

November 2018

the scientific and applied activities committee

Following a prolonged period of relative inertia, a reconstituted Scientific and Applied Activities Committee (Sci-App) with representation from across the Associations and other key constituencies in the *bpf*, is working energetically to reinvigorate the scientific life of the organisation.

A key priority for the Committee has been to establish itself as an overall umbrella for the range of events taking place in different parts of the *bpf* so that these events are contained within a coherent, achievable and affordable programme, rather than in isolated fiefdoms. The Committee has had to find a balance between events primarily providing overdue nourishment for the membership and events that are open to the professional and general public and capable of earning much needed revenue for the *bpf*. In the first part of the academic year we have been constrained by the limited availability of the Burnett Room as a venue for weekend events and by the sheer task of rebuilding scientific life from a virtual 'ground zero'.

Significant steps have included the restoration of the Psychoanalytic Forum and the opening up of both the Psychoanalytic and the Jungian Forum to all *bpf* members and trainees and an extremely successful Isle Seglow Memorial Lecture. In addition, plans are well advanced for a major *bpf* Conference on Gender Diversity to be held at Birkbeck College in March 2019.

The Sci-App Committee is pledged to try to raise the profile of the BJP and of research and writing in the life and culture of the *bpf* and to provide regular Scientific Meetings with full participation of these interest groups as well as all three Associations. Other innovative ventures are being nurtured with a view to reaching new and wider audiences thereby raising the profile of the *bpf* and developing fresh income streams.

Committee representatives have developed sound working relationships with key office staff all of whom are playing a vital part in the re-building of a fertile scientific life in the organisation.

The Sci-App Committee once again urges the Board to put in place measures to make events at its London headquarters much more widely accessible to members who live at a distance from North London, through investment in audio and video technology and supporting expertise.

Tim Fox

Chair of the Scientific and Applied Activities Committee.