**Report of BPS Research Board, 14th October 2021, Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

Research Board has a new chair, Professor Andrew Tolmie. Andy replaces Professor Daryl O’Connor.

**Business from the Chair**

**Update**

Andy introduced himself and stated that his three priorities were: 1. Open Science; 2. Partnership Building; 3. Decolonisation.

**Board of Trustees**

A new Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Strategy Board is being established.

A Grants Review will be conducted in 2022 which will include an impact assessment.

The Review of Governance is still ongoing, and will be reporting back in the New Year.

**Research Board Strategy, 2022-24**

Suggestions from members for the revised strategy included: 1. The effect of hybrid working on academic careers; 2. Connectivity with the BPS; 3. Breadth of methodologies used by psychologists; 4. The Climate Change Crisis.

**Membership of Research Board**

Voting took place for a Deputy Chair of the Board, 2021-22. Dr Richard Stephens was duly appointed. He will join Dr Duncan Guest as Deputy Chair.

**Priority Work Streams**

**1. Covid-19**

**Impact of Covid-19 on Psychology Departments**

An update was given by Rosie Horne, BPS. The report is at: <https://www.bps.org.uk/sites/www.bps.org.uk/files/Policy/Policy%20-%20Files/Covid-19%20survey%20report%20-%20impact%20on%20UK%20universities.pdf>

**Impact of COVID-19 on Psychological Research**

A letter has been drafted to send to funders detailing the impact of the pandemic on psychology research. It contains examples of the adverse impact of the pandemic provided by the Developmental Psychology and Psychobiology Sections. However, it was suggested that the primary issue is methodologies, not specific areas. The letter will be redrafted.

**2. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion**

**EDI Portfolio Holder for the Board**

There is a need to replace Dr Sue Sherman. Dr Simon Goodman expressed an interest.

**Update on EDI Taskforce**

Helen Cockle, BPS, gave an update on the work of the taskforce: see, <https://www.bps.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/taskforce>

It was felt admission processes at universities could be improved. The webinars had been particularly successful especially the one on decolonising the curriculum: see, <https://www.bps.org.uk/about-us/diversity-and-inclusion/taskforce/webinars>

**Research Assessment**

**1. REF 2021 Update**

Release of the results has been put back to May 2022. There is a scheduled exercise coming up for feedback which will be taken forward to the Joint Committee for Psychology in Higher Education (JCPHE).

**2. Future of Research Assessment Programme**

This work will be led by the four UK HE funding bodies and aims to explore possible approaches to the assessment of UK HE research performance. It is expected to conclude by late 2022.

Note. the Board will need to be ready to input into any consultations and to work with EPS and AHPD via JCPHE.

**Open Science**

**1. Inquiry on Reproducibility and Research Integrity**

The Board has submitted evidence to the Science and Technology Select Committee Inquiry on Reproducibility and Research Integrity.

**2. UKRI Revised Open Access Policy**

The UKRI has undergone a review of its open access policy specifically with regard to book chapters, monographs and edited collections. In sum, the UKRI policy will apply to in-scope research articles, from 1st April 2022, and in-scope monographs, book chapters and edited collections from 1st January 2024.

**3. Dorothy Bishop Festschrift**

Professor Dorothy Bishop is due to retire from her role as Chair of Developmental Neuropsychology at the University of Oxford in 2022. A group of her colleagues are arranging a two day Festschrift with an Open Science theme in June 2022 to celebrate her contributions to psychological research. They have asked for BPS financial support which was agreed.

**4. Open Data Steering Group**

A document on Open Data is currently being developed.

**Memory Based Evidence**

Hannah Farndon, BPS, presented a proposal to provide guidance for psychologists working as expert witnesses. This was welcomed.

**Legacy of Eugenics in Psychology**

Sophie O’Reilly, BPS, gave an update on the work carried out by Challenging Histories, and the proposed collaboration with Senate House library in order to expand the evidence base.

**Reports from Standing Committees and Responsibility Holders**

**1. Conference 2021: Annual Report**

Dr Mark Sergeant, Chair, gave a positive overview of the BPS Annual Conference, July 2021.

**2. European Congress of Psychology 2023**

This will be held in Brighton in July 2023 and will replace the annual BPS conference that year. Karen Beamish, BPS, gave a presentation and update. See, <https://www.bps.org.uk/news-and-policy/european-congress-psychology-coming-brighton>

**3. Wiley BPS Journal Publishers**

Rebecca Harking and Sarah Oates from Wiley gave a detailed presentation on the BPS journals portfolio and their EDI work.

**4. History of Psychology Centre (HoPC)**

A verbal report was received from Ingrid Lunt as Claire Jackson, BPS Archive Manager, has now left. Over 15,000 BPS records have been added to the archive since the last report.

**5. PsyPAG Postgraduate Group**

The annual conference was held virtually at the end of July and was deemed a success. A brief update was given by Jenny Terry, PsyPAG Chair: increasing costs for PGs are a concern.

Date and Time of Next Meeting: February 2022, TBC

Professor Jan Noyes, AHPD Representative, 14th October 2021