



Mental Health Nurse Academics (UK)

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

Notes of meeting held 25th March 2010 **University of Central Lancashire, Preston Campus**

Chair: Linda Cooper

Present:

Linda Cooper – Cardiff; Alan Simpson – City; Joy Duxbury, Mick McKeown, Christina Lyons, Michelle Lyons, Sue Hacking & Karen Wright - UCLan, Andy Mercer – Bournemouth; Patrick Callaghan – Nottingham; John Rawlinson - Plymouth; Mark Wilbourn - London South Bank;; John Baker & Steve Prymachuk – Manchester; Mary Chambers – St Georges London/Kingston; Debi Corby – Bradford; Naomi Sharples & Sue McAndrew – Salford; Steve Hemingway - Huddersfield; Gill Maidens & Joy Clayton – Wolverhampton; Keith Edwards – Bucks New University; Russell Ashmore – Sheffield Hallam; Sandy McCormish – Stirling; Liam Clarke – Brighton; Mairi Byrne – Edgehill; Ann Payne – Dundee (27)

Apologises:

Ian Hulatt – RCN; Ben Hannigan – Cardiff; Lisa Woods – Liverpool John Moore; Susanne Forrest – NES; Ben Thomas – DoH; Micheal Coffey – Swansea; Hugh Masters – NO Scotland; Peter Meridith-Smith – NO Wales; Kevin Moore & Columba McLaughlin – Ulster; John Hurley – Dundee; Ann Fothergill – Uniglam; Sally Hardy – City; James Turner – Sheffield; Gordon Mitchell & Dianne Ellis – Teesside; Rick Fothergill – Cumbria; Steve Lyons- Huddersfield; Peter Morall – Leeds; Keith Edwards – Buckinghamshire; Cathy Griffiths – Edge Hill; Jarlath McKenna – Waterford Institute, Ireland; Greg Rooney – Hertfordshire; Pat Bradley – Stirling; Lai Chan – Edgehill; John Playle – Manchester.

Welcome and Introductions

Linda Cooper welcomed everyone and thanked University of Central Lancashire for hosting the meeting.

Alan Simpson was warmly congratulated on having recently received promotion to Professor (Collaborative Mental Health).

RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS FROM HOST INSTITUTION: UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL LANCASHIRE

The following presentations were made by staff and partners of UCLan.

Presentation 1: **Approaching recovery messages for Black and Minority Ethnic community members with mental problems in a different way: a service user led research partnership with Liverpool PCT**

Sue Hacking (Senior Research Fellow) and Mick McKeown (Principal Lecturer).

Presentation 2: **Knowledge transfer: Research with impact case study.**

Christina Lyons (Senior Research Fellow) & Michelle Lyons

Presentation 3: **Collective Voice: Development of a regional network for service user and carer engagement in the North West**

Joy Duxbury (Reader in Mental Health Nursing & Divisional Lead Mental Health), Mick McKeown (Principal Lecturer) & a Collective Voice Representative

BUSINESS SECTION (closed meeting re items i – iv)

(i) Update re NPNR Conference 22nd & 23rd September 2010 Oxford. Alan Simpson

Call for papers including details of invited speakers (Prof David Richards, Dr Vanessa Pinfold, Prof John Creswell & Dr Sara Munro) had been sent out prior to meeting for wide circulation. All members encouraged to submit abstract (closing date to abstracts is 30.04.10). Members are reminded that the venue is Oxford University; Wadham College (not St Catherine's College as rooms are being refurbished). MHNA(UK) members on Scientific Committee are: Linda Cooper, Alan Simpson & Russell Ashmore

(ii) Prime Minister's Commission for Nursing & Midwifery in England Report. Patrick Callaghan

20 recommendations discussed. Noted: no funding evident to support implementation. Patrick proposed the group drafted a position paper re the nature of Mental Health Nursing.
Agreed: agenda for more detailed discussion at next meeting. Patrick to lead.

(iii) Discussion - MHNA(UK) draft response to NMC Pre-Reg Review (45mins). John Rawlinson

Linda Cooper thanked John Rawlinson (Plymouth University) for kindly agreeing to co-ordinate & send the group's response. Draft response discussed and key areas of concern identified as a) method of consultation/ complex & limiting nature of consultation questionnaire b) potential for dis-engagement of stakeholders due to a); c) need to clarify alpha research intentions re analysing qualitative data d) the potentially ambiguous status of 'guidance' in NMC draft standard document e) the over-prescriptive (& thus limiting re curriculum innovation) nature of the 'non-mandatory' essential skills clusters linked to mandatory progression points f) essential skills clusters require review to become *comprehensive essential skills across all fields* – current over focus on hospital and acute general field noted) g) the potential impact (particularly concerns re attrition) of 2 progression points on HEIs

(iv) Service User & Carer Involvement – position paper Alan Simpson

A significant number of members have responded to Alan Simpson's invitation to gauge interest in joining this timely task & finish group to develop a position paper re 'service user and carer involvement in student assessment'. Investigate possibility of NMC commissioning research to examine the issue.
Action: Keith Edwards (Buckingham New University) has agreed to lead the group and provide a progress report at the next meeting.

AOB

- i) It was reported that NIHR was keen to receive bids to evaluate nursing
- ii) It was noted that a revised version of the CNO for England's Mental Health Nursing Review will be released next week.

Action: Patrick Callaghan to circulate via email

NMC REVIEW OF PRE- REG EDUCATION (RPNE) CONSULTATION WITH GUEST NICOLA ROWLANDS NMC COMPETENCY WORK STREAM LEAD.

Linda Cooper thanked Nicola Rowlands for attending the meeting. All areas of concern identified above discussed.

1. On-line survey

Concerns re the integrity of the on-line consultation document (especially the analysis of the

qualitative data). Nicola Rowlands acknowledged that the NMC have very short time frames in which to process qualitative data and advised that the way to make an impact on results was sending in multiple surveys (ie multiple short surveys rather than one carefully considered response from an institution or a group). She supported our intention to write to Garth Long to ask about the management of qualitative responses.

2. Essential Skills Clusters

Re their status as virtually mandatory "guidance", their incompleteness, bias towards hospital based adult nursing, and restrictions created by mapping them to the (now 3) progression points. For these reasons, we strongly urged that they were removed from this document and reviewed. Whilst Nicola reported that they were popular (often cited as giving service and user stakeholders sense of control and security). She encouraged the group to clearly express our views and rationale in our response.

Our position will be that if they are indeed are 'guidance', they could be included by HEIs in pre-registration programmes at their discretion. However, this could be along with other key documents or competency sets considered important in a field, such as, in Mental Health (noted some are referenced within the draft NMC standards document):

- The Chief Nursing Officer's Best Practice Competencies and Capabilities for Pre-registration Mental Health Nurses (DoH 2006)
- National Occupational Standards for Mental Health (Skills for Health 2003)
- The Ten Essential Shared Capabilities (NIMHE, SCMH and NHSU 2004)
- The Capable Practitioner (SCMH 2001)

3. Generic & Mental Health Competencies:

On the whole the group was happy with these but would welcome the strengthening of the standard re service user involvement in mental health. The group also felt that support for 'self help' and the 'promotion of self care' could be strengthened within the mental health competences.

4. Progression points:

Additional 12 week rule progression point (linked as they are to NMC ESC's) run the risk of increased attrition (although numbers may be small, impact on HEI and practice is potentially high especially in the minority fields). Our position is that the 2nd 12 week rule unnecessary in light of current transparent robust HEI regulations.

5 Post consultation:

Create opportunity for key stakeholders, including members of the Field Specific Working Groups to discuss the outcome of the consultation before final confirmation of new standards by council.

Actions agreed:

- **Linda Cooper (Chair) to write to Garth Long re concerns re consultation questionnaire and request group submit a response directly to Alpha Research**
- **Linda Cooper to feedback by email immediately after the meeting to MHNA(UK) members of the NMC (Generic & MH Field) working groups**
- **John Rawlinson to draft MHNA(UK) response, send to Chair and then circulate for comments and amend prior to 23rd April deadline**

Close of meeting (15.30hrs)

Reminder Future Dates & Venues (confirmed in black):

Thurs 17th June 2010	City University. London
Friday 12th November 2010	Wolverhampton
March 2011 (date tbc by Andy Mercer)	Bournemouth
June 2011 (tbc)	Turn of HEI in Wales.
October 2011 (tbc)	Bradford