Dear Division 8 members,

First, we wish all members all the best for the year 2020; 2020 is the year of the Rat. In Chinese culture, rats were seen as a sign of wealth and surplus. We wish you happiness, success and prosperity in the year of 2020! Especially with the current crisis with the corona virus, we hope our division and all members can help to solve this situation with appropriate health behavior and coping. If you would like to exchange on this topic, please get back to us!

Here are few important dates and announcements:

The Cancun event (https://www.ccapcancun2020.com/) in December 2020 aims to celebrate the first 100 years if IAAP. The conference is approaching and we hope to see many of our members attending and sharing their research! Division 8 board are progressing with the organization of the division program.

The deadline for submission for the annual conference of the European Health Psychology Society (EHPS) to be held this August in Bratislava, Slovakia, is almost closing (January 31). We encourage you to submit and participate!

Please note that the IAAP published a Call for Nominations for Members-at-Large of the Board of Directors. In 2020, the current members of the Board of Directors will be asked to elect up to 11 Members-at-Large to fill in vacancies on the Board of Directors. The election will take place during the meeting of the Board of Directors at the Centennial Congress of Applied Psychology (CCAP) in Cancun in December 2020. Details about the nomination procedure and a list of the current members of the Board of Directors are provided on the IAAP website at: https://iaapsy.org/members/call-for-nominations-for-members-at-large/.

The deadline to submit nominations for Member-at-Large positions is the 12th of September 2020 at 11:59 PM (New York City time).

Finally, we encourage all our members to share their interesting projects and studies with us. We would love to publish your projects and findings on our monthly newsletter. Please send a one pager with a short description of your project to Noa.vilchinsky@biu.ac.il.

Here is an example from the desk of our president, Prof. Sonia Lippke:

A project by Sonia Lippke titled: "Secure, digitally supported communication in gynecology and obstetrics: TeamBaby"; is being carried out together with four consortium partners: University Hospital Frankfurt, University Hospital Ulm, Aktionsbündnis Patientensicherheit, Techniker Krankenkasse and leaded by Jacobs University Bremen. The aim of the project TeamBaby is to improve the communication between the parties involved with gynecology and obstetrics, and to strengthen the patients’ safety on basis of the Health Action Process Approach and communication theories.
The clinical personnel, the mothers/pregnant woman and her accompanying person will be educated in personal trainings. In this way they should improve their ability to communicate safely (quantitatively sufficient and qualitatively valuable). Moreover, we will develop an app that supports the communication between the parties concerned and the mastery of difficulties in clinical daily life. The project will help to decrease the amount of events to prevent in gynecology and obstetrics. Beyond that, a safer communication will contribute to a higher patients’ satisfaction with their treatment.

Sonia Lippke has also received research funding for her project "As made for us - participatory implementation of a communication concept for the improvement of professional health competence" (PIKoG). The project is carried out together with the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences of the University of Oldenburg and four of the university hospitals of the Pius Hospital. PIKoG is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Health and is an implementation of the learning units developed in the IMPACCT project (funded by the European Union and coordinated by University Medical Center Groningen, NL with Jacobs University as one partner).

The main goal of this project is to develop and adapt a concept for the promotion of health literacy-sensitive professional communication. This concept will be implemented in a way so that it fits to the needs and conditions of patients and employees from four hospitals. A pilot communication training course will be tailored to the clinics in a participatory way for health professionals by means of tailoring. In addition, structural measures are being jointly developed to support the clinics in becoming health-competent organizations. The participatory development phase includes focus groups to identify needs, barriers and support factors for health-competence-sensitive communication among employees and patients in everyday hospital life. In addition, workshop series on tailoring the communication concept will be conducted and contact persons for the topic of health literacy will be established in the clinics. In the formative evaluation, patients and employees are interviewed in focus groups. In the summative evaluation, longitudinal survey data from patients of the control cohort before implementation of the concept are compared with the intervention cohort after implementation. The primary outcome is organizational health literacy measured from the patient’s perspective. In addition, the communication competence of staff before and after implementation of the concept and the patient-orientation of care are also surveyed to better understand mechanisms.

*recent Publications


LOOKING FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU!
Sonia Lippke, President
Noa Vilchinsky, Communication officer