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The Society has offices in Belfast, Cardiff, Glasgow and London, as well as the main office in Leicester. All enquiries should be addressed to the Leicester office (see contents page for address).

The British Psychological Society was founded in 1901, and incorporated by Royal Charter in 1965. Its object is 'to promote the advancement and diffusion of a knowledge of psychology pure and applied and especially to promote the efficiency and usefulness of Members of the Society by setting up a high standard of professional education and knowledge'.

Extract from The Charter

News about Society matters and brief items for News of members are welcome. Please send to *The Psychologist* at the Society's office, or to psychologist@bps.org.uk. Subsystem notices: notices received from elected officers of subsystems of official meetings, events, conferences of Divisions, Sections, Branches and Special Groups of the Society are inserted free of charge. Items should be sent to susepp@bps.org.uk.

A letter to voting members

WE, the Honorary Officers, are writing to you about two very important matters to do with the life of the Society and on which you will be asked to vote in the coming month.

Membership subscriptions for 2007

In response to member consultation, the Society has an exciting programme of work supporting academic and applied psychology and linked to the Strategic Plan. This includes contributions to public debate and vital contributions to government initiatives and policies. The Society is also committed to helping you – its members – to be ever more effective in your professional lives. The leaflet 'Discussion into Deeds' included with last month's *Psychologist* illustrates the breadth and depth of work being undertaken during just a three-month period to achieve our objectives. Important work is also being done by your Divisions, Sections, Special Groups and Branches.

All of this work is supported – by the energy and commitment of members, the skills of our paid staff and from Society income. One of the key sources of income is member subscriptions, which had been kept low for several years by drawing on our level of reserves. Now, circumstances and priorities have moved on. Our sources of external income are under more pressure and there are uncertainties surrounding the statutory regulation of our profession. Running costs have increased, and we need to use our reserves to invest for tomorrow rather than pay for today. For example, the investment in a new London building

(purchased at no additional cost than income obtained from the sale price of John Street) gives us all a good-quality resource for Society meetings and events for the next 10 years.

We are therefore asking you to vote for an increase of the full graduate membership subscription by £12 to £92 (other subscription levels apply to other types of membership and payment by direct debit attracts a discount of £5). This represents an increase of only £1 per month, and still compares very favourably with

'We hope you will support our two proposals'

many other professional bodies. It will, though, enable the Society to meet the commitments embedded in the Strategic Plan both now and longer term. Full details of the proposed subscription rates will appear on your voting paper. We do not propose to alter fees for registration or practising certificates, neither of which has changed since 1992.

We would also like to remind you (whether you are employed or self-employed) that in the UK your membership subscription and Register fees are approved by HM Revenue and Customs as a tax-deductible expense: see www.hmrc.gov.uk/list3/list3.htm.

Proposed rule change

Under charity law, the Trustees are accountable for the financial health of the Society. In fulfilling this function, we need to make decisions about the appropriate level of subscriptions, but we then need to gain your approval for that. It is worth noting that

each vote costs several thousand pounds to administer!

We are therefore proposing a change of statute that will allow the Trustees to make firmer long-term financial plans while safeguarding the membership from surprise increases in subscriptions. In common with many other professional bodies, we are seeking your support for a change to the Society's Statutes to enable the Board of Trustees to set the level of membership subscriptions each year – but within certain limitations. The limitations we propose are:

1. that the Trustees must consult with the Representative Council about changes to membership subscriptions (this would ensure that your elected representatives would contribute to the decision);
2. that annual increases should be limited to a maximum of the current retail price inflation figure plus 2 per cent (the reason for this is that our major area of expenditure is employment costs and salary inflation runs ahead of price inflation).

If at any point the Trustees think it necessary to increase subscriptions by more than that maximum amount, a further limitation would be that this would have to be put to a vote of the Representative Council.

We have given this proposal considerable thought and believe that it is in the best interests of the Society as a whole:

- It addresses the issues of inflation that we all have to face.
- It will save us the cost of voting on it each time.

- It will help the Trustees and the Representative Council to make longer-term financial plans to support the development of the Society, and psychology as a whole.

Again, full details of our proposal will appear with the voting paper that will be sent to you separately in the next two weeks. This second vote – because it is about a change to our statutes – requires a

majority of two thirds of members voting before we can commend it to the Privy Council.

We hope you will support our two proposals and vote in favour of them.

Ray Miller, President;
Ann Colley, Honorary General Secretary;
Ken Brown, Treasurer;
Graham Powell, Vice President;
Pam Maras, President Elect

Spearman Medal winners

THE joint winners of this year's Spearman Medal are Dr Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, a research fellow at the Institute of Cognitive Psychology at UCL, and Dr Richard Crisp, a Reader of Social Psychology at the University of Birmingham.

The award is made for their outstanding contribution to psychology in the first 10 years since becoming eligible for graduate membership, with emphasis on their research.

Dr Blakemore was nominated by Professor Jon Driver and Professor Uta Frith of the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience at UCL. They said that 'Sarah-Jayne Blakemore is undoubtedly one of the brightest stars among the new generation of psychologists, both nationally and internationally.'

After graduating from the University of Oxford in 1996 with a Congratulatory First in experimental psychology, Dr Blakemore undertook a PhD in neuroscience at the Wellcome Department of Cognitive Neurology, UCL. During that time she received the Society's Award for Outstanding Doctoral Research Contributions to Psychology for her work on self-monitoring of action in healthy individuals and people with schizophrenia using psychophysical, PET and fMRI techniques.

Since 2004, Dr Blakemore has been working as a research fellow at the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience, UCL, funded by a Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Fellowship. She has made significant contributions to the understanding of social cognition during adolescence, notably in the study of schizophrenia. Her work has been influential with government, specifically the Select Committee for Education.

On receiving the medal, Dr Blakemore said, 'It is a privilege and an honour to be awarded the Spearman Medal.'

Dr Crisp was nominated by Professor Miles Hewstone of the University of Oxford, who described him as 'an exceptionally talented social psychologist who is hugely deserving of the award'.

After graduating from St Catherine's College, University of Oxford in 1995 with a BA (Hons) and MA in experimental psychology, Dr Crisp embarked on a PhD entitled *Crossed categorisation and intergroup bias: Context, process and social consequences* at the University of Cardiff. On completing his PhD, Dr Crisp stayed at Cardiff for a year as a Research Associate before taking up a post at the University of Birmingham in 1999.

Dr Crisp's main work is on understanding the processes that can lead to prejudice, discrimination and social conflict. He has an impressive array of papers published in leading journals, including the *International Journal of Psychology* and the *British Journal of Social Psychology*, as well as editing a number of forthcoming books.

On accepting the award, Dr Crisp said: 'The Spearman Medal has always been a tremendous inspiration for me; it provides a spotlight on new, exciting and critically important psychological research. I am delighted and honoured, to receive this award, and thrilled that my research has been chosen to illustrate the breadth of excellent work being carried out by early career psychologists.'

Fellowship citation

MARGARET Harris, Professor of Psychology at Royal Holloway, University of London, is a developmental psychologist whose work on children's language development is recognised internationally. Her monograph *Language Experience and Early Language Development*, published in 1992, is a seminal work in the field, laying out a theory of how the contexts in which children hear language shapes the language they themselves produce in similar contexts. She has also co-authored two important developmental textbooks with the late George Butterworth; these are models of scholarship and clarity and as well as being widely adopted on

NEWS OF MEMBERS

Professor Emeritus Graham Harding has been elected to Honorary Fellowship of the Royal College of Physicians, the highest honour that the college can bestow on someone not medically qualified.

Richard Lynn, Professor Emeritus of Psychology of the University of Ulster, has received the United States Mensa Foundation 2005 Award for Excellence for his work on intelligence.

Professor Jim Mansell, Director of the Tizard Centre at the University of Kent, has been appointed to the UK government's Learning Disability Task Force.

Professor Mark Griffiths of Nottingham Trent University has been awarded a 'Lifetime Achievement Award' by the Canadian International Centre for Youth Gambling Problems and the US Institute for the Study of Gambling and Commercial Gaming, for his research into adolescent gambling.



undergraduate courses, they have been translated into many other languages.

More recently, Professor Harris has turned her mind to the study of written language development where she has conducted research on reading development in typically developing children and in children with hearing impairments. She co-edited one of the first collections of readings on cross-linguistic

aspects of reading acquisition and recently became an adviser on cochlear implants, having investigated their impact on the development of language and communication in deaf children.

Margaret Harris's work has had an important influence on a generation of psychology students and on professionals in the field of hearing impairment she successfully supervised 10 PhD students, some of whom are now academics. The award of a Fellowship of the Society recognises her outstanding theoretical contribution to the field of developmental psychology and the influence of her work on professional practice in related fields.

DEADLINE

Copy deadline for Society contributions is **1 September** for the October issue

SUBSYSTEM NOTICES

DIVISION OF CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY – FACULTY FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Annual Conference 2006

14–15 September,
De Havilland Campus,
University of Hertfordshire
Keynote speakers: Tanya Byron,
Kim Golding, Judy Hutchings,
David Trickey.

To download the full programme and registration form please visit the event website at www.bps.org.uk/cyp2006

All enquiries to the BPS Conference Office 0116 252 9555 or e-mail: cypconf@bps.org.uk.

PSYCHOBIOLOGY SECTION

21st Annual Scientific Meeting
18–20 September 2006, Low Wood

Hotel, Windermere
Deadline for abstract submissions
21 July 2006.
Keynote speakers: Professor Steven Rosend; Professor Andrew Scholey

Undergraduate Project Prize 2006

This competition is open to all UK final year undergraduates. A prize of £50 will be awarded for the best project in the field of psychobiology. The winner will be invited to present their findings at the Psychobiology Section Annual Scientific Meeting. Entries must be submitted to Dr Daryl O'Connor, Chair of the Psychobiology Section, by 14 July 2006.

More information: www.bps.org.uk/psybio/psybio_home.cfm.

DIVISION OF HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY

Annual Conference 2006

13–15 September, Essex University
This year's keynote speakers are:

Prof Charles Abraham, University of Sussex; Prof Sheina Orbell, Essex University; Prof Alex Rothman, University of Minnesota; Prof Andrew Steptoe, University College London.

A draft programme, registration form and accommodation details are available from the conference website

See www.dhp2006.org.uk.

CONSCIOUSNESS & EXPERIENTIAL PSYCHOLOGY SECTION

Tenth Annual Conference: Exploring the boundaries of experience and self.

15–17 September 2006, St Anne's College, Oxford.
Speakers include: John Barresi, Judith Blackstone, Andrew Brook, Alan Costall, Shaun Gallagher, Brian Goodwin, Valerie Gray Hardcastle, John Pickering, Vasuvedi Reddy, Susan Stuart, Steve Torrence, B. Alan Wallace, Max Velmans and Dan Zahavi.

Further details and registration forms can be found on the CEP website:

www.bps.org.uk/conex/events

For registration enquires contact Dr Guy Saunders, Tel 0117 328 2185, E-mail guy.saunders@uwe.ac.uk

SPECIAL GROUP IN COACHING PSYCHOLOGY

'Positive Psychology in Coaching Psychology'

7 September 2006, BPS London office, 9.30am to 4.30pm.
Registration from 9am.

This one-day interactive conference will bring together some of the UK's leading experts who are working at the interface of positive psychology and coaching psychology. Speakers will include: Dr Alex Linley, Prof Stephen Joseph, Sandra Foster and James Brook.

For further details and information about the event see the news page of the SGCP website at www.bps.org.uk/coachingpsy. For booking information please contact: Tracy White – e-mail tracy@virtuallyorganised.com

1st International Coaching Psychology Conference

18–19 December 2006, City University, London.

DOCTORAL AWARD

THE winner of the 2005 Award for Outstanding Doctoral Research Contributions to Psychology is Dr Danielle Turner.

Dr Turner, who was awarded her PhD from the University of Cambridge in February 2005, receives the award from the Society's Scientific Affairs Board in recognition of her outstanding published contributions to psychology based on doctoral research.

Dr Turner's research focused on the psychopharmacology of cognitive enhancement. The research showed that by administering stimulant drugs, including modafinil and methylphenidate (Ritalin), it is possible to enhance cognitive performance in both clinical and healthy populations with minimal side-effects.

Her PhD work has already been awarded special recognition by the Royal Institution as part of the Science Graduate of the Year competition and it also helped Dr Turner to land the first-ever fellowship in cognitive enhancement at the Centre for Cognitive Liberty and Ethics in California.

Her study on the cognitive-enhancing effects of modafinil was the most highly cited research paper in 2003 in the journal *Psychopharmacology* and her work also attracted widespread public interest, including being featured in *The Guardian*, the *Today* programme, and BBC World Service.

She was nominated by Professor Barbara Sahakian, who said: 'Danielle is an innovative and original researcher with an exceptional scientific career ahead of her, as indicated by her many excellent first-authored publications. Indeed, she was selected as one of five young British scientists to participate in the Celebrating British Science event co-hosted by The Royal Society and the Department of Trade and Industry in March of this year.'

Dr Turner studied for a BSc in pharmacy at Aston University, gaining a first class honours degree in 1999, before taking up a year's internship as a pre-registration pharmacist at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

She progressed to be a resident pharmacist before moving to the University of Cambridge. She was a postdoctoral research fellow at the university until recently; she is now extending her PhD work by exploring the ethical implications of developments in neuroscience and plans to train in neuroethics.

On receiving the award, Dr Turner said: 'This is a wonderful honour. I would especially like to thank Barbara Sahakian and my colleagues in the Department of Psychiatry for their support, and also all the volunteers who helped so much in this research.'

The programme will be delivered by national and international leaders in the field. Invited speakers and workshop facilitators include: Professor Michael Carroll, Dr Michael Cavanagh, Kristina Gyllensten, Professor David Lane, Dr Alex Linley, Dr Bjorn Myer, Prof Stephen Palmer, Professor Ernesto Spinelli, Dr Dianne Stober, Dr Alison Whybrow and Pauline Willis.

Further information will soon be announced on the news page of the SGCP website on www.bps.org.uk/coachingpsy. Contact Siobhain O'Riordan, SGCP events co-ordinator for information sgcpcomm@bps.org.uk

DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

CPD Masterclass and workshop programme 2006

Highlights of the Learning a Living programme in September and October.

Masterclasses

28 September – Creating inclusive organisations.

Workshops:

6 September – Evaluating the success of coaching initiatives.

20 September – Stress at work: The vital role of managers and leaders.

Full programme details available via www.bps.org.uk/events/dopws06/.

For further information e-mail dopworkshops@bps.org.uk or call Mandy Lindsay or Kerry Wood on 0116 252 9555. Book early to avoid disappointment as places are limited.

Annual Occupational Psychology Conference 2007

Call for submissions
10–12 January 2007, Bristol
Marriott Hotel City Centre
Registration now open

Further details including submission guidelines can be obtained from www.bps.org.uk/dop2007. The deadline for all submissions is Monday 7 August 2006. All enquiries should be addressed to the BPS Conference Office. Tel 0116 252 9555; E-mail dopannual@bps.org.uk

WESSEX & WIGHT BRANCH

Electronic announcement list

The Branch has now created an electronic announcement list. To subscribe, send an e-mail to subscribe-wessex-announce@lists.bps.org.uk or visit the Branch website for more information www.bps.org.uk/wwb.

Branch survey

The Branch is forming local 'Hubs' so that events can be delivered more locally to members' home or work locations. To help identify what members would like from their Hub, a questionnaire has been enclosed with *The Psychologist* for those members in the Branch's area. It can also be completed online at www.bps.org.uk/wwb.

DIVISION OF NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

Post-qualification training day 'Disconnection Syndromes'

Friday 24 November 2006, 9.30am to 4pm, BPS London office, 30 Tabernacle Street, London EC2

MEETING DATES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Friday 15 September 2006 (Leicester)
Thursday 26 October 2006 (London)

REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL

Friday 27 October 2006
Friday 9 February 2007
Friday 4 May 2007
Friday 19 October 2007

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE BOARD

Friday 8 September 2006

RESEARCH BOARD

Friday 20 October 2006 (followed by Visiting Psychologists Committee)

MEMBERSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING BOARD

Thursday 14 September 2006
Friday 3 November 2006

PSYCHOLOGY EDUCATION BOARD

Thursday 19 October 2006

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS BOARD

Friday 3 November 2006

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT BOARD

Tuesday 17 October 2006 (AGM)

FELLOWSHIPS COMMITTEE

Friday 29 September 2006

GRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Thursday 7 September 2006
Thursday 9 November 2006

ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE

Thursday 7 September 2006
Thursday 2 November 2006

STANDING COMMITTEE FOR THE PROMOTION OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Thursday 21 September 2006

THE PSYCHOLOGIST POLICY COMMITTEE

Friday 6 October 2006

ETHICS COMMITTEE

Wednesday 27 September 2006

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

Thursday 19 October 2006

FUTURE SOCIETY CONFERENCES, ETC.

Edinburgh Lectures –
Thursday 9 November 2006
London Lectures –
Monday 4 December 2006
Annual Conference –
21–23 March 2007

Topics include: (Brief) introduction to the topic: Intra and inter-hemispheric disconnections; From disconnection to disconnection: The history of disconnection syndromes; Neurophysiological and neuroimaging approaches to disconnection syndromes; Executive dysfunction as a disconnection syndrome; Apraxia as a disconnection syndrome: What's

left?; Disconnection syndromes in the 21st century: Towards a nodotopic classification of higher cognitive functions.

For further information contact: Professor Michael Oddy, Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust, 32 Market Place, Burgess Hill, RH15 9NP. Tel: 01444 237287; fax 01444 244978; e-mail: birt@disabilities-trust.org.uk

YOUR SOCIETY NEEDS YOU

Vacancy	Person specification	Information (closing date)
Steering Committee on Test Standards – Members test development and construction.	Chartered clinical, neuropsychological or sport and exercise psychologists with expertise in psychometrics.	Mala Pancholi – mala.pancholi@bps.org.uk , 0116 252 9536 (31 October)
National assessors in recruitment and selection of consultant psychologists specifically in the sections: Adult Mental Health, Primary Care, Neuropsychology, Psychosis and Complex Mental Health and Substance Misuse and Addictive Behaviour.	Substantial experience at consultant level (Band 8c and above). Relevant up-to-date specialist knowledge and clinical experience, fully trained and experienced in recruitment and selection practices, equality and diversification issues. Knowledge of clinical governance and other NHS policies including modernisation programmes e.g. Agenda for Change.	Christine Grant, National Assessors Group Coordinator – christine.grant@bps.org.uk , 0116 252 9918
DCP new Unit Directors and Chair of the Professional Governance Panel	Job descriptions are posted on the Division of Clinical Psychology website (http://tinyurl.com/ph663)	Lynn Hartshorn – Lynn.Hartshorn@bps.org.uk (18 August)