

Editorial

Psychology, Community and Health: Consolidation and Transformation

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The current issue of Psychology, Community and Health marks the ending of a five-year period from the moment when the journal was officially born (Issue #1 in March 2012) towards the subsequent period when the journal learned how to take its first steps.

Various articles in various scientific areas across various regular and special issues, allowed showcasing its diverse range of topics within its scope. From psychosocial aspects of illness, treatment processes, recovery and prevention to psychological and community-based interventions, targeting individuals, families, groups or communities; from promotion of resilience, health, and competence to quality of life and wellbeing in people with chronic diseases and in the community context; and many other topics with a focus on individuals, groups and communities.

Now is time for consolidation. Time has come to consolidate the growth initiated by the former Editor-in-Chief of Psychology, Community and Health for the last five years: Dr. Filipa Pimenta. We give a “Farewell full of gratitude” for her work of excellence. It is now time to consolidate all the achievements done, which provide a strong foundation for the journal’s future growth. We are in debt to her and we will pay this debt with work, much work, to make the journal a reference within the field(s) of its scope.

Now is also the time for transformation. The journal does not exist in a static social environment. It exists in an ever changing society with emerging demands posed by increasing challenges and threats. In the next years, the journal will respond to such demands and adapt its scope in accordance to society’s needs, through the eyes of its authors and readers. This evolution will be the focus of future editorials.

One of the first transformations implemented by the new Editors-in-Chief team, starts in the current issue/volume. This issue marks the shift from the traditional issue-based publishing model to an article-based model. Article-based publishing means that articles are published as soon as the final layout version is completed.

Authors do not have to wait for the publication of the entire issue. Instead, "issues in progress" will be published and successively filled with articles, thus reducing publication time and making articles publicly available faster. The current issue is the first issue in progress and further articles will be added continuously as soon as they are finalized.

Other transformations have been implemented and will be continuously reinforced in Psychology, Community and Health. These include improvements in quality control during the last years, through the use of a tool for routine plagiarism detection at the various stages of the review process; and, starting this year, a tool to assess inconsistencies in statistical results (Statcheck¹).

We are thrilled to have this opportunity to consolidate and transform the journal's future. To achieve these goals, we invite the PCH community to support us in this regard. We hereby express our openness to individual contributions and expressions of interest, to become part of the PCH team (e.g. as part of the reviewers' team).

In addition to potential future contributors to the team, we would also like to express our gratitude to past and current contributors. Particularly, we would like to thank the past teams and the new team of Associate Editors, Assistant Editors and Reviewers, and the continued work of the PsychOpen team. Last but not the least, we thank all authors that have made and will continue to make this journal a valuable reference in the fields of Psychology, Community and Health.

The Editors-in-Chief Team

Rui Gaspar, Pedro Costa, and Marta Marques

Notes

i) <http://www.psychopen.eu/news/article/psychopen-uses-statcheck-tool-for-quality-check>

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Competing Interests

The authors declare that no competing interests exist.

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