



Mental Health Nurse Academics (UK)

Promoting and advancing UK Mental Health Nursing education, research, policy and practice

Notes of meeting held Friday 14th November 2008 Napier University, Edinburgh

1. **Present:** John Playle, University of Manchester (Chair); Linda Cooper, Cardiff University (Vice Chair); Ben Hannigan (Cardiff University); Michael Coffey (Swansea University); Alan Simpson (City University); Patrick Callaghan (University of Nottingham); Steve Lyon (University of Huddersfield); Grahame Smith (Liverpool John Moores University); Alyson Kettles (Aberdeen University); Hugh Masters (Napier University); Liam Clarke (Brighton University); Debbie Banks (Robert Gordon University); Sheila Dixon (University of Wolverhampton); Joy Clayton (University of Wolverhampton); Mairi Byrne (Edge Hill University); Steven Prymachuk (University of Manchester); Sandy McComish (University of Stirling); Lisa Woods (Liverpool John Moores University); Stephen Smith (Napier University); A Mohadeb (Edinburgh NHS Lothian); Ria Tocher (Napier University); Russell Ashmore (Sheffield Hallam University); Bob Rankin (University of Dundee); Gordon Mitchell (University of Teeside); James Turner (Sheffield Hallam University); Joy Duxbury (University of Central Lancs); Karen Wright (University of Central Lancs).
2. **Apologies:** John Rawlinson (University of Plymouth); Mark Wilbourn (LSBU); Christine Hogg (University of Salford); Joanne Sale (University of Bedfordshire); Ann Jackson (RCN); Enkanah Sooboodoo (LSBU); Columba McLaughlin (University of Ulster); Len Bowers (City University); Sally Hardy (City University); Lai Chan (Edge Hill University); Ian Price (TVU); Richard Gray (University of East Anglia); Kevin Moore (University of Ulster); Mary Chambers (SGUL); J Gass (Robert Gordon University); Andy Williams (Southampton University); Martin Anderson (Nottingham University); Betty Harris (Derby University); Daniella Collins (Middlesex University); Jim Dooher (De Montfort University); Rick Fothergill (University of Cumbria); Karina Lovell (University of Manchester); John Baker (University of Manchester); Debi Corby (Bradford University); Paul Rogers (University of Glamorgan); Paul Linsley (University of Lincoln); David Coyle (University of Chester); Anne Fothergill (University of Glamorgan); Tracy McLelland (University of Bradford); Greg Rooney (University of Hertfordshire); Christina Lyons (University of Central Lancs)
3. **Welcome and Introductions**
John Playle welcomed everyone and thanked Napier University for hosting the meeting.
4. **Presentations from Host Institution**
Presentations were made by staff from Napier University and from Helen Allbutt from NHS Education Edinburgh re: update on ongoing implementation of the National review of MHN in Scotland – see:
(<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/924/0065333.pdf>.)

5. Business items/Tasks

i) Updated Terms of Reference and Working Methods – to sign off

These had been amended and distributed with meeting minutes following discussions at previous meeting. Some further discussion took place and following minor amendments agreed highlighted in **Bold below**:

Membership:

- One member and one alternate will be appointed to membership by their base institution. **Both members can attend and delegate attendance to others from their Institution as required.**
- Where a vote on any issue is required each HEI will have up to two votes. **The two votes will be through the nominated member and alternate** and all Professors of MHN who are part of the group will also have a vote.

Method of working

Location/venue: To be held at HEIs willing to host around the UK taking into account equity between different parts and regions of the UK.

- Normally at least one meeting every two years shall take place in **either** Northern Ireland **or** Scotland **or** Wales.
- ~~Normally at least one meeting every two years shall take place in London~~

Relationship to others

~~The Chair will be a member of the Nursing Advisory and Development Group (NADG) at DH – England. The Director of Mental Health Nursing at DH, may appoint other members to NADG at their discretion.~~

NADG no longer exists and therefore following inserted:

The Chair (or their nominee) will meet regularly with the Professional Nurse Adviser for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities at DH England and equivalent Professional leads in other UK countries.

Agreed: the ToR with these amendments were accepted by the meeting. (finalised copy attached below and to be uploaded to website)

ii) Process for Vice-Chair elections for 2009

Michael Coffey agreed to organise the nominations and as required ballot for the role of Vice Chair via e-mail. Elected vice-chair would take over from March 2009.

iii) Update on UK Academy of Nursing, Midwifery & HV Research –

Len Bowers (represented MHNA UK on this group). Minutes from the last meeting of the group were circulated and discussed. To note: Academy Colloquium and launch of Academy – 26/2/09 London. Invites from T Butterworth would be distributed. Mentors would be required to be identified.

Action: JP to liaise with Tony Butterworth

iv **MHN representation at DH CNO level - England**

JP had liaised with Christine Beasley re: this. Advised that an appointment as 'Professional Nurse Adviser for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities' was pending and name to be confirmed once official. Once confirmed – invite to meet with the group

v. **NPNR conference 2008**

Conference ran between RCN & MHNA UK. Reflections generally quite positive – low attendance noted – possibly due to Horatio Conference in Malta in October + financial constraints at some HEIs.

John Playle, Linda Cooper – to continue to represent MHNA UK on steering group planning for 2009 conference. Dates to be confirmed but likely 23rd – 25th Sept 2009 in Oxford.

vi. **Next stage in feeding into NMC pre-reg review**

Outcome of the NMC Review of pre-registration nursing now announced: <http://www.nmc-uk.org/aArticle.aspx?ArticleID=3396> – decision to move to all degree and continue branches welcomed by group. Discussed how to continue to feed into the NMC work on detail of the new framework and key points/ concerns/issues to be emphasised in letter to NMC – drawing on elements of the groups consultation response.

Action: JP to invite Garth Long to March 09 meeting to discuss process and receive views of the group.

Action: Ahead of meeting with Garth, JP/LC to send a letter outlining some key issues arising from the discussion as follows:

- Welcome decision to retain branches
- NMC framework needs to fit with HEI regulations
- Evaluative evidence needs to be the basis for changes
- NMC should avoid over regulation of details – focus on a framework
- Learning in CFP (if continues) needs to be clearly contextualised to branches/field of practice
- Shared/interprofessional learning acknowledged as important but shared learning for MHNs may be more appropriate with broader/different range of professionals as well as with nurses from other branches.
- Need to allow elements of interprofessional mentorship
- Need to enhance the quality of placements - ? consider less but higher quality placements
- Current terminology – 'theory & practice' to define different types of learning is unhelpful - ? campus based and practice based would be preferable

- General preference for a 'common core' rather than a CFP but that common core should be no more than 1/3rd of programme.
- MH proficiencies should be a core component of the common core for all nurses and enhance elements of MH in other branches – possibly with options for MH placements. Could consider use of TESCs
- Need to allow key elements of content to also be driven by local need as well as nationally – need to bear in mind different needs/policies in each of four UK countries.
- Needs to be cognisant of other existing frameworks – ref: CNO MH guidance; Scottish Framework for MHN etc
- Reduction in hours requirement and more of an emphasis on competencies
- Avoid introduction of further NMC defined progression points
- ? Reconsider 5 year rule as discriminatory (mixed views on this) – 7 years part-time is already available.
- Statutory period of preceptorship welcomed but specific requirements and link to registration etc need clarifying + need to link closely to Clinical Supervision during this period.

7. Abuse competencies

Patrick Callaghan had attended a meeting held by DH to look at competencies for MHNS to facilitate and deal with disclosure of abuse with users. Some core competencies to be developed. Await further update.

6. AOB

- i. **Len Bowers** Congratulations noted in successful award of NIHR programme grant

7. Future meetings agreed.

- Friday 6th March 2009 – Edge Hill University
- Friday 19th June 2009 – Sheffield Hallam University
- November 2009 – University of Ulster – final date TBC - ? 13th or 20th November

Mental Health Nurse Academics UK (MHNA UK)

Aims and objectives

(MHNACUK) was formed in 2003 and is a group that brings together representatives from all UK Higher Education Institutions engaged in mental health nursing education and research.

The aims of the group are

1. To represent and promote mental health nursing education, research and practice development, including actively participating in Key National and International committees and working groups
2. To influence and respond to the UK mental health agenda through well-informed debate, discussion and the dissemination of material that reflects our views on a range of issues
3. To act as a source of consultation and advice to mental health nurses and others on mental health nursing education and research
4. To share good practice and innovations in the development and conduct of mental health nursing education and research.
5. To conduct research into mental health nursing education

Membership

- Open to each UK HE Institution (HEI) providing Mental Health Nursing professional education and/or research.
- One member and one alternate will be appointed to membership by their base institution. Both members can attend and delegate attendance to others from their Institution as required.
- All Professors of Mental Health Nursing will be de facto members
- Where a vote on any issue is required each HEI will have up to two votes (the two votes will be through the nominated member and alternate) and all Professors of MHN who are part of the group will also have a vote.

Leadership

Chair

- Nominated by members of the group.
- Informal election to take place if more than one nomination.
- Normally a two year term of office, though may, by agreement of the group may be extended one further year.
- Notwithstanding the above, no Chair shall serve longer than three years in total

Role:

- Initiate and pull together task groups to respond to issues or request for advice that arise between meetings.
- Chair the meetings of the group.
- Appoint members to other bodies when representation is requested or appropriate.
- Consider and approve all position statements and other documents emanating from the group prior to them being circulated.
- Maintain mailing list and facilitate communication

- Maintain an up to date list of contacts and groups to whom position statements should be issued

Vice- Chair

- Nominated by members of the group.
- Informal election to take place if more than one nomination.
- Normally a two year term of office though may, by agreement of the group may be extended one further year.
- Notwithstanding the above, no Vice-Chair may serve in the role for longer than three years in total
- The Vice Chair will normally take over as Chair, for a period of two years.
- No person shall serve as Vice-Chair, then Chair, for a total period exceeding five years

At no time should the Chair and Vice-Chair be from the same HEI.

Method of working

Frequency of meetings: At least three times per year, once per term.

Location/venue: To be held at HEIs willing to host around the UK taking into account equity between different parts and regions of the UK.

- Normally at least one meeting every two years shall take place in either Northern Ireland or Scotland or Wales.

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Format of meetings:

- Presentations on MHN (MH) research and educational activity from the Host Institution (+ others nearby as necessary)
- Review of task group outputs and the uses to which they have been put.
- Suggestions for new task groups and any other issues requiring consultation or responses on behalf of the group.

Relationship to others

The Chair (or their nominee) will meet regularly with the Professional Nurse Adviser for Mental Health and Learning Disabilities at DH – England and equivalents in other UK countries.

Members of the group shall also, as invited, represent MHNAC UK on equivalent relevant committees in the other three countries of the UK.

Similar appointments or representatives from MHNAC UK members may, as requested, be made to other bodies, as considered appropriate from time to time. Such appointments/representatives will be agreed by the Chair, from members of the group who volunteer for such tasks.