

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS

VOLUNTEERING AND INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

24th March 2017

Present: Peter Hughes (Chair), Sally Browning, Brad Hillier, Mandip Jheeta, Elena Ros, Sophie Thomson

Apologies: None

GENERAL MEETING

Minutes from last meeting:

Corrections page one

re RCPsych Annual Conference includes Peter Hughes and Lynne Jones (not Hughes).

WHO World Health day 7.4.17 is on depression.

Otherwise Approved.

Matters arising:

1 Human Rights Conference ...confirmed 29 September. Conference in May on human rights should not clash as our will be on Global Human Rights, not just UK. PH will try to make contacts about Gujarat project. George Smuckler suggested. BH will speak with Nigel Eastman as a possible speaker. PH asked for Jane Mouny to take forward planning with planning committee. ST will contact her.

2 Money from adult faculty £1,000 does not seem to have arrived in our accounts. MJ will follow up. PH suggested we use the money to fund training mhGAP in UK. He has contacted the divisions around the country and is now waiting for answers. In the meantime meeting agreed to plan another London based mhGAP training weekend at Springfield Hospital on weekend 16-17 September. PH will book the room.

3 Newsletter. There is a new editor. As 7th April is World Health Day on depression, PH has written asking for stories (250-500 words) about depression and has received many excellent replies, including stories from Equador, Myanmar, Argentina, Maldives, Australia, Bulgaria, Ghana, Somiland, Iran and others. PH plans to send these to our newsletter and possibly WHO. SIG admin needs to be asked what has happened to latest newsletter as few people seem to have received it...?MJ as secretary.

4 World Health Day . Tweeting was suggested and PH will discuss with Elen Cook.

5 Psychological first aid conference went very well last year and meeting agreed to repeat it in early 2018. ST to check for dates for room availability.

6 Funding opportunities discussed. Difficult to see how best to proceed to assist LAMIC to fund training. To be discussed next meeting.

7 Volunteer handbook has not been reviewed since the original in 2008. PH will look into this.

8 College of Nursing is still an area VIPSIG wants to work with as mental health is not just about doctors and PH is in facebook contact. Contact with RCGP is not active at present.

9 VIPSIG leads does not seem to be working out usefully at present. To be discussed again later.

10 Burma project going very well with further visits planned . IAC pleased but cautious about MoU until psychiatrists more comfortable. Myanmar representative to be invited to Diaspora meeting.

11 Communications: Website now working better and 520 Facebook members communicating. Podcasts also going well. Video still possible.

12 VIPSIG Chair elections ongoing. PH in post until June 2017

13 Essay Prize produced over 10 responses with one clear winner who wrote about working in Syria. Committee supported future contributions to be welcomed from all professions.

14 Financial officer report: MJ is querring some of the accounts

15 AOB BH has a contact in Indonesia re Stigma called Ermina Colucci. He will keep in contact.

Date of next meetings

18th August 2017

17th November 2017