

# Division of Clinical Psychology

January 2021

## **DCP in Focus**

### **A monthly news digest for our members**

The DCP has a number of geographical and specialist networks, many of which produce newsletters and bulletins designed for their members. We are aware that these often contain information which would be useful to the wider membership. To date it has been hard for members to obtain an overview of this diverse and interesting body of work and opportunities.

We will be now be producing a monthly update which will provide a digest of initiatives, events and benefits provided for clinical psychologists who are DCP members throughout the UK. The updates will provide an at-a-glance overview of current communications, including those which the DCP currently produces through its branches, faculties and divisions.

This first monthly update, produced by the newly-established Communications Subcommittee of the DCP Executive, will focus on news about upcoming conferences, awards and bursaries, and the opportunity to take on a variety of leadership roles in DCP committees.

We welcome any feedback or comments on this new format - please [get in touch with me](#).

Julia Faulconbridge

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## Covid-19

As we begin a new year our profession, along with the world's population, is facing an unprecedented set of challenges posed by the pandemic. While the arrival of vaccines raises hopes, this new and deadly wave of infection is perhaps the worst we have yet faced.

The DCP is planning to increase the support it offers all members - across all four nations and at all levels - to further enable psychologically-informed interventions which improve healthcare for people affected by Covid-19 across the lifespan.

We will continue to produce DCP Covid bulletins, showcasing the innovative and inspiring work which has taken place to provide improved health services across the UK. All of the bulletins so far can be accessed [on our website](#).

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## Annual conference

We're delighted to announce that the DCP annual conference will be held across

two days in March, under the theme 'Doing what matters: Value-driven clinical psychology in action'.

This year, we will be presenting the conference entirely online, live-streaming our speakers from around the world. So far, we are delighted to announce two invited speakers: Prof Susan Michie, Professor of Health Psychology and Director of the Centre of Behaviour Change at UCL, extensively published in the area of health-related behaviour intervention and change, and now on the UK Government's SAGE committee. She will be joined by Dr Russ Harris, psychotherapist, trainer, coach and leading expert proponent of acceptance and commitment therapy, as well as author of many books including *The Happiness Trap* and *The Reality Slap*.

We look forward to sharing further news of our developing programme.

Attendance for both days costs just £35 for DCP members, and we hope to virtually see as many of you as possible. You can [register now](#).

If you're interested in submitting work to present at the conference, the deadline for this is 10am on Monday 25 January - more details are [available on our website](#).

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### **AGM and call for nominations for executive roles**

The DCP Annual General Meeting will take place on Tuesday 2 March at 12pm, during the conference. As this will take place via Zoom, we hope that as many members as possible can join us.

Part of the AGM will be to ratify the election of new members of the executive. We have five important lead roles to be filled and hope that members will consider standing for those roles. They are all for three years and there is some reimbursement available for your time.

We know that many people do not think they could join a DCP committee, feeling that you have to be very senior/ eminent to take on the role. The majority of those of us who are active in the DCP also felt that way initially - we want to encourage you to overcome those doubts and submit a statement of interest.

While leadership roles do require a fair degree of experience and seniority, we would really like to have greater representation from colleagues who are earlier in their career pathway. We also want a committee that is as diverse as possible to represent both our members and the public we serve.

If you join the executive, you will be involved in building the future for the profession at a time of change within the DCP/BPS and the wider world, and will have the opportunity to really make a difference.

Being on the executive also offers you great opportunities for learning - previous members on all DCP committees have described the role as the best CPD available. This is a chance to broaden your horizons and develop your career:

- You will gain invaluable professional knowledge and experience
- You will support the clinical and professional development of your colleagues and can help represent the profession at a national level
- You will be supported by a very friendly and helpful committee

The roles available are:

- Professional standards and research lead
- Membership lead
- Communications and publications lead
- Workforce and training lead
- DCP England chair

If you would like to have a discussion before deciding whether to apply, please [contact Kay Seaton](#) and we will arrange an informal discussion. If you want to understand more about the structure of the DCP and its networks, and the work

we do, please [visit the website](#).

Full details on the positions that are open and how you can apply are [on the DCP website](#). Nominations close at noon on 19 January.

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## Practice Board

The BPS Practice Board is also currently looking to recruit a practitioner clinical psychologist with a wider strategic interest in the development of the profession.

The Practice Board promotes excellence in psychological practice so that everyone can access high quality, evidence-based interventions to enhance their lives, organisations, communities and wider society.

This is a really important board for clinical psychology, which in the past consisted of the chairs of all BPS divisions. The membership is now formed of BPS members who are submit statements of interest to become involved.

From March, there will be no clinical psychologist on the board after Esther Cohen-Tovee's term ends.

Having a clinical psychologist on the board is essential for the profession and we are encouraging you to consider whether you could be that person. You would be on the board in your own right, but would link to and be supported by the executive.

To find out more about the board and how to apply, please see the [website](#). To arrange an informal discussion, please contact [Kay Seaton](#).

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## Awards

Deadlines are coming up for a number of DCP awards, which will be presented at the annual conference.

These awards are such an important opportunity to recognise and celebrate the work that our members are doing at all levels of the profession. We hope that you will think about the work that colleagues are doing and consider nominating them this year.

We have also introduced a new award this year to recognise important contributions made by clinical psychology to the response to Covid-19.

Nominations for all awards close at midnight on 29 January. More information on these, including eligibility criteria and how to nominate, is [available on our website](#).

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### **Early career conference bursary scheme**

The April 2021 round of the BPS early career conference bursary scheme is now open for applications.

This scheme supports early career psychologists in the UK to attend academic conferences (including virtually) that they may otherwise have been unable to join.

Each bursary consists of up to £250 (UK) or £500 (international) to contribute towards the costs of registration and travel (if applicable) to attend the full conference.

If any of our early career members in the DCP are interested in applying, [full details are available on the BPS website](#).

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## Clinical Psychology Forum

We are pleased to announce that we have now appointed new editors for CPF.

Louisa Jackman is the new clinical editor and Nikki Dennis is the editorial manager. We will be constituting and recruiting to a new editorial board in the next few weeks and still welcome more people to join our team of reviewers and, of course, submissions of papers.

You are likely to see positive changes to CPF over the coming year. To contact the new editor, please email [cpfeditor@bps.org.uk](mailto:cpfeditor@bps.org.uk), and for submissions please email [cpfsubmissions@bps.org.uk](mailto:cpfsubmissions@bps.org.uk).

