**Royal College of Psychiatrists**

**Volunteering & International Psychiatry Special Interest Group (VIPSIG)**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

Friday 19th August 2016

Royal College of Psychiatrists, London

**Present**

Peter Hughes (Chair), Mandip Jheeta (secretary), Ram Seth, Farrukh Hussain, Stania Kamara, Sally Browning, Jane Mounty, Yasser Mahmood, Holly

**Apologies**

Ruairi Page, Sophie Thomson

**EXECUTIVE MEETING**

No specific matters arising. Proceed to general meeting.

**GENERAL MEETING**

**Minutes of last meeting (13.5.16)**

Some corrections needed:

PH not chairing just part of leadership Cairo training

JM attended

**Matters arising**

Ideas for World mental health day

-What College might do to respond

-Could highlight what work we do overseas

-Shaheen Zinna’s voluntary work

-PFA for HCAs

**Feedback from Chair, Peter Hughes**

Future/ structure of volunteering schemes under review, no updates

A/w update from Elen Cook re: volunteer programme

Global network of CNWL- no update, still trying to set up

Malawi- still looking for 6/12 volunteer

PH did Drs of World training recently PFA

Retirement conference- VIPSIG promoted there

EPA symposium- proposal submitted but rejected

Sierra Leone- medical post filled

Syrian taskforce recent meeting: some commentary & critique of mhGAP

**mhGAP training, Jul 2016**

Event went well, good feedback

Less ideas/ projects generated from it than other prev trainings

SK: Good introduction into psychiatry & volunteering

We need to use f/u email as part of opportunities

RS: wanted circulation list

RS: Some attendees asking for f/u meeting

mhGAP alumni idea considered

We could set up virtual forum/ webinar

SK: can advise on webinar

Action: contact people who have done mHGAP training & see who would want more discussion & webinar

For discussion & development

At next mhGAP- we could have 6/52 f/u event

Thank yous

Jane Mounty & Marilyn Horner thanked for very kind donations & food

Thanks for donations- to VIPSIG & WTISNP book, & donation for Nurse Frances

PH will ask Elen about WTISNP publicity etc.

Discussion re DNAs/ late cancellations at event

We could ask for deposits which are returned

Some feedback was we should have charged £150

New mhGAP is due to launch in October 2016

After launch in Geneva, we will need to think about how to amend VIPSIG mhGAP training

This could be valuable opportunity

Peter has done webinars with MHIN & MHPSS

Some changes- format changed: more linear visuals, more space, treatment part more dense, CAMHS chapter combines behavioural & developmental etc.. Good at screening organic. Combines BPAD & psychosis. Some other chapters amalgamated. More promotion of low-intensity psychological interventions

Future events

Outside of London good

2016 might be difficult for mhGAP- next 2017

Could contact other colleges- esp paeds & O&G for mhGAP training

Or other NGOs & LSMHT

Send message to divisions in UK

We will see how PFA/ mhGAP HIG event goes before future mhGAP planning

SK: BMA information fund- giving out grants for educational books for LAMIC. mhGAP is on there

JM: will apply for this grant for Burma trip

**PFA & mhGAP HIG training**

Friday 28.10.16 @ College

PH & ST delivering

£100 charge

LET keen & will help organise

We need to organize lunch etc

Could present our money to WTISNP

SK will help teach & organise

Louise Harman is College contact

**Workshop at College International Congress**

VIPSIG could submit something for workshop

16.9.16 deadline, ~75 mins

Perhaps PFA event

**Future events**

Concentrating on upcoming PFA & HIG event, planning for next mhGAP & Conference

**Conference sub-committee will meet ASP**

Theme is on human rights. Ideas discussed

Inc CRPD, legal angle (RS) happy to do, how UN interpreting it, Hx violations of human rights,

Human rights watch video from Somaliland very good

2 way learning. Learning from other countries

Service user & carers’ involvement

Try to make apolitical

Perhaps case studies e.g. Cairo cannot admit pts without family & PTSIC

Sub-committee have met

Louise Harman is link person with CALC

2 dates reserved: 29th September 2017, max 100 people, 1st floor or 3rd October, max 200 people

3rd October = preference

£100-150 fee

Other ideas

“Psychiatry without borders’ – theme of next International Congress, could link/ draw parallels

Oliver Lewis- lawyer, supporting people with MH disabilities. Could be good speaker

Suman Fernando & Manoj Kumar as speakers

Service user background

VIPSIG finances available if needed etc.

Or refugees treated badly or good way. Drs of the World

Freedom from Torture

Posters very good

Could do eposters

**Feedback from VIPSIG leads**

* Finance
  + Healthy
* Retirees
  + FH promoted VIPSIG @ retirees lunch
* Trainees
  + Ghana programme has interest
  + Med stud Portugal & St George’s exchange programme
  + Well repressed by trainees
  + Medicine Africa good for trainees
  + Getting a lot of trainees in Sierra Leone project
* PTC
  + Email Karl Scheeres for trainees fro conference advertising
* Diaspora
  + SAS Drs- we will ask them to be involved/ link
* Research & audit
  + Could evaluate feedback from mhGAP/ other training programmes. Could be a med stud or masters student project
  + RS- analyzing cultural differences into training/ mHGAP could be could trainee project
  + RS is part of a London analysis group which commonly analyses training. There is a training method available. Working title- research initiative group
    - This could be a webinar topic e.g. how to create academic work out of overseas field work
  + Advocate for that sort of research
    - How to write a blog
    - How to do research
  + VIPSIG to try doing podcasts
  + We considered doing VIPSIG book
    - We could ask publications department
    - Lulu is a free self-publisher online
    - How to do global volunteering
    - Needs to be unique
      * Personal narratives could be good angle
      * There are already elective books

**Encouraging recruitment into psychiatry**

YM attended mhGAP Sep2016 whilst FY2. Positively influenced his decision to become Psychiatry CT1 now.

Could consider trainee only event e.g. mhGAP at some point

We could run this past PTC & Psych Socs

**Essay Prize**

MJ will sort out certificates

We need to make minor tweaks to rules & launch for 2016/17

**Links**

Could contact other colleges- esp paeds & O&G for mhGAP training

Drs of the World UK- v. impressive work

FH would like Pakistan project

**Myanmar training**

Going ahead November 2016

**Website & social media**

We should add more opportunities on VIPSIG page

Twitter ongoing, less successful

Facebook popular

SK found out about Maldives trip on Facebook

**International volunteer activities**

FH: prev worked in Philippnes & Peshawar refugee camp

Tanzania application ongoing

Kashmir- people were asked informally if they’d like to go

PH going to Kenya

Maldives have had their 2nd annual MH training. They did PFA & TOT training. Drs & nurses & victim support attending. It’s growing. Shazneen Ali = founder, trainee @CNWL. <http://www.mhafmaldives.org>

Malawi (SMMHEP) still ongoing- JM & Deepti Desai going

PSTIC could be opportunity in Egypt

**UK volunteering activities**

Medical Justice

Freedom from Torture

Refused Asylum Seekers

**Newsletter**

Still happening

Still a/w content

**AOB**

RS- interested in some training/ materials/ books for defining hallucinations etc in simple language

YN to be part of group. Medicine Africa group, could start of by pairing & WPBA

Could facilitate small groups

**Dates of next committee meetings**

Venue: Royal College of Psychiatrists, London. 1:30pm- executive meeting, 2:00pm- general meeting.

Confirmed: Friday 11th November 2016

Provisional future dates: TBC, need to be booked & confirmed

Fri Jan 27th 2017

Fri March 24th 2017

Fri Aug 18th 2017

Fri Nov 17th 2017