SPIRITUALITY AND PSYCHIATRY
SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETING

Wednesday 4th November 2015
Venue: Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB

"Whither the soul of psychiatry? –
the place of spirituality in UK mental healthcare today"

Programme Organisers: Dr Andrew Powell and Dr Sophie Thomson

Come and have your say on Spirituality in UK mental healthcare today - what we can learn from the past; a review of current issues; our plans for the future

In the fifteen years since the SPSIG was founded, its College membership has grown to 3,000. More than 40 programmes have been held, resulting in over 200 publications on our website. The RCPsych has commissioned two books: ‘Spirituality and Psychiatry’ (2009) and ‘Spirituality and Narrative in Clinical Psychiatry’ (in press) and spirituality has been acknowledged as an important dimension of mental healthcare (see ‘Recommendations for Psychiatrists on Spirituality and Religion’: College Position Statement PS03/2013 and the ‘Spirituality and Mental Health’: the College ‘Help is at Hand’ leaflet).

And yet we need to ask, as much as ever: ‘Where is psychiatry heading?’ Are we looking at a widening divide between academic psychiatry and the deep human problems that face psychiatrists in everyday clinical practice? Are we in danger of seeing the pathology while losing sight of the person?

This meeting will provide an opportunity for members of the SPSIG to express their views. What have we learned from our 15 years of experience to date? How can we bring our influence to bear on developments in psychiatry? What priorities should we be setting? What activities can the future work of the SPSIG best support? What indeed do the next 15 years hold?

Programme

10.30 am: Refreshments and registration
10.45 am: Notices from the Chair: Dr Paramabandhu Groves
11.00 - 12.30: 'Looking back: what have we learned, what problems have we encountered, what has worked?'
Chairs: Dr Andrew Powell and Dr Sarah Eagger
12.30 -1.30: Lunch
1.30 - 3.00 'The current situation: challenges facing us today'
Chairs: Prof Chris Cook and Dr Chetna Kang
3.00 - 3.30: Refreshments
3.30 - 5.00: 'Looking forward': where do we go from here?
   Chairs: Dr Sophie Thomson and Dr Stephen Turner

5.00 Close of meeting

**Please note:** there will be no formal talks in this programme but a number of slots will be available in all three sessions for short presentations by SPSIG members. If you would like to take one of these slots, let Sophie Thomson know at the outset of the programme and we will do our best to accommodate you. In any event, we look forward to everyone taking part in lively and wide-ranging discussions throughout the day.

The registration fee for this meeting is £35 to include lunch and refreshments. The maximum number of participants is set at 50 due to the room size, so please book early.

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**Reply Slip for Registration:**

I wish to attend the meeting of the SPSIG on Wednesday 4th November 2015 on:

"Whither the Soul of Psychiatry? –
the place of Spirituality in UK mental healthcare today"

Venue: Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB

Name: (Capitals)..................................................................................College No:...........................................

Contact phone number.........................................................................................................................

Email...................................................................................................................................................

I enclose a cheque for the registration fee of £35 payable to the Royal College of Psychiatrists Registration, which includes lunch and refreshments.

This reply slip to be returned to Philippa Barton-Hanson, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 21 Prescot Street, London E1 8BB no later than Wednesday 21st October 2015.

Places are limited to 50 and will be offered on a first come first served basis. Registration will be confirmed on receipt of your cheque. With regret, registration fees cannot be refunded in the 4 week period immediately prior to the programme date.