

European Society of Psychology

Learning and Teaching



Newsletter #7 – May 2023

A Message from the President

Dear Members

Spring signs are everywhere now here in Dresden, and they signal me that it is time to write my final newsletter message in my role of the ESPLAT-president. I do hope that the first quarter of this year has provided you with joyful experiences and lots of moments in which you could learn something new.

As the 2023 ESPLAT-conference is approaching in big steps (June, 14 until 16, 2023 in Umeå), we have much to look forward to in terms of sharing what we have learned over the last two years on teaching and learning psychology. Michael Gruber and his colleagues from Umeå University have put together a very interesting conference program. And we are all excited to meet in person and enjoy many opportunities for sharing and discussing our insights, experiences, and reflections as well as for deepening our friendships, and building new connections.

The ESPLAT conference is also a time of change for the executive committee of ESPLAT. Some of the ESPLAT-EC-members will be stepping down from their posts (myself

included), and new ones will step in. Thank you very much to all those who followed our Call and sent us their applications for potential EC-positions, as well as proposals for hosting (the) next ESPLAT-conference(s).

Robert Gaschler, our secretary general is preparing the poll for the ESPLAT-EC-Elections, and will provide you with more detailed information in the Newsletter section presenting the new candidates.

Given that not all our members will be able to attend the ESPLAT-conference in Umeå, I would like to take the opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to the members stepping down in June: Paul Wilson will be coming to the end of his service period as our treasurer, and Abigail Jones our student representative will step down as well. Both served the ESPLAT-EC since our inaugural conference in 2019.

This means that they offered their time and effort for ESPLAT not only in the building phase of ESPLAT, but also through the very challenging pandemic times. A huge thank you to both of them for their support, commitment and persistence for our Society!

Finally, I would also like to take the opportunity to thank you all for being a member of our Society, and for your continuing dedication to reflect and care about evidence-based ways of teaching Psychology and by doing so promoting the learning of Psychology.

Looking forward to an inspiring ESPLAT conference in Umeå,

I am sending my best wishes

Susanne Narciss



Candidates for the the Executive Committee

Elections ahead



The 2023-2025 Executive Committee will be elected by online poll before the 2023 conference in Umeå. Members will receive an invitation to vote by e-mail. The calls for becoming candidate have been successful. For each of the positions in the ESPLAT board there is one candidate. On the following pages you can find out more...

ESPLAT President

Pina Marsico is Associate Professor of Development and Educational Psychology at the University of Salerno (Italy), Visiting scholar at Harvard Graduate School of Education, Harvard University, U.S., Affiliated Professor at Ph.D. Programme in Psychology, Federal University of Bahia, (Brazil), Visiting Professor at East China Normal University (China), Associate Professor II at University of Oslo (Norway) and Associate Researcher at Aalborg University (Denmark). She is President Elect of the American Psychological Association-Division 52 International Psychology and President Elect of the European Society of Psychology Learning and Teaching (ESPLAT). She is Editor-in-chief of the Book Series *Cultural Psychology of Education* (Springer), *Latin American Voices* (Springer), co-editor of SpringerBriefs *Psychology and Cultural Developmental Sciences* (together with Jaan Valsiner) and *Annals of Cultural Psychology*: (InfoAge Publishing, N.C.,USA). She is also co-editor of *Human Arenas* (Springer) and of *Trends in Psychology* (Springer).

Prof. Marsico is the leading figure of the new field of *Cultural Psychology of Education* that promotes research upon the most innovative and culturally sensitive experiences in psychology learning and teaching worldwide.

Statement of the candidate

I am humbled and excited to run for election as President of ESPLAT. I bring international expertise in networking and communications, my background as author and editor, and a commitment to facilitate productive teamwork and cultural sensitivity research focus. I would be thrilled to work with the ESPLAT Executive Committee to give more impetus to the Society activities, to support the engagement with members and to expand the international connections with others partners. In this position, I may provide strategic vision to advance the learning and teaching of psychology at all educational levels and to



Photo: Colvin / UiO

coordinate the implementation of innovative practices in psychology learning and teaching.

Having served in leadership role at international level has given me experience directing and managing various forms of scientific engagement. I would enjoy the opportunity to support ESPLAT in this role.

ESPLAT President Elect

Iva Stuchlíková, Ph.D. is a professor of Educational Psychology at the Department of Psychology, Faculty of Education, University of South Bohemia. Her research interests include educational psychology, teaching psychology and professional development of teachers. She has participated in two European and a number of national projects; she is the author or co-author of eighteen monographs and more than 100 scientific papers. In 2003 she received the Early Career Award of The Stress and Anxiety Research Society. In 2007, she was a Research Fulbright Scholar at the University of Minnesota. She has a background in education policy, having served as a member of the Czech Higher Education Accreditation Commission from 2008-2016 and was a member of the expert team preparing the Czech Education Policy Strategy 2030+.



Statement of the candidate

Dear Colleagues, dear ESPLAT members,

I would like to contribute to the development of ESPLAT's potential to significantly influence the quality of psychological education of psychologists and of other professionals working with people. ESPLAT is to be an important stakeholder influencing European policies related to psychology teaching and learning. The ESPLAT can also significantly contribute to general public understanding of quality psychology and its role in service of public good. ESPLAT's synergies with other similarly oriented societies will play a crucial role.

In my work for ESPLAT, I would like to draw on my experience from leading the Union of Psychological Associations of the Czech Republic (2013-2017), from my work in the Board of Educational Affairs of the European Federation of Psychologists' Association (since 2012) and in the Executive Board of the European Science Education Research Association (2015-2017). I believe that all these experiences will help me to work for ESPLAT as President-Elect.

Sincerely,
Iva Stuchlíková

ESPLAT Secretary General

Dr **Richard Harris** is a teaching-focussed Associate Professor in the School of Psychology, at the University of Leeds. He is also Deputy Director of Student Education, a Fellow at the Leeds Institute for Teaching Excellence, and has held several student-education focussed roles, for example, Disability Tutor.



Dr Harris was the founding member of the scholarship of teaching and learning research group, Research in the Psychology of Student Education. His pedagogical research is broadly interested in best practice in psychology learning. Specifically, Dr Harris has ongoing projects exploring psychological literacy, impostor syndrome, student's sense of belonging, and the hidden curriculum.

Statement of the candidate

I am interested in applying for the role of Secretary General for European Society for Psychology Learning and Teaching Committee.

The 2019 ESPLAT Annual Conference inspired my interest in pedagogical research, and since then, I have been an active member of the psychology scholarship of teaching and learning community. I have experience of contributing my expertise to international pedagogical committees; for example, I sit on the International Reference Group on Undergraduate Psychology Outcomes committee, and I am an Associate Editor for Psychology Learning and Teaching. I have also contributed nationally to the development of teaching practice, including working with the Quality Assurance Agency (UK) to unpack the [hidden curriculum](#) for students.

As part of the ESPLAT committee role, I am particularly interested in working with international colleagues to develop ESPLAT's capacity to facilitate pedagogical practice and knowledge exchange. For example, by strengthening potential for collaboration and creating networking opportunities.

ESPLAT student representative

Patricia Schimm, Bsc. Psych: During her bachelor studies in psychology at the FernUniversität in Hagen, Germany, she worked as a student assistant at Technische Universität Dresden, Germany, and at the University Hospital Carl Gustav Carus in Dresden. Therefore, she was involved in many different phases of the psychological research process early on, including Open Science practices.



Currently, Patricia is working as scientific online tutor at the FernUniversität, while pursuing her Master's degree in Psychology. Given the above mentioned work and study experiences, she is familiar with online and on-site teaching both from work perspective as well as from the student-perspective. For this reason, Patricia is in constant exchange with students and teachers in both roles.

Statement of the candidate

I would like to contribute to improve the understanding and implementation of good scientific practices, especially Open Science, among psychology students all across Europe. While working as a student assistant, from the very first semester on, I gained insights into how research in psychology is taught at many European institutions in theory and, in contrast, how it is done in daily working life. Although teaching is already doing a good job, I still noticed a significant discrepancy between teaching and the actual practice. I would be interested in contributing to reducing this discrepancy and to educate our future psychologists across Europe to become capable practitioners with profound scientific knowledge. Even before university education, students could be introduced to the subject to understand that psychology is a science on its own that can provide answers to the important questions of our time and that it holds more careers in store than conventional psychotherapy. This path should also be pursued in academic studies and European exchange should be promoted more strongly.

ESPLAT Treasurer

Robert Gaschler has started teaching in 2005 with a seminar on classics in the history of psychology, followed by courses on experimental research methods and lectures of biological bases of psychology, learning, motivation and emotion. After graduating in 2009 from Humboldt Universität Berlin and the *International Max Planck Research School on the Life Course (IMPRS LIFE)* Robert has been working as assistant professor at Universität Koblenz-Landau, before starting a position as tenured professor at the German public distance university (FernUniversität in Hagen) in 2015.



Robert has been serving as head of the senate of FernUniversität in 2021 and 2022. Beyond university administration, he counts on more than five years of experience as a treasurer of a friends' association of a primary school.

Statement of the candidate

Teaching an empirical subject placing high value on evidence-based practice makes it compulsory to engage in evidence-based practice also in teaching. As one basis to do so I want to further help strengthening ESPLAT as an international network for exchange on teaching. The students I teach work in different countries. Of course, I am eager to learn about the contents and methods developed for teaching of psychology in different institutions in different countries. As potential treasurer of ESPLAT I'd like to take care of the regulation of ESPLAT finances. Apart from formal aspects this involves providing the board and the society with the information necessary to plan what our budget can be spent on. In addition to my potential work as a treasurer, I'd like to develop a series of ESPLAT online workshops taking place at least twice per year.

Voting: Next steps

Each ESPLAT member will receive an email with further instruction for the online poll.

We have one candidate for each of the positions in the board.

In addition to electing a new ESPLAT board, the poll will contain a suggestion to change the statutes of ESPLAT with regard to one small but important aspect.

So far the statutes contain the following phrase: „EC members, except for the President and President-Elect, can be re-elected for a second term.“

The current ESPLAT board suggests to change the statutes by deleting „for a second term“. This would imply that Secretary General, Treasurer and Student Representative could, in principle, be re-elected for more than one additional two-year term. Some of the administrative work (i.e., banking, confirming to Belgian NGO obligations), in some cases might profit from the option that it is possible to re-elect a person for more than two two-year terms.

Please note that the poll on the change of the ESPLAT statutes is independent of the current ESPLAT board election: None of the candidates already has been in office for two terms.



ESPLAT CONFERENCE 2023

Learning and Teaching Psychology in a Changing World
14th – 16th of June 2023, Umeå, Sweden



ESPLAT

Conference organizer Michael Gruber welcomes you to the fourth ESPLAT conference, taking place in Umeå, Sweden. The Department of Psychology is honoured to host the conference, looking forward to exciting and stimulating days on psychology teaching and learning. Keynote speakers are:

- Dr. Kelley Haynes-Mendez, Senior Director of Human Rights Team APA
- Prof. Dr. Therése Skoog
- Prof. Dr. Robert J. Sternberg

The program and the abstracts of the keynotes can be found here:

<https://www.umu.se/en/departement-of-psychology/2023-esplat/>

Further information and impressions:

<https://www.esplat.org/esplat-2023>

The ESPLAT 2023 conference is a forum for sharing teaching and learning innovations and best practices in a changing world on the themes such as:

- active learning methods
- sustainable teaching
- teaching for sustainability
- inclusive teaching strategies



UMEÅ UNIVERSITY