EDITORIAL

Welcome to another bumper issue of New Voices in Psychology! In this, the final issue of 2011, the trend towards including authors from a wide range of South African universities continues. We have contributions from the University of kwaZulu-Natal, Unisa, University of Pretoria, North West University, University of Stellenbosch, Rhodes University and the University of the Witwatersrand, as well as industry. As before, we include a full complement of empirical and theoretical articles, as well as no fewer than four conference reports and three book reviews.

A striking feature of many of the articles included in this issue is the extent to which they focus on unpacking knowledge-making-process in psychology and in society more generally. Monique James and Anthony Collins kick off the issue with a fascinating critique of how violent crime is constructed in the media and the disturbing consequences for policy making and public perceptions. Francois van Zyl and Juan Nel consider issues related to professional diagnosis and how these can be resisted and reframed. Nicholas Forssman and Doreen Mudavanhu analyse the types of knowledge making that occur in academic theses and dissertations, highlighting some surprising gaps and silences. Moving towards a more informal domain of discourse, Frederik Kruger and Desmond Painter show how young people use Facebook to strategically position themselves and experiment with different identities. Tsholofelo Thomas also focuses on identity struggles among young people, teasing out the intricate interrelationships among ethnic identity, collective self-esteem and self-efficacy. Magda Fivaz, Alida Herbst, Vera Roos and Jaco Hoffman change the focus to a different developmental phase, namely the issues that older people have to deal with, and describe an innovative approach to teaching and learning in this context. Jeantel Hardy addresses a construct that is of importance across the lifespan, that of emotional intelligence, providing some tentative answers to the question of whether emotional intelligence (when viewed as a trait) moderates general intelligence. Finally, Hayley Medurić and Juan Nel contribute an empathic, nuanced account of the aftermath of childhood sexual abuse among men.

As usual, our conference report section contains a wealth of useful feedback on both South African and international conferences attended by members of the New Voices community. We include reports on conferences in the United Kingdom, Greece, Spain and South Africa. Our book review section contains reviews of books addressing issues of relevance to students (particularly those working on theses and
dissertations), practising psychologists and those concerned with theoretical and political issues.

LOOKING FORWARD TO 2012

We have two special issues planned for 2012. The first will feature a selection of papers from the 2011 Southern African Students’ Psychology Conference. The conference, hosted by the Department of Psychology, took place on the Pretoria Sunnyside Campus of Unisa in June 2011, and attracted students and academics from across Southern Africa and abroad. The theme of the second special issue is Sexuality and will be edited by Khonzi Mbatha and Caretha Laubscher. Look out for the call for papers elsewhere in this issue.

As in the past, New Voices in Psychology will continue to rely on an empowerment-focused review process in which seasoned academic reviewers work with post-graduate student reviewers to provide authors with detailed and constructive feedback on manuscripts. As in the past, we remain committed to scholarly excellence coupled with the imperative to assist in the development of young academics and professionals. In 2012, we will be joined by a new crop of MA Research Consultation students who will play a key role in the life of the journal. We welcome them on board!

Until next time!

Eduard Fourie and the Team

2012 MA(RC) group