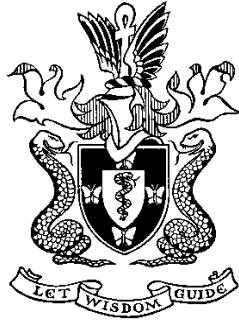


2010



**GAY & LESBIAN MENTAL HEALTH
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP
ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS**

Annual Report 2009-2010

The College's Gay and Lesbian SIG has had another busy year.

College Meetings

2009

The SIG organised two seminars and one workshop at the College's 2009 Annual Meeting in Edinburgh:

- 1) Therapies that claim to change sexual orientation.** Chair *Michael King*
- 2) Cultural competence.** Chair *Sandra Evans*
- 3) Cultural competence workshop.** Chairs *Sandra Evans, Brian Douglas*

The meetings were well attended and provoked lively debate. As in previous years, these meetings involve members of the SIG and other members of the College. The invited international speaker in 2009 was Jack Drescher from New York who participated in seminar 1 above.

2010

The SIG will present one seminar at this year's Annual Meeting in Edinburgh:

The evolution of psychiatric diagnoses - past and present controversies
Chair *Sandra Evans*

- 1) The rise and fall of homosexuality as a diagnosis. *Michael King, UCL*
- 2) Transsexualism as a current ICD10 and DSMIV diagnosis *Stephen Whittle, Manchester Metropolitan University*
- 3) The rise (and fall) of Asperger Syndrome *David Skuse, UCL*

SIG Website

The SIG website has been redeveloped with input from Steve Hopker on the SIG Executive. In line with the rest of the College website it is hoped that future SIG materials would be relevant to members and non-members of the College (see next section).

Other Activities

Members of the Executive have been involved in public debate on key issues and the SIG is grateful to the College Press Office's close monitoring of news stories and responses to press inquiries. In particular, over this year there has been repeated controversy in the media in Northern Ireland and England about so-called reparative treatments for homosexuality. These debates stimulated the College in spring 2010 to adopt the SIG's statement on homosexuality as College policy.

See http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/pdf/PS01_2010x.pdf

Questionnaire survey of members

The SIG Executive has designed a questionnaire to send to all its members on how they use the SIG, the meetings they have attended, the particular issues they encounter about sexuality locally and which activities they would like to see promoted for SIG members. The closing date has now passed and completed questionnaires will be returned by Sue Duncan to the SIG Chair for analysis.

SIG Executive officers

Chair Michael King

Secretary Shawn Mitchell

Treasurer Sandra Evans

Members Helen Killaspy; Gian Galeazzi; Stephen Hopker

SIG Annual General Meeting

The next SIG Annual General Meeting will be held on June 24th at the College Annual Meeting in Edinburgh.

Michael King

Chair

4 June 2010