

The NEWS!

South East Education & Training News

Date: 20 November 2008

Welcome to 'The NEWS!'

You can also usually download this PDF and all linkages from our web-page the day after it has been sent out:

<http://www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/research/southern synergy/workforce.html>

and check newsletters at the bottom of the page.

The News in this edition highlights:

- **Local Training News**
 - **Do you want to start training others** – News for experienced and skilled staff to help you get started – see page 3
 - **Allied Health Graduate Program**
 - **Gender is not a dirty word!** SAC Conference – everyone is invited to it! This is a cluster supported conference and highlighted in the edition!
 - **Culture and linguists training for IMG's**
- **Graduate Programs – applications close soon!**
- **Article review:**
- **National Alcohol and Drug Conference**

Training News: *Local Training*

November November

27/11 Allied Health Graduate and New Staff program (Monash University Caulfield campus). Contact: John.Julian@med.monash.edu.au

- Topic 1: The Mental Health Act 1986
- Topic 2: Consumer and Carer Rights
- Topic 3: Privacy and Confidentiality
- Topic 4: Duty of Care
- Topic 5: Ethical Issues
- Topic 6: Aggression Management

9th Southern Alliance Conference

Gender is not a dirty word!
Friday 5th December 2008

“Nobody can make you feel inferior without your permission”

Eleanor Roosevelt

\$50 per person for South Eastern Education and Training Cluster members

\$65 per person for non-members
Bookings or for more information contact:
Maureen Ludlow on 9784 8236
MLudlow@phcn.vic.gov.au
Details are on page 4!

December December

5/12 **Conference: Gender is not a dirty word!**

Contact: MLudlow@phcn.vic.gov.au

4/12 and 8/12: **The Australian Culture and Language training program for IMG's.**

11.30am

This program at southern Synergy involves discussion about Australian history and culture and has some homework (reading Australian literature, watching DVD's, exercises) and discussion and includes discussion about specific language and words, events and mannerisms, etc. There are no limits on numbers attending for this aspect of the course (the program has two aspects Australian History and Culture Program followed by the Linguistics Workshop in February)

Contact john.julian@med.monash.edu.au for details

January January

8/1 and 22/1 **The Australian Culture and Language training program for IMG's.**

11.30am

This program at Southern Synergy involves discussion about Australian history and culture and has some homework (reading Australian literature, watching DVD's, exercises) and discussion and includes discussion about specific language and words, events and mannerisms, etc. There are no limits on numbers attending for this aspect of the course (the program has two aspects Australian History and Culture Program followed by the Linguistics Workshop in February)

Contact john.julian@med.monash.edu.au for details

20/1 **Orientation to mental health for Administrative staff**

A one day workshop to assist administrative staff to understand mental illness and the importance of our attitudes in assisting people, what we do in mental health services, what professions are involved and the services in Victoria.

Contact: Debbie.Lang@med.monash.edu.au

29/1 **Allied Health Graduate and New Staff program**

(Monash University Caulfield campus). Contact: John.Julian@med.monash.edu.au

Topic 1: Mental Health Disorders: Dr Brendan Murphy - 9:30 - 12 midday

Topic 2: Psychiatric Disability - John Julian

Topic 3: Dual Disability

Topic 4: Stigma and discrimination

Topic 5: Psychiatric Disability

Topic 6: Lifestyle Factors – Janine Chugg

February February

5/2 & 12/2 **Linguistics Workshop for IMG's.** This is part of 'The Australian Culture and Language training program' and places are extremely limited. Two sessions are being offered and they consist of a 3-hour session on two days (separated by one week as participants will be given some homework). This program will be run by two linguists.

We will run the program on two Thursdays, specifically the:

- 5 February and
- 12 February.

Contact john.julian@med.monash.edu.au for details

The Expert Training Support Series

Support for new trainers!!

Do you have specialist knowledge, skills or experience and would like to develop it further? Would you be willing to share your skills and knowledge with others by training them. The cluster is willing to encourage senior or /and experienced staff or staff with special skills or knowledge to train other staff. If you are, we are willing to work with you and can though in some rewards for your own professional development.

If you apply and are selected, in return for developing and running a training program you can receive (pro rata), for a full day workshop (6hours) the cluster will support with a book voucher with a value of up to \$400 or a Monash University Casual Contract of up to \$600 paid directly to you after you have nominated a conference you would like the funds to be used for.

The workshops would occur in your own area mental health service but be open to other members of the cluster to attend. This proposal targets people who have not trained before.

To discuss further contact John Julian at john.julian@med.monash.edu.au with 'The Expert Training Support Series' in the subject line with your proposed workshop for a day or half day.

9th Southern Alliance Conference**Gender is not a dirty word!**Friday 5th December 2008

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Bookings or for more information contact;

Maureen Ludlow on 9784 8236

MLudlow@phcn.vic.gov.au

Program

0815 to 0845	REGISTRATION AND COFFEE
0845 to 0855	Opening and Welcome. Housekeeping. Overview of the day.
0855 to 0945	Keynote Tracey Beaton Senior Nurse Advisor, Department of Human Services
0945 to 1030	Presentation One 'Day Spas or Sports Bars?' PRESENTERS: Kelly Burns Peninsula Mental Health Service
1030 to 1100	MORNING TEA
1100 to 1145	Presentation Two 'Working with indigenous youth in a gender sensitive way' PRESENTERS: Jim Walsh & Berwyn Lampitt Latrobe Regional Hospital
1145 to 1230	Keynote Heather Clarke Convenor, Victorian Women and Mental Health Network
1230 to 1330	LUNCH
1330 to 1415	Presentation Three 'The Story So Far' PRESENTERS: Shelley Anderson & Colleen Cunningham, The Alfred
1415 to 1500	Presentation Four 'My People' PRESENTER: Dr Catherine Barrett Southern Health
1500 to 1630	LAUNCH OF GENDER SENSITIVE EDUCATION PACKAGE
1630	CLOSURE, THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AND SUMMARY OF THE DAY
	DRINKS FOOD NETWORKING AND FAREWELL

The conference is being held at

Sandhurst Club, Skye

75 Sandhurst Boulevard, Skye 3977

Graduate Programs

GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES - COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH

Are you interested in expanding your knowledge and skills in community mental health practice?

This course is designed to develop skills and knowledge in contemporary community mental health practice. Taught by experienced clinicians, the course is offered on a part-time basis over two years and is delivered through the off-campus learning mode (distance education).

The study of single subjects is also possible.

Entry is open to graduates of nursing, social work, psychology, medicine, psychiatry, occupational therapy and similar disciplines with relevant experience with people who have a mental illness. Staff who assist people with a mental illness in the community, welfare or health sectors are encouraged to apply.

Please contact: John Julian on 03 9554 1590 or at john.julian@med.monash.edu.au

Please see our website for details at: <http://www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/pgrad/gdcmh.html>

or contact :

Course Administration on Ph 03 9594 1478 or

John Julian on Ph 03 9554 1590 or

Email: gdcmh@med.monash.edu.au

Applications for entry at Semester 1, 2009, close on 30 November, 2008. Late applications will be considered subject to available places.

Admission forms and procedures can be found on:

<http://www.adm.monash.edu.au/admissions/pgdirectappform.html>

Course Content

In Year One of the course the following four core units will be taken: Clinical Practice Essentials, The Context for Mental Health Practice, Concepts in Mental Health and Illness, Issues for Mental Health Practice. In Year Two, four electives are taken from a choice of the following units: Advanced Psychological Interventions, Mental Health of the Elderly, Perspectives in Developmental Mental Health (child and adolescent), Dual Disabilities (drug & alcohol; intellectual disability combined with mental illness), Trans-cultural Mental Health, Mental Health in Rural Settings,

Forensic Behavioural Science

Comprehensive course content

The units comprising the program include:

- Fundamentals of forensic behavioural science
- The role of mental health in criminal offending
- Mental health and the correctional system
- Advanced risk assessment and risk management
- Assessment and management of problem behaviours
- Personality disorder in the forensic context
- Developmental aspects of forensic behavioural science
- Psychiatric nursing in the forensic context

Tailored to the needs of busy professionals

All units are delivered in an off-campus learning (distance education) format, supplemented by a one-day intensive workshop component held at the Caulfield campus of Monash University, close to the Melbourne CBD. Off-campus learning is provided by a combination of high quality print material and the Monash University Studies Online (MUSO) internet-based teaching and communication platform. There is ample flexibility for students to study at their own pace.

Further information

Further information on the course is available from the web at:

www.med.monash.edu.au/spppm/pgrad

or by emailing: fs.enquiries@med.monash.edu.au

Application forms are available from the above web site.

- How can we assist offenders with complex mental health needs?
- How can our service safely manage clients with a forensic history?
- How can I apply current best practice in violence risk assessment to my daily work?
- How can we enhance engagement with treatment in our client group?
- How can we manage and reduce violence in our workplace?

Forensic behavioural science is an emerging field of discourse at the interface of human services and criminal justice systems, which concerns itself with such questions.

The field draws on a range of disciplines including psychology, psychiatry, nursing, criminology, law, social work and ethics. A practical, multidisciplinary educational opportunity

A program with broad appeal, to foster interdisciplinary understanding

The program is of relevance to a broad range of professionals, including Psychiatrists and other medical practitioners, Psychologists, Nurses, Case managers, Therapeutic program managers, Social workers, Occupational therapists, Police officers, Corrections officers, Child protection workers, Juvenile justice workers and Policy and program developers

Admission requirements

Minimum admission requirements are:

- a three-year Bachelor's degree (or equivalent) and:
- one year of postgraduate study in a relevant field or at least one year of relevant work experience.

Training News: *Other Training*

Article Review

Juckel, G. and Morosini, P.L. The New Approach: Psychosocial Functioning as a Necessary Outcome Criterion for Therapeutic Success in Schizophrenia. *Curr Opin Psychiatry*. 2008;21(6):630-639.

The article is also available at Medscape:

http://www.medscape.com/viewarticle/582326_print

While I thought a better title of this article may have been “Rediscovering the old ways” it was still a useful article and review of practices that are in line the recovery approaches being encourage to professionals by consumers. It had a useful post 1950’s historical summary of pharmacological treatment. It supported the use of a broader array of outcomes measures than symptom reduction alone and noted the necessity of having a range of psychosocial facets included in order to maximize treatment outcomes. The study reviewed a range of scales that may be useful in assisting professionals with their working with people with a mental illness, especially in regard to ensuring that a range of parameters are considered such as cognitive and occupational performance, emotional stability, quality of life and psychosocial functioning. It recommends two scales for use. The issues raised are all part of a modern case planning approach to working with people with a mental illness.

Purpose of Review: Although in the past most attention was paid to psychopathology, these days outcome parameters such as cognitive and occupational performance, emotional stability, quality of life and psychosocial functioning are being recognized as important determinants of treatment success. Instead of only reducing the symptoms, therapy with antipsychotics must attain higher goals such as remission and recovery today.

Recent Findings: The Psychosocial Performance Scale offers a validated, reliable and operational tool to assess the psychosocial functioning of patients during the course of treatment as well as in the acute state. The Mini-ICF-P might be a similar instrument for measuring psychosocial functioning.

Summary: In the future, medication and non-medication treatment strategies will also be judged by the ability to improve the psychosocial functioning of patients with schizophrenia, as measured by the Personal and Social Performance scale and the Mini-ICF-P.

Interagency National Conference – Alcohol and Other Drugs

17-19 May 2009

Alice Springs - Northern Territory

Working Well Together – Diversity in the Desert

Alcohol and other drugs have been well documented as causing significant impact throughout remote areas of Australia. CAAODIAG is hosting a national conference of Alcohol and Other Drugs in Central Australia to promote sector integration and identify areas for ongoing improvement.

This national conference is a means of showcasing the evolving evidence, practice, innovation and specific challenges and opportunities as well as exploring alcohol and other drug approaches through the lens of innovative practice in the unique setting of Central Australia as well as a way of inviting greater collaboration with centres of best practice. **The submission deadline has been extended to 19 December 2009.**