EUSPR Early Careers Forum

ACTIVITY REPORT 2016/17

Presented by Angelina Brotherhood and Samuel Tomczyk

EUSPR Members’ Meeting, Vienna, 20th September 2017
Background – Early Careers Forum (ECF)

- Launched in 2015 to better support early-career members of EUSPR and increase visibility of early-career members/activities
- Technical committee of EUSPR
- All early-career members of the EUSPR can join - no additional fee
- **To join as an existing member**, send an email to the EUSPR administrator or look out for the sign-up forms at the conference registration desk!
ECF activities – overview

IN RELATION TO THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Pre-Conference Workshops
- Networking Event
- Special Parallel Session(s)
- Early Career Researcher Award
- Travel Bursaries
- Conference planning, abstract review & chairing

OUTSIDE OF THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Page on EUSPR Website
- Mailing list
- Blog euspr.hypotheses.org
- Social media (#eusprECF; fb.me/eusprECF)
- International collaboration & networking
- Training events (planned)
- Committee work

Support in many areas: methodological, networking, funding, feedback on ongoing work, increased visibility, career planning, job search, ...
## ECF events at this year’s conference

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wednesday, 20 September 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:00-15:30</td>
<td>Pre-conference workshop: “Publishing addiction science in practice” (prior booking required)</td>
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<tr>
<td>19:00-late</td>
<td>Early Careers Forum networking event (open to all early-career colleagues; prior booking required)</td>
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<th>Thursday, 21 September 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td>14:30-16:00 (GÖG EG 1+2)</td>
<td>Postgraduate and Early Career parallel session 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>16:30-18:00 (GÖG EG 1+2)</td>
<td>Postgraduate and Early Career parallel session 2</td>
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<tr>
<th>Friday, 22 September 2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09:30-11:00 (GÖG EG 1+2)</td>
<td>Postgraduate and Early Career parallel session 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30-13:00 (GÖG EG 1+2)</td>
<td>Postgraduate and Early Career parallel session 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:15-18:00 (BMGF)</td>
<td>Prize Giving: EUSPR Early Career Award for outstanding promise based on a presentation at the conference</td>
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ECF Mailinglist

• EUSPR-ECF@jiscmail.ac.uk

• Approx. 80 ECF members

• All members can send messages to mailinglist

• Aim is to circulate information about:
  ◦ Fellowships (PhD & Postdoc)
  ◦ Job opportunities
  ◦ Conference announcements
  ◦ Calls for abstracts & papers
  ◦ Relevant publications (e.g., new review articles)
  ◦ Methodological discussions and input

• Currently mostly internal announcements – wish to change that, relies on input from membership
Informing prevention through big data – The Global Drug Survey

The do’s and don’ts of using focus groups in prevention research

How to promote effective evidence-based prevention when no one is listening?

A European perspective: Traineeship at the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction
ECF Blog

- Established in 2016
- Posts on a monthly basis
- New and returning authors
- Variety of topics
- Small but steady readership – estimate about 30-60 “real” readers per month (remain for 5 minutes or more)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Unique visitors</th>
<th>Number of visits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2017</td>
<td>1,391</td>
<td>2,332</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 2017</td>
<td>1,620</td>
<td>2,717</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 2017</td>
<td>2,130</td>
<td>3,075</td>
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<td>Apr 2017</td>
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<td>May 2017</td>
<td>2,990</td>
<td>5,403</td>
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<td>Jun 2017</td>
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<td>5,280</td>
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<td>Jul 2017</td>
<td>2,489</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aug 2017</td>
<td>2,955</td>
<td>3,845</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sep 2017</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>2,333</td>
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International collaboration & networking

• Invitation to present the EUSPR Early Careers Forum at the German “Prevention Day” in Hanover

• Joint abstract on early-career challenges with colleagues from the Early Career Preventionist Network (ECPN) of the US Society for Prevention Research for SPR meeting in Washington, DC
Regional training events (planning stage)

- Initiative led by Prof Rosaria Galanti
- Questionnaire developed and circulated among ECF members; 18 responses
- Assessed interest/needs as well as availability to help with organisation
- Suggested that workshops should focus on methodological issues rather than academic skills

![Bar chart showing preferences for data analysis topics]
The ECF Committee

• Sustainability of the Forum work beyond 2017 has been a major concern (end of term for existing co-leads; except Larissa Maier)

• Actions taken:
  ◦ Formalised the supporting structure: “Committee” with defined roles (e.g. Lead, Blog Editor-in-Chief, Conference Officer, …)
  ◦ Undertook a formal recruitment and hand-over process

• Positions advertised (including via EUPHA newsletter)

• New committee selected by outgoing committee members (anonymised, using a points system)

• Formal induction via Skype and email

17 applications received → 12 selected & invited → 9 new ECF Committee members
The new ECF Committee

- Diverse committee:
  - Career level - Masters to Associate Prof
  - Practice - Practitioners, academics, researchers outside academia
  - Professional backgrounds (psychology, nursing, anthropology, economics, ...)
  - Geographical/cultural (UK, Belgium, Germany, Macedonia, Romania, France, Spain, ...)
  - Finally some male colleagues on board!

- United in their passion for prevention research and early-careers issues 😊

- For details, please see [http://euspr.org/early-careers-forum/](http://euspr.org/early-careers-forum/) (or meet them in person: most of them are attending EUSPR 2017!)
Please give a round of applause to …

- A big Thank-you to the outgoing ECF Co-Leads

  Angelina Brotherhood has been a member of the EUSPR since 2010 and is serving on the Board of the EUSPR (until 2017). She is currently a doctoral student at the Institute of Sociology, University of Vienna, Austria, exploring why people consume certain substances in some places but not others. Previously she worked as a researcher at the Centre for Public Health at Liverpool John Moores University UK, where she is still a Visiting Research Fellow. She has also done consultancy work for the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Her research has focused on the scientific evidence base for drug prevention as well as the mechanisms for implementing evidence-based policy and practice.

  Kimberley Hill has been a member of the EUSPR since 2011 and helped to facilitate previous early career events. Kimberley is a Chartered Psychologist and Lecturer in Psychology at The University of Northampton. She also sits on The University of Northampton’s Research Ethics Committee. Kimberley recently completed her PhD and Associate Lectureship at Oxford Brookes University. Her research focuses on the development of young people, promoting health and preventing health risk behaviours. This includes investigating the contexts in which social behaviours, such as excessive alcohol consumption, are conducted.

  Dijana Jerković has been a member of the EUSPR since 2013. She works at the Office for Combating Drugs Abuse of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, as Senior Expert Advisor at the Croatian Focal Point for cooperation with the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA). Dijana has recently completed her PhD in Prevention Science at the Faculty of Education and Rehabilitation Sciences, University of Zagreb. In it, she was exploring some of the determinants for alcohol and cannabis consumption among students in student dormitories from the perspective of Self-Determination Theory. Her interests are focused on etiology of drug consumption, as well as on enhancing the quality of prevention practice.

  Aneik van Herwaarden has been a member of the EUSPR since 2015. Aneik is a Research Master student in Development and Socialization in Childhood and Adolescence at Utrecht University, The Netherlands. Her research experience in both The Netherlands and Sweden has guided her towards an interest for prevention and intervention research. She contributed to research on preventing problem behaviors in children through the implementation of parenting programs. She has the ambition to conduct research that focuses on development, socialization and problem behaviors in children and adolescents.
Thanks also to...

• ... those who are staying on

Larissa J. Maier has been a member of the EUSPR since 2016. Larissa is a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Zurich, Switzerland, who has specialized in substance abuse research and health psychology. For more than four years, she has conducted several significant research studies at the Swiss Research Institute for Public Health and Addiction (ISGF) in Zurich, an affiliated institute of the University of Zurich. Her main research has focused on the epidemiology of pharmacological cognitive enhancement and recreational drug use among adolescents and young adults. She has implemented an instrument for the early detection of problematic substance use patterns in nightlife settings to improve both prevention and harm reduction, collaborating closely with the Swiss drug testing services and local nightlife projects. In addition, Larissa is part of the Core Research Team of Global Drug Survey (GDS) aiming to make drug use safer, regardless of the legal status of the drug.

• Larissa joined the ECF in 2016 and remains on the new Committee
New ECF Lead

Samuel Tomczyk, postdoctoral researcher at the University of Greifswald, Germany
Current status & next steps

• What have we achieved?
  ◦ Built upon and further consolidated prior successes
  ◦ Widened our reach and activities
  ◦ Resolved workload and sustainability issues (at least for now)

• Challenges and next steps to address
  ◦ New committee needs to “grow together”
  ◦ Funding for additional activities
  ◦ Follow up on promising ideas, such as regional trainings, mentoring, ...
  ◦ Expand membership, make ECF more widely known
  ◦ Strategic goals:
    ◦ K - Knowledge & Continuance
    ◦ N - Nurture & Support
    ◦ O - Overview
    ◦ W - Wisdom & Quality
Thank you