LETTER FROM THE EDITORS

Letter from the Editor-in-Chief and JRP Officers

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We are delighted to bring you the third Journal of European Psychology Students Special Edition of the Work in Progress (WiP) reports of the Junior Researcher Programme (JRP).

It is with great pleasure that the Journal of European Psychology Students presents the third special edition of the Work in Progress (WiP) reports in partnership with the Junior Researcher Programme (JRP). The following collection of six papers stems from the 2014 European Summer School (ESS) hosted in Mellau, Austria, which was in its eighth year under the European Federation of Psychology Students’ Associations (EFPSA). This year’s programme has reached new heights and this special edition is one example of it.

The partnership between the JRP and JEPS was established to ensure the visibility of methods used in JRP projects. Thus, publishing these reports combines the main aim of JEPS – providing students the opportunity to publish their work – with the mission of the JRP - increasing information on how students can conduct high quality research, even with potentially limited access to resources and other obligations related to their studies.

The following are short methodology papers that outline the steps undertaken by research groups in developing and carrying out a research project in the context of low-resource, independent, student-driven, cross-cultural research. In line with the JEPS standard, all WiPs were subject to a peer-review process with specially selected Associate Editors and two independent Reviewers per manuscript. The first special edition was released in 2013.

The theme of the cohort is ‘Psychology at Work: Research on Occupation and Organisations’, which was chosen as it is both highly topical and reflects input from recent JRP stakeholders. Work is a pivotal way of fulfilling the human desire to be active, productive and related to others and it is essential for surviving – especially in a work-driven world. Research in work and organisational psychology aims to implement psychological principles, theories and methodologies to discuss topics such as leadership, human resources, personnel selection, performance, productivity and well-being in the workplace, whether that be corporate offices or primary schools. Together with their Supervisors, the six groups developed distinct research projects exploring unique aspects of this theme ranging from obesity discrimination and procrastination in the workplace, to the resilience of responders to disasters, to organisational justice and minority opinions in merging organisations.

Since the ESS, the groups have presented their progress at the XXVIV EFPSA Congress, in April 2015, Srní, Czech Republic. The programme will culminate in August 2015 at the fourth JRP Conference in Cambridge, England, where all groups will present their completed research projects.

As with previous WiPs special editions, we hope to bring attention to high quality, student-driven research projects while also motivating other young people to engage in such activities. The JRP offers a hands-on learning experience for all involved students, Supervisors and Programme Officers, and we strongly hope you find the following papers demonstrate not only the role of psychologists in the workplace, but also the potential for young people to engage in relevant research to contribute to better working environments.

We wish to thank the many supporters of this partnership, especially Elisa Haller, Prof Richard Griffith, Ondřej Kácha, and the JEPS Editorial Team.

The JEPS Editorial Team also wishes to thank Suanne Braun, Christian Happ, Nazli Altinok, Florian Lange, Alexandra Trelle, and Tim Vanhoomissen who served as Associate Editors for this special edition.

We enthusiastically invite you to read this third Special Edition of the Work in Progress papers of the Junior Researcher Programme in the Journal of European Psychology Students.

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