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Chair’s blog
by
Dr Billly Boland
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Everywhere you look, general adult psychiatrists have been leading the way in championing the needs of people with mental health problems when it comes to COVID-19. The Royal College of Psychiatrists took an important role in sharing guidance to help clinicians practice in this new world. General Adult Faculty members like you played an important role in contributing to that, and it remains relevant to this day. It is still live and you can access it here.

It was very sad that we had to cancel what was to be our second spring conference, which was to be on co-production, that had been set for March. In the early days when only large gatherings were affected (remember then?), we had hoped we would still be able to go ahead. But it quickly became clear that wasn’t going to be possible, and we had to cancel. Nevertheless, developing practice in co-production is still an important part of our faculty strategy. The team are now working on developing sessions for future events on this theme.

Thankfully though, we have recently confirmed that our October conference will go ahead. Understandably, it will be a little different to usual (being virtual), but it will still deliver world class content that is relevant to us as General Adult Psychiatrists. We were very keen to make this happen so that we could have an opportunity to come together and learn from each other. COVID-19 has changed so much for us as a profession – it is important to hold on to some of our ways of working, being together and supporting each other. Please do join us and get signed up. We are still going to be sharing posters, so do encourage people to submit and share their work.

With this in mind, we have also been experimenting with new ways of connecting with you. On 30 July, the General Adult Faculty hosted our first free webinar for members. It focused on working in acute mental health services, and saw three general adult psychiatrists working in very different settings share their learning from practising during the pandemic. It was really well attended, with over 400 people attending live. It is still available on the college website if you want to catch up on the conversation. As ever, if there are matters that you think we should be focusing on do get in touch. Otherwise, I’ll look forward to ‘seeing’ you (if only via a screen!) at the Conference in October.
The Nottingham Psychiatric Archive
by
Professor John Cooper

The Nottingham Psychiatric Archive is dedicated to the memory of Dr Duncan Macmillan, O.B.E., B.Sc., M.D., FRCP(Ed).

In 1930, at the age of 28, Duncan Macmillan was appointed as Deputy Medical Superintendent of Mapperley Hospital and became Superintendent in 1940. He retired aged 65 in 1967 and died suddenly aged 67 in 1969 while on holiday. He thus spent 37 years at Mapperley Hospital, 27 as Medical Superintendent. The first part of the Archive deals with an important aspect of his work that has not been given the attention that it deserves. Duncan Macmillan’s most notable achievement was to show, (together with Dr T. P. Rees of Warlingham Park, Croydon, London) from the 1950s onwards, that it was possible to run an ordinary mental hospital without having any locked doors. Why was their example not followed by the many other similar mental hospitals?

The archive is a bibliography of research done in Nottingham that follows on from the interests of Duncan Macmillan, plus a collection of hard copies of documents that reflect Professor John E. Cooper’s work with the World Health Organisation on case registers and the classification and epidemiology of psychiatric disorders.

Professor John E Cooper was appointed in 1971 and retired in 1991. Preparation of this Archive began in the 1990s, for many years with the support of Dr Ian Medley, and latterly the support of Dr Stuart Leask to create these web pages.

The archive is limited to studies concerned with the development and use of psychiatric services in Nottingham, and with the epidemiology of severe mental illness in Nottingham (particularly of schizophrenia and acute psychoses). It does not contain references to publications on the many other types of psychiatric research that have been conducted in Nottingham.

The Nottingham Psychiatric Archive is now available online.
2019 GAF Prize Winners

It was our pleasure to have had so many great contributions to GAF Prizes in year 2019. Let us use this opportunity to congratulate all the winners below.

Medical Student Essay Prize
Winner
Praveen Somarathne

Runner up
Gloria Onwuneme

Highly recommended
Jeremy Warner
Juliette Murphy

GAF Annual Conference Prize Winners
Oral Presentation
Dr Giorgianna Passerello

Poster presentation
Ella Tumelty

Medical Student poster
Joseph Pilsbury

Foundation Year doctor poster
Dr Pollyanna Cohen

Psychiatric trainee poster
Dr Mohanraj Samuel

Poster (awarded for high merit)
Dr Lauren Unsworth
Dr Stephen Barrattshaw
Dr Anneka Sheikh

Quality Improvement Poster Prize
Dr Elinor Farrell

Small Project Funding – call for applications

Since 2013 a small number of projects have been granted up to £2,000 annually by the Faculty to recognise and promote the work of its members.

The Faculty is keen that the projects it funds this year are aligned with one of the following priority areas:

• capacity and demand in community teams
• hidden waiting lists in community teams
• co-production
• health disparities and inequalities e.g. for Black, Asian and minority ethnic groups
• social psychiatry – prevention, relational practice and resilience
• COVID-19 and its impact on general adult patients

Applications are open until Sunday 13 September 2020. Further details will be found here.
Dates for Your Diary - GAF Annual Conference 2020
5 and 16 October

October is that time of year. The GAF annual meeting will take place via Zoom on Thursday 15 October 13:00-17:00 and Friday 16 October 09:00-13:00.

Whilst we won’t be able to replicate the chat over coffee, we will be able to bring you cutting edge speakers and the latest updates in the area of General Adult Psychiatry all available live or on-demand from your home or work for up to two months after the conference. You can obtain up to 6 CPD points, subject to peer group approval.

Our academic secretaries are busy finalising the programme but we can give you a sneak preview. Prof Louise Howard will return to our annual meeting, updating about the implications of Domestic Violence and Abuse. Dr Rajesh Mohan, Presidential Lead for Race Equality, will talk about racism, equality and COVID-19, in particular their impact of BAME populations. There will be a session on workforce wellbeing and mental health with Drs Mihaela Buhur, Adrian James and Nick Stafford.

For the time being, only those registered in advance for the conference will be able to view content afterwards on demand, so please book your place now - online registration is open here. In order to allow us time to add everyone to the online platform, booking will close one day before the event.

There will be poster presentations with prizes. The poster submission is via online form with the deadline on 1 September 2020 at 5pm.

A preliminary programme will be published by the end of August 2020. Please look out for the twitter feed (@rcpsychGAP) for updates, join the meeting, giving us inputs and feedback. We really look forward to meeting you virtually in October!

GAF Annual Conference Poster Prizes 2020

Oral presentation prize: £250
Best Overall Poster prize: £150
Medical Student Poster prize: £50
Foundation Year Doctor Poster prize: £50
Psychiatric Trainee Doctor Poster prize: £50
SAS/Consultant Poster: £50
QI Prize: £50
Medical Student Essay Prize Winner 2020

We had another successful round of the Medical Student Essay in February this year.

We received eight high-calibre entries that took the challenge to answer: “Without Social Psychiatry, there is no Psychiatry. Discuss.” Our judging panel shortlisted four essays, and the second panel with a collaboration with the Faculty of Rehabilitation and Social Psychiatry made the final marking. Our judges were pleased with high standard of the contributions this year.

It is our tradition to announce the winner at the annual conference; however, we decided to make the announcement before the conference just in case there wasn’t a slot for a prize ceremony in the virtual conference programme.

Our winners are:

Winner
Muhammad Shaikh

Runners up
Madeleine Turner
Chloe Challen

The comment below by Dr Rajesh Mohan, Chair of the Faculty of Rehabilitation and Social Psychiatry, reflects the quality of the winning essay:

_Demonstrated an excellent coverage of relevant literature, showed a thorough understanding of the nuances of the literature reviewed and an ability synthesise the discussion with strong arguments and the content written in an erudite and thought-provoking style._

You can read Muhammad’s prize-winning essay [here](#).