

Annual Report - Germany

Lisa Warner

Freie Universität Berlin

Academic development

The Health Psychology Section of the German Psychological Society (DGPs) has published a curriculum for BA and MA studies of Health Psychology. The curriculum can be found online (in German): www.gesundheitspsychologie.net/index.php/de/fachgruppe/studium.

22 ECTS points have to be acquired within 6 modules:

- (1) Basics of Health Psychology (e.g., development of the field and subdomains)
- (2) Contexts (e.g., bio-psycho-social model, life-span, society)
- (3) Theories of Health Psychology
- (4) Methods of Health Psychology
- (5) Practical implementation and settings
- (6) Advanced Module (implies current research in areas 2-5)

Applied development

Due to the conception of German health care as insurance-based (and paid), evidence-based prevention still lacks the status it should have. In order to implement health prevention in different settings (e.g., kindergarten, school, workplace) paid by different social insurance agencies (e.g., health, nursing care, annuity and accident insurances and the Federal Labour Office) a Prevention Act has long been discussed. The current government is about to draft a Prevention Act and plans to pass it in 2015.

Section of Health Psychology in the German Psychological Society

The Section of Health Psychology in the DGPs has currently 269 academic members. The executive committee members of the Section of Health Psychology within the German Psychological Society are Claus Vögele (President), Nina Knoll (Secretary) and Heike Spaderna (Treasurer). The Section has a brand new website - check it out: www.gesundheitspsychologie.net (all content in German)

Promotion of young researchers

The Section of Health Psychology of the DGPs organizes Summer Schools for graduate and Ph.D. students. The summer school took place on September 3 and 4, 2013 at the Université de Luxembourg. The next summer school will be held from September 15 to 16, 2015 in Graz (Austria).

Conventions

The 2013 convention of the Section of Health Psychology of the DGPs was hosted by the Université de Luxembourg from September 5 to 7, 2013. Keynote speakers were Denise de Ridder (Utrecht), who talked about models of self-regulation, Johan Vlaeyen (Leuven), who talked about anxiety and pain, and Dieter Ferring

(Luxembourg), who talked about health over the life-span.

The next convention of the DGPs will be held from September 21 to 25, 2014 at the University of Bochum. The next convention of the Section of Health Psychology of the DGPs will be held from September 17 to 19, 2015 in Graz (Austria).

Current research

There is a broad range of academic research related to Health Psychology in Germany. The Section of Health Psychology currently compiles a register of evidence-based Health Psychology programs (see www.gesundheitspsychologie.net/index.php/de/datenbanken).



Lisa Warner
Freie Universität Berlin
lisa.warner@fu-berlin.de