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### **A brief report about The University Center for Research in Psychology CUIP**

The following report refers to the activities of the CUIP members during the years of 2018-23, and it also highlights the CUIP potential for 2025-29. The University Center for Research in Psychology (CUIP) comprises 44 members from 4 Portuguese universities. To become an integrated member, certain criteria need to be met to achieve high-quality research and development. Those criteria include publications in indexed journals, experience in coordinating research projects, and supervision of doctoral students. The main aim of the CUIP is to support the development of the research environment in the four universities, using best practices. The link between research and teaching is worth highlighting.

Members of CUIP specialise in Basic Group BP and Applied Psychology (AP). The BP Group conducts research in cognitive and computational neuroscience. The BP Group collaborates with prestigious national and international research centres. Its significant contribution to cutting-edge research initiatives must be highlighted. Meanwhile, members specialising in applied psychology (AP) focus on identifying factors for health and well-being across the lifespan. They develop promotional and preventive programmes and use an action research approach in many projects. CUIP can become a force in the field by exploiting its strengths and weaknesses. The BP and AP groups have different objectives, but one overarching goal is to foster cooperation and synergies between BP and AP researchers. An essential aim of CUIP is internationalization, which is achieved by encouraging members to participate in international projects and scientific societies.

CUIP plans to maintain high criteria for the admission of members, considering scientific productivity and using experience and best practices in the research centres. Maintaining cooperation within the two existing research groups, basic and applied psychology, will also be essential. The international perspective, such as the organisation of international scientific meetings, participation in global projects and international networks, will undoubtedly contribute to the development.

CUIP aims to attract the best master's and doctoral students by establishing a relationship between research and teaching, creating high-quality training, some of which will be delivered in English. In addition, CUIP's goal for the following years is to increase the dimension of academic publications, in line with the open access policy. It will also be important to disseminate research results.

To summarise, firstly the strengths of CUIP include high academic achievement of most of its members, high team motivation, high internationalisation in case of most researchers, PhD students with FCT scholarships, and experience acquired in previous R&D Units. Secondly, the areas of CUIP that require further attention include lacking facilities, equipment, and human resources (career researchers). Further, CUIP also has certain opportunities, which include cooperation between researchers in basic and applied psychology, joint research projects, preparation of joint training, collaboration between researchers from the 4 universities, and networking of PhD students with FCT scholarships. Lastly, insufficient outcomes from the evaluation by the FCT may be a potential threat to the project.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Blachnio'.