



Division of Occupational Psychology

Newsletter – May 2021

Message from the Chair

Welcome to our May issue of the DOP Newsletter.

Much has been happening since last month and here are some of the highlights.

The review of DOP roles and structures continues: the committee is consulting with the DOP working groups about new group types, including the possible creation of interest groups, and we anticipate a ‘fanfare’ launch of our new format at 9.50 am on the 10 October.

The EDI Task and Finish Group interviews took place on the 22, 23 and 28 of April and I’m pleased to announce that Ann-Marie Smith has been appointed to the lead role. We also welcome group members Sathi Banerjee, Deepali Dmello, Tetiana Hill, Claire Lish, Philip McKee, Victoria Maxfield, Lisa Mayocchi, Clare Mulligan-Foster, Namrata Sajja, and Varuni Wimalasiri.

The group, which has been established to advise and make recommendations to the DOP Committee, will meet regularly over the next 12 months to create a DOP EDI stakeholder map; scope EDI issues and priorities in the domain of occupational psychology; review evidence and propose effective, implementable and sustainable ways to:

- Capture/promote the benefits of equality, diversity and inclusion
- Improve EDI in all of DOP’s offerings to its members
- Support DOP members in relation to EDI
- Support career paths in OP
- Support the society’s objectives in the BPS EDI Taskforce workplan
- Disseminate the OP knowledgebase to promote positive change



We're also developing an Environmental Sustainability position statement for the division with guidance from Dr Jan Maskell.

Jan is co-convener of the DOP's [Going Green Working Group](#) and a member of the BPS Climate and Environmental Crisis (CEC) Steering Group.

The plan is for the DOP Committee to agree the statement by June before launching it in our next newsletter.

One of our environmental sustainability commitments will be around using technology to enhance remote delivery of member benefits through opportunities for learning, networking and development. We already have two virtual networking events in the pipeline: one hosted by Going Green and the other by the International working group. There is space in the diary for more and if you have suggestions or requests, please get in touch.

Member engagement is one of the DOP committee's top priorities for 2021. So, 19 weeks into the new committee's term, what have we learned about our membership so far? A few initial thoughts and reflections follow:

- Ask not, 'who do we know?' but 'who do we not know?' There is a lot of talent out there and members are interested in getting involved. We want to increase opportunities to make this possible.
- Enrolments are up: A surge of interest in the new 2019 stage 2 qualification in occupational psychology (QOP2) is reflected in the 17 extra candidates who've signed up in the first quarter of this year. More supervisors were trained to meet this additional demand. We've also learned that QOP2 is one of the society's more popular qualifications.
- There really are OPs in the NHS: Partly due to the chair's surgeries, as well as through other avenues, we're finding more DOP members working in different roles around the Health Service. And there's an appetite for connecting. The DOP committee will look at running a networking event focused on the health sector at its next committee meeting. But it isn't just the NHS. We've noticed emerging numbers in other sectors, e.g., financial services. And if we've overlooked your sector, please let us know.
- Are we missing something? Around 55 per cent of our DOP members are chartered but not all of them have become full members. Overall, 46 per cent of all our members are full members; 42 per cent are general members and 12 per cent are in-training members.
- Where are the members? The full answer might surprise you. What's not too surprising is that the UK membership aligns with the distribution of the population generally. But what about outside the UK? It turns out that we have a substantial international contingent with 12.6 per cent of the membership based across 52 different countries around the

globe. The highest numbers can be found in the Republic of Ireland, followed by Australia, Hong Kong, and Singapore, then UAE, USA, Malta, Canada and Greece. All the more reason to use technology innovatively when delivering benefits to members.

Our 2021 priorities also mention development of a mentoring scheme for the DOP. We're just waiting for the BPS framework before progressing this. However, we have been asked to let you know meantime that this is on the horizon. Another priority is working in partnership with others. There's still time to book onto our joint event with SGIP - A Day in the Life of an Independent Practitioner Occupational Psychologist - on 20 May (£10 for DOP members).

If you can suggest an opportunity for a joint venture, please let us know.

Once again, don't forget that I'm here for the whole membership. Please get in contact if you would like to offer your comments and ideas or ask questions about the division. As ever, the monthly Chair Surgeries provide a good opportunity to do this but alternative times can be offered to meet your needs. Please just get in contact so that this can be arranged.

Chair Surgery

The next Chair Surgery will be held on Tuesday 1 June, 5pm to 7pm. To book a time simply send me an email.

Janet Fraser

Chair, BPS Division of Occupational Psychology



EAWOP 2022 Congress: The submissions deadline has been extended!

Instead of the DOP conference in 2022 we are hosting the EAWOP congress welcoming occupational psychologists from across Europe and the world to Glasgow 11-14 January. Submissions are still open for EAWOP 2022 so don't miss your opportunity to contribute to the programme and showcase your work. Submissions have been extended and will now close on the 30 June.

Submissions are made via the congress website. You can also find full information about the different submissions categories and how to use the submissions system online. As well as oral papers, posters and symposia we have some new submission categories this time.

We would also welcome volunteers to help with the task of reviewing submissions.

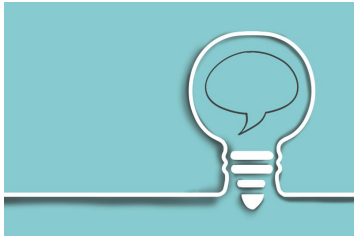
If you are willing and able to help then please [register on the conference website](#).

We are looking forward to welcoming EAWOP and DOP members to Glasgow in January where we can finally meet each other in person after the long period of the pandemic. We will be following the health guidelines to make sure the event is safe.

We look forward to receiving your submission!

In addition to the EAWOP 2022 Congress in January we are also organising a one-day virtual event with EAWOP on 27 May 2021. The programme will focus on the major impact the pandemic has had on organisations and working lives and how our science and practice has responded. Discounted rate for DOP members.

Your thoughts on the current status of psychological tests and testing?



A survey is being carried out in countries all around the world to find out the opinions and thoughts on various aspects related to psychological tests and testing.

The BPS is proudly working in partnership with European Federation of Psychologists Association (EFPA) Board of Assessment and the International Test Commission (ITC) to carry out this survey within the UK to all our members and beyond.

Be part of this global effort which has already seen thousands of responses from Italy, Spain, Poland, Croatia and many more. Please help us make sure the UK voice is represented as your opinions matter and will help in making decisions to improve test use.

We would greatly appreciate you devoting a few minutes of your time to complete the survey.

What would you like to read?



Have your say - OP Matters is changing.

Townhall meeting - Tuesday 8 June, 5pm - 6pm by Zoom

- What sort of content, frequency and format do you want as a DOP member?

- What would grab your attention and make you want to read on?
- What about focus and style?

DOP members are invited to take part in a zoom meeting to discuss changes to OP Matters, our member member-facing magazine.

No preparation required. All ideas welcome. Put the Zoom details in the diary!



Upcoming online events

A day in the life of an independent practitioner occupational psychologist
Thursday 20 May, 10am to 12pm

This joint SGIP and DOP event will hear from two experienced chartered occupational psychologists working in independent practice. They will share their experiences of entering and working in the world of independent practice.

Book now

Free webinar - Welcome to leveraging diversity of personality

Thursday 10 June, 2pm to 3:30pm

This webinar, which is being run by BPS East Midlands Branch, will focus on that wonderful aspect of life that we all see the world slightly differently. And one of the ways that this difference can be illustrated is by using personality assessment.

In this session, we will explore the current research and share stories from practice on the importance of diversity of personality and respect towards different personality traits. And how this diversity can be leveraged in order for us to deal more effectively with the high pace and unpredictability that we are expediting in the current times."

The webinar will be presented by Nikita Mikhailov.

Book now

Do you have news or events to include in this newsletter?



If you have any news, events or other items you would like to submit to the monthly DOP newsletter, please email the Communications Lead before the 12 of the month.

Are you opted into online voting?

It's important that as many members as possible vote in BPS elections and the easiest way to take part is by voting online. You can opt in to online voting in four simple steps:

1. Visit the log in page of the BPS website and enter your membership details
2. Select 'Preferences' from the tiles displayed
3. Select the 'Yes' option in the online voting preferences section
4. After a few seconds, a message will display saying your online voting preferences have been saved successfully.

If you want to opt in to vote online in the election for 2021/22 President, please make sure you update your details by **Thursday 27 May**. Members not opted in to online voting will receive a paper ballot form.



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