

EFPA, Board of Educational Affairs

11th Meeting

Glasgow, March 23, 2018



Attending Members from:

As well as the representatives from Member associations, the board has representation from EFPSA (European Federation of Psychology Student's Associations) and EFPTA – (European Federation of Psychology Teachers' Associations). Attendees were Ioulia Papageorgi (Chair, Cyprus), Scott Hardie (Great Britain), Morag Williamson (EFPTA), Helen Bakker (The Netherlands), Nicola Falzon (EFPSA).

This Board has the broad remit to monitor and assess developments in the teaching of psychology, develop standards, and give advice on issues of concern to students and teachers. The focus shall be on the academic education of psychology at all levels (BA, MA, PhD, post-graduate), but the teaching of psychology to other professions and the general public shall also be included.

Workplan

The meeting was a regular meeting of the board, and as such its agenda centred on the Workplan (2017-2019) of the Board.

The day was very productive and was followed by attendance at the Scottish Branch Undergraduate Project conference at Glasgow University (24th March 2018), where members were able to meet with colleagues and students from across Scotland.

Some of the key issues we covered in Glasgow were:

Education and qualification of psychology Bachelor

Term and meaning of 'graduate' and post-graduate differ in different countries. To avoid confusion, the BEA will therefore use the term 'Bachelor' and 'post-Bachelor'. BEA will develop a short survey in collaboration with (EFPSA) to cover aspects of degree structures, and to investigate students' and graduates' perceptions of their psychology degree and future plans, in collaboration with EFPSA. EFPSA will create a form on the basis of our discussion, and distribute to BEA members for feedback. We were hoping to be ready to disseminate the survey by late 2018. The BPS have agreed to circulate the latest version of the Career Survey, as a useful source of information for this task.

Promoting teaching of psychology in secondary schools.

Linking with work from BPS member Morag Williamson who is here in her capacity EFPTA representative on the Board. She presented a poster/visual representation of the data of the on-line survey (BEA in collaboration with EFPTA). Data were also presented at the EUROPLAT in Salzburg in 2017* and BEA was also represented at the EFPTA 2018 Conference in Reykjavik where the emphasis was on cooperation across Europe including at secondary level. This will be important ongoing area where the Society plays an important role and links well with its' standing committee on pre-tertiary education (SCoPTE) which Morag is also a member of.

Promoting research on teaching psychology and the European Society for Psychology Learning and Teaching (ESPLAT)

We were informed by one of the BEA members about the launch the website of ESPLAT: the new European Society for Psychology Learning and Teaching (ESPLAT) website. www.esplat.org They hope ESPLAT will become a forum for quality, evidence informed teaching in Psychology, as well as for scholarship in psychology teaching and learning!

There also is an ESPLAT twitter account: @esplatorg. The first ESPLAT conference will be held in Utrecht (September 25-27, 2019) <https://esplatorg.weebly.com/conferences.html>). It is now open for membership and Helen Bakker is the 2019 Organiser and Board member and it should become an important conduit for learning and teaching and something that the Society can play an important role in.

Reflecting on the meeting, it was important symbolically in the context of Brexit to show that we are still fully engaged with our colleagues across Europe.

It is important that developments and shared understanding about the teaching of psychology and psychology education in general remain high on the agenda and that the Society has a continued presence and influence in this area.

– *Scott Hardie, BPS Representative on BEA.*

References

- * Williamson, M. , Sokolova, L. McGinty, J. *Journeys to psychology: different perspectives on pre-tertiary teaching of psychology in Europe.* Symposium EUROPLAT conference, Salzburg: September 2017.