 28 September 2006

Thursday 30 November 2006

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Thursday 8 December 2005

Thursday 2 March 2006

Thursday 22 June 2006

Thursday 14 September 2006

Thursday 7 December 2006

FUTURE SOCIETY CONFERENCES, ETC.

Edinburgh Lectures –

Tuesday 8 November 2005

London Lectures –

Monday 5 December 2005

Annual Conference –

30 March–1 April 2006

DEADLINE

Copy deadline for Society contributions is **25 November** for the January issue