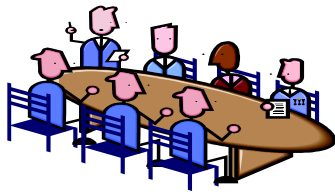


External Affairs & Policy Pillar

Committee & Activity Reports for Executive
14th April 2011

Committee Reports



Public Education Committee (PEC)

Responsible for: WMHDay, CPsychI Spike Milligan Public Speaking Competition & any other projects to promote and educate the public on good mental health.

Chair: Dr Colette Halpin **Next Meeting:** 31st March 2011

Current projects:

I. Spike Milligan Public Speaking Competition 2011:

Topic: "Mental Illness – Making the Invisible Visible"

Date & location: **Tonight!** 6pm, 14th April 2011 @ The Sugar Club, Dublin.

Chair: Dr Mathew Sadlier; **MC:** Dr Colette Halpin

Judges: Dr Anne Jeffers, Dr Navroop Johnson(SR) and Emma Farrell(Headstrong youth advisor and College Advisory Board).

- 1. Debunking the myths about Psychiatry:** Phase 4: Survey (for medical professionals) has been presented to Dr A Jeffers for review & feedback.
- 2. World Mental Health Day 10th October 2011:** Currently exploring the possibility of running the visual arts event in a major city centre venue with a lunch awards ceremony, celebrity and sponsors on board. In process.

External Affairs & Policy (EAP) Committee

Dr Anne Jeffers chaired the first meeting last month which was well attended. 18 members have joined the committee. Terms of references were agreed and commitment given to produce drafts on two position papers by the **next meeting (15th April)** - ECT & Benzodiazepine use.

CPsychI / ICGP Forum on mental health

Objective: to improve communication and liaison between primary & secondary care in mental health with ultimate goal of improving care & service to service users. **Joint Chair:** Dr Vincent Russell (CPsychI) & Dr Martina Kelly (ICGP). 12 members – 6 from each College.

Dr Ian Daly attended the meeting on Tuesday, 15th March 2011 to give an overview of his role as clinical lead mental health, DQCC. The forum's remit and possible collaboration with the DQCC was explored and discussed.

Next Meeting: 2.30, Tuesday 31st May 2011

Human Rights, Ethics & Law Committee

Objective: to update the College and its members of developments in human rights, ethics and legal matters & initiate workgroups as and when necessary to work on submission papers or appropriate action needed from the College.

Members: Prof Harry Kennedy (Chair), Dr John Tobin, Dr Pauline Twomey and Dr Keith Holmes.

Current items:

- 1. Mental Health Act 2001 Amendments:** Workgroups being instructed with reports requested for mid May.

Other Activity



Electronic Newsletter for Members

The first eBulletin was issued to members on 5th April. Plan to issue a bulletin in the first week of every month. Contributions welcome including video communication. **Note:** it is a tool to push members onto our website as well as providing updates and information. Next bulletin will be issued circa 6th May.





College Website – Updates

New Main Tab

A tab for the External Affairs & Policy pillar will now be introduced to the home page (alongside the postgraduate training tab). Publications will appear under the helpful info tab section.

External Organizations with College representation



www.seechange.ie

College representation: Dr N Crumlish & A Ryder

- Implemented its 'Make a Ripple' campaign' which is "about encouraging people to make a personal commitment to drive change through shared stories and experiences" Currently looking for people's stories of mental health problems. Constant Facebook feeds – recent feed on 'Recovery' and what it means.