

Transpersonal Section Annual Conference 2017

Coming of Age: The BPS Transpersonal Section after 21 years



The British Psychological Society

Promoting excellence in psychology

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Log into your British Psychological Society website account

If you have never used this site before you will need to register to create your account. Non-members of BPS can create an account for the purpose of submitting an abstract; please note this does not constitute membership to BPS.

Structure for all submissions

All submission abstracts should be up to 250 words exclusive of the title. It should not include references and should be written in either the past or present tense. Abstracts of accepted papers are published in booklet form for the benefit of attendees at the conference. They will also appear in *The Proceedings* of the British Psychological Society which are published online.

Abstracts must be structured according to one of the four following formats, incorporating the indicated headings and information:

Empirical papers/posters:

Objectives: State the primary objective of the paper and the major hypothesis tested or research question posed.

Design: Describe the design of the study and the rationale for the procedures adopted.

Methods: Describe how participants were selected and number of participants (if documentary data used, state how these were selected), materials employed (if appropriate), methods of data collection and analysis.

Results: Include numerical and/or textual data. This should be kept to a minimum. For qualitative analyses briefly describe your findings (eg, themes, categories, discourses identified).

Conclusions: State the conclusions that can be drawn from the study, including theoretical, methodological, or applied/policy implications as appropriate and any key limitations of the study.

Systematic Single Case Studies:

Purpose: State the aim or primary objectives of the paper

Background: Give a concise summary of information, which places the present paper in context

Methods: Provide a justification for using a single case-study approach with regard to the phenomenon being illustrated, and demonstrate the theoretical argument for the particular systematic tool that is used.

Conclusions: State the conclusions that can be drawn from the work described, including theoretical, methodological or applied/policy implications as appropriate and any key limitations of the study.

Review/Theoretical and Practice applicable papers/posters:

Purpose: State the aim or primary objectives of the paper

Background: Give a concise summary of information, which places the present paper in context

Methods: Provide details of the procedures adopted and their rationale (e.g., literature search, inclusion/exclusion criteria and methods of analysis) and/or key arguments and theoretical positions.

Conclusions: State the conclusions that can be drawn from the work described, including theoretical, methodological or applied/policy implications as appropriate and any key limitations of the study.

Workshops:

Background: Provide a concise summary of information, which places the session in context, this includes the aims of the workshop and the expected outcomes for participants

Key points: Provide details of key arguments or the skills and activities covered.

Conclusions: State the conclusions that can be drawn from the work described, including theoretical, methodological, or applied/policy implications as appropriate.

Additional requirements for **all** submissions:

Submissions must also include explicit confirmation that the convenor and authors/co-authors understand and adhere to the Society's Code of Ethics and Conduct. **Please tick the box to indicate this.**

Additional requirements for symposia only

In addition to a structured abstract for each paper within a symposium, each symposium should also be accompanied by a Symposium Summary. It should be up to 250 words, and **must** describe the theme, objectives and the relevance of the individual contributions to the symposium.

In previous years the most frequent reasons submissions were rejected included;

- Failure to meet the submission criteria (particularly by not following the required format, omitting information or details that must be evident in the submission)
- Incomplete or insufficient empirical evidence reported in the abstract
- Lack of a relevant theoretical background evident in the abstract
- The abstract arrived after the deadline.

Themes for the conference

For the conference we have adopted the theme of "Coming of Age: The BPS Transpersonal Section after 21 years" and our keynote speakers have been chosen to reflect this. However, **there is no requirement for individual submissions to reflect the conference theme**; any topic of relevance to transpersonal psychology will be deemed appropriate for consideration.

Criteria for Symposia submissions

A symposium is a set of papers linked by a common theme. A symposium **must** have a Convenor, who organises the symposium submission, and acts as the responsible link person to the conference organisers; a named Chair; and (optionally) a named Discussant. The same person can fulfil these roles. Symposia will usually be allocated 2 hours for four papers plus discussion

Proposals for symposia **must** include:

- Title of the symposium
- Summary and rationale of the symposium (max. 250 words)
- Name and institutional affiliation of the convenor
- Title of each presentation followed by the name of the first author, his/her institutional affiliation and the name(s) of the co-author(s) and their institutional affiliation.
- Abstract for each presentation (max. 250 words)

Criteria for Oral Presentation, Workshop and Poster Presentation submissions

Oral Presentations are allocated 45 minute slots on the programme.

Proposals for oral presentations **must** include:

- Title
- Name and institutional affiliation of each author
- Abstract (max. 250 words)

Workshops are usually allocated 90 minutes on the programme. The Standing Conference Committee welcomes submissions that do not follow the normal pattern of formal presentations. These alternative submissions may take many different forms (i.e. tightly structured or open ended). These workshops will be judged in terms of interest and quality and an adequate summary paper and the organiser's credentials are therefore important. Where a workshop organiser wishes to limit attendance either by number or by any specific criteria (e.g. a participant's level of expertise) such an intention **MUST** be explained and justified and notified to the Committee in the first application. Please indicate on your submission if you wish to request a particular length of time for your workshop.

Proposals for workshops **must** include:

- Title
- Theme/category you are submitting to
- Name and institutional affiliation of each author
- Abstract (max. 250 words) include in here any limits for the workshop (can be additional to the 250 max word count for the abstract)

Poster presentations will be timetabled into the conference programme in sessions which provide an opportunity for presenters and participants to discuss work and findings.

Proposals for posters **must** include:

- Title
- Name and institutional affiliation of the first author
- Name and institutional affiliation of each co-author
- Abstract (max. 250 words)

Further information regarding the dimensions of the poster boards and suggestions of how to display poster material will be supplied to presenters who have their posters accepted.

Refereeing procedure

Reviewers will be assessing each submission on a number of criteria, namely: its contribution to knowledge; the extent to which it informs the practical application of knowledge; the extent to which it provides new insight into the issues it addresses; its methodological thoroughness; its originality; its clarity and its potential interest to the conference audience.

Each submission is blind reviewed by at least two nominees of the Conference Committee according to established criteria and standards.

Please note:

- **Submissions will be considered solely on the information you provide.**
- **If a submission does not evidence all the required elements set out in the submission information above it will be rejected.**

From time to time referees may feel that a particular submission lends itself to a different format to that which is proposed and in these cases authors will be invited to consider an alternative format.

In the case of symposia and workshop format submissions, the refereeing procedure will include the package as a whole and the merit and importance of any individual contributions.

Authors will be notified of the referees' decision via email. Successful contributors will be advised of the time and date of their presentation. The decision of referees is final. The conference organising committee

are unable to respond to further enquiries once a decision has been made. Every effort will have been made to accommodate any timetable constraints notified at the time of submission. Individual presenters in symposia are not contacted directly by BPS Conferences. All correspondence will be conducted through the Convenor who is responsible for keeping presenters informed.

Timetable

- Online submission of abstracts opens on **22 May 2017**
- Deadline for submitting symposia, oral presentations and workshops is **23:59 on 30 June 2017**
- Deadline for submitting posters is **23:59 on 30 June 2017**
- Email correspondence with information about acceptance or non-acceptance will be sent to all submitters of symposia, papers and workshops by **28 July 2017**
- Email correspondence with information about acceptance or non-acceptance will be sent to all submitters of posters by **28 July 2017**

Further information

Registration

All presenters are expected to register and pay at the appropriate rate. Registration is open from **22 May 2017**

Press Office

If successful, your submission may be considered suitable for a press release, timed to coincide with the conference. If this is so, a Press Officer will contact you to ask whether you wish your submission to be press released, and to discuss the content of the press release with you. To write an accurate press release, and to provide more information for journalists attending the conference, you may be asked for additional information regarding your submission.

Audio visual requirements

A data projector and laptop will be available in all seminar rooms. If you are likely to require additional equipment, please indicate this when submitting your abstract.

Code of Conduct

Authors of all material submitted must confirm adherence to the British Psychological Society's Code of Ethics and Conduct. Particular attention should be made to the section on *Integrity* and the importance of sub-sections 4.1iii and 4.1vi. Copies of the Code may be obtained either from the Society's website: <http://www.bps.org.uk/what-we-do/ethics-standards/ethics-standards> or from the Leicester office.

The use of non-sexist language

Submissions must not contain sexist language. The following suggestions are made about ways to avoid sexist language;

- i) Avoid using sex-specific forms generically. For example, use plurals they/their rather than he/she or his/her.
- ii) Delete pronouns – e.g., the participant completed his/her task becomes the participant completed the task.
- iii) Avoid specifying the sex of the referent unless it is relevant – e.g., use counsellor, client or participant.

Avoid making sex-stereotyped assumptions about people, their abilities, attitudes and relationships.

Guidelines for Psychologists Working with Animals

When submitting material, please note the guidelines for psychologists working with animals. Copies of these guidelines can be obtained online: <http://www.bps.org.uk/publications/policy-and-guidelines/research-guidelines-policy-documents/research-guidelines-poli> or from the Leicester Office.

Contacts

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