

Notes of Meeting held on 8th March 2013 at Cardiff University, Cardiff

Chair: Michael Coffey

Present: Michael Coffey (Swansea), Alan Simpson (City), Ben Hannigan (Cardiff), Linda Cooper (Cardiff), Anita Savage Grainge (York), John Playle (Huddersfield), Ian Hulatt (RCN), Julia Terry (Swansea), Nichola Lambert (UWE Bristol), Gwenne Mcintosh (Edinburgh), Kath Padgett (Huddersfield), Jen French (Welsh CNO office), Doug Macinnes (Canterbury), Alison Kilduff (Derby), Ian Beech (Glamorgan), Len Bowers (IoP), Matt Bowen (Chester), Sue McAndrew (Salford), Patricia Ryan-Allen (Greenwich), Dave Coyle (Bangor), Joy Duxbury and Karen Wright (UCLAN), Bob Tumney (Coventry), Andy Mercer (Bournemouth), Andrew Ramtohul (Northumbria), Tracy McClelland (Bradford), Enkanah Soobadoo and Thomas Currid (South Bank), Lisa Woods and Grahame Smith (Liverpool John Moores), Jim Turner (Sheffield Hallam), Greg Rooney (Herts), Paul Linsley (Lincoln), Fiona Nolan (UCL),

Apologies received: Susanne Forrest (Scottish Government), Bob Rankin (Dundee), Steve Lyons (Huddersfield), Mick McKeown (UCLAN), Emma Lamont (Abertay), Tommy Dickinson (Chester), Liz Hughes (York), Maureen Deacon (Chester), Margaret Conlan (Edinburgh), Karina Lovell (Manchester), Val Howatson (Glasgow), Sheila Dixon (Wolverhampton), Andrew Clifton (Huddersfield), Kevin Moore and Columba McLaughlin (Ulster), Denise Aspinall (Bangor), Steven Pryjmachuk and John Baker (Manchester), Vicky Clarke (Birmingham), Jacquie White (Hull), Mary Chambers (Kingston), Mairi Byrne (Edgehill), Gordon Mitchell and Mike Fleet (Teesside), Gerry Shepherd (Oxford), Marjorie Lloyd (Glyndwr), Michael Kelly (Kings), Russell Ashmore (Sheffield Hallam), Peter Morrall (Leeds), Laetitia Zeeman (Brighton), Ben Thomas (DH, England), Nicola Evans (Cardiff),

Welcome from the Chair and Introductions

Michael Coffey opened the meeting as the new Chair and thanked Linda Cooper and Ben Hannigan for organising the venue and catering.

Welcome to Cardiff University

Linda Cooper welcomed the group and reflected upon the history of the group, its achievements and progress to date. She was delighted to welcome the group back to Cardiff some years on.

Presentation 1: Welsh CNO update

Jenifer French, Nursing Officer and Deputy Head of Mental Health & Vulnerable Groups Division, Welsh Government

Jennifer gave a comprehensive overview of recent policy developments in Wales including the new 10 year strategy Together for Mental Health which uniquely for Welsh health strategies has a delivery plan in place. Jen also talked about the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010 which is new legislation requiring the provision of primary mental health care services (Part 1), recovery focused outcome oriented care and treatment plans that must be collaborative (Part 2), allow for prompt access to secondary services from those previously discharged from this provision (Part 3) and extending the requirements for advocacy under the Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended 2007) to all inpatients of secondary mental health services (Part 4). Provision to meet these requirements has only begun to be put in place in the last year and as yet there is no evaluation of their effects. It does however establish a clearly different approach to mental health provision to the other UK countries and the contrasts will be interesting. Jen's slides are on the MHNAUK website.

Presentation 2: Willis Commission Update

Ian Huillitt, RCN Mental Health Nurse Advisor

lan presented the findings of the Willis Commission report. Ian went through the process which included an call for evidence, 3 days of oral invited evidence, visits to the 4 countries of the UK including going out with nurses on visits. The report has been received by the RCN who are now in the process of appointing a lead person to work on putting the recommendations into action.

Importantly:

The commission found no major shortcomings in nursing education that could be held directly responsible for poor practice or the perceived decline in standards of care. Nor did it find any evidence that degree-level registration was damaging to patient care. On the contrary, graduate nurses have played and will continue to play a key role in driving up standards and preparing a nursing workforce fit for the future.

This is timely given the recent Francis Report and implications for recruitment and training.

This report has been published and is now available: http://www.williscommission.org.uk/

lan's slides are on the MHNAUK website. http://mhnauk.swan.ac.uk/presentations/presentations.htm

Business Section:

Item: 1 MHNAUK Elections

Michael Coffey

The position of vice-chair has been filled by Joy Duxbury. There were a number of excellent nominees and the competition was very high. The group welcomed Joy as the new VC and Michael as the Chair.

Item 2 Topic work groups

The group was split into two to explore the follow areas: Aims and priorities of MHNAUK – Facilitated by Linda Cooper Research strategy – Facilitated by Professor Len Bowers

Feedback was then presented from each work group and next steps outlined

Linda facilitated group work to explore future developments. It was suggested also that the format of the meetings change to capture more business activity rather than allow time for local presentations at every meeting. The strengths of our meetings were highlighted with participants valuing the opportunity to network and learn about innovation in education and research from colleagues. It was suggested that meetings focus more on what MHNAUK sees as important rather than what the host institution sees as important. To this end it was suggested that we move towards themes for meetings and rather than place all the emphasis on the hosts to provide the presentations we instead seek input from within the group for interested parties to present on a theme. The aim would then be to debate the issues in the meeting and formulate a statement or position from MHNAUK that arises from the discussion. (Please see proposal number 1 in the proposals document) The suggestion was that a statement of this nature representing the membership of HEIs on MHNAUK would have significant influence.

Some very useful discussion ensued around a number of other suggestions including, using Twitter, Blogs, developing communities of interest, whether the group might develop or negotiate for control of a journal, maximising networks for the benefit of doctoral students, and the development of a steering group to help support the chair and vice chair. A related suggestion was about having a small sub group or executive to provide timely responses such as press statements to emerging issues. (Please see proposal 2 and suggested action in proposals document).

It was also suggested that we keep a central record or statement of MHNAUK reps on other groups, perhaps posted on the web pages. There may be scope to include blogs form these reps on the MHNAUK blog site. (Please see proposal 3 and subsequent action in the proposals document). Update: mhnauk.com blog now up and running, send ideas for inclusion to Michael.

Len facilitated a discussion on a research strategy for the group. A number of issues were raised and suggestions made to develop the group further in this area. Examples given included involving and supporting PhD students, peer support for research, the exploration of funding opportunities to include members of the group and a mapping exercise to establish who the REF returned mental health nurse researchers are and what types of research is getting done. There were discussions on whether it was feasible or desirable that every mental health nurse academic in every HEI had a PhD. Questions were raised on how we might advise on research strategies both for HEI's and more widely to influence the research agenda and also to build capacity through support for PhD students and early career researchers. The summary of the topic group discussion is provided as an extra document to these meeting notes. We will be returning to the issues raised from these discussions in our coming meetings and encourage members to get involved as much as possible. Three proposals are specifically outlined in the proposals document, listed proposal 4, 5 and 6

Following feedback from each topic group there was a round table discussion of the issues raised in each group and some excellent suggestions about where our direction of travel should be. We will revisit these issues in subsequent meetings and attempt to start the process off by initiating some small projects. Two issues that raised their heads are as follows:

There was an awareness that a lot of excellent work is going on in selecting students for preregistration mental health nurse education. We would like to offer an MHNAUK good practice statement on this and felt we should try to capture some of the work we have heard about over recent years.

In addition the research group noted that to suggest a research direction for mental health nursing requires that we know enough about the funded research already being undertaken by mental health nurses.

ACTIONS: Andy Mercer volunteered to initiate and collate responses to a request for information on pre-registration student selection with the aim of presenting on this at a future meeting.

Fiona Nolan offered the services of a research assistant to commence the task of drawing together information on mental health nursing research.

A suggested list of proposals and actions from these topic groups is provided on separate document.

Item 3 NPNR News

Alan Simpson

The NPNR Steering Group (which includes Alan, Michael and Russell Ashmore from MHNAUK) met to begin plans for 2013. There have been some significant issues with gaining agreement for NPNR for this year and pressure for changes too.

- The start date has been moved to 5th and 6th September as it clashes with start of term for many but also there were issues in securing an affordable venue.
- The venue has been moved to Warwick for the first time to reduce costs and hopefully attract wider range of delegates. Despite significant input from MHNAUK we are told that the conference continues to lose money.

- The RCN has some concerns given this loss and may not be able to continue supporting this venture. Other funders may have to be sought in the future.
- The conference needs our support, so spread the word and get your abstracts in.

Items: 4 Mental Health Nursing Metrics

Sue McAndrew, Fiona Nolan

Sue McAndrew fed back on the progress of the therapeutic metrics meetings. These appear to have tailed off a little apart from the mental health group who continue to meet. Pilot work is underway to collate evidence and test approaches in relation to developing a metric for measuring therapeutic alliances. Any interest to support this further would be welcomed by the group given that it is unfunded presently.

Items: 5 Academy of Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting Research Alan Simpson

This group continues to meet and is seeking to secure future funding as currently it just receives minor but welcome funding from the RCM for administration and rooms from the RCN and RCM for meetings. The Academy mentoring scheme has apparently gone very well and this might be an area for MHNAUK to get more involved in as it overlaps with suggestions emanating from our discussions on supporting early career researchers. Concerns about the lack of focus on research in pre-registration nurse education have been raised and queries about how this might be best addressed. Three key objectives are:

- 1. To maximise the impact of research in nursing, midwifery and health visiting research (on policy and practice)
- To lobby for investment to continue to build capacity and capability in nursing, midwifery and health visiting and nurture the next generation of researchers
- To foster collaborative relationships to strengthen research and research outcomes, influence research decision makers and research policy and promote public access to research

Item: 6 Links with Learning disability nursing Kath Padgett

Kath reported that the LD nursing consultants continue to meet regularly and are interested in how LD nurses improve health equality for people with learning disabilities. There is a concern about nurse consultant posts disappearing in this speciality too. The issue of developing a database on reasonable adjustments in mental health services for people with learning disabilities was also noted.

Kath also reported on the LD nurse academics group which has been modelled on MHNAUK. They are currently looking at scoping of teaching in relation to learning disabilities on nursing education programmes. There is some concern too on how to establish the extent of the LD nurse workforce when 'nurse' is often not included in job titles. There may be implications arising from the increase in private providers. It was suggested that we make some further links with the chair of this group.

AOB Representatives on other groups – it was noted that Fiona Nolan and Neil Brimblecombe are on the Mental Health Nursing Directors forum.

We had a brief discussion about admitting **international members** and whether this contributed to the goals of the group. This was raised in part by a query from a colleague in Ireland. It was noted that we had previously admitted a colleague from a HEI in Ireland. This was not resolved at the meeting and will be raised again at a future meeting.

Eileen Skellern Lecture 12th June City University London

The Lifetime achievement award is being presented to Malcolm Rae and the Skellern lecture will be given by our own Alan Simpson. Register to attend and information can be found here http://www.skellern.info/index.html

Future dates and hosts for meetings

Date	Host	Link person
20 th June 2013	Liverpool John Moores University	Grahame Smith & Lisa Wood
8 th October 2013	University of Teeside	Gordon Mitchell & Diane Ellis
Spring 2014	tbc	
Summer 2014	South Bank London	Enkanah Soobadoo and Thomas Currid
Autumn 2014	tbc	