



Division of Occupational Psychology

Newsletter – Dec 2020

Dear member,

Welcome to the final DOP Newsletter of 2020, a year that can genuinely be described as one like no other. The challenges have been immense but the way in which our profession has adapted and made a positive contribution to society during the pandemic has been truly awe-inspiring.

Amidst the turmoil, we have also managed to continue with much 'business as usual' and this month saw the culmination of a year-long in-depth review of the DOP's Awards and Recognition strategy. The main outcome of this was that the committee reaffirmed its commitment to a structured awards programme to recognise and celebrate success, best practice, and excellence in occupational psychology. In the light of the review panel's recommendations, it was however agreed that the existing process should be comprehensively revised to better meet the needs and expectations of our members. It was also decided that this work would be taken forward after the AGM for action by the incoming committee in 2021.

Another major goal for next year will be to develop the division to become a much more inclusive and diverse member network. This has been spurred in part by the many concerns expressed by members concerning a lack of visible response by the division to EDI issues, specifically relating to racism and race inequality. While it is only one way of approaching the problem, the current DOP Committee has decided to recommend the appointment of a short-life task and finish group to investigate the issue and propose improvement actions. As with the awards proposal, this will be taken up by next year's DOP Committee, at which time you can expect to hear more about the initiative and how to get involved in future Newsletters.

I also hope to see as many of you as possible at our virtual AGM when, among other things, we will announce the results of the election of new committee members. The meeting will be held via Zoom on Thursday 7 January 2021 at 7.00pm. Notice of the AGM was recently sent to all our members and you can access the formal notice, agenda, and reports from the [news page of the DOP Website](#).

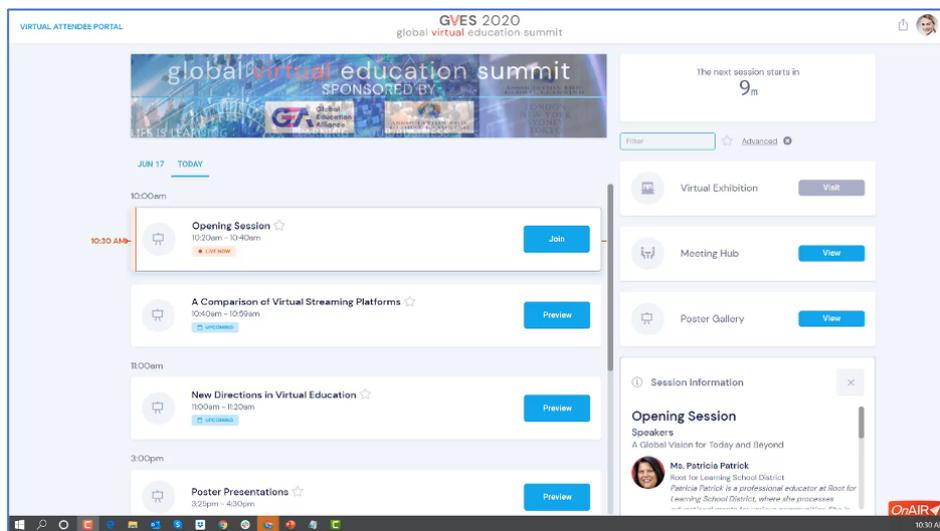
Having been elected by the membership as Chair Elect at the beginning of the year, Janet Fraser will accede to the Chair, while I will be staying on for another year as Vice Chair to support her in this role. I would like to take the opportunity to wish Janet every success, and to thank all of you who have given me such wonderful backing and encouragement over the last 2 years.

Wishing you a safe and peaceful holiday followed by a joyful new year.

Jon Cox
DOP chair

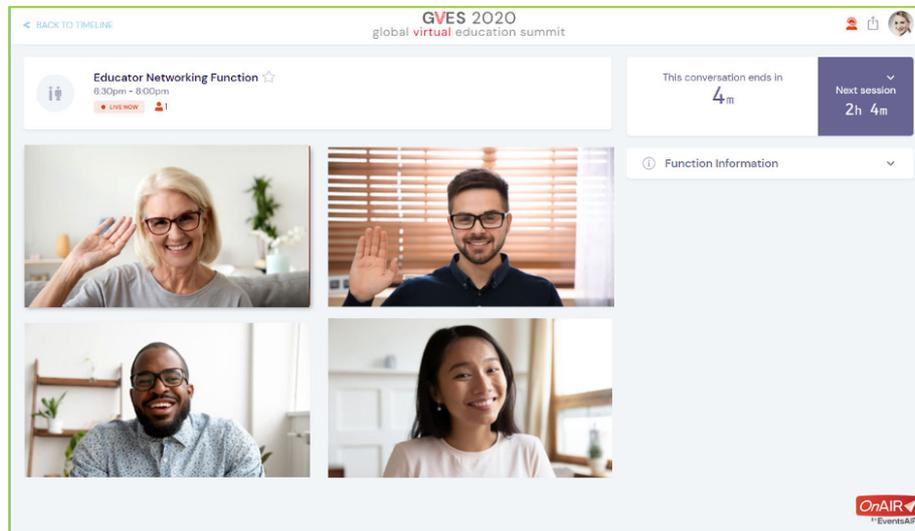
DOP Annual Conference 7-8 January 2021 virtual edition

The DOP Virtual Conference is promising to be the best attended virtual event on record for both the DOP and the BPS. We are already on track for 400 registrations and anticipate that many more of you will sign up as the date approaches. Considering the breadth and depth of the planned content, the speaker profiles and the very low registration fees, we believe there is something for everyone. Programme and registration details are [on our website](#).



The event will be delivered on a platform called OnAIR, which offers a number of features. A personalisable **Timeline** gives full access to sessions and functions, a synchronised clock keeps everyone on schedule, and allows instant alert messages from the organisers.

The sessions will be in various styles, pre-recorded, hybrid and live, with a range of interactive tools such as Live Polling, Live Q&A, and Discussion.



Networking is available, the main route being the **Meeting Hub** which provides informal interaction. By clicking on a tab you are randomly allocated to a small networking group of three or four people, allowing both general conversation and conference discussion. You can engage in multiple conversations if that suits you and create connections for future meetings.

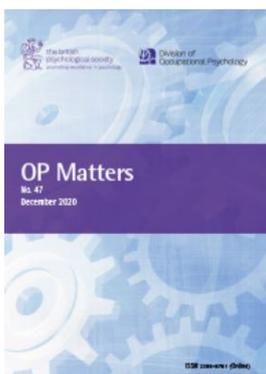
There is a **Live Support** function where you can seek practical help if you encounter technical problems.

A social programme on the evening of 8 January includes cocktail (and mocktail) making and stand-up comedy from our own Prof John Arnold. We also hope to appreciate some DOP members' musical talents so do [get in touch with the Conference Chairs](#) to volunteer! While this year's conference may not have the face-to-face interaction of our usual event, we hope to offer a flavour of the distinctive identity of one of psychology's best-attended conferences.

We look forward to meeting up in early January and wish you all the best for the festive season.

Ian Bushnell & Simon Toms
DOP Conference Chairs

Re-thinking OP Matters



We've decided to think again about how we deliver OP Matters for our members. This means that in 2021, the DOP Committee will consider new options for putting together the magazine. Following the advert in last month's newsletter, the role of editor remains unfilled. If you are interested in contributing to the production of OP Matters *in any capacity*, please [get in contact with the DOP Chair](#) for an informal discussion.



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