



Mental Health Nurse Academics (UK)

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

Notes of Meeting held on 18th February 2014 at Lincoln University

Chair: Michael Coffey

Present: Michael Coffey (Swansea), Joy Duxbury and Karen Wright (UCLAN), Len Bowers (IoP), Paul Linsley (Lincoln), Julia Terry (Swansea), Jacque White (Hull), Patricia Ryan-Alan (Greenwich), Sue McAndrew (Salford), Andrew Ramtohul (Northumbria), Alison Kilduff and Betty Harris (Derby), Ben Thomas (DoH), Gwenne Macintosh (Edinburgh Napier), Matt Bowen (Chester), Andy Mercer (Bournemouth), James Turner (Sheffield Hallam), Jim Turner (Sheffield Hallam), Greg Rooney (Herts),

Apologies: Ben Hannigan, Linda Cooper and Nicola Evans (Cardiff), Kevin Moore and Marie O'Neill (Ulster), Liz Hughes and Anita Savage-Grainge (York), Steven Prymachuk, John Baker and Tommy Dickinson (Manchester), Olive McKeown (UEL), John Playle (Huddersfield), Mary Chambers (Kingston), Dave Coyle (Bangor), Ian Beech (USW), Vicky Clarke (Birmingham City), Fiona Nolan (UCL), Peter Morrall (Leeds), Ian Hulatt (RCN), Lisa Woods (Liverpool John Hope), Doug Macinness (Canterbury), Mairi Byrne and Cathy Griffiths (Edgehill), Rachel Hadland and Lucy Watkins (UWE), Gordon Mitchell and Mike Fleet (Teesside), Val Howatson (Glasgow), Gerry Shepherd (Oxford Brookes), Bob Tummey (Coventry), Gwen Bonner (West London), Jenifer French (Welsh Government), Peter Morrall (Leeds), Alan Simpson (City), Nicky Lambert (Middlesex), Tracey Cassidy (Plymouth),

Welcome from the Chair and Introductions

Michael Coffey opened the meeting and thanked Paul Linsley for his organisation and hosting of the meeting and evening meal.

Welcome to Lincoln University

Mr Nigel Horner Head of School of Health and Social Sciences welcomed MHNAUK to Lincoln University and talked about the School and the history of Lincoln and the interdisciplinary nature of the School.

Physical Wellbeing Serious Mental Illness

Presentation 1: Jacqui presented her NIHR funded PhD work in this area. She talked about the nature of the problem, lack of assessment and tools that are used. Mortality is high. JW reported problems with implementation and discussed the ethics of what do you do if results are limited.

JW talked about the development of the HIP; a risk assessment tool for physical health, the lit review, the tool itself for men and women and an education package. Piloted HIP in Scotland and used case reviews

Then cluster RCT

Presentation 2: Patricia Ryan Physical Health and SMI

Patricia reported on her case study in this area

Two levels of physical health; Healthy life style and metabolic syndrome.

Common organisational change management theory doesn't suit clinical practice

She suggested reconceptualising physical health problems into physical health risk assessment.

Nurses said you need procedures, support, resources, leadership, education, innovation, and service users

Suggestions are:

Elevation of physical health problems to RISK status
There should be NICE guidelines
Development of MHN role
Improve leadership to inform and translate policy

Len suggested that the group make a position statement to make it explicit that this groups believes that physical health is part of the mental health nurses role. Jacqui and Patricia agreed to work on this with support from Michael if needed.

Business

Item 1: Department of Health commissioned work on Positive and Safe

Ben Thomas and Joy Duxbury

Joy led a discussion of the consultation of DH guidance in this area. She covered the key aims, principles and headlines. The group has responded to the consultation formally and this is on our web pages here

<http://mhnauk.swan.ac.uk/ResponsePapers/MHNAUKRCNPSBconsultation.pdf>

The group felt that:

PBS has some value but that it is untested in mental health and therefore some caution is required. Additionally, there are matters that need to be considered such as the involvement of psychologists, the length of stay of patients, the investment of time needed and training implications. There may be better models and approaches and maybe we should explore the range in the document rather than make PBS the sole lead.

Item 2: Research Priority Setting

Len Bowers

Following our last meeting Len had requested that members contact him with their lists of research priorities for mental health nursing as a precursor to establishing if we could and should engage in a larger exercise to generate a list that could be used to lobby research funders so that calls for research more directly reflect the range of issues relevant to the delivery, education and research of mental health nursing as a profession. At the meeting we discussed the responses from the group. The level of engagement had been disappointing with only 12 responses. Len grouped the research priorities into three broad areas:

Clinical Practice
Education
Management

Len will circulate the list that we have agreed to date and seek further input on this including suggestions for next steps. At the meeting there was a discussion and show of hands on who would wish to be involved in pursuing this issue with Len. We had some volunteers but would like people to still get involved.

Item 3: Blog

Michael has renewed the blog space for another year. At present Julia Terry is using this space to engage with PhD students conducting research in mental health. To date there are about 30 mental health nurse PhD students connecting via this initiative.

The MHNAUK blog is a resource for the group and we encourage members to provide material that can be included related to the group's aims of promoting education research and good practice in mental health nursing. Contact Michael directly and he can arrange for you to have direct access to the blog or if you prefer he can post on your behalf see <http://mhnauk.com/> for recent posts on the Skellern Lecture, the NPNR conference, research priorities and planning for meetings.

Item 4: NPNR

Michael updated the group on this. The RCN have formally adopted the conference and are in the process of agreeing a 3 year service level agreement with MHNAUK to deliver the conference via their events team. The intellectual property of the conference and leadership belongs to the MHNAUK and it was agreed that the NPNR title would be owned by MHNAUK to allow us to seek other organisers should there be a change of heart at the RCN in future years. Our relationship with the RCN however is a strong one and we would wish this to continue to the benefit of both groups. We are encouraged to circulate the details of this year's conference widely to both academic and practice colleagues and to your international contacts.

Dates are 18th and 19th September 2014 at Warwick. All speakers have now been confirmed. Abstract applications are open until 30th April. More details here http://www.rcn.org.uk/newsevents/event_details/rcn_eventsms/npr14

MHNAUK currently provide the chair of the steering/organising group in the form of Alan Simpson and the chair of the scientific committee in the form of Michael Coffey. In addition Russell Ashmore is on both committees. The RCN is keen that the conference adopts similar terms of reference for these committees as used on their research conference. This means that there will be scope for further involvement of group members in the coming years as the terms of office for steering group members are reviewed. We are currently ironing out the detail on this but at least one position is likely to become available within the coming year and again the following year. We will make this known via this meeting or through our mailing list when we know more.

Item 5: Dementia Care Statement

This has been finalised by Graham and is on the web for circulation, you can find it here http://mhnauk.swan.ac.uk/PositionPapers/MHNAUK%20Position%20Statement_Dementia.pdf.

Item 6: Doctoral Student Network

Julia Terry

Julia will continue to engage with doctoral students and we discussed the possibility of them being more involved at the next NPNR conference. This may take the form of another fringe event and details will follow in due course.

Item 7: History

M Coffey

Does this group want to develop a historical archive? This would be likely to be virtual. There are currently existing resources at Manchester University and the RCN and there is some interest in the possibility of an allied historical interest group. There are funding sources for this area including via the Wellcome Trust but it needs a group member to take a lead on behalf of the wider group. If you are interested then get in touch with Michael or Joy. In relation to this item Ben Thomas mentioned that a collection of material has been found at the Royal College of Psychiatrists during their move to new premises that is of relevance to the history of mental health nursing. They are interested in putting on an exhibition of this material and Ben will provide contact details for the person involved at the RCP.

Item 8: MHNAUK Journal Involvement

Michael fed back on behalf of Ben Hannigan with regard to negotiations with the publishers Emerald Insight on the possibility of a mental health nursing research and education journal formally supported by MHNAUK acting as a 'learned society'. The publishers were pleased with the initial overture but wanted to test whether we as a group could sustain a brand new title in the mental health/nursing field. To this end they have offered MHNAUK a special issue of the Journal of Mental Health Training, Education and Practice for publication in 2015. Emerald state "We would be happy with a mixture of papers that focused on research as well

as training and practice, if that would be possible (an issue is approx. 6 papers, plus a guest editorial).” They have also offered an ongoing partnership between MHNAUK and the journal including the display of our group logo on the journal, and our group commissioning one paper per issue of the journal (4 issues in 2014 and 5 in 2015). Again this is to gauge whether there were sufficient submissions to sustain a new journal.

At our meeting we discussed this proposal and whether the journal was the right fit for this group – it is not a nursing journal and the balance of papers may also be somewhat skewed towards training rather than say outcome-based research with service user populations. We discussed the feasibility of providing sufficient copy in the form of submissions, the absence of an offer of editorial board input and the various costs versus benefits of being aligned with this (or any other particular) journal.

The discussion at the meeting produced no majority view on engaging further with Emerald in connection with this particular initiative. There was some marked scepticism and concern over whether leading researchers in our field would choose to publish in mental health nursing research journals, rather than in a journal with a clear education and training focus. There were also some doubts in the room whether the group could commit to providing the required copy and in sufficient quantity and it was noted that the journal proposal did not intend to give the impression that all submissions would come solely from within the group.

Michael offered to return to Ben with a summary of the meeting discussion and then determine next steps, where the range of choices seems to include:

- that MHNAUK should not seek to affiliate with any particular journal
- that MHNAUK should seek to affiliate with a journal, but not the title proposed by Emerald
- that MHNAUK should pursue an affiliation with this title

If in the meantime the group more widely has a view on all of this then please do get in touch with Michael or Ben so that this informs our response to the publisher.

Next meeting June 12th 2014 South Bank University London

Future dates and hosts for meetings

Date	Host	Link person
12 th June 2014	South Bank London	Enkanah Soobadoo and Thomas Currid
16 th October 2014	Manchester University	Steven Pryjmachuk and John Baker
10 th March 2015	York	Liz Hughes
Summer 2015	IoP	Len Bowers
Autumn 2015	UCLan, Preston	Joy Duxbury and co
Spring 2016	University of West of Scotland, Paisley	Billy Mathers and Austyn Snowden