Information & Structure of the Research Programme

The EFPSA Research Programme (EFPSA RP) is an EFPSA Service through which a twelve-month research programme is run. This programme involves students, PhD and postdoctoral researchers, and established academics and offers a unique opportunity to develop research abilities, teamwork, leadership, interpersonal skills and academic skills. Each year there are (maximum of) six teams, which are made up of (maximum of six) undergraduate or master students and are led by a PhD or a postdoctoral researcher referred to as Supervisor. These teams come together during the Research Summer School (RSS) that takes place annually in July. Once the RSS concludes, the research groups are automatically entered into the EFPSA Research Programme. The groups have a chance to present their progress at the annual EFPSA Congress.

In this part you will find more information about the EFPSA RP and its structure.

External Positions

1. RP Supervisors

The Research Programme Supervisors apply with a research project related to the theme of the event and to lead a team of Researchers in conducting the study. During the RSS the Supervisors discuss the literature, theory, design and objectives of the study and plan out how the research project will be conducted over the following twelve months. The main responsibilities of an RP Supervisor are to supervise, direct and support a group of (maximum six) psychology students conducting a cross-cultural research project through to its completion (generally 12 months); to plan and run research group sessions during the summer school; to supply methodological and technical knowledge on the research project from the outset; to continue to work on the study after the RSS - oversee data collection and analysis; to ensure the research project culminates in a written dissemination; and to keep in regular contact with the RP Team and the RP Advisory Board. The Supervisor is also expected to be present, along with their teams, at the EFPSA Congress (generally held in April) where the progress of the project will be presented.

2. RP Advisory Board

A member of the EFPA’s Board of Educational Affairs is always available to assist and support supervisors and their teams with any problems/issues regarding the research project. The contact information of the Advisory Board responsible will be provided in the knowledge transfer.

The Research Programme Advisory Board consists of professional psychologists involved in research who have relevant experience in working with students. Their role includes working with the RP Team and providing support, guidance and advice to the RSS groups (that is the Researchers and Supervisors). Essentially, their role is to advise the Supervisors throughout the programme, particularly in terms of assistance with ethical approval applications, review of methodology reports, review of design etc. The Advisory Board is invited to attend the RSS to introduce themselves to the teams.
Executive Board Positions

1. RP Coordinator

The RP Team will consist of a RP Coordinator, who is responsible for coordinating the work of the Service namely by overseeing the Research Responsible, overseeing the scientific aspects of the upcoming Research Summer School (selection of Supervisors and participants, development of the Scientific Programme). The Coordinator is also responsible to keep regular contact with the Advisory Board and the RSS Org Com.

2. Research Responsible

Their main responsibilities include participating in the selection of the RSS Supervisors and participants and communicating with the research groups through the Communications Representative (a person selected within each team to be the principal contact person) and the Supervisors. They are responsible for assisting the research groups in developing a timeline for their studies and making sure each group keeps up with their deadlines, receiving and passing on regular updates from the teams, and assisting with any issues brought forward. They are also responsible to assist with communication with the Journal of European Psychology Students (JEPS) team, in order to assist in the proceedings required to submit Registered Reports and manuscripts to the team.

3. Team member

The team member is responsible for supporting the RP Coordinator and the Research Responsible with their tasks and taking part in every aspect of the RP year organisation, following the process of the Mid-programme meeting, as well as communicating with externals.

All three positions are elected at the annual EFPSA Congress, and their mandate lasts until the conclusion of the EFPSA RP Cohort that they are following. Therefore, once approved by the Member Representatives, the team is responsible for the scientific programme of the upcoming RSS and seeing through the Research Programme of the same mandate until its completion the following year. In this way, the Research Programme, is followed from start to finish by the same team which is particularly important since the programme involves a significant number of externals, namely the Supervisors and the Advisory Board.

Additional Information

i. The positions of Supervisors and the Advisory Board are not official EFPSA positions.

ii. And therefore do not need to be approved by the General Assembly.

Please note that EFPSA’s roles are always being developed, therefore, there may be slight variations to this document since it was produced. If you would like to ask any questions, receive additional insight or state an interest in this position, please contact the current RP Team at jrp@efpsa.org.