

2009 Sport Psychology Council reports

1. British Psychological Society's Division of Sport & Exercise Psychology Division

www.bps.org.uk, *Chair*: Dr. Joanne Thatcher, jet@aber.ac.uk

This is my first year in Office as Chair of the Division and this has been, and continues to be, a year of enormous development and progress within the Division. Some of the Division's activities have been focused on working on new initiatives whilst others are aimed at building on existing progress and developments, and, following up on some of the issues raised in the previous Chair's Annual Report.

The Division has been proactive in addressing various elements of our Strategic Plan. Our CPD activities have been continuing with workshops held this year on Counselling Skills for Sport & Exercise Psychologists, the Psychology of Rugby and a joint workshop with the British Association of Sport & Exercise Sciences on Self Awareness as a Sport & Exercise Psychologist. The Division also had a strong presence at the BPS Annual Conference with a number of individual posters and two symposia on Attributions in Sport and Self-Regulation in Physical Activity. One of the most exciting developments this year is the Division's Inaugural Conference; the response from members to this event has been overwhelming and reflects the commitment of the Division and its members to the continuing development of the profession. As part of the DSEP Conference we have introduced an award to recognise Distinguished Contribution to the field of Sport & Exercise Psychology. We feel that this is a timely point to do this and a wonderful opportunity to honour those individuals who have helped to develop the Division and the field of Sport & Exercise Psychology to its current state.

The Division's work in the area of professional practice has increasingly gained momentum over the past year through the work of its Training Committee, culminating to date with the launch of the Division's Stage 2 Qualification to achieve Chartered Status. The Training Committee and the Board of Assessors have also approved the validation of a number of Masters programmes in Sport & Exercise Psychology to provide routes to achieving Stage 1 of the criteria for Chartered Status.

One of our key priorities has been to raise the profile of the Division and this year has seen the start of a number of initiatives to contribute towards this. The DSEP, in collaboration with other Divisions within the BPS, is currently working towards developing guidelines for dealing with Obesity; our contribution focuses on the role of physical activity in dealing with the rising levels of obesity in society. We have also begun to collaborate with the Society's PR and Marketing team to look to raise the profile of the Division via the forthcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in London in 2012. Finally, liaison has also begun with the Society's Parliamentary Officer with a view to developing and presenting a Parliamentary Seminar in Whitehall next year.

As have other Divisions, the DSEP has made contributions to the consultation documents the Society has received on Statutory Regulation and after a brief period of uncertainty, we are extremely pleased that Sport & Exercise Psychology will be included in the forthcoming legislation. This is an important step for our field of the profession; as one of the newest Divisions we feel it is critical that the professional status of Sport & Exercise Psychologists is recognised and we thank the BPS for its efforts in ensuring our inclusion in the legislation.

The Division's Committees have worked incredibly hard over the past year and this seems an appropriate forum in which to thank them for their previous and continued time, expertise and efforts. I look forward to providing an update on the initiatives discussed here in next year's Annual Report.

2. WomenSport International, Inc.,

President: Dr. Kari Fasting

Web site: <http://www.womensportinternational.org>

We are an 'evidence based advocacy group'. We seek to stimulate girls and women's sport/development programs through research and education. Our three most dramatic advances of the past 12-18 months (not everything to be sure) are 1) collaboration with the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women on a special edition of their monograph "Women 2000 and beyond" entitled "Women, gender equality and sport"... There is a great deal of psycho-social material infused in this text downloadable from the UN-DAW website and translated in English, French and Spanish... 2) further production and development in research and policy work addressing sexual harassment and sport... This has mainly proceeded from the long standing WSI Task Force in this area; 3) new Task Force creation on Homophobia Awareness and one on Physical Activity and health.

3. International Association of Applied Psychology-Division 12 Sport Psychology - Report - June 2008 DIVISIONAL ORGANIZATION

Executive Board

President - Professor Emeritus Juri Hanin (Finland)

President-Elect - Professor Howard Hall (UK)

Past-President - Professor Marit Sørensen (Norway)

Treasurer/Secretary - Dr. Jolly Roy (MALAYSIA)

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster - Dr. Montse Ruiz (Finland)

Fellows

Professor Glyn Roberts (Norway)

Professor Joan Duda (UK)

VISIBILITY AND IMPACT TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVE

Professor Juri L. Hanin (Finland)

Dr. Jack J. Lesyk, Ph.D. (USA)

UN LIAISON

Professor Andrew M. Lane (UK)

TASK FORCE on DIVISIONAL GOVERNANCE

Professor Glyn Roberts (Norway)

Professor Howard Hall (UK)

Major Projects of Division 12

Basically, the projects of Division 12 are concerned with three topics. The following is a brief description of the projects stated in the Message of the President, Juri Hanin and included in the January issue of the 2007 Newsletter:

Inter-divisional cooperation in research & application. Usually under an umbrella of sport psychology different aspects are studied: social psychological, organizational, educational, personality, assessment, and performance enhancement aspects. Our division members can benefit from launching joint projects on mutually attractive topics. For instance, Emotions and Optimal Performance in Different Settings, Dynamics of Motivation, Career Transitions, Cross-Cultural Aspects in Sport Psychology. An outlet of these efforts could be presented at the 2010 Melbourne Congress.

Improving the links with the regional Sport Psychology societies and organizations. Division members who are regularly participating in the meetings of International Society of Sport Psychology (ISSP), European Federation of Sport Psychology (FEPSAC), Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP), North American Society for Psychology of Sport and Physical Activity (NASPSPA) and other national SP organizations could play an important role in the further development of our international links with leading researchers and practitioners in different countries. These efforts can help the Division to plan invited symposia, workshops, and panel discussions representing the best practices from different regions of the world in the program of the Melbourne Congress.

The IAAP Visibility project. Our division can play an important role in supporting a call from the IAAP President Mike Knowles for promotion and better visibility of applied psychology. Specifically, competitive sport, and especially elite and professional sport, has by its nature already high visibility in the media and interest of public at large in what sport psychologists

working with elite performers are doing. Recently, in Europe (FEPSAC - Paul Wyllemann) and USA (AASP - Jack Lesyk) two interesting promotional projects related to the Athens Olympics were initiated and I believe these experiences could be useful in the development of a more proactive approach to professional work with the media. Plans are under way to examine practical experiences of the sport psychologists working with high visibility teams/athletes and those who assisted Olympians in Athens (2006), and those who will do so in the Peking (2008), and Vancouver (2010) Olympic Games.

Re-designing divisional website

Recently the website of the division was re-designed and updated to have a new look and to serve as a tool to increase the exchange of information between members of Division 12 and other divisions. We also attempted to make the site more user-friendly and welcoming to potential members. Thanks to the efforts of Jose Maria Prieto, Division 12 was one of the first sites to be moved to the IAAP domain making easier the communication of information between members of other divisions which hopefully will facilitate the development of inter-divisional cooperation.

We have also a new Divisional Newsletter Editor, Dr. Montse Ruiz, who did a great job by re-designing our Divisional website and preparing (from Autumn 2006 to April 2008) six issues of the newsletter. During 2006-2008, the members of Division 12 have been very active in presenting their research and developing closer professional contacts at numerous international congresses, conferences, and/or courses (for details, see our divisional website (<http://www.iaapsy.org/division12>)).

4. Korean Society of Sport Psychology 20th anniversary celebration held on May 27-29, 2009