

## The Cognitive Psychology Department's protocol for determining publication credit

Concerning publication credit, the Department of Cognitive Psychology at University Eötvös Loránd follows the ethical regulations of the APA Ethics Code, and the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. Specifically:

### **“Protecting Intellectual Property Rights**

#### **1.13 Publication credit**

Authorship is reserved for persons who make a substantial contribution to and who accept responsibility for a published work

**Definition of authorship.** Individuals should only take authorship credit for work they have actually performed or to which they have substantially contributed (APA Ethics Code Standard 8.12a, Publication Credit). Authorship encompasses, therefore, not only those who do the actual writing but also those who have made substantial scientific contributions to a study. Substantial professional contributions may include formulating the problem or hypothesis, structuring the experimental design, organizing and conducting the statistical analysis, interpreting the results, or writing a major portion of the paper. Those who so contribute are listed in the byline. Lesser contributions, which do not constitute authorship, may be acknowledged in a note (see section 2.03). These contributions may include such supportive functions as designing or building the apparatus, suggesting or advising about the statistical analysis, collecting or entering the data, modifying or structuring a computer program, and recruiting participants or obtaining animals. Conducting routine observations or diagnoses for use in studies does not constitute authorship. Combinations of these (and other) tasks, however, may justify authorship.” (Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, p.18)

#### **Each case of publication authorship opportunity falls under individual consideration.**

Students doing a minor research paper will normally not be considered as co-authors, as these tasks do not include professional contributions, merely the above listed “supportive functions”.

Students doing a major research paper may be offered co-authorship based on the amount of scientific work they have accomplished on the project, or have the competence to later accomplish. Any student can express his/her motivation to take a larger role in the experiment (beyond the requirements of the research paper) in exchange for co-authorship. In these cases, the supervisor decides whether there are tasks in the study that i) the student is competent to perform and ii) would suffice the criteria for authorship (see, Definition of authorship section).

### **Responsibilities as a co-author**

If a student takes the opportunity to be a co-author on a publication (s)he is obliged to contribute to the whole process of publication, which will definitely extend beyond term of the research paper course and may stretch beyond his/her studies at the university. Specifically, (s)he is liable to be familiar with the content of the submitted manuscript, to contribute to manuscript preparation by reading and commenting on the text and to take part in the revision process.

### **Order of authorship**

- In case a student brings his/her own research question along with an experiment plan that (s)he conducts with the help of the supervisor, the student will be encouraged to write the scientific publication and be a first author on it.
- For those scientific research projects where the research question is handed to the students by the project leader, the student (if considered as an author, see Definition of authorship section) will *not* be granted the opportunity to write the paper and be the first author on it. Exceptions may be made based on the supervisor's judgment.
- The order of co-authors beyond the first author will be determined based on their relative contribution to the paper