

Contents: Issue 59

Editorial	Page 2
Chair's Column: Through the looking-glass <i>Cedric Ginestet.</i>	Page 4
A systematic review of the literature on attitudes towards people with depression in the workplace. <i>Helen Soteriou.</i>	Page 8
Forensic Psychology Today: Leading Edge Research and Practice <i>Krissy Wilson.</i>	Page19
Conference Review: The Special Interest Group in Coaching Psychology. <i>Sandra Haase.</i>	Page23
Conference Review: Psychology in Unlikely Places <i>Faith Martin.</i>	Page25
Big Interview: Dr Paul Brewerton, Managing Director of Blue Edge Consulting and a leading practitioner in organisational culture. <i>Julie Freeborn.</i>	Page28
Conference of the International Society for Research on Emotions <i>Martin Bruder</i>	Page36
Advertisement: Calling Sport and Exercise Psychology Students to the PsyPAG Annual Conference.	Page40
Dance Sessions: The Effect of Movement with Clients on the Autistic Spectrum Disorder. <i>Irina Roncaglia.</i>	Page41
Advertisement: PsyPAG and the Division of Neuropsychology: Call for papers – PsyPAG Annual Conference	Page51
25th Annual Conference of the Society for Reproductive and Infant Psychology (SRIP) <i>Bregje de Kok</i>	Page52
The 11th European Conference on Facial Expression <i>Marc Mehu</i>	Page54
Book Review: Theoretical Issues in Psychology – an introduction <i>Jon Rees.</i>	Page60
Dates for the diary	Page63
PsyPAG committee members 2005/2006.	Page64

Editorial

Welcome to the 59th edition of the PsyPAG Quarterly. Thank you to all our contributors, who have ensured that this edition is packed with really interesting articles.

In this issue we have Cedric Ginestet's final chair's column, in which he discusses his time as chair and his suggestions for the future of our group. I know that all who have been involved within PsyPAG would like to thank Cedric for his contribution to our group and wish him luck with his new ventures.

In preparation for PsyPAG's annual conference in Reading we also have a wide range of reviews of conferences attended by postgraduates. This reveals the range of areas which psychology has reached and will hopefully be reflected in the presentations given at our own event. Psychology's broad influence is also seen in the return of our Big Interview feature in which Julie Freeborn talks to Dr Paul Brewerton about psychology's role within organisational culture and the impression of psychology in the business world.

This issue also contains a systematic review of literature relating to depression in the workplace by Helen Soteriou, which considers how mental illness is represented within society and employment. Irina Roncaglia presents promising research suggesting the effectiveness of a dance related therapy for reducing problem behaviour in a group of autistic children.

As you flick through Q59, checkout the centre pages for details of PsyPAG's Annual Conference in Reading, as well as keeping an eye out for adverts for the special symposia on sports and Neuropsychology, and the back cover for details of how PsyPAG could help you fund your attendance!

The submission deadline for the next Quarterly is 7th July. Please contact us if you are interested in writing an article or review by emailing quarterly@psypag.co.uk. There are guidelines for contributors on the inside front cover.

Best wishes,
David Moore.

On behalf of the Quarterly Editorial Team, 2005-2006

Cornelia Ho, Alexa Ispas, James Jackson, Faith Martin,
David Moore and Glenda Pennington.

The PsyPAG Quarterly team would like to express their gratitude to our sponsors The British Psychological Society.



The
British
Psychological
Society

Chair's Column-Through the Looking-Glass

This is the last column that I am writing as chair of PsyPAG. What is good about writing your last column is that you can tell all your colleagues all what you wanted to tell them since the beginning of your mandate without giving them the chance to answer back. You can also seize the opportunity to address the structural changes that may not always be perceived as very popular, without running the risk of being criticised for your bold proposals.

PsyPAG constitutes an idiosyncratic multi-pronged body combining three different components: a learned society organising conferences and workshops, a charity distributing bursaries, and a political lobby defending the rights of fellow psychology postgraduates. These different components have been emphasised at different points during the course of my chairmanship and I would like to review each of them in turn.

As a learned society, PsyPAG has successfully organised its 20th anniversary conference last year in Exeter, which was particularly a great success in terms of committee members, since we recruited or re-elected about 20 new people, bringing the committee size to more than 30 members. We also awarded a prize to the best oral presentation, and we wish to renew this competition this year, as it is always encouraging to receive a prize at such an early stage of one's research career.

Another involvement that I am proud of is the organisation of the stats and maths workshop in Oxford University last year, which also witnessed a record attendance. That event combined the efforts of two BPS subsystems, PsyPAG and the stats and maths section. It was especially enjoyable to collaborate with Jeremy Miles, who heads that specific section. We also greatly benefited from the help of Tania Tam, who was based in Oxford University, and provided us with spacious premises for the workshop. This type of events can be extremely beneficial for the people organising them, and I wanted to remind all the readers that the PsyPAG committee is each

year awarding three £1,000 workshop bursaries, and consider applications in all psychological domains. This can constitute a fantastic opportunity to create a network of psychology students and researchers in a specific branch; so do not hesitate to contact us if you have any ideas about a workshop.

As a charity, I can report that PsyPAG has continued to fulfil its role in distributing bursaries to more postgraduate students than ever before. Last year, the committee decided to increase the number of travel bursaries awarded to postgraduate students to attend both national and international conferences. We have also made a singular effort to support postgraduate students attending our annual conference and will continue this effort this year.

Finally, as a political lobby, PsyPAG has played a key-role on various fronts. First and foremost, in the accreditation fiasco of the Teesside University clinical course, where PsyPAG defended the rights of an entire cohort of clinical trainees. The BPS withdrew the accreditation of the course in September just before the classes started, and therefore affected the lives of a group of postgraduates, who had committed themselves to study in that university, and who suddenly found themselves without job for the foreseeable future. PsyPAG has also taken initiative in proposing the statutory regulation of the term 'academic psychologist', which has been echoed by other subsystems of the BPS, and notably the Division of Training and Research Psychologist (DTRP).

At the age of 20, PsyPAG has now reached the age of reason. This may be the occasion to re-assert our values and what we stand for. I have always been really fond of thought-showering activities. With more maturity, perhaps the time has come to reconsider our society's image. The committee could brainstorm in order to define or redefine PsyPAG's values and founding principles. This could provide us with a great impetus to redesign our website, newsletter and all that convey our image to the external world. I know that it may appear as some new management

resolutions, where one spends a great deal of time writing big senseless words on a small white board. However, strategic thinking is important from times to times, and perhaps PsyPAG is now ripe for this type of soul-searching exercise.

Such changes cannot, however, be brought up without the injection of new blood in the PsyPAG committee. That is why, we need more people to participate in the running of PsyPAG. Since my election, my focus has been on increasing the size of the committee. When I started as international officer, we had between 8 and 12 people regularly attending the committee meetings, with about 15 places vacant. Today, committee meetings are attended by an average of 25 people, and it seems to be continuously increasing. This was one of my objectives when I started as chair. I wanted more people on the committee, because I thought that this was the only way to get things done and to expand our realm of activities.

Naturally, such increases also necessitate some restructuring in our decision-making process and that is where some strategic thinking is needed. However, I am still convinced that such augmentation should continue unabated, as it is the best way to ensure that PsyPAG remains as buoyant as ever and continue to propose research initiatives and take the lead in representing the interests of psychology postgraduates. I therefore hope that many of you will attend our next conference in Reading, this summer, and possibly join the committee, propose to organise a workshop or write an article for the Quarterly.

I also wanted to seize this opportunity to trumpet the election of my successor, David Moore, from Sheffield Hallam University, who will be replacing me at the annual general meeting during our annual conference this year. I wanted to thank all the people, who have given their precious research time to attend committee meetings in the past two years. Finally, my last words go to Rachel Pye, who has been occupying the role of vice-chair ever since I took over two years ago, and who has been a tower of

strength in supporting the general running of the organisation and an exemplar of patience in dealing with my, at times, whimsical behaviour.

It has been a great honour for me to be involved in PsyPAG. I profoundly think that such organisations constitute the core and pith of a postgraduate degree as they provide a genuine introduction to a research community. Psychology is continuously growing in the UK and around the world, and there is clear evidence that PsyPAG will continue to help and support psychology postgraduates to become part of these developments.

Cedric Ginestet, PsyPAG Chair
PsyPAG Chair, Imperial College

A systematic review of the literature on attitudes towards people with depression in the workplace

By

Helen Soteriou

King's College, London

List of abbreviations

BT Behaviour Therapy

CBT Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

CT Cognitive Therapy

DDA Disability Discrimination Act

DSM Diagnostic and Statistical Manual

ICD International Classification of Diseases

MHA Mental Health Act

MMD Major Depressive Disorder

QRS Quality Rating Scale

Background literature

Pickenhagen and Sartorius (2002) summarise the data well, when they state that it is the stigma attached to mental illness that is the main barrier to helping individuals with mental health issues. They state that individually it can lead to isolation, neglect, loss of income, loss of self-respect, but collectively, on the societal level, effects can be more devastating, including lack of funding into mental health research, and lack of access to treatment / information. Moreover, among their list, Pickenhagen and Sartorius state that it is this stigma which has led to the government not giving mental

health programmes equal priority, reduced input by communities to look after these patients, difficulties in obtaining housing, inequality before the law – and employment – which is the focus of this paper.

If this review finds that society still holds negative attitudes towards individuals with mental health issues in the workplace, it will serve to show that companies not only need to be trained and made aware of different mental illnesses, but also policies and practice need to be reviewed and amended, so that discrimination is less likely to occur. Moreover, there are also economic implications - if these individuals are being rejected, or dismissed solely based on their health status, this in turn will result in a section of the population being unemployed or only obtaining lowly paid/mental jobs. Having individuals on welfare, in turn, creates its own set of problems in the financial and political domain. Indeed, in a paper investigating employers willingness to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act, Jackson et al (2000) cite research which had found that people with disabilities are more likely to be unemployed or underemployed than the general population (Johnson, 1992). Moreover, work by Oliver (1990) concludes that individuals who have a disability are unlikely to be employed in positions where they have face-to-face contact with the public. Jackson concludes that there is an overall consensus in the literature that employer attitudes are some of the major factors in individuals not obtaining positions of employment.

Indeed, if this is the case, we would need to investigate the theories of why this is, and in turn what we can do/what has been done to reduce this. It is also important to use examples in other areas of society/research findings which have investigated similar topics to see how they have been dealt with, and/or how they have been resolved. We also need to consider whether there is anything we can learn from previous work in other areas, and apply it to this body of research. For example, the topic of physical disabilities

draws on similar themes. People with overt physical disabilities have had a history of discrimination in different areas of their lives, an important one being obtaining, or retaining employment.

Why a systematic review?

A systematic review is a systematic and rigorous approach to reviewing the literature, whilst minimising biases and random errors. Systematic reviews involve a clear, *a priori*, description of their objectives, the methods to be used to identify primary studies, the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of studies, the methods to be used for assessing the methodological quality of the included studies and the methods used for pooling data. It is adherence to these factors which will enable us to produce a valid and reliable report of the literature in this area.

Background and Rationale

Evolutionary theory states that the unattractive members of the species are at a disadvantage in sexual selection and in turn their genes surviving into the next generation. Those of us who are seen as different, deviating from the norm, are seen as somehow 'bad' and not desirable, as poor economic and social bets, according to this viewpoint.

'Stigma' has been used to describe the discriminatory feelings and views people deemed as 'unattractive' evoke in others. Numerous papers have investigated 'stigma', both overt and subconscious, which exists, and its effects on the quality of life in various subsets of the population. Research has found evidence for the discrimination of women, ethnic minorities, the physically handicapped and the elderly. What is interesting is that these attitudes have persisted despite public awareness that seeks to educate, and laws that state that everyone should be treated equally. Indeed, in Australia, Crisp (2001) notes that anti-stigma campaigns run by the Department of Health (1999) revealed that experience 'does not bring a

strong sense of understanding, but rather of acknowledgement that we do think of those with mental health problems in this discriminatory way'. Moreover, Crisp (2001) acknowledges that stigma has an evolutionary basis, and states that it will vary in intensity, in response to the socio-economic and political environment of the time.

People with mental illness also have a history of being stigmatised. Again, this is either through the overt signs which may be displayed – the individual may dress differently – not appropriate to time and place, and/or may behave and think differently – all potential characteristics of specific mental dysfunction. Discrimination not only occurs based on what we physically see, but also the fact that someone has been assigned the label of 'mental illness', resulting in negative connotations.

The Royal College of Psychiatrists are currently involved with a 5 year campaign 'Changing Minds: Every family in the land' aimed at reducing the fear and stigma associated with mental illness. It will be interesting to read the report findings of this campaign – whether it has made an impact, or whether beliefs are deeply rooted as seen in Australia.

Although there has been a great deal of research and public debate on stigmatisation of individuals with mental illness, there has been less emphasis on its effects on employment, both in obtaining a job and retaining a job after diagnosis has been made. This is why I propose to review the literature in this area, as there is no such document that provides this information.

The review and subsequent findings are important, as they will enable us to draw conclusions as to whether there is still a discriminatory barrier placed before people who have mental health problems that prevents them from obtaining work and retaining their jobs, which is an important part of daily

living in Western Society. Moreover, it will allow us to make informed recommendations on policy and practice (at the organisational level and at the national level – the Human Rights Act 2000 and Disability Discrimination Act 1995*) based on these findings.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of this project is to review the literature on company and employer attitudes towards individuals with mental illness in the workplace over the last 30 years, to see whether there has been a shift in public perception towards this group of people, or whether despite governmental influence, society is still not tolerant of people with mental health difficulties. Moreover, the review will debate on the usefulness of the findings, how research in this area should move forward, and will make recommendations for further research.

Results

Analyses and presentation of results

Although there was an enormous amount of literature on stigma towards people with mental illness in the workplace, there were very few papers that matched our specific criteria. Another issue was that the majority of papers that were discovered were American, which could not be used. Both these findings are very interesting, and will be discussed below.

Interpretation of results

The answer to the research question, according to the major conclusions of the review, is that there are negative attitudes towards individuals with depression at the recruitment stage, and in relation to perceived performance. The sources of information on which these conclusions are based on, are responses to a questionnaire/vignette sent to personnel officers. The problem of demand characteristics has been addressed by indirectly asking the participants how they feel their counterparts would

respond to the same questions, assuming that this is indirectly obtaining a truer reflection of their attitudes.

Both studies were published after the MHA and the DDA, but neither referred to the Acts in their discussion. However, it is clear that these negative findings indicate that the introduction of the acts have had no effect on attitudes towards people with mental illness in the workplace.

Both made comparisons between depression and other variables, which enabled us to see where attitudes to depression lie, in comparison to other medical and psychiatric illnesses. The studies used statistical analysis of their data. This was important as it ensured that findings were not based on chance factors.

The search for evidence was complete and thorough. Moreover, both qualitative and quantitative data were extracted from the review process. However, to reduce the overall biases, it was decided that quantitative data would not be included in the final review, as there would be questionability over the reliability of the information presented.

The current state of the evidence is poor. Only two papers were found which matched our criteria. This raises a number of questions, and directions for future research. Indeed, the recommendations that were made, were linked to the strength of the evidence. Namely that more research is needed, and both papers propose any interventions would have to be aimed at society, at grass-root level, re-educating people about depression, and why present thoughts and actions are wrong and unacceptable.

Discussion

Robustness of the review

Despite the thorough and comprehensive search strategy that was conducted, we cannot be certain that bias did not enter into this review. This may have been bias from the authors selection of papers for inclusion, which may have lead to the exclusion of important papers, and in turn have led to alternative conclusions, and a false overestimation of our current findings.

There is also the possible case of publication bias, this refers to the inclusion of studies which are most likely candidates, characteristics of which are, according to Churchill et al (2001) British articles, cited by other authors, and papers that have multiple publications.

Although this is important to highlight, possible sources of bias were discussed and allowances were made before searching, to minimise their effects. Indeed, there was a high degree of inter-rater reliability, whereby more than one investigator decided on whether to include or reject each paper. Moreover, it is important to note that each paper was chosen by different search methods, despite the fact that study 2 discussed study 1.

Dissemination and further research

It is obvious from the amount of literature in this field, that stigma in mental illness is an important topic, and this review serves to show that we have enough evidence which indicates that prejudicial attitudes still predominate, despite, laws and campaigns. However, it would be interesting to investigate the type and number of discrimination cases that have reached the courts, how they have been dealt with, and whether there is a move towards change, a move towards acceptance, in the number and facts of the cases over the years.

We also need to take this information and apply it to theories of why this is occurring, and whether there is anything we can do to alter / prevent it, and, if this is the case, focus our attention on interventions.

Moreover, implications for future research should also concentrate on methodological issues – indeed, what is of primary importance is reducing expectancy effects. Measuring peoples’ true attitudes is difficult, especially when negative views are seen as socially undesirable. Questionnaire studies are fine, if they are anonymous, but low response rates present a problem. Other issues which are of concern are - representative samples, methods of recruitment, diagnosed disorders, and whether diagnostic manuals have been used.

Conclusions

Generalisibility of the trials contributing to the review findings

These findings are representative of how British personnel officers would react as a whole, as both samples were randomly chosen from those registered with the Stock Exchange.

Moreover, although both studies investigated depression, it is difficult to make assumptions about negative attitudes towards potential employees, when the studies have not measured their knowledge of depression, that is, we do not know what characteristics of depression these attitudes are based on, and whether they are the same for all employers.

Geographical / Societal bias

There was no country bias, as studies were limited to the UK. This was one of the most important aspects we wanted to look at - how our society views and treats individuals with mental illness. However, it would be very interesting to conduct this same review on the American literature, to measure the number and direction of findings.

Recommendations

I have been in contact with authors who have researched and lectured on this topic, and have asked them what their views are on the state of the literature. 15 letters and e-mails were sent, to which I received 7 replies. Replies present a mixed outlook for the future of people who have been diagnosed with mental illness, that are looking for work or are already in employment. All academics acknowledging the fact that there is a problem with acceptance, and a tendency to stigmatise, (Byrne (2000) found that mental illness was perceived as an indulgence, a sign of weakness) but that, we can change how society as a whole perceive individuals who have been labelled as having a mental illness, through public awareness. Support for this viewpoint comes from Jorm (2000) who acknowledges the importance of mental health literacy, and states that if it is not improved, it will hinder public acceptance of mental health care, and in turn treatment and acceptance by others.

Moreover, Byrne (2000) believes that the media perpetuates stigma, by portraying attitudes based on stereotypes. Thus, in turn, it is the media that will be the vehicle that challenges the status quo, and replaces these stereotypes with accurate knowledge and understanding of the illness. Support for such a view comes from Wolff et al (1996) who found that a large percentage of peoples main source of information in the UK was from the media.

Similarly, Hillert et al (1999) found that in a sample of Germans, 64 % reported having read about a mentally ill person who had committed a crime, and 50% of the sample having read about someone who had become addicted to prescribed drugs, with only a small percentage recording positive information – 17 % reading that with medications mentally ill patients can lead normal lives.

If this is the route to follow, then we are on the right path - as The Royal College of Psychiatrists are currently running a 5-year anti-stigma campaign, which is specifically aimed at raising public awareness of mental health issues. The Australians also used a similar campaign, which had the effect of raising awareness, but not having the overall effect of reducing stigma. Research by Huxley (1993) also presented negative results. The same public opinion survey conducted over a 10 year period recorded similar results at the beginning and end. Over 80% of the sample agreeing with the statement 'most people are embarrassed by mentally ill people and 30% agreeing with 'I am embarrassed by mentally ill persons'.

Weighing up all the evidence, I am not left feeling hugely optimistic about the future. Only time will tell whether these campaigns will work, and we are able to reduce the inaccurate and negatives views on depression.

Review articles

Churchill, R., Hunot, V., Corney, R., Knapp, M., McGuire, H., Tylee, A., et al. (2001). A systematic review of controlled trials of the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of brief psychological treatments for depression. *Health Technol Assess*, **5**, 35.

Reeves, S., Koppel, I., Barr, H., Freeth, D., and Hammick, M. (2002) Twelve tips for undertaking a systematic review. *Medical Teacher*, **24**,4.

Hilde, G., Hagen, K. B., Jamtvedt, G., Winnem, M. (2003). Advice to stay active as a single treatment for low back pain and sciatica (Cochrane Review). In: *The Cochrane Library, Issue 1*. Oxford: Update Software.

Quick, J. C. (1999). Occupational Health Psychology: Historical roots and

future directions. *Health Psychology*. 18,1.

Michie, S. and Williams S. (2003). Reducing work related psychological ill health and sickness absence: a systematic literature review. *Occup Environ Med*, **60**.

MSc Health Informatics- Unit Six: Producing Systematic Reviews – methods.
<http://www.shef.ac.uk/~scharr/ir/mschi/unit6/5methodologies.htm>

Egger, M., Smith, G.D., Altman, D. G., (2001). *Systematic reviews in healthcare. Meta analysis in context*. BMJ Publishing Group.

Forensic Psychology Today: Leading Edge Research and Practice.

23 September, 2005

University of Portsmouth

Krissy Wilson

Goldsmiths College, University of London.

The International Centre for Research in Forensic Psychology (ICRFP) hosted its annual conference at the University of Portsmouth's Business School. This was a one-day event which brought together an impressive gathering of internationally renowned figures from Forensic Psychology. It is a huge testament to the excellent work done by the ICRFP that they were able to attract such an impressive line –up.

The day began with some introductory remarks about the work of the ICRFP from Claire Nee (Director, ICRFP). She outlined the broad scope of forensic psychology and the diverse research interests covered by members of the unit.

Claire Wilson (Otago University, New Zealand) continued the morning session with a fascinating look at morality and the concept of self among juvenile offenders. She contended that how offenders internalise their crime will be a strong predictor of their future behaviour. She described cognitive distortions that may explain moral disengagement among juvenile sex offenders. For example, studies have shown a positive correlation between externalisation and detachment. She concluded by calling for a reappraisal of the laws that govern juvenile offenders.

Clare Nee returned to the rostrum and gave a review of the historical background to research into patterns of behaviour among burglars. Recent studies have looked at decision-making processes at the scene of the crime, and in profiling the range of “types” of offenders. The majority, it seems, fall into a “middle range” category consisting of skilled, non-opportunistic, but disorganised criminals who are regularly caught and returned to prison.

Prof Richard Wright (UMSL) gave his personal account of working with robbers, drug dealers and assorted violent criminals. Most studies including those carried out by Nee, conduct their research with criminals who are in prison. Wright rather bravely decided to go literally out on the streets with an assortment of criminals in a run down area of New Orleans in order to understand the criminal mind. Much of the criminal behaviour that he researched and in several circumstances personally witnessed, was related to crime against fellow criminals involved in the drugs scene. Retaliation, he explained, was the law on the streets. Advertising one’s capacity for violence was also an important feature. Wright called this the Retaliation Threat Management Model.

After a substantial buffet lunch, Lorraine Hope (Portsmouth) and Dan Wright (Sussex) began the afternoon session with a discussion about the unreliable nature of eyewitness testimony and how such factors have lead to wrongful convictions. This is an important part of my own research and it was great to chat to Lorraine about her work after her talk.

Aldert Vrij is one of the star figures of the unit and a name known to all postgraduates in forensic psychology. He gave a highly engaging and entertaining presentation on the pitfalls of lie detection. Some of the main problems, he told us, are our poor attributional processes (i.e. good looking people are more likely to be honest), and the failure to take individual differences into account. A common misconception in lie detection, he

explained, is the overemphasis on non-verbal cues. Poor eye-contact and fidgeting for example, are not, as one often assumes, obvious signs of deceit. Innocent people are just as likely to be nervous, especially when under interrogation by the police. Experienced criminals have regular contact with police and are far more likely to be confident and to successfully deceive.

The keynote speech of the day was provided by Prof Saul Kassin (MASS). Here was an example of an academic who is not only at the top of his field, but has that rare ability to enthuse others. Kassin is an international star of forensic psychology, best known for his work on interviewing techniques. There can surely be little in human behaviour that is more counter-intuitive than the phenomena of false confessions. Why would someone admit to a heinous and bloody crime that they did not commit? Kassin described many seemingly incomprehensible cases both in the US and in Britain of innocent people confessing to brutal murders. Police interrogation techniques were put under the spotlight, and it was highlighted how suggestibility, false memories, and obedience to authority might explain this rather bizarre phenomena.

At the end of the day it was easy to see why Forensic Psychology is fast becoming one of the most popular subjects at postgraduate level. My one disappointment with the day was that all this was packed into 7 hours and that there was little time for questions after each presentation. But there was a wonderful opportunity to talk with the speakers in a relaxed atmosphere during coffee breaks.

Throughout the day I talked to students and staff about their work and about the unit. It was refreshing to meet so many enthused young researchers, passionate about what they do. This is a vibrant community of research based academics who between them produce a prolific output. Often in psychology, it is hard to feel that the work being done has any real use or

relevance to modern life. Here was an example of applied psychology at its best: A wonderful advertisement for both the unit and for the important work being carried out by forensic psychologists.

**Conference Review: The Special Interest Group in Coaching
Psychology
Annual National Conference 2005
City University, London**

**Sandra Haase
University of Worcester**

The Annual National Conference of the Special Interest Group in Coaching Psychology (SGCP) was held at City University on the 19th and 20th of December 2005. The event seeks to provide a forum for discussing the developing discipline of Coaching Psychology.

This year's event was the 2nd of its kind since the SGCP was set up in 2004 and the Executive Committee of the SGCP was put into place at the Inaugural AGM at the conference in December 2004. The event was attended by a wide array of people, a lot of whom work as coaches in an organisational context.

The two-day programme included keynote speakers and parallel research sessions offering a collection of focused papers and posters on the latest research currently being conducted on coaching psychology topics. In addition, the conference featured a range of mini-, half-day and all-day workshops. There were also various opportunities for networking at breaks and lunchtimes as well as at the Wine and Cheese Evening on the first day. Furthermore, there were stands from consultancy firms and publishers offering reduced rates on a wide range of books related to coaching psychology to browse around in the breaks.

The event began with an introduction from Professor Mary Watts and a welcome note from the then chair of the SGCP, Professor Stephen Palmer.

The First keynote speaker was Dr Michael Cavanagh from the University of Sydney, Australia, who explained what coaching psychologists can really add to the coaching engagement. The day continued with a number of mini-workshops, keynotes and parallel research sessions. In a professional forum participants were given the opportunity to discuss the specialist psychological competencies that contribute to effective coaching psychology practice. After the AGM that was open to all members of the SGCP there was a round table discussion on the question what coaching psychologists actually do. The day ended with a Wine and Cheese Evening that again provided a good opportunity for networking.

The second day was very practice-focused offering four half-day and two all-day workshops. These workshops provided an insight into various approaches to coaching, giving the opportunity to discuss and develop practical skills in a professional and supportive environment. Dr. Michael Cavanagh, for instance, facilitated an excellent workshop on brief cognitive behavioural solution focused coaching, introducing models, tools and techniques for change. Impressions and issues related to the workshops could be discussed at the round table forum that took place at the end of the day.

Psychologists can bring a lot to the coaching engagement, applying approaches that are supported by research evidences. An event like the Annual International Conference presents an ideal environment to discuss our role and to become clearer about our responsibilities as psychologists in the coaching context. The conference is very practitioner focused. Especially with its workshops it provides an excellent opportunity for personal development; each attendee received Conference, and Workshop attendance certificates as evidence for CPD or Practitioner-in-Training Logbooks. As such I would encourage any postgraduate working in an area related to coaching psychology to attend next year's event.

Conference Review: Psychology in Unlikely Places

Universiti Utara in Malaysia - Kuala Lumpur

By Faith Martin

University of Bath

I attended the “1st East Asian International Conference on Human and Social Development” last year, organised by the Faculty of Human and Social Development at the Universiti Utara in Malaysia. The conference took place in the palatial surroundings of the Hotel Istana in Kuala Lumpur from the 12th – 14th November. I was there to present a poster entitled “The “Person Generated Index”: Potential Contributions to Studying Quality of Working Life”, concerning some pilot work into measuring issues around job satisfaction using a new measure developed with the help of a friend from my university - Sudeshna Bhattacharya from the Management Department. I must say that I was in Thailand carrying out my fieldwork, making the trip across to Malaysia less of a long-haul. The conference was a more than welcome break from this work, and it enabled me to engage with researchers interested in development from various disciplines. The conference had many plenary speeches and presentations and as such I will not provide all the details, but instead give an outline of some of the most interesting aspects.

Following welcoming speeches and some presentations by representatives from the organising university, the first day’s two plenary speeches concentrated on the aftermath of the Boxing Day 2004 tsunami. Dr Muhyan Yunan spoke about the experiences of people in Aceh and Dr Syafie Ibrahim discussed the reconstruction. This served to give background about the devastation caused, both to infrastructure and in human terms, and how the people are rebuilding not only houses, but also their lives. The

afternoon plenary by Prof Sudhakar gave details into the socio-economic impact on the Andra Coast. All these sessions emphasised the role for psychology in the area, relating not only to post-traumatic stress interventions, but also research to better understand coping mechanisms, particularly in relation to religious beliefs. Repeated references to the importance of including psychology in development and post-crisis intervention policies really were music to my ears!

The second day included a plenary focusing on health issues. The first of these concerned risk factors among both injecting drug users and those with HIV/AIDs in the East Asia region. The motivational factors were used to show that the desire to “get high” or have sex were greater than the motivation to remain well. This may appear obvious but it is important to establish the validity of “Western” findings in the context of other cultures. Community psychology interventions were described and the speaker, Dr Mahmood Nazar Mohamed had hopes for their success.

The plenary speakers on the final day discussed environmental issues, and the importance of education and research into development and disaster management. For me, the most interesting aspect was the use of objective indicators of success in development initiatives, but no use of subjective indicators. My research concerns the validation of a subjective measure of quality of life so I was particularly interested in this issue.

Furthermore, the conference was far more than just plenary speeches. Much debate was sparked, for example, when a clinical psychologist from India - Prof Seema Munaf - presented work on the psychological reaction of divorced women and their children to the divorce process. Clear cultural differences arose as she emphasised the social taboos of getting divorced and mentioned the goal of therapy was to keep the couple together, partly explained by religious teachings. This overt involvement of religion and morals seemed to me to form a very directive type of therapy, one which would perhaps be considered unethical in the UK.

For the presentations and posters there were key themes of: disaster, health, retirement, digital divide, immigrant workers, workforce diversity and quality of work life. The latter was the main point of interest for me, and through the sessions I learnt more about links between employee trust, job satisfaction and performance at work. Once again, it was interesting to hear the similarities and differences between research I had read from a “Western” perspective and from the East Asian cultural context. The importance of the protection of privacy to workers in Malaysia, where there is a national identification card scheme that carries enormous amounts of information about the holder, was an example of these specific issues. Findings confirming research from Europe and the US were presented, showing that the gender divide in subjective ratings of happiness is present in Iran. The amount of information presented across these few days was enormous, and I cannot present it all in this short article. If you have an interest in this type of research, please email me as I would be glad to give you further details.

In summary, I would like to say a big thank you to the committee for awarding me the bursary to allow me to attend this conference. It was an amazing experience. To hear about the approaches taken by other psychologists (and researchers from other disciplines) into issues around international development was fantastic, as this important role for psychology often goes unrecognised. Not only that, but I have made some fantastic contacts with whom I hope to work in the future - and I had the opportunity to visit a truly magnificent city. Finally, as one of just a handful of “Western” participants, I was quizzed on my views and experiences, which not only gave me the confidence to submit oral presentations in the future, but also gave me the chance to discuss my poster and my work with a group I would never have met otherwise. I am still trawling through the valuable feedback but hope it will strengthen my research.

Big Interview

Julie Freeborn talked to Dr Paul Brewerton, Managing Director of Blue Edge Consulting and a leading practitioner in organisational culture.

So, what does Blue Edge Consulting do as a business?

Well we specialise in four core areas. We don't describe ourselves as business psychologists or occupational psychologists anymore. We first and foremost describe ourselves as business consultants. But we do specialise in occupational psychology because that's where our experience comes from. Otherwise it just raises more questions than answers. We specialise in organisational culture, change and change management, and we also do executive development such as coaching. We all have our particular specialisations within the company; mine is culture.

What kind of companies do you work with?

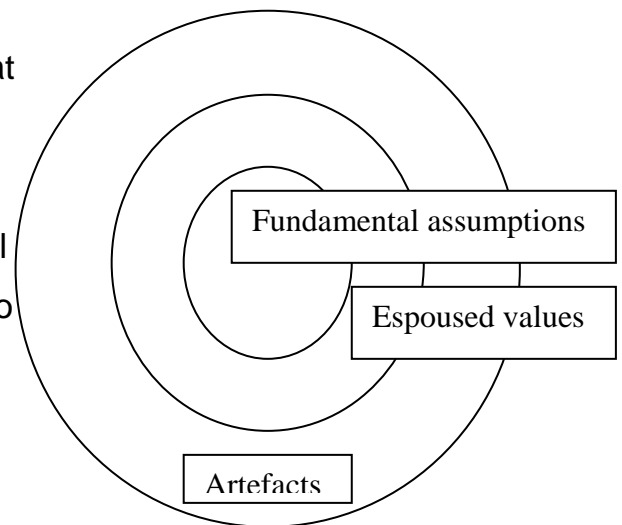
It tends to be larger organisations. I suppose because management tend to think "what's the point in looking at culture until the organisation is a certain size?"

But as a company we do have our own cultural model or framework that we're working towards and even though we're the size we are, we felt it was appropriate to map out our future desired culture in the same way we do for larger organisations and it's been a really helpful reference point for us. So the idea or notion of culture can operate in a very small environment, as in ours.

What kind of problems can an organisation have with its culture?

My view of culture is that it is kind of like this (see right) . At the heart of this is what Edgar Schein refers to as “fundamental assumptions”. These are just how you see the world, almost like global universal truths. And those assumptions lead you to hold certain values which are more explicit in the sense that they can be described. It’s difficult – very difficult – to describe fundamental assumptions.

Values are the next level up. These then lead to behavioural norms and patterns - the way people behave. These form part of the artefact level – what you see on the surface - policies, procedure, processes, the way the work space is organised and so on ...



For me, if I’m using this as a working model with a culture management team, the problems lie where there are inconsistencies between different layers. One of Schein’s approaches to working is to get everyone in the company to describe the way the culture is, the artefact level – symbols, rituals and heroes etc. Put it down on paper and spread it around the room – everywhere.. Then get them to talk about the espoused values of the company. Next try to tease out the differences between the surface level stuff and the espoused values, to get at what is driving whatever is on the surface, because there might be a different fundamental assumption than what is being suggested. That, for me, is where organisations have problems with their culture because they’re not actually living out their

beliefs. They start off with these values, which just become this kind of dogma or mantra. What you sometimes find is that there are differences in what the company is saying it believes in and what is actually happening. People are saying that “We have these 5 core values”, such as the customer always comes first, but that isn’t actually happening. And that’s where you can get at these assumptions and find out what these things aren’t happening. People start to become cynical and believe that helping customers isn’t the most important thing in this organisation but building your career is.

Then there is the outside world. Market pressures and regulatory pressure are an important part of the business to consider when organisations need to change how the organisation is able to operate. So they could continue to look at their culture introspectively and say well everything’s very positive but if certain market forces are against their way of doing things then they’re finished. So organisations need to be looking outside as well.

We try to find some kind of alignment between the different layers. Ultimately, problems are normally at a level that people don’t talk about.

How do you see your role in changing culture?

It depends on why we’re engaged by the company.

We use techniques, such as workshops with managers, to help them understand the problems with their cultures and where they might be occurring. We can and do run focus groups processes lower down in organisations, we hold interviews with managers who are key stakeholders in the change and we also use questionnaires in a quantitative or qualitative fashion.

We're sometimes brought in to help the organisation define its future culture and identify where they need to impart effort most to achieve this in the future. So that's the diagnostic bit.

We can also take part in the change process. So once the organisation has diagnosed where the gaps are we can help them to close them.

Is this what you mean by a culture audit?

Yes, a culture audit is what I would describe as being the middle part of that process, helping to define the future culture. The diagnostic would be a gap analysis – workshops with the management and creating a measurement instrument and implementing that – that's the culture audit. So then we can help with the design challenge. It takes several different forms but we try to overcome the resistance to change using these techniques.

What kind of success have you had?

Capital management is important to measure your success as a consultant because that's when you get invited back to work with the client again. It is difficult to measure success with culture but it *is* possible and in some countries they can use measurement as health checks and that it is a good indicator of success.

With some we are seeing success and are able to measure it. If you don't get senior management buy-in then it's quite low. And they are often using this to check the pulse to say whether things are ok but it isn't seen as that important as a strategic tool so in those organisations, cultural change is unlikely to happen. So it's mixed.

To what extent do you think psychology has influenced business in terms of strategy and so on? For example culture has been a buzzword in management magazines in recent years.

There's a lot of populist psychology given out by management that doesn't really come from research. There may be some truths in there but does it have the rigour? Does it have that scientific discipline to it?

I think psychology has really taken off in a popular way and people are really starting to understand what psychology can do, but there are also a lot of misunderstandings about it too. Most businesses don't really know what occupational psychologists do. As a profession we're at an interesting crossroads: do we go down the road of making ourselves more relevant to business, using psychological tools but bringing in relevant stuff from other fields and making that our primary focus? Or do we have our psychological research background as the thing which differentiates us from other: mainly staying with academia and occasionally going into business fields? That tension defines a lot of problems within this profession right now.

The reality is that psychology as a profession, as a discipline, hasn't influenced anything that goes on in business in terms of strategy. However, people who are able to convert the research into practical tools and techniques that can help with business strategy and so on, that's where it can help but it doesn't have to be communicated as psychology.

Is that one of the key drivers for a change in your image to present yourselves as consultants rather than psychologists?

Yes it's about presentation. We are all chartered psychologists and we don't want to distance ourselves from psychology. It's more about presenting the services: what we are able to provide and how we can ensure they transfer

these things back into the workplace. Then when the client asks how we are able to do this, we tell them it's because we are psychologists. The client is able to understand what we can do for them and what an occupational psychologist really does. It also prevents the client from becoming defensive due to misunderstanding. And the client doesn't really care as long as you get the job done.

References:

Blue Edge Consulting: www.blueedge.eu.com

Brewerton, P. and Millward, L. (2001) *Organisational Research Methods*. Sage: London

Schein, E. (2004) *Organizational Culture and Leadership*. Wiley: San Francisco

Conference of the International Society for Research on Emotions

Università degli Studi di Bari, Italy, July 11 - 15, 2005.

Martin Bruder

There are highly interesting conferences in places like - say, Halle in Germany (it's not a holiday resort, believe me). There are conferences in cities such as Paris or Athens, but the quality of the content is doubtful (or don't you receive these e-mail "invitations"?). And then there are conferences like the one of the International Society for Research on Emotions in Bari. This is the sort of conference you really should not miss.

First, the venue: After Naples, Bari is the second-largest city of Southern Italy and the capital of the Apulia region. It is on the Adriatic Sea, and had - according to wikipedia - exactly 328,458 inhabitants in 2001. You will have a chance to meet each single one of them when you explore the old centre of Bari on any July weekday evening, with outsiders joining in at the weekends. The old city is also home to a number of impressive sites like the Basilica of San Nicola, the Cathedral of San Sabino, and the old Swabian castle and city walls. Plenty of outside seating in relaxed atmosphere is available and although there is no beach close to the city centre, a walk along the seaside is a great way to relax from a day of presentations. The conference schedule was adapted to the usual rhythm of (Southern) Italian life, with an extended siesta from 12.30 to 4pm (but then running until 8 o'clock in the evening). Given temperatures were close to 40 degrees Celsius, this certainly was a great idea. The generally unhasty speed in which things happen in Bari becomes even more *adagio* during the siesta. We got caught out as naïve, when we thought the 3.5-hour break might be sufficient to visit the beach located approx. 5 miles from the city centre. The bus driver decided to take a

40-min break on our return journey and it did not help the least that we had the official schedule on our side. Not to dwell on stereotypes about Italy and Italians, but there does seem to be a somewhat different concept of time and, in particular, time intervals. “In five minutes”, we had to learn, is the Barese synonym for “any time between now and the start/end of the siesta”. Although at times very refreshing, this concept can cause problems when there is anything that really should happen within a more closely defined timeframe.

Yet this loose concept of time was totally absent from the conference itself. Everything was minutely planned with impressive attention to detail. Hosted in the venerable main University building on Piazza Umberto I, we were spoiled in every respect. The food for lunch and coffee breaks was simply delicious, the seminar rooms were state-of-the-art and stylish, free internet access was provided for, and there was an incredible support team ready to help with any problem, etc. The stage was set for a big family gathering – and that was what happened.

ISRE is an organisation with an intimate feel to it, even for the newcomer. This feeling only increases with length of membership. It seems that ISRE provides *the* platform for big names in the field to keep in touch on both academic and personal levels. Guglielmo Bellelli and his team – together with ISRE president Agneta Fischer and the Programme Chair Tony Manstead – had invited: Nico Frijda, Gerrod Parrott, Robert Solomon, Ross Buck, William Hirst, Pio Ricci-Bitti, Aaron Ben-Ze'ev, Klaus Scherer, Jim Averill and many others. In short, it was a great chance to see many of the faces behind the author names on prominent books and articles in emotion research. Still, the conference was only of medium size with 3 parallel sessions the norm. In terms of content, the ISRE meeting was truly interdisciplinary. A significant number of important fields within emotion research were strongly present. Some major topics and symposia titles

might help to get a sense of the mixed interests of the attendees:

- “Refined emotions” theoretically discussed emotions like aesthetics and harmony,
- “Flashbulb memories” addressed emotionally loaded recollections of impactful events like 9/11,
- “Smiling in infancy” included presentations on the dynamic characteristics of children’s smiles,
- “Artificial emotions” looked at agents in virtual environments and ways to communicate emotional states in such a setting,
- “How emotions work at work” consisted of a number of presentations by occupational psychologists and economists,
- “Emotion processing and regulation” treated our ability to actively influence our feelings, e.g. by selectively processing information,
- “Emotion and responsibility” touched on the ethics of emotion,
- “Emotions in social life” discussed the communication of emotions (my own presentation being one contribution to this topic), but also included a presentation on the relationship between emotions and architecture
- “Computational modelling of the emotion architecture” examined ways to mathematically simulate emotional behaviour,
- “Cultural differences and similarities in emotion” drew attention to the fact that emotion theories sometimes offer a rather occidental perspective on emotions.

Before Bari, I had made the experience that conferences are usually the better the more they specialise and focus. The ISRE conference with its interdisciplinary approach was a very positive exception from this rule. The excellent programme allowed for deepening one’s understanding of the particular area of interest, and discovering parallels and connections to other research areas. In fact, I personally would have liked the conference to be even broader. The two most relevant fields of research that were (nearly)

absent were research on emotions in a clinical/therapeutic setting and neuropsychological approaches to emotion. Then again, there is only so much you can take in during a 4-day conference.

Next to the symposia, the conference featured a small number of workshops. I attended one by Arvid Kappas and Marion Müller (both International University Bremen) on “iconology”. Iconology provides a way to analyse the emotional content of images. Thus, this approach allows psychologists, to not only focus in detail on participant reactions to emotion-eliciting material, but get a better grasp of the specific nature of the material itself.

Lastly, each day featured an excellent keynote speaker. Rainer Reisenzein (University of Greifswald) delivered a didactic lesson on experimental design and rigorous methodology when presenting his work on the emotion of surprise. Sigal Barsade (University of Pennsylvania) gave an impressive presentation on emotions in work groups and, in particular, management teams of leading companies (and I thought my participants were hard to recruit). Peter Goldie (King’s College London) shared his philosophical conception of why we have emotions in the first place.

In sum, Bari is an excellent place to spend a week in July. The ISRE meeting’s interdisciplinary scope opened up new perspectives on emotion for me and certainly will for anyone interested in emotion research. At the same time, it remained focussed enough to offer new insights related to my own work. The conference takes place annually with the location usually rotating between Europe and the US (but one in Australia is in preparation). Watch out for more up-to-date information on isre.org. One of the few downsides of the conference is its relatively high admission fee. I am therefore particularly grateful to PsyPAG for their generous travel bursary supporting my visit to Bari.

Calling Sport and Exercise Psychology Students

The PsyPAG Annual Conference

University of Reading
25th to 27th July 2006

The Annual Conference is the highlight of the PsyPAG year and in 2006 the will be hosted at the University of Reading. As well as a packed programme, with keynote speakers, workshops, postgraduate presentations and poster sessions, there will also be many opportunities for meeting colleagues and networking.

Attended by postgraduate psychology students, the conference is an opportunity to present your work in an informal conference environment, making it great preparation for full conference presentations. Students can present complete or preliminary results, or even research proposals. Details on how to submit an abstract are available on the PsyPAG website (www.psypag.co.uk).

It would be great to have a presence from postgraduate sport and exercise psychology students at this years conference. With enough interest, there is a possibility a whole session can be dedicated to sport and exercise psychology topics, hopefully generating some interesting discussion. This may also be a chance to bring together postgraduate sport and exercise psychology students to develop a forum for future discussion and networking. The BPS Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology have recently indicated that postgraduate membership and participation is a priority to its future development.

PsyPAG has a strong social side and local PsyPAG members will be showing us the delights Reading has to offer. There will be a wine and cheese welcome reception as well as a conference dinner included in the full registration fee. The PsyPAG Annual Conference offers real value for money as delegate registration for members is just £50 for the full conference package (£30 for MSc Students).

PsyPAG offers funding for attending the annual conference, to assist students with the cost of travel and accommodation. In addition, PsyPAG offers funding to support postgraduate psychology students to attend other conferences, both national and international. More information regarding PsyPAG, the annual conference and funding is available on the PsyPAG website. If you are interested in presenting or want any further information, please do not hesitate to contact myself.

David Marchant

PsyPAG Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology Representative
The University of Hull
Department of Psychology
D.Marchant@Hull.ac.uk

The logo for PsyPAG, featuring the letters 'PSYPAG' in a large, bold, serif font. The 'Y' is stylized with a vertical line through its center.

Dance Sessions: The Effect of Movement with Clients on the Autistic Spectrum Disorder.

Irina Roncaglia (BSc.Hons.Psych.)

Birkbeck College, University of London.

The National Autistic Society

Abstract: In this paper the author considers and examines the effect of 11-dance movement sessions established with a small group of participants (3 case studies) who have been diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Disorders. Emphasis is placed in exploring and measuring those socially inappropriate gestures prior to the commencement of the sessions and directly after the completion of the therapeutic course. The findings demonstrate that there were decreases in inappropriate interaction and inappropriate gestures in all 3 cases. Proximity values decreased in one participant and increased in the other two participants. The implications of these findings for future applications of dance-movement sessions were discussed.

1. Introduction

The history and emergence of autism as a distinct developmental disorder originates from the Greek 'autos' meaning Self which describes an individual as being aloof and distant (Kanner, 1943). However more recent descriptions of autism suggest an undoubted difference in cognitive functioning with a lack of central coherence (Happe, 1999), a rigidity of thought processing (Frith, 1989) and a lack of imagination or more precisely an inability of imagining other people's states of mind (Baron-Cohen, 1995). Individuals on the spectrum have therefore difficulties in self-expression through the 'conventional' channels that we all use: i.e. speech, body

language, facial expression, and sounds; and if used, they might be used in exaggerated ways, which can be considered socially inappropriate. These behaviours can often manifest themselves through challenging outbursts as a last resort to fulfil a communicative need/want or else to express the Self.

The emphasis on interventions which rely on pharmacological and verbal measures often result in little improvement as those individuals effected present difficulties in expressing thoughts or feelings with words (Harrison, 1994). Furthermore as linguistic competence exists only as the combined understanding of the speaker and listener (Chomsky, 1965; Whorf, 1956), if the speaker can only receive information through bodily responses, communication will be difficult and will only exist through mutual understanding depending on the mean of communicative tools used. In other words if I 'speak' to someone through words, who will only express him/her self through movements, little communication will be present.

Evans & Dubowski (2001) suggest through their work with children with autism in a residential setting that art therapy is conducive to facilitate communication in its broader sense. Other types of interactions can be considered communicative in their function such as gestures, reciprocal movement and response (Torrance, 2003). Sherborne (1990) suggests actual actions such as patting, clapping, bumping, rocking, which nourishes an awareness of the body's periphery in space and in proximity to another body (i.e. teacher). It is suggested that providing guidance even through tactile experiences, those spontaneous actions will be guided through ownership giving the opportunity for the individual with autism to develop and explore meanings, which are attached to the gestures.

From the psychoanalytical school of thought the emergence of the sense of self is associated with art and play where the creative act externalises the pupil's actions representing a sense of agency. Consequently, this process nourishes an impact into the external world (Winnicott, 1991). Each individual might develop a unique communicative sensitivity, which needs to be acknowledged through alternative teaching/therapeutic methods.

An evidence-based approach to communicative physical expressions in challenging behaviour management strategies is very important considering the specificity and different special needs of people with an ASD. The present study was design to investigate the effects of 11 dance-movement sessions on 3 case studies. The author hypothesised that pupils who had received therapeutic sessions would decrease in their challenging bodily expressions. It was also hypothesised that the quality of interaction and socially appropriate behaviour would develop in this group. No follow up data or control group was used in this project.

2. Method

Participants

Participants were 3 female students recruited from one specialist school, mean age 12.3. They were all diagnosed with ASD. Two participants were verbal (1-2 words), one participant was non-verbal.

Setting

The hall of the school was used for the purpose of this project. Soft lights and classical music were used each time prior the starting of sessions and during each session. Two members of staff were assisting the researcher, so that each pupil had a 1:1 support.

Measures

A 5-point Likert scale was used for scoring (from always/frequently/sometimes/rarely/never). Nine statements were devised, three for each variable (proximity, inappropriate interaction, and challenging gestures). The order was counterbalanced in order to avoid any order effect. Qualitative analysis was also used in order to explore the quality of expressive movements.

Design & Procedures

A quasi-experimental design was adopted. Three case studies received therapeutic movement sessions over an 11 weeks period. There were two-times periods for the administration of sessions, with a break of 2 weeks in between, due to half term school holidays. The first phase constituted of 5-movement sessions and the second phase of 6-movement sessions. One session per week was administered with a total of 11 sessions. An initial questionnaire, prior the sessions, was given out to key members (teachers) of staff in order to collate a baseline for measurement. At the end of the 11th session, the same questionnaire was administered with the same staff members. For each case study three different variables were used as measurements: proximity, inappropriate interaction, and challenging gestures. The answers given were treated as confidential. Each session started and finished with the same exercises and structure and lasted for 45 minutes.

3. Results

Overall results (See Table 1 for descriptive statistics) suggest, challenging bodily expressions have significantly decreased after the administration of 11 sessions. The quality of interaction has also changed with a predominance of socially appropriate display in interactions and gestures. Participant 1 showed a decrease in all three variables with a decrease of challenging gestures (from 39 → 28). These challenging behaviours have been described as pulling hair and pushing adults out of the way when upset. Participant 2 showed an increase of behaviour proximity but a decrease in inappropriate interaction such as hitting, and pushing staff out of the way when upset (from 45 → 37 for Inappropriate interaction). Participant 3 showed again an increase of proximal behaviour but a decrease in stereotypical undesirable behaviour such as pointing insistently with fingers

and pushing staff out of the way when upset. Table1 and Figures 1 and 2 show results values Pre-Dance Sessions and Post-Dance Sessions.

Descriptive Statistics Table 1.

Participant s	Pre- Dance Sessions			Post-Dance Sessions		
	Proximity Gestures		Interaction	Proximity Gestures		Interaction
1	39	40	39	36	35	28
2	36	45	57	40	37	55
3	36	45	55	44	43	46

Figure 1. Pre-Dance Sessions Data Measurements

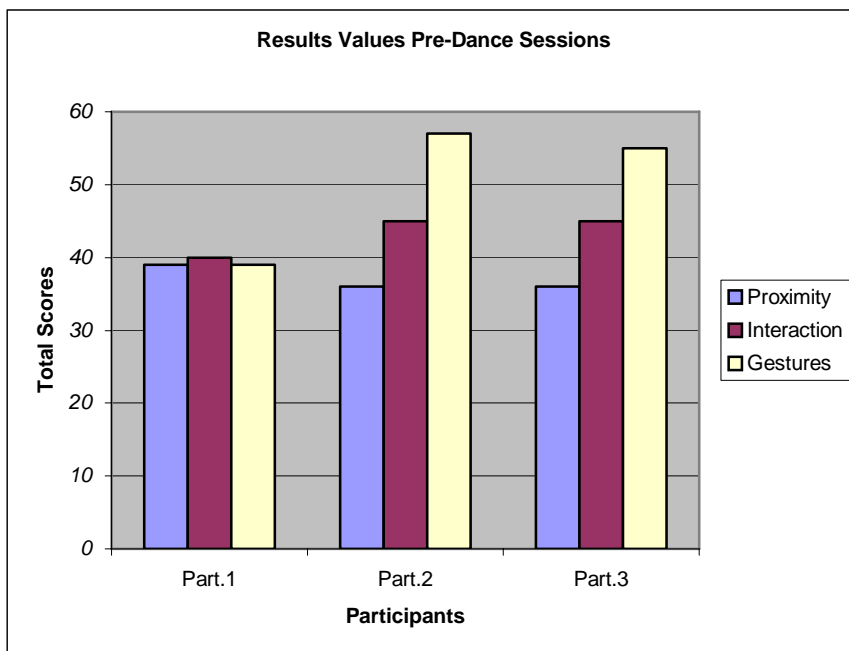
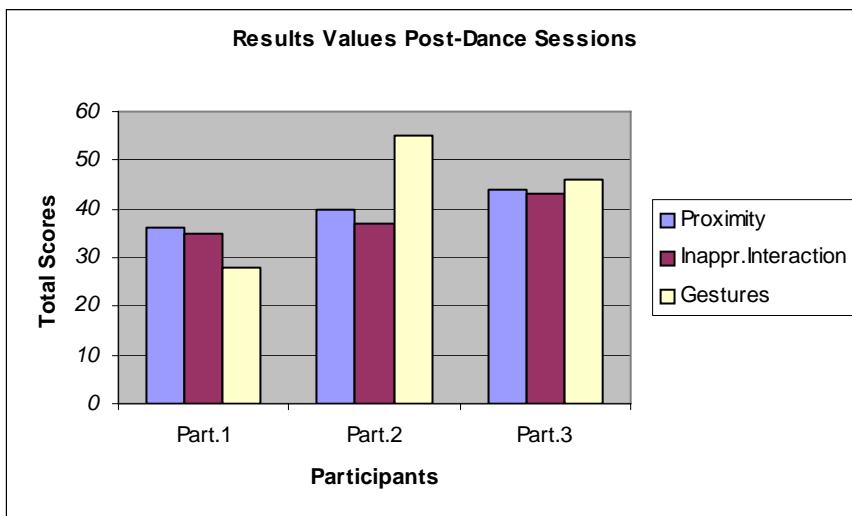


Figure 2. Post-Dance Sessions Data Measurements



The following Figures 3, 4 & 5 show the comparisons values for each variable with scores from pre-dance sessions and post-dance sessions. Again the results have supported the initial hypothesis that those pupils who had received therapeutic sessions would have shown a decrease in their challenging bodily expressions.

Figure 3. Pre-Post Dance Sessions Proximity Values

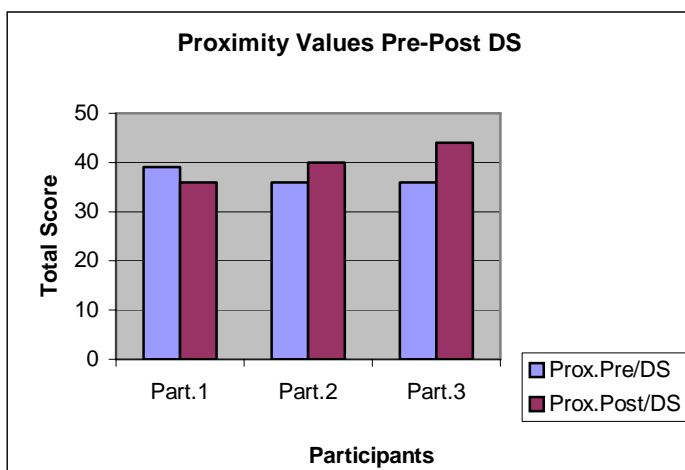


Figure 4. Pre-Post Dance Sessions Interaction Values

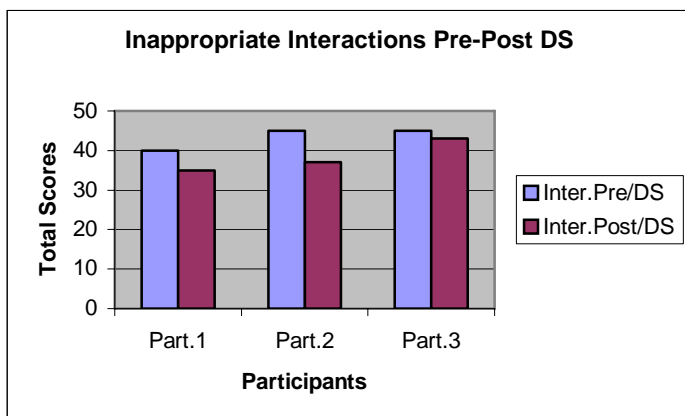
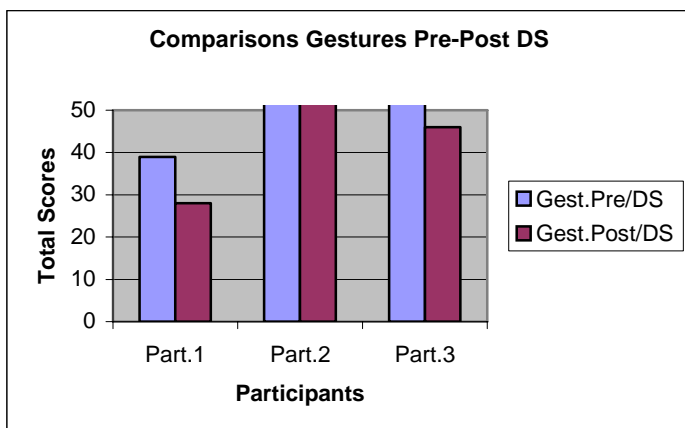


Figure 5. Pre-Post Dance Sessions Gestures Values



A qualitative analysis was also carried out in order to explore and establish whether bodily expressions can assist the individual with an ASD in bodily co-ordination and spatial awareness. The quality of the movements expressed by the participants had acquired a smoother characteristic and they expressed during the 2nd therapeutic phase a willingness to use and create movements in the space available through the guide of the therapist. Memory skills were also identified as the participants were partially remembering the movements from session to session. Co-ordination between the right and left part of their bodies was highlighted in order to improve attention skills and kinaesthetic abilities.

4. Discussion

This small-scale research found that 11 dance-movement sessions had positive and ameliorating effects in dealing with specific challenging bodily expressions in three case studies. There was some 'soft' evidence of an effect and decrease in inappropriate interactions and inappropriate gestures such as hitting, pulling hair, pointing fingers persistently and pushing adults/staff members out of the way. It was observed that all three case studies benefited from the sessions as their movement co-ordination and spatial awareness increased.

Excessive feelings of defence or power in an attempt to protect a possible feeling of vulnerability in the self may lead an individual on the Autistic Spectrum to exaggerate that bodily expression, as they seem to feel dissociated from their bodies. Offering an alternative, safe and nourishing dialogue through movements may allow the individual to explore safely alternative communicative tools and regulate those very powerful internal feelings, which are at times difficult to understand and control. The cognitive ability to recognise anger, sadness, pain, upset and the ability to translate those emotions through speech is something that the individual on the ASD need support with and the assistance in the co-creation of a new possible social world where participants can step (and dance) safely exploring new ways of communicating through positive empowerment (Parteli, 1995; Osborne, 2003).

The present study has however a number of limitations that should be considered when reviewing and interpreting the results and also when using such findings as a guide for future developments in this area. The 11 dance-movement sessions were interrupted by a 2-weeks half term school holidays, where participants spent time outside the school and therapeutic environment. Factors related to decrease challenging behaviours might have been influenced by this 'time off'. The small sample size precluded an

assessment of potential associations between pupil's characteristics. However it would appear that the results are an important step forward towards a process of credibility amongst alternative therapeutic techniques to be used along side a positive behaviour approach that takes in consideration the whole person (Summers, Houlding & Reitzel, 2004).

5. Summary & Conclusions

The present study has suggested that a series of 11 dance-movement sessions with three case studies has contributed to the decrease of specific challenging gestures and inappropriate interactions. Furthermore the findings suggest an increase in proximal behaviour from two participants. Proximal behaviour is desired and encouraged amongst individuals with ASD as their social skills and interactions need to be assisted. The quality of these interactions and expressive displays are often however not regulated by our social rules. The findings have suggested that with an increase of proximal behaviour in two participants there was also a decrease in inappropriate gestural interaction, which leads to suggest that more desired, socially acceptable proximity was achieved after the implementation of the dance movement sessions. The quality of the movements have also been analysed suggesting that all participants in this study enjoyed the experience of a musical, rhythmical and spacious activity that has led to an increase in their co-ordination and body awareness. In the long run it is hoped that more non-intrusive interventions such as these will be implemented with the aim to create a social space for all individual on the ASD.

6. References:

- Baron-Cohen S. (1995) 'Mindblindness: An Essay on Autism and Theory of Mind' Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Chomsky, N. (1965) 'Aspects of the Theory of Syntax Cambridge, MA: MI Press.

- Evans, K. & Dubovski, J. (2001) 'Art Therapy with Children on the Autistic Spectrum: Beyond Words'. London: Jessica Kingsley.
- Frith, U. (1989) 'Autism: Explaining the Enigma' Oxford: Basil Blackwell
- Happe, F. (1999) 'Why success is more interesting than failure?' *The Psychologist* 12, 11: 540-546
- Harrison, G. (1994) 'Self-Expression takes to the floor: The use of Dance movement therapy in clinical practice' *Psychiatric Care* 1 (4): 148-152.
- Kanner, L. (1943) Autistic disturbances of affective contact. *Nervous Child* 2: 217-250.
- Osborne, J. (2003) 'Art and the Child with Autism: Therapy or Education?' *Early Child Development and Care*, 173 (4): 411-423.
- Parteli, L. (1995) 'Aesthetic Listening: Contributions of Dance/Movement Therapy to the psychic understanding of motor stereotypes and distortions in Autism and Psychosis in Childhood and Adolescence' *The Arts in Psychotherapy*, 22(3): 241-247.
- Sherborne, V. (1990) 'Developmental Movement for Children'. CUP, Cambridge
- Summers, J.A., Houlding, C.M. & Reitzel, J.M. (2004) 'Behaviour Management Services for Children with Autism/PDD: A description and patterns of referral' *Focus on Autism and Other Developmental Disabilities*, 19 (2): 95-101.
- Torrance, J. (2003) 'Autism, Aggression & Developing a therapeutic contract' *American Journal of Dance Therapy*, 25(2): 97-109.
- Winnicott, D.W. (1991) 'Playing and Reality' London: Routledge (Original work published in 1991).
- Whorf, B.L. (1956) 'Language, Thought and Reality: Selected Writing of Benjamin Lee Whorf' New York: John Wiley.

Acknowledgement

I would like to thank all of my participants and the support received by the National Autistic Society, especially the Sybil Elgar School.

PsyPAG and the Division of Neuropsychology

Call for papers – PsyPAG Annual Conference

Neuropsychology Symposium

University of Reading, 25th-27th July 2006

The University of Reading is hosting the PsyPAG annual conference. The conference is a supportive platform where postgraduate research students can get the opportunity to present your work to peers either by oral presentation or by poster.

PsyPAG announces a Call for papers for a Special Symposium on Neuropsychology. The submission deadline is **25th May 2006**. (Late submissions will be considered).

Papers should be no more than 20 minutes in duration, allowing 10 minutes for questions and discussion.

Abstract submission forms should be submitted via the PsyPAG conference microsite:

<http://www.psypag.co.uk/conf2006.html>

Or contact **Jo Fludder**, your PsyPAG Neuropsychology Representative at j.m.fludder@rdg.ac.uk for further information.

Get Involved

If you would like to get involved in setting up a Neuropsychology group in your region who would aim to help local students, and convey any issues to the PSYPAG committee, or you are just interested in the idea of being represented, then email **Jo Fludder** at j.m.fludder@rdg.ac.uk

British Association of Cognitive Neuroscience Annual Conference News

PsyPAG would also like to announce that the **British Association of Cognitive Neuroscience** (formerly British Psychophysiology Society) is inviting postgraduate students from the Division of Neuropsychology to present their ideas and work at an informal 'free' session at their annual conference on the **4th – 6th September 2006** to be held in Coventry. For details of this opportunity, please email **Dr John Williams**: john.williams@coventry.ac.uk Deadline for submissions is 1st June 2006.

25th Annual Conference of the Society for Reproductive and Infant Psychology (SRIP)

Bregje de Kok

University of Edinburgh

In September 2005, I attended the 25th Annual Conference of the Society for Reproductive and Infant Psychology (SRIP), in Amsterdam. This society is an international organisation that describes itself as a society which recognizes that reproduction is a complex, challenging and multifaceted area of social, scientific and medical concern. It is an interdisciplinary society that wants to draw attention to psychological, socio-cultural and political implications of reproduction, birth and infancy. The aim of SRIP is to promote the scientific study, both 'pure' and 'applied', of all psychological and behavioural matters related to human reproduction.

True to its mission statement, I found the SRIP conference indeed to be highly interdisciplinary. It was attended by people working in various fields, like (health and child) psychology, nursing, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, and anthropology. The papers and posters that were presented were both based on quantitative and qualitative methodologies. They were grouped together, in a sensible way, in sessions with particular themes, like 'infertility and minority ethnic communities', or 'PTSD symptoms after childbirth' or 'Special needs children'.

I found it interesting and stimulating to be in an environment where people come from different scientific backgrounds, whilst sharing an interest in reproduction and infancy. Another positive feature was, in my opinion, the fact that a relatively large number of attendants were professionals, such as

midwives and gynaecologists. This gave an interesting applied twist to the academic research presented.

As my own interest is in infertility, I attended mainly sessions in which papers were presented on this topic. Two sessions focussed on infertility of respectively majority populations and ethnic minorities in western countries, in particular the U.K and the Netherlands. In both sessions considerable attention was paid to issues related to modern ARTs (Assisted Reproductive Technologies, like IVF), especially the effect of such procedures on the psychological well being of people.

There was a friendly team-like atmosphere at the conference, as the photo taken of all attendants attests to.. There were only two simultaneous sessions, which I found a relief after having visited conferences with too many sessions to choose between. The location, the 'Trippenhuis' in Amsterdam was very stylish.

All in all, I found the SRIP conference in Amsterdam useful, interesting and enjoyable. I can thus recommend the next one, which will be held in Birmingham, Aston University, September 13th until 15th.

I would like to sincerely thank the PsyPAG for their bursary that enabled me to visit this conference. I particularly value that they allocate bursaries also to people who do not present a paper; in certain phases of your PhD, presenting a paper is just a bit too much...

THE 11TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON FACIAL EXPRESSION

Marc Mehu,

School of Biological Sciences, University of Liverpool

The University of Durham hosted the 11th biannual conference of the “International Society for Facial Expression – Measurement and Meaning”. This society gathers researchers with an interest in the analysis of facial expression, and in particular researchers using the Facial Action Coding System (commonly named FACS). FACS is a measurement procedure first introduced by Paul Ekman and Wallace Friesen in 1976 to allow the classification of every observable human facial expression. It defines facial movements as “Action Units” that represent the contraction or relaxation of face muscles. FACS is the most used standard to classify facial expressions and it greatly improved communication between researchers in the area.

The first day started with an opening talk by Professor Paul Ekman on “New developments in facial measurement and applied research on deception”. Professor Ekman presented two techniques for converting facial action units (AUs) into emotion scores: the “FACS Emotion Prediction Dictionary” (FEPD), and the “Facial Affect Interpretation Dictionary” (FACSAID). He also emphasized the new opportunities for people to learn FACS through group training. In the second part of his talk Paul Ekman introduced the latest training technique for the recognition of micro facial expressions, cues that can be used in the detection of deception. He explained that when engaged in intentional deception, such as lying, people often show fast and subtle facial movements that, when interpreted, do not correspond to what they are saying. Professor Ekman concluded that being aware of a speaker’s micro expressions can help detecting whether he or she is telling the truth or not.

The second day started with a series of talks on the perception of facial expressions. Dr Maartens Milders (University of Aberdeen) presented four experiments showing that fearful faces were detected more easily than neutral or happy faces. In addition, he showed that increased rates of detection could be obtained after specific conditioning. Emma Bould (University of Wolverhampton) underlined the importance of dynamic aspects in the perception of facial expressions, whereas Eva Krumhuber from Cardiff University showed that temporal aspects of smiling such as onset and offset duration could influence employment decisions.

The expression of emotional states was of course a central theme in this conference and was treated in considerable depth by representatives of the Saarbrücker project, collaboration between Universities of Innsbruck (Austria) and Saarland (Germany). This project investigates relationship regulation and therapeutic outcomes in psycho-dynamically oriented psychotherapies with panic disorder female patients. The aim is to come to a better understanding of the dyadic processes in psychotherapy by analyzing the facial affective behaviour of therapist and patient. For example Dr Cord Benecke (University of Innsbruck) showed that the facial affective behaviour of patients and therapists, and the connection between facial expression and speech show high correlations with the severity of disorders. Further, Professor Eva Bänninger-Huber (University of Innsbruck) introduced the concept of Prototypical Affective Micro-sequences (PAM), short interactive sequences of smiling and laughter occurring in the context of a patient's disturbed affect regulation. These sequences are often observed in psychotherapies when patients experience emotional conflicts. Researchers of the Saarbrücker project showed that the frequency and quality of PAMs could positively influence therapeutic outcomes for panic disorders female patients.

The afternoon of the second day welcomed the symposium on the comparative perspective on facial measurement chaired by Sarah-Jane Vick from the University of Stirling. First, Dr Vick emphasized the lack of an

objective system to account for the complex repertoire of facial displays in non-human primates, shortage that often leads to inescapable confusion when it comes to communicate research findings. Bridget Waller went on to present the team's investigations of the physiological basis for the development of the standardized coding system. Using modern techniques, Bridget replicated research by the early French anatomist Duchenne de Boulogne, whose work forms the basis of the human FACS. The expansion of Bridget Waller's study to include chimpanzees allowed her to document for the first time the morphological similarity in the musculature underlying facial expressions in chimpanzees and humans. Finally Lisa Parr (Yerkes National Primate Center, Atlanta) completed the puzzle by showing that ChimpFACS greatly improves the categorization of chimpanzee facial expression as well as the understanding of graded and blended displays.

An important aspect of facial expression is the occurrence of emotionally related cues in the stream of facial behaviour. Among those cues, the Duchenne marker, characterised by the activity of muscles around the eyes, received particular attention from researchers. For instance, Professor Willibald Ruch from the University of Zurich presented a study looking at the effect of Duchenne smiling on pain tolerance. He observed that although pain tolerance increased after watching a funny film, this effect was mediated by facial but not verbal indicators of enjoyment, with people showing frequent Duchenne smiling having a higher pain tolerance. Interestingly, Duchenne laughter was less predictive than Duchenne smiling for the increase in pain tolerance.

The two presentations that followed were concerned with the role of facial expression (smiling) in person perception. Marc Mehu (University of Liverpool) showed that smiling had a positive effect on the judgement of a person's trait but that this effect depended on the sex composition of the dyad sender-receiver and on the type of smile. For example, Duchenne smiling appeared to considerably increase judgements of extraversion and generosity, supporting the hypothesis that smiling could be a signal involved

in the regulation of social relationships via the modification of people's social image. Further, Dr Ben Jones from the University of Aberdeen presented a study looking at the interaction between health judgement, prosocial behaviour (smiling) and perceiver's level of anxiety. His results demonstrated that low anxiety individuals showed a preference for prosocial behaviour when viewing healthy looking faces whereas anxious individual had preferences for social engagement for both healthy and unhealthy looking faces. This clearly showed that social perception is affected not only by the behaviour of the target but also by the personality of the perceiver.

This tremendous collection of talks was of course paralleled with an equally interesting poster session that presented themes such as: the role of smiling and laughter in interaction with Alzheimer patients, the perception of facial expressions in Williams Syndrome, alcoholism and facial judgements, psychosomatics, memory of facial expression in own and other race faces, the emotional life of ancient Romans, perceptual "interference" between facial expressions and sexual dimorphism in face shape, the audiovisual perception of laughter, facial expression in autism, and many more.

Finally, it would be a sin to omit the social events organised by the conference committee. Besides the daily informal meetings in the University bar, which provided the traditional brain ventilating beverages, local guides took the delegates on a very nice tour of the medieval city of Durham. The most memorable was to come with the conference dinner, an Elizabethan Banquet at Lumley Castle. The medieval pageant was undeniably the highlight of the evening, where being the guest of Sir John Lumley in 1591 (yes, we did travel in time) turned out to be much funnier than I had first imagined. A huge thanks to the conference and scientific committee: Michael Burt, Jörg Merten, Susanne Kaiser, and Elisa Figerio; as well as to the Department of Psychology of the University of Durham. The next meeting of the International Society for Facial Expressions will be held in 2007 in Geneva, Switzerland.

*The 2nd Global Conference on Sex and Sexuality: Exploring
Critical Issues*

30th November to 3rd December 2005

Vienna, Austria

Roshan das Nair

University of Nottingham

This truly multi-disciplinary conference, organised by *Inter-Disciplinary.Net*, brought together individuals from differing disciplines and professions, to examine issues of sex and sexuality across a range of critical and cultural perspectives, and sought to explore the associated contexts of love, desire, intimacy, the erotic, betrayal and cheating.

Various symposia were held, with speakers from a variety of perspectives talking on themes such as Connecting with others, Sexuality and Citizenship, Sex Work, Sexuality in different religious and geographical contexts, and Pornography, just to mention a few [details of the conference, abstracts, and papers are available at <http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/ci/sexuality/s2/prog.html>]. For the purpose of this review, however, I will only focus on a few papers that I felt were related to my own research, and that were closely linked to issues of sex and sexuality in the context of marginalisation, identity, and physical and psychological health.

Working in the area of Sexual Health in a Clinical Psychology Service, I presented a paper on Metaminorities and Mental Health: A model of vulnerability for Black and Minority Ethnic Queer Folk. This paper reviewed the literature on Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) –Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans (LGBT) mental health issues, and proposed a model of the psychosocial pathways of vulnerability to developing mental health

problems. Difficulties related to identity formation and acceptance, LGBT visibility, and the contentious issue of “coming out” in the BME context were discussed. The relationship between these issues and high risk behaviours, in the background of HIV and other STIs were explored. The paper also examined a framework for imparting psychoeducation and therapeutic interventions to this group.

Katie Acosta’s paper on Invisible Immigrants examined how immigration laws of the US affect the lives of gay and lesbian immigrants from Latin America. The paper explored the significance of gender, class and sexuality in these immigration patterns, factors in their native country that influenced their desire to immigrate, and the micro-tactics and negotiations they have to engage in to enter and remain in the U.S. Shamsar Sinha’s work on Sex, Risk, and the Refugee ‘Body’ questioned the positioning of the refugee either within the rubric of ‘risk to’ the nation or ‘victim’, and posited that the Refugee’s sexual health lies between both discourses. The paper decried the absence of ‘pleasure’ in both discourses and suggested that research that addresses refugee issues examined this aspect of pleasure also. Paul Boyce’s paper on Human Rights, HIV/AIDS, and Men Who Have Sex With Men in Calcutta, advocated for an understanding of non-heterosexual sexual identity as not always being tantamount to same-sex sexual activity (and vice versa). This understanding is pertinent in the success of HIV/AIDS programmes in the developing world, where identity based on sexuality need not always be acknowledged.

Given the recent increase in psychological literature pertaining to alternative sexualities and lifestyles, I found Serena Petrella’s paper on Ethical Sluts and Closet Polyamorists, particularly enlightening. Petrella examined the authoritative discourses of “how-to” manuals of polyamorous lifestyles, and compared them with more conservative erotic economies. Linda Cusick’s paper on Defining Sex Work succinctly addressed the complexities of this term, and attempted to dissociate it from discourse on abuse and slavery

which positions the “worker” as a victim. Alejandro Cervantes-Carson’s paper on Sexual Rights, Recognition Politics, and the Intersexual Movement critically analysed the intersexual movement. The paper challenged the conventional binary system of sexual identification, and examined how people in power made decisions regarding the sex of intersex children.

This conference was unique in many ways; It was truly international with members from all around the world, and every member of the audience had a paper to present, though there were very few concurrent sessions, meaning most people attended most sessions. I think this reflects the range of topics covered, the quality with which they were elaborated, the enthusiasm with which they were received and critically appraised during the discussion time, and the myriad questions that each paper raised. My learning curve at this conference was certainly a steep one, I’m still seeking answers to the questions I’ve taken back with me, and I’m undoubtedly looking forward to the conference next year.

Theoretical Issues in Psychology – an introduction

Sacha Bem & Huib Looren de Jong (2006)

London: SAGE publication Ltd

ISBN: 0761942017 (pbk)

by

Jon Rees

“Two questions stand out: what is *science* in general, and the science of the mind or psychology in particular; and what is *mind*, one of the most important objects of psychology?”

These questions that open the preface set the scene for this comprehensive introduction to the philosophical bases of psychology. Two introductory chapters introduce some fundamental ideas in thinking about psychology, after which the book falls naturally into two halves, focusing on the nature of science and the nature of mind before concluding by revisiting some ideas that lie at the boundaries of psychology and philosophy today.

The introductory chapters are useful for those of us with little previous exposure to philosophical thinking. They cover a lot of ground – ideas of knowledge, arguments, laws and nomological and hermeneutical explanation and reductionism – in relatively few pages and required some careful reading. The philosophy of science was presented in a broadly historical context from logical positivism to more recent ideas before concluding with a discussion of a possible psychology of science.

The latter half of the volume concentrates on the question of “what is mind?”. It does this by focusing on three characteristics of mind: intelligence, consciousness and intentionality, starting from a historical overview of

dualism, materialism and reduction. A number of perspectives are considered with emphasis given to the computational theory of mind and the concepts of artificial intelligence contrasted with connectionism and dynamicism.

The closing chapter in this section takes a broader view and looks at mind from the viewpoint of evolutionary psychology and at the cultural, linguistic and social origins of mind. I found the section in the final chapter on consciousness to be especially interesting.

This book provides a fascinating and useful account of the thinking behind many of the concepts which, as psychologists, we use every day. It is well structured with numerous helpful summary boxes, an extensive glossary and useful suggestions for further reading. It is certainly not light reading however and will certainly benefit from a second reading. Much of the introductory material was very abstract and in places I felt more concrete examples would have aided understanding. Saying that, it would serve very well as a textbook to accompany a course on these topics and would certainly be useful reading for any psychologist who wished to look a little deeper into the theoretical underpinnings of the subject. Personally I found it has provided me with a useful map to a previously shadowy hinterland to psychology complete with the obligatory warnings of "Here be dragons."

Dates for the Diary

From	To	Title	Organiser
21 st June '06	21 st June '06	Group and Individual Facilitation Skills for Psychologist (Advanced) Workshop Office	DOP Learning a http://www.bps.org.uk/dopws06/dopws06_home.cfm Living website
27 th June '06	30 th June '06	The 16th Conference of the European Association of Psychology & Law	European Association of Psychology and Law http://www.i-psy.com/eapl
05 th July '06	07 th July '06	National PSIGE Conference 2006 'Equality and Diversity in the Third Age'	Tina Lakin BPS Conference Office Tel: 0116 2529555
05 th July '06	07 th July '06	Women and Psychology Conference 2006	For more details contact BPS Conference Office (0116 252 9555)
11 th July '06	11 th July '06	Focus Group Methodology in Occupational Psychology	DOP Learning a Living website http://www.bps.org.uk/dopws06/dopws06_home.cfm
18 th July '06	18 th July '06	Coaching in Organisations: Becoming a Skilled Coach (Advanced)	DOP Learning a Living website http://www.bps.org.uk/dopws06/dopws06_home.cfm
27 th July '06	27 th July '06	Coaching and Counselling: An Introduction to a Cognitive Behavioural Therapy-Based Approach	DOP Learning a Living website http://www.bps.org.uk/dopws06/dopws06_home.cfm
06 th September '06	08 th September '06	Social Psychology Section Annual Conference 2006	Julie Christian at conference-organizer@socialpsychology.org.uk or Clifford Stott at conference-officer@socialpsychology.org.uk
06 th September '06	06 th September '06	Evaluating the Success of Coaching Initiatives	DOP Learning a Living website http://www.bps.org.uk/dopws06/dopws06_home.cfm
07 th September '06	09 th September '06	BPS Developmental Section Conference 2006	Dr Patrick Leman bps2006@rhul.ac.uk
13 th September '06	15 th September '06	Division of Health Psychology Annual Conference 2006	Tina Lakin BPS Conference Office Tel: 0116 2529555
14 th September, '06	15 th September, '06	Faculty for Children & Young People - Annual Conference 2006	Lorna Savage/ Samantha Smith BPS Conferences Tel: 0116 2529555

CURRENT COMMITTEE POSITIONS

POSITION	POSITION CURRENTLY HELD BY ...	DATE ELECTED	DATE POSITION IS DUE FOR ELECTION
Core Committee Members			
Chair	Cédric Ginestet	April 2004	April 2006
Vice-Chair	Rachel Pye	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Communications Officer	Glenda Pennington	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Information Officer	Julie Freeborn	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Treasurer	Jo Edson Anthony Moss	April 2004 AGM 2005	April 2006 April 2007?
Quarterly Editors (up to 6 positions)	Faith Martin	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
	David Moore	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
	Glenda Pennington	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
	James Jackson	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
	Alexa Ispas	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
	Cornelia Ho	C/O 10/2004 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Division Representatives			
Division of Clinical Psychology	Kiran Hans	12/2005	N/A
Division of Counselling Psychology (DCoP)	Alessandra de Acutis	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Division of Educational and Child Psychology	Irina Roncaglia	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Scottish Division of Educational Psychology	POSITION VACANT		
Division for Teachers and Researchers in Psychology	Dimitrios Tsivrikos	AGM 2004	AGM 2006

POSITION	POSITION CURRENTLY HELD BY ...	DATE ELECTED	DATE POSITION IS DUE FOR ELECTION
Division of Forensic Psychology	Krissy Wilson	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Division of Health Psychology	Althéa Valentine	DHP 2004	DHP AGM Sept 2006
Division of Neuropsychology	Jo Fludder	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Division of Occupational Psychology	Catherine Steele	C/O 04/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Division of Sport and Exercise Psychology	David Marchant	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Section Representatives			
Cognitive Psychology Section	Rachel Pye	C/O 02/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Consciousness & Experiential Psychology Section	POSITION VACANT		
Developmental Psychology Section	George Koulieris	C/O 10/2005	AGM 2006
History and Philosophy of Psychology Section	POSITION VACANT		
Lesbian & Gay Psychology Section	POSITION VACANT		
Mathematical, Statistical and Computing Section	Amanda Townson	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Psychobiology Section	Julia Santomauro	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Psychology of Education Section	POSITION VACANT		
Psychology of Women Section	Silvia Pimental	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Psychotherapy Section	Angel Chater	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Qualitative Methods Section	Sue Alexander	AGM 2005	AGM 2007

POSITION	POSITION CURRENTLY HELD BY ...	DATE ELECTED	DATE POSITION IS DUE FOR ELECTION
Social Psychology Section	Gamze Baray	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Transpersonal Psychology Section	Alasdair Gordon-Finlayson	C/O 10/2004 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Board Representatives			
Membership and Professional Training Board	Angel Chater	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Publications and Communications Board	Melissa Wallace	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Research Board (Chair + 1 other position)	Cédric Ginestet Anthony Moss	AGM 2004 AGM 2005	AGM 2006 AGM 2007
Other Committees			
Conference Standing Committee	Rosie Meek	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
International Committee	Alexa Ispas	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
National Postgraduate Committee	Simon Mathews	C/O 10/2005	AGM 2006
PPC Rep	James Jackson	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
The Standing Committee for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities	Natalie Lynch	awaiting co-optation by SCPEO	N/A
Special Interest Group of Coaching Psychologists	Sandra Haase	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Undergraduate Liaison Officer & Student Members Group (SMG)	Natalie Lynch	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Branch Representatives			
North East of England Branch	James Jackson	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
North West of England Branch	Heather Wood	C/O 04/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007

POSITION	POSITION CURRENTLY HELD BY ...	DATE ELECTED	DATE POSITION IS DUE FOR ELECTION
Northern Ireland Branch	Gillian Smith	AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Scottish Branch	Jo Edson	C/O 2003 AGM 2004	AGM 2006
South West of England Branch	Melissa Wallace	AGM 2004	AGM 2006
Welsh Branch	POSITION VACANT		
Wessex and Wight Branch	Rosie Meek	C/O 10/2005	AGM 2006
West Midlands Branch	Catherine Steele	C/O 02/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Home Counties Development Officer	Angel Chater	C/O 02/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
London Branch Development Officer	Jason Codner	C/O 02/2005 AGM 2005	AGM 2007
Coaching Psychology	Sandra Haase	AGM 2005	AGM 2007