Occupational Psychiatry Special Interest Group

Meeting held 04th February 2019, 13.15 – 15.00pm

King’s College London
Waterloo

MINUTES

Members Present and role:

Professor Neil Greenberg, Chair
Dr Jeya Balakrishna, Treasurer
Dr Agnieszka Klimowicz, members survey liaison
Dr Rajeev Dhar, external organisation liaison
Dr Sarah Dorrington, trainee representative
Dr Mark Tarn, external speaker liaison and recruitment
Dr Graham Howe, event coordinator
Dr John Sterland, Society of Occupational Medicine liaison

Apologies:
Professor Marios Adamou
Dr Dan Sherwood, social media

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| 1. | Chairs’ opening remarks  
1.1 Chair welcomed members and noted the apologies.  
1.2 Chair set out that the meeting may be somewhat free flowing as there was no fixed schedule for SIG meetings. |
| 2. | Declaration of Conflicts of Interest  
2.1 Conflicts of Interest for Neil Greenberg and Raj Shar who undertake private occupational psychiatry work from time to time.  
2.2 No other conflict of interests noted. |
| 3. | Agree record of prior meeting  
3.1 No prior meetings noted. |
| 4. | Chair update on the RC Psych SIGs  
4.1 Chair noted that the Occ Psych SIG had around 1200 members. There are 15 SIGs total within the College. Our exec is rather small compared to other SIGs. Treasurer (longest standing member) informed exec committee that the previous chair had not met with an exec group during his tenure. However, there has been some SIG representation at other relevant meetings (e.g. SOM annual conference).  
4.2 Chair informed exec that educational meetings (up to two a year) for up to 50 people would be administered by the college. Larger meetings would need the College conference organizing team to be involved and would need a budget and could lose or make money. |
5. **Finance update from treasurer**  
5.1 The SIG is in debt by around £95. We have been assured by the RC Psych treasurer that this is not a problem.  
5.2 If we can establish some SIG funds then we can pay travel expenses to meetings.

6. **Developing the SIG’s aims**  
6.1 The exec agreed that initial aims of the SIG should be:  
   a. Hold a successful talk for our members. Dr Tarn will ask Dr Tracy to speak on malingering. We plan to hold the first talk in the evening at the College in September 19.  
   b. Carry out a survey of our membership to understand what they want from the SIG, which talks they might prefer and whether they would be willing (if the SIG is asked) to sit on committee's/give presentations about Occupational Psychiatry.  
   c. To lead the improvement of understanding of occupational mental health by psychiatrists, other health professionals (especially GPs and OH professionals) and employers.

7. **Initial thoughts for topic for meetings**  
7.1 The exec felt that the membership should be asked about their interest in:  
   a. What should OH physicians, GPs and psychiatrists know about how to assess someone who presents as ‘stressed at work’ and what should they aim to do after such a consultation;  
   b. Fitness for return to duty after treatment of a non-psychotic mental health disorder (e.g. PTSD, depression);  
   c. What should health professionals know about the fit note and how can it be used to aid assessment and rehabilitation;  
   d. The mental health of psychiatrists and the associated impact on fitness for work;  
   e. Another topic of their choosing.

8. **Agreed action points**  
8.1 Chair to write to SIG members via Catherine (College SIG administrator) to let them know who our exec board are, what our aims are and that a survey will be coming.  
8.2 Dr Tarn to ask Dr Tracey to speak in September  
8.3 All exec members to forward ideas for survey to Agnieszka with the intent to get the survey out to members within the next three months  
8.4 Chair to meet with College Registrar about our initial aims and how to increase Occ Psych representation across health and occupational settings.  
8.5 Chair to confirm with College how non-psychiatrists can formally join the SIG

9. **Any other business**  
9.1 Picture and bio needed from Graham and Dan (to go to Jeya) for the SIG website

10. **Date of the next meeting**  
10.1 Suggestion of 1400-1530 on 7th May or 1000-1130 on 8th May; I will arrange a room but will ask College about phone conference options too.