

Society for Reproductive and Infant Psychology

2014 Conference Newsletter Edition

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Dear members,

hopefully you are all looking forward to this year's conference in sunny Malta. In this issue of the newsletter there will be further information about the conference, including details of submissions, conference prizes and bursaries, as well as conference accommodation and the social programme. In addition, there will also be information about SRIP research developmental workshop grants, including brief reports of two recent workshops, and the Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology.

34th Annual SRIP Conference 2014 in Malta

This year, the annual conference will take place on 16th and 17th September on the Mediterranean island of Malta. The conference venue is The Grand Hotel Excelsior, a 5 star hotel in Floriana, just outside Valetta, the capital of Malta. This year's SRIP conference promises not just the usual high quality academic programme, but also allows delegates to get a glimpse of Malta's rich historical and cultural heritage and enjoy some sunshine!

Registration for the conference is now open, with early bird prices available until 1 August. The deadline for abstracts is 6 May. Further details are available on the conference website (www.um.edu.mt/events/srip2014) or the SRIP website: www.srip.ac.uk/conference.



SRIP lecture and keynote lecture

The SRIP lecturer at this year's conference will be Professor Bea van den Bergh, a developmental psychologist from Tilburg University in the Netherlands. Dr Ethel Felice, a consultant psychiatrist specialising in perinatal mental health from the University of Malta, will give the keynote lecture.



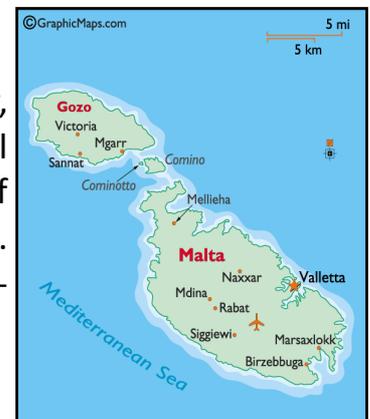
Conference accommodation

Accommodation for the conference is available at The Grand Hotel Excelsior, for which preferential rates have been negotiated. Rooms can also be booked elsewhere as there are plenty of hotels nearby. Further details are available on the conference website.

Social programme

For those who want to explore Malta and its fascinating history, two excursions have been planned: a trip to Mdina, the old capital city of Malta, on the evening before the conference and a tour of the Three Cities on the evening of the last day of the conference. There is a small additional charge for these trips as they also include dinner.

The conference dinner this year will be a BBQ by the pool.



Further details about the conference can be found on the conference website (www.um.edu.mt/events/srip2014) or on the SRIP website (www.srip.ac.uk/conference).

Call for abstracts for the 2014 SRIP conference

The theme for this year's conference is 'Improving Fertility, Reproduction and Childbirth Through Research Activity'. Submissions for symposia, papers and posters on the psychological, behavioural, medical and social aspects of all areas of reproduction, birth and infancy are very welcome from researchers, students or practitioners.

Instructions for workshop, oral and/or poster presentation abstracts

Submission need to include an abstract of up to 350 words. Oral presentations should not exceed 20 minutes, allowing time for discussion. Poster presentations should ideally be size A0 and in portrait layout.

Instructions for symposia abstracts

Submission need to include an abstract of up to 350 words for each presentation AND an over arching symposia abstract linking the presentations together and stating the proposed symposia chairperson.

All abstract submissions should ...

Clearly state title, first name and surname of presenting author and co-authors with affiliated organisation/s and country. State preferred contact name and email address for correspondence and clearly state which you would like your abstract to be considered for a) workshop, b) symposia, c) oral presentation concurrent session and/or d) poster presentation.

Abstracts should be no more than 350 words and must be structured with the following subheadings: Objective, Background, Methods (to include design and participants), Results and Conclusion. Abstracts should be submitted to the conference email address: srip2014@um.edu.mt.

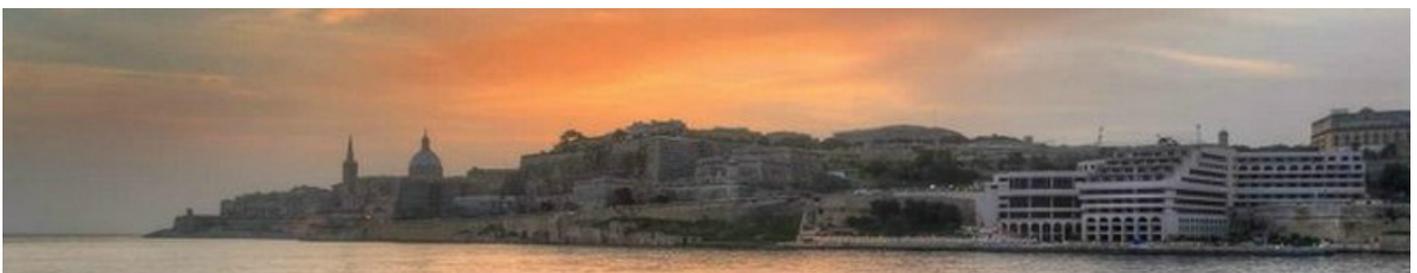
Closing date: 6th May 2014

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SRIP Prizes

Each year SRIP offers prizes for research dissertations at three levels: Undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral. Dissertations on psychological, behavioural, medical and social aspects of reproduction, birth and infancy will be considered for these prizes.

Prizes for the Undergraduate, Masters and Doctoral awards are £150, £200 and £250 respectively, as well as a year's membership of SRIP and an expenses paid trip to the annual conference. Winning entrants will be invited to give a presentation of their research and entries will be automatically considered for submission as a poster presentation at the conference. Dissertations should be entered in the year they are submitted or in the following year.

Undergraduate entries should be accompanied by a 250 word abstract and a 500 word summary; dissertations should be no longer than 15000 words. Entries at Masters and Doctoral level should provide a 250 abstract, 1000 word summary and copies of the title and contents page. Further details are available on the SRIP website (www.srip.ac.uk/funding).

Entries should be submitted by 30th June to the SRIP Secretary, Cathy Ashwin, at c.ashwin@midirs.org.

Conference Bursaries

The Society offers three different types of bursary for conference attendees each year: (1) Students, (2) NHS Staff and (3) Early Career. The bursary will cover conference fees and contribute towards travel and accommodation. Anyone who is currently undertaking an undergraduate degree, masters by research, PhD or a professional doctorate is eligible to apply for the Student bursary and anyone within 2 years of completion of their doctorate is eligible to apply for the Early Career bursary. Please see the website for further details: www.srip.ac.uk/funding.

Developmental Grant Award

The Society will provide up to £1500 to cover travel and accommodation for participants and other small incidental costs. Applications can be made by completing the application form on the SRIP website (srip.ac.uk/funding). The organisers and participants of the workshop must include some members of SRIP.

Although all applications will be considered on their merits, the following are most likely to be successful:

- Workshops dealing with topics that are important both academically and clinically
- Workshops which involve a reasonable number of speakers and other participants and extend over more than one day
- Workshops whose participants come from a number of different Universities, NHS Trusts or other organisations with some regional geographical spread
- Workshops which are multidisciplinary and involve clinical or other professional practitioners as well as academic participants

Please see the SRIP website, www.srip.ac.uk/funding, for further details.

Two workshops funded by the Developmental Grant Award have already taken place this year (see below). Both are excellent examples of how SRIP can promote and support collaboration between researchers, clinicians and other interested parties.

January 2014 Workshop: Prevention of postnatal depression

A SRIP funded workshop was held on 30th January 2014 at The University of Nottingham, to bring together researchers and NHS colleagues to develop a research grant proposal to examine the cost-effectiveness of an intervention for the prevention of postnatal depression.

The workshop was co-ordinated by Dr C Jane Morrell, University of Nottingham; Professor Julie Jomeen, University of Hull; and Professor Susan Ayers, City University London.

The workshop brought together the knowledge, experience and skills of academics and clinicians representing child and maternal health, community NHS services, health economic evaluations, health psychology, health visiting, infant development, intervention design, maternal mental health, midwifery, peer support, perinatal mental health, PPI, psychiatry, psychotherapy, psychotherapy training, public health, qualitative research, primary and community care, randomised controlled trials, social anthropology, and supervision. As far as we are aware, this was the first time a workshop has been held to develop a research proposal for the prevention of postnatal depression. The proposal development is still in progress.

March 2014 Workshop: HTA Priority setting

A SRIP funded workshop was held on 7th March 2014, at the University of Birmingham, to bring together SRIP members in order to set research priorities for perinatal psychological health to then be submitted to the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Maternal and Child Health Panel.

The workshop was co-ordinated by Professor Julie Jomeen, University of Hull, and co-facilitated by Dr Sara Kenyon, University of Birmingham, who are both current members of the HTA panel. Twelve SRIP members attended the workshop representing significant research and clinical experience and expertise in this field. The intended output of the day was to determine a set of potential topics within the following areas:

- Assessing psychological health and/or wellbeing in the perinatal period
- Evaluating existing or new interventions to improve psychological health outcomes/wellbeing for women in the perinatal period
- Evaluating settings and pathways for care for women with psychological morbidity

Eight key topics were identified and members of the group have now worked these topics up into PICO's for submission to the HTA. Professor Jomeen is to meet with Dr Tom Kenny, Director of External Relations at the HTA, to discuss the best routes for submission of these priorities.

Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology

As part of your membership to the Society (only £32 per year!) you receive 5 issues a year of the Journal of Reproductive and Infant Psychology. The Journal is the major source of published material on the psychological aspects of human reproduction; by reporting and reviewing outstanding research on psychological, behavioural, medical and social aspects of human reproduction, pregnancy and infancy. To read more about the Journal visit www.tandfonline.com/loi/cjri20.

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If you have any items which may be of interest to SRIP members, please contact the newsletter editor, Franziska Wadehul, on FrWadehul@aol.com.



If you are on twitter, please follow SRIP on [@TheSRIP](https://twitter.com/TheSRIP).

