

Welcome to the latest Psychology newsletter

April 2020

In this month's newsletter, you'll find the regular updates on our activities, from learning and teaching achievements, new grants and publications, to the conferences and outreach events we've been part of.

To keep up to date with the latest news from the team as it happens, follow us on Twitter [@HWPsych](#) or find us on [Facebook](#).

Links: [Social Sciences](#) | [Psychology](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#)

The newsletter displays best on tablets (PDF attached also).



Follow our updates on Twitter [@HWPsych](#)

Forthcoming events

Research Seminars/Events

- Webinar UG Session: Psychology/Management, 29 April
[Details](#)

- Webinar PG Session: Business Psychology, 4 May
[Details](#)

- Horizon: The Great British Intelligence Test, 4 May
[Details](#)

- EICC Live Online: Being Social? with Mary Stewart, 5 May
[Details](#)

Full **Psychology Research Seminar and Event** details are available on [Facebook](#).

Farewell...and good luck!

This week we bid farewell to David Finkelstein as he prepares to take up a new post as Executive Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Business at the University of Plymouth in May. David joined us almost a year and half ago as our Interim Head of Department, and provided positive and supportive leadership over that time including developing our departmental plans in response to the University's Strategy 2025. We wish David all the best for the future...and hope to be able to have a proper (non-virtual) leaving do at some point in the future!

This month we're also sending a big congratulations to our Final Year undergraduate students who submitted their dissertations. It's been a tricky few weeks for everyone, so well done to all for your hard work.

And finally, we'd also like to wish the very best of luck to all our students with exams starting from this week across our three campuses. Remember the advice and feedback you've had over the semester, make your hard work count, and as always, take time to read the question.



In the news

[Heriot-Watt University Dubai Virtual Admissions Day events](#)

Latest publications



Our latest publications are listed here, but you can find a full list via the [Heriot-Watt Research Portal](#).

Jowkar, M., Rijal, H. B., Brusey, J., Montazami, A., Carlucci, S. & Lansdown, T. C. (2020). Comfort temperature and preferred adaptive behaviour in various classroom types in the UK higher learning environments. *Energy and Buildings*, 211, 109814. [doi: 10.1016/j.enbuild.2020.109814](#)

Nioi, A., Wendelboe-Nelson, C., Cowan, S., Cherrie, M., Rashid, S., Cowie, H., Davis, A., Ritchie, P., Lansdown T. C. & Cherrie, J. W. (2020). Nudging construction workers towards better sun-safety behaviour: summary of the evidence for practitioners, Policy and Practice in Health and Safety, 18, 25-33. [doi: 10.1080/14773996.2019.1708614](#)

Each new paper is accompanied by a brief and accessible summary. Just search #HWPsychResearch on Twitter, or look in the "Our latest research" album on our Facebook page: <https://facebook.com/pg/HWPsych/>.



Learning and teaching



Although all of our learning and teaching activities are now being managed remotely, the last event held in person before our campuses were closed included a session for the students in Dubai. Steve Jeffs from People Acuity delivered a guest lecture on inter-dependency in coaching.

Staying with Dubai, the team also participated in a fully virtual Admissions Day, and in the next few days Lucy Bolton, Greg Fantham and Mercedes Sheen are going to be leading webinars to introduce potential new students to our undergraduate and post-graduate courses (details above).

And while hosted from Scotland, Anna Sedda took part in on one of the Learning and Teaching Academy sessions beamed across campuses. During the "Thursday Tea-break Talk", Anna explored "Self-isolation for beginners: 5 tips to become a pro".

Research updates and funding

Craig, M., Dewar, M., Escudero, J. & Parra, M. Rest to remember: a technique to boost memory in Alzheimer's disease. Sir Halley Stewart Trust, £14,268, June 2020-June 2021.

Conferences and outreach activities

While our Psychology Research Seminars and other events have been cancelled or postponed, we're now seeing a range of new activities appearing online. Event details for the next activities are above, and check our social media channels for fuller details and updates (including [Facebook](#)).

For example, early next month you can see colleagues from the team appearing in a BBC Horizon programme on how thinking skills develop and change with age, and Mary Stewart will be leading an EICC Live Online event on social interaction. Details of those are on our [Facebook](#) events page.

Colleagues have also been continuing to participate in conferences, albeit in slightly new ways. For example, Peter McKenna had been due to attend the International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction but the meeting was cancelled...at least in person! The event moved to a virtual conference and you can watch a summary of Peter's contribution via his YouTube summary: <https://youtu.be/P-Zz0cscvA>

McKenna, P. E., Keller, I., Part, J. L., Lim, M. Y., Aylett, R., Broz, F., & Rajendran, G. (2020). "Sorry to Disturb You": Autism and Robot Interruptions. In Companion of the 2020 ACM/IEEE International Conference on Human-Robot Interaction (HRI '20 Companion), Cambridge, United Kingdom. ACM, New York, NY, USA. DOI: 10.1145/3371382.3378340.

And finally...

Although we don't usually add birthdays to the newsletter, we want to wish our Principal, Professor Richard Williams, a very special 60th lockdown birthday!