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## *Preface to the Special Issue*

Dear colleagues,

Twenty-six years ago the first edition of the Alps Adria Psychology Conference took place at the University of Klagenfurt, Austria. It was the starting point of a challenge issued by our colleague Herbet Janig who had a dream, the dream to have a permanent network of Alps Adria psychologists and a recurrent occasion in which they could meet. Today, the Alps Adria Psychology Conference has become a classical appointment for the psychologists of the Alps Adria Euro Region and a lively and engaging meeting place for scientists coming from all over the world.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Alps Adria Conference, which took place on September 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>, 2012 in Lignano Sabbiadoro, Italy, attracted over 250 participants and included over 200 scientific contributions by speakers coming from over 10 countries. Works have been presented as oral presentations, poster presentations, thematic symposia, and workshops and they covered topics from nearly all disciplines of psychology.

Contributions were all peer reviewed by two experts chosen among the members of the Scientific Committee and other international experts from the Alps Adria countries.

In continuity with the past editions, this year young scientists have also been supported both by economic incentives (reduced registration fees and fellowship awards) and through the allocation of a junior award (young scientists under the age of 35 – no tenure track – were invited to submit a full scientific paper to be considered for publication in the *Review of Psychology*). The submitted papers were peer reviewed by international experts.

This special issue of the *Review of Psychology* includes the abstracts of the scientific works presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> edition of the Conference and the awarded papers presented by four young scientists. The first authors of the awarded papers were: Sebastiano Costa, Mauro Murgia, Raffaella Pellegrini, and Maša Tonković.

Costa and Oliva examined the relationship between personality traits, based on the five factor model characteristics, and exercise dependence symptomatology. They found that extraversion, neuroticism, and agreeableness may

potentially be underlying factors in exercise dependence symptomatology.

Murgia et al. proposed a protocol of intervention based on the stimulation with an auditory track whose intensity varies in correspondence with the physical effort of each phase of a bench press exercise. Participants performed three bench press lifts, both in experimental condition (with the auditory stimulus) and in control condition (without any stimulation). Results show that athletes can take advantage of the provided acoustic stimulus, evidencing a higher average exertion of power in the experimental condition, compared to the control condition.

Pellegrini and Ciceri explored if breathing sounds convey information about the activity being performed. Participants listened to ecological tracks of breathing sounds related to six activities different in degree of mental and physical effort in two conditions: listening vs. imitation. They found that most demanding activities were identified the most and that imitation significantly improved identification accuracy.

Tonković investigated the role of applicants' personality facets in predicting the amount of faking on a noncognitive questionnaire. Results confirmed significant contribution of Conscientiousness and Neuroticism facets in explaining the variance of faking. However, the most efficient predictors seem to be the facets of Openness. The obtained results provide support for personality traits having the important role in predicting applicants' faking behavior on noncognitive measures in personnel selection.

To conclude this short preface, I would like to thank all the persons of my staff who devoted a lot of time and energy to help me to organize the Conference. They have been very precious. A special thanks goes to Fabrizio Sors who carried most of the heaviest work on his shoulders.

*Tiziano Agostini*

*Chair of the Organizing and Scientific  
Committee of the 10<sup>th</sup> AAPC*