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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](mailto: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](mailto:susepp@bps.org.uk).

# BPS teaching awards

**P**ROFESSOR Mark Griffiths from Nottingham Trent University and Dr Andy Field from the University of Sussex have jointly been awarded the 2005 Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Teaching of Psychology. The award recognises unusually significant contributions to education and training in psychology within the UK.



**Andy Field**

Dr Field was nominated by Professor Graham Davey for his ability to make statistics interesting, the breadth of support materials he provides and for his contribution to teaching literature, in particular his book *Discovering Statistics Using SPSS*, which is estimated to have sold around 35,000 copies.

Professor Davey said: 'Andy has revolutionised the teaching of research methods and statistics. His approach is to stress the important conceptual ideas of statistics, without getting too bogged down in the maths, and most important his lectures are extremely funny.'

'His book is also the only statistics text in which you can learn about complex things like multiple regression and logistic

regression while at the same time answering bizarre questions such as "When people attend rock festivals does their smell get worse?"'

Dr Field also has the support of his students; and comments from past and present undergraduates and postgraduates include 'I have never met anyone as dedicated, agile-minded and able as Dr Field' and 'His role-modelling continues to inspire me as a student'.

On completing his first degree in psychology at City University, Dr Field started his DPhil in psychology at the University of Sussex and it was then that his teaching experience began. Since then he has taught aspects of clinical psychology and research methodology and statistics.

After completing his DPhil he became a research fellow and postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Sussex. In 1997 he became a statistician at Princess Royal Hospital before becoming a lecturer at the University of London in 1998. In 2000 he moved back to the University of Sussex as lecturer and in 2001 he was awarded the University of Sussex Teaching, Learning and Development Prize for Excellence and Innovation in Teaching. He took up his current post as senior lecturer in 2003.

Accepting the accolade, Dr Field said: 'I am extremely honoured to receive this award, especially because it's for something that I love doing and that is very important to me. Given the many inspirational teachers I frequently encounter I am undoubtedly very fortunate that lecturing two-

way repeated measures ANOVA while wearing a Santa Claus beard and hat is considered innovative these days.'



**Mark Griffiths**

Joint winner Professor Mark Griffiths was nominated by three colleagues who recognise his outstanding performance and contributions across a number of areas, including teaching literature and development of students, but particularly his performance as a classroom teacher.

Lead nominator Jonathan Parke said: 'Professor Griffiths is a unique individual whose passion for teaching and disseminating his work both orally and in written format can be matched by very few individuals. He also has an ability to inspire and motivate students in a way I have rarely seen... I should know because I was one of those students!'

One student who has been taught by Professor Griffiths in 2004/5 said: 'Mark is the best lecturer I have ever seen. He can be so funny and so informative at the same time that I would never want to miss one of his lectures.' While another added: 'Although apparently very busy, he always makes times to really try and help any students with

any of their worries or questions. Mark Griffiths is a spectacular lecturer!’

After graduating with a BSc in psychology from the University of Bradford, Professor Griffiths began teaching in 1987 while doing his PhD at Exeter University. While studying for his doctorate he was as a lecturer for the Worker’s Education Association and did weekly support teaching at Exeter University. In 1990 he got his first full-time lectureship at the University of Plymouth where he also gained his teaching qualifications. In 1995 he moved to Nottingham Trent University, where he has worked ever since and is currently Professor of Gambling Studies.

Accepting the award, Professor Griffiths said: ‘I am absolutely delighted to have won this award. It is an honour to have the work that I do recognised by my peers and by such a prestigious body as the BPS.’

# Consultation responses

**O**CTOBER saw the Society contribute to several important consultations, on topics including the early release of prisoners, assisted dying, the UK’s health research strategy, and age discrimination.

A response to the Department of Health consultation ‘Best research for best health: A new National Health Research Strategy’ was prepared by Professor Stanton Newman (Centre for Behavioural & Social Sciences, UCL), with contributions from Dr Roger Paxton and Dr Myra Cooper. The response welcomed attempts to raise the status of applied patient research, but questioned the focus on medical academics. It called for individual and organisational incentives for non-medical staff to do research, and a proper

career for non-medical scientists in universities who conduct research in the NHS. Greater collaboration and coordination with universities was seen as a key issue. The authors also called for a review of the remit and terms of reference of proposed research networks.

Responding to the All Party Parliamentary Group on Compassion in Dying, the Society pointed to ‘problems for medical practitioners, including issues of conscience’ and to the possibility that ‘a change in the law may also lead to negative feelings about the value of life being internalised by vulnerable people e.g. older adults, parents of disabled children or parents who know that they have a “damaged” fetus.’ However, the Society felt that many of the questions in the consultation document did not conform to a ‘yes, no, don’t know’ format because they implied a ‘complex and sensitive decision-making process, which must be decided on a case-by-case basis’. The response also made the point that many of the questions were empirical and that ‘there is currently either too little or no data on which to make informed, evidence-based judgements’.

The Division of Forensic Psychology responded to the Sentencing Commission Scotland consultation ‘Early release from prison and supervision of prisoners on their release’. Although generally supportive of the principle of early release – which allows for the development of appropriate social learning, employment opportunity and social rebuild – the Society acknowledged that the systems currently in place could be improved in terms of

credibility and transparency. Indeterminate sentence prisoners should be given clearer guidelines in relation to what is expected of them before they move into the community part of their sentence. The judiciary could consider treatment requirements in their sentencing; in relation to sex offenders, the Society felt that short-term sentences provide little opportunity for rehabilitation.

The Division of Occupational Psychology prepared the Society’s response to the Department of Trade and Industry’s consultation ‘Equality and diversity: Coming of age’, which included draft regulations to outlaw age discrimination in the workplace. The Society agreed that legislation was ‘a necessary first step to help prevent unfair discrimination’ but expressed concern about some of the content of the draft regulations and the practicalities of their implementation. In particular, the proposed cut-off age of 65 was criticised as being too low because research shows that overall there is an insignificant decline in work effectiveness up to age 75. The Society also felt that the proposed exemption for direct discrimination by employers on the grounds of ‘objective justification’ was unclear and would give rise to ambiguities in what practices were or were not permissible.

□ *All Society consultation responses can be read at the BPS website:*  
[www.bps.org.uk/tiny/o0t5go](http://www.bps.org.uk/tiny/o0t5go).

## DEADLINE

Copy deadline for Society contributions is **9 January** for the February issue



The Society has bought new premises for its London base. The seven-storey building in Tabernacle Street, EC2, was acquired in October and is expected to be ready for meetings and other activities from April 2006. For the full story see President Graham Powell’s column on p.715.

## SUBSYSTEM NOTICES

### DCP – FACULTY OF ADDICTION

#### Annual General Meeting and CPD Event

Friday 2 December 2005, BPS Offices, 33 John Street, London, WC1 (nearest tube stations – Chancery Lane/Holborn)

10am–12 noon: Committee meeting (Committee Members only)

12 noon–1 pm: Lunch

1pm–1.30pm: AGM

1.30pm–4pm: CPD Event: 'New Findings in Addiction Research'.

Mark McDermott –

'Implementation intentions – Alcohol consumption'; Catherine Blair – 'Young adults in drug treatment: The function of

substances use to alleviate anxiety and depression'; Kate Eastgate – 'Methadone maintenance treatment and implications for parenting: The views of mothers'.

### DIVISION OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

#### Annual Conference 2006

13–15 September, Essex University

Abstract submissions covering the full range of health psychology are warmly invited. The Division of Health Psychology is delighted to announce that Essex University will host the 2006 Annual Conference. Submission deadlines are 16 February 2006, and 8 June 2006 for late poster submissions only. We are pleased to announce our four keynote speakers: Professor Charles Abraham, University of Sussex; Professor Sheina Orbell,

Essex University; Professor Alex Rothman, University of Minnesota; Professor Andrew Steptoe, University College London.

For more details, see the conference website ([www.dhp2006.org.uk](http://www.dhp2006.org.uk)).

### PSIGE

#### National Conference 2006 – Call for papers

'Equality and Diversity in the Third Age', 5–7 July, University of Sussex

We welcome submissions in the areas of 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, and Professor Sara Arber, Co-Director of the Centre for Research on Ageing and Gender, Department of Sociology, University of Surrey.

For more details see the BPS website, [www.bps.org.uk](http://www.bps.org.uk), or contact the BPS conference office on 0116 252 9555.

### WESSEX & WIGHT BRANCH

#### AGM and Evening Lecture

Thursday 26 January 2006 at Southampton Solent University, Sir James Mathew Building

Evening lecture with Dr Graham Powell entitled 'On the psychology of competence in financial affairs'.

There will be a buffet at 6pm followed by the AGM at 6.30pm. Dr Powell's talk will commence at 7pm.

We encourage you to invite colleagues and friends who may be

interested in this topic.

Enquiries: Sheila Simons, Branch Administrator; on 01730 891497, e-mail [wessex.wight@bps.org.uk](mailto:wessex.wight@bps.org.uk).

### DIVISION OF FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGY

#### Annual Conference

20–22 June 2006, University of Central Lancashire, Preston Campus

Conference information and registration forms are now available and can be downloaded from the following conference website: [www.uclan.ac.uk/other/hs/academic-conf.htm](http://www.uclan.ac.uk/other/hs/academic-conf.htm)

The call for papers has been issued with a deadline for submission of the 31 January 2006. Submission forms can also be downloaded from the above website.

Confirmed keynote addresses cover the areas of expert witnesses, child witnesses and suggestibility. Confirmed invited symposium cover sexual aggression, applied psychological research with the police, and forensic mental health.

### NORTH WEST OF ENGLAND BRANCH

#### 'Forensic Psychology – Technology and Crime' one-day conference

Saturday 4 February 2006, Didsbury Campus, the Manchester Metropolitan University

In conjunction with the Division of Psychology and Social Change at Manchester Metropolitan University we are pleased to host the above one-day conference. A number of key issues will be discussed and speakers will include professionals, academics,

researchers and practitioners.

Keynote speaker: Yaman Akdeniz (School of Law, University of Leeds), Director of Cyber-rights and Cyber-liberties. With Paul Bocij, Dr Geoff Bunn, DC Ellis Crowther, Dr Dave Holmes, Terry Jones, and others

Contributors will discuss aspects of crime and technology, such as: Computer-generated 'pseudo-photographs'; Computer footprints of Harold Shipman; How to build a lie detector; Internet child images; Cybercrime and cyberstalking; Cyberterrorism.

Prices are £40.00 for the whole day, which includes refreshments and a buffet lunch. A discounted rate for students is available at £15.00 (lunch is provided).

For further details contact Janine Acott on 0161 247 2535.

### DIVISION OF SPORT & EXERCISE PSYCHOLOGY

#### Update

A joint BPS/BASES workshop on Consultant Effectiveness in Applied Sport Psychology will be held at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, on 2 December 2005. See BASES website for more details at [www.bases.org.uk](http://www.bases.org.uk).

A joint BPS/FA workshop on Psychology and Football will run prior to the Annual Conference in Cardiff. More details to follow.

Congratulations to Lizzie Button of the University of Essex who has been awarded the prestigious H.T.A. Whiting Undergraduate Dissertation Prize from the British Psychological Society Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology. Her thesis entitled: 'The process by which perceived autonomy support

## YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU

| Vacancy  | Person specification   | Information (closing date)  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Board of Examiners in Counselling Psychology – Chief Examiner</b> | Chartered counselling psychologist (at least five years) with experience of examining at postgraduate level in counselling psychology and detailed knowledge and understanding of the process of examinations. | John Duggan – <a href="mailto:johdug@bps.org.uk">johdug@bps.org.uk</a> , 0116 252 9512 (15 December)            |
| <b>Board of Examiners in Occupational Psychology – Examiners</b>     | Chartered occupational psychologists with experience of master's level assessment in occupational psychology.  | John Duggan – <a href="mailto:johdug@bps.org.uk">johdug@bps.org.uk</a> , 0116 252 9512                          |
| <b>Ordinary members of the main Boards</b>                           | See advert p.770.  | Nichola Whitmore Cooper – <a href="mailto:nicwhi@bps.org.uk">nicwhi@bps.org.uk</a> , 0116 252 9521 (31 January) |



in physical education and perceived peer and parental autonomy support in leisure time influences leisure time physical activity behaviour: An augmented trans-contextual model' was supervised by Dr. Martin Hagger. Miss Button receives a prize of £50 and will present her work at the BPS Annual Conference in Cardiff.

#### SCOTTISH BRANCH

##### AGM and call for nominations.

The 2006 Scottish Branch AGM will be held on Friday 10 February 2006 in the Court/Senate suite, in the McCance Building, Strathclyde

University, Richmond Street, Glasgow.

Nominations are sought for new members to join the committee. Elections will take place at the AGM. The deadline for nominations for both office bearers and for ordinary membership of the committee is Friday 6 January 2006.

Further information and nomination forms are available from Kate Skellington Orr (Deputy Chair), Seventh Floor, 78 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5UB. Tel: 0141 225 4414; e-mail: [kskellingtonorr@mva.co.uk](mailto:kskellingtonorr@mva.co.uk).

#### ETHICS COLUMN No.4

##### CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Ethics Committee is keen to use this column to react to questions about ethical issues, and it has received a number of helpful suggestions from members for future topics that it is working on. The committee is also working together with the Investigatory Committee and the Professional Conduct Board to feed back advice from cases where a complaint has been investigated.

The committee has recently considered some enquiries about potential conflicts of interest where there is a proposal to see a client for privately funded work where one has previously treated or assessed the client in a publicly funded role, or as an expert witness in proceedings.

The Code of Conduct does not specifically prohibit this, but if such a proposal is being considered the psychologist will need to carefully examine the facts of the case, applying the ethical principles underlying the Code. Any such proposal will need to be approached with caution, and should only be proceeded with if the psychologist can demonstrate an objective belief that it is genuinely in the best interests of the client.

There are several sections of the Code of Conduct that are likely to be relevant in coming to an ethical decision. The psychologist is under a general duty to act with integrity under Section 1 of the Code, and must obviously consider the interests of his or her client under Sections 1 and 5 of the Code. The Code has a specific requirement that psychologists should not improperly benefit from their work with clients (Section 5.2) and also requires the psychologist to recognise the power differential that is likely to exist because of the relationship of trust between the psychologist and the client, and to be careful not to exploit this (Section 5.3).

The committee would also suggest that the psychologist should consider involving a supervisor or disinterested colleague in the decision, because of the difficulty in making objective decisions where one may stand to gain from the outcome. The psychologist should also remember to check his or her contract of employment.

The committee is working on columns covering some of the other suggestions that have been made to us, and would be interested in any other suggestions or feedback that members have on ethical issues. You can contact the committee by e-mailing Christine O'Rourke at [chrora@bps.org.uk](mailto:chrora@bps.org.uk).

## SELECTED NEWS FROM THE BOARDS

### Psychology Education Board (29 September 2005)

- *Exam results.* The board was pleased to note that press coverage of AS- and A-level psychology had been less negative than in previous years, but felt that there were still common misconceptions about psychology that need to be addressed.
- *A-level psychology.* The board was pleased to note that the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority is conducting a review of A-level psychology criteria, and are open to a radical reassessment of school-level psychology, including formal recognition that it should be classed as a science. The board will be closely involved with future discussions on the matter.
- *Undergraduate Award.* The board's new Undergraduate Award was favourably received, with entries from 90 institutions, and will run again next year.

### Membership and Professional Training Board (30 September 2005)

- *Affiliate and Foreign Affiliate membership categories.* The board agreed with the recommendation of the Admissions Committee to make changes to the Statutes and Rules so that the distinction between Affiliate and Foreign Affiliate membership be abolished.
- *Web publication of training information.* The board agreed to recommend to the Board of Trustees that information on training is published only on the main BPS website and not additionally on Division sites as is currently the practice. Division sites should instead include links to the appropriate parts of the main site.
- *Educational psychology training.* The board approved a new position statement in relation to educational psychology training for publication on the Society's website (see [www.bps.org.uk/tiny/8i4kmw](http://www.bps.org.uk/tiny/8i4kmw)).

### Publications and Communications Board (30 September 2005)

- *Chair.* The Board of Trustees has appointed Professor Graham Davey as the incoming Chair of the P&C Board to serve from the 2006 AGM to the 2009 AGM.
- *Parliamentary and Policy Support Unit Steering Group.* The call for membership of this Group gone out, with one board representative and two Branch representatives coming forward to date. Boards are to be reminded that membership of this Group will be an essential part of the parliamentary process.
- *BPS/British Academy Lecture.* The 2006 Lecture will be given by Professor Miles Hewstone on the theme of sectarianism, and will take place in spring next year.

#### Subscriptions and fees 2006

See p.714

#### Student Writer Competition 2006 – Call for entries

See p.752

#### Vacation Scholarship Award 2006 – Call for applications

See p.752

#### Presidents' Award 2006 – Call for nominations

See p.772

## NEWS OF MEMBERS

**Professor Cheryl Haslam**, Professor of Health Psychology, Department of Human Sciences, Loughborough University, has been awarded Fellowship of the Royal Society of Medicine.

**Dr Pittu Laungani** has been given a Lifetime Achievement Award by the University of Toronto, in recognition of his work in the fields of cross-cultural psychology, counselling and psychotherapy, and death and bereavement.

**Ingrid Lunt** has completed her term as Dean of the Doctoral School at the Institute of Education, University of London, and is now Professor of Educational Studies at the University of Oxford.

**Dr Barry Winter** has resigned from the UK board of global PR firm Porter Novelli in order to join the School of Engineering, Warwick University.

## 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

Thursday 30 March 2006

Monday 24 April 2006

Monday 16 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)

Friday 20 October 2006

Friday 19 May 2006

Friday 6 October 2006

### MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING BOARD

Friday 17 February 2006

Friday 16 June 2006

Thursday 14 September 2006

Friday 3 November 2006

### PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION BOARD

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 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 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 6 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.

London Lectures –

Monday 5 December 2005

Annual Conference –

30 March–1 April 2006

## HISTORY GOES ONLINE

THE Society's History of Psychology Centre has now gone online ([www.bps.org.uk/hopc](http://www.bps.org.uk/hopc)). When fully developed this will enable online access to the archive, psychological test and library catalogues plus other pages devoted to, for example, birth and death dates of British psychologists and resources related to them, useful references for those teaching history of psychology, links to related sites, a Society chronology, and notices of forthcoming events. It also includes information for potential donors and details of our ongoing Oral History Project (being undertaken in collaboration with the History and Philosophy of Psychology Section). Although it will not be possible in the immediate future we are, additionally, planning to enable online access to the Grace Rawlings Visual Archive and John C. Kenna Audio Archive. We are hoping that some of these pages will be developed interactively with Society members, and of course we welcome feedback on any aspects of the site. We might even get around to producing a guide to Society acronyms past and present! The long-term aim is to create a resource of use to all members, not just historians of psychology, who find themselves needing to track down historical information or bibliographic guidance.

*Graham Richards, Director, BPS History of Psychology Centre*

