

## **LGB Special Interest Group**

### **Annual Report to Council 2016**

#### **Background**

In February 2001 a Special Interest Group in Gay and Lesbian Mental Health was established in the College to promote discussion and research, provide expertise within the College and contribute to education. We now have 929 members.

The Group's aims are to promote and research the mental health of LGB people, promote training for all mental health professionals regarding the mental health of LGB people, to support and advocate for LGB mental health professionals and to advise on mental health, social and other local and national policy relating to LGB mental health. The group is open to anyone and everyone who may have an interest in LGB issues regardless of their own sexuality.

#### **Executive Committee**

The SIG Executive Committee comprises:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Role</b>
Michael King	Executive Member and Interim-Chair
Daniel Hodgson	Executive member
Maire Cooney	Financial Officer
Helen Killaspy	Executive Member

#### **Activities:**

During 2016 the LGB SIG participated in the following meetings/events:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue/Location</b>	<b>Subject/purpose of meeting/nos of attendees</b>
29/06/16	International Convention Centre (ICC). Royal Victoria Dock, London	International Congress, London /AGM  1) AGM meeting chaired, wide range of issues discussed. Attended by approx. 20 members. Member invited to speak at Pan Arab Psychiatry meeting in Jordan (see below)

		2) Seminar 45 Discrimination in Psychiatry
30/03/16 05/05/16 13/11/16	UKCP Head Office	Participation in the meetings for the Memorandum of Understanding between Colleges and Therapy Organisations on Conversion Therapy. Chaired by UKCP.
September 2016	UCL London	International Congress 2016 application planned. Seminar entitled "What can be done to improve the mental health of marginalised groups?" submitted. Outcome: not accepted for the programme
19-20/09/16	St John's College Durham	SIG exec member gave keynote lecture: "Possible origins of the increased prevalence of mental disorder in LGBT people" at conference "Science and Theology in Human Sexuality".
19-23/10/16	Amman, Jordan	SIG exec member presented keynote lecture: "The Status Of Homosexuality In Psychiatric Practice" at the 14th International Conference of the Arab Federation of Psychiatry and The 4th Conference of the Jordanian Society of Psychiatry.
19/12/16	UCL	Participation in round table on CoE attitudes to homosexuality in the church

## Commentary

### Objectives for the past year (2016)

The main objectives over the last twelve months have been to continue to promote the mental health of LGB people and to challenge discrimination. To achieve these aims, we have undertaken the following activities: exec members speaking at national and international conferences and round tables; participation in the development of an intercollegiate MoU on conversion therapies chaired by the UKCP; planning for sessions at the RCPsych International Congresses 2016 and 2017; and providing guidance to the RCPsych on political issues such as transgender issues, conversion therapy and discrimination. In 2016 Prof Michael King was asked to give a keynote at the International Congress in 2017 and will do so on 27 June 2017. The talk is entitled "The impact of stigma in psychiatry told through the lens of sexuality and gender."

## **How you achieved your objectives and with what outcome**

Our programme of activities showed we have achieved our aims except for our planned seminar for the International Congress of 2017 which was unexpectedly turned down.

## **Your objectives for 2017**

The SIG continues to advise the RCPsych on a number of political, ethical and policy issues relating to sexual orientation and psychiatry.

Due to admin problems an election was not undertaken in 2016 for our new Chair and thus Michael King has stood in as interim chair for the first half of 2017. An election is planned and we already have one seconded nomination for chair. This delay also led to a delay in submission of the year's report of activity.

We will be planning a new raft of activities at our AGM in June and when our new Chair takes over after that.



**Prof Michael King, Interim Chair of LGB SIG**  
**5<sup>th</sup> April 2017**