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Dear members, we have decided to make several changes to the Newsletter. The first major change is increasing circulation to two issues per year. This will give us more room to report on items of interest so if you have any suggestions for improvements, features or any items you think readers would be interested in then please let our Newsletter editor know (james.newham@ncl.ac.uk). We would also like any feedback on the new design!

REPORT ON THE 32nd ANNUAL SRIP CONFERENCE

The 2011 conference was held on 12-13th September in St Anne's college at the University of Oxford. The night before the conference, early attendees got the opportunity to stroll through the historic suburb of Jericho for an enjoyable meal at the Bookbinder's arms.



Over the two day conference there were 26 oral presentations covering maternal well-being, experience of care, issues of obesity, reproductive issues, and expectations in early parenting. In addition, two invited speakers gave exceptional talks;

Dr Paul Ramchandani presented the keynote lecture entitled 'The mental health of fathers and their young children's development'. Paul is a Reader in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Imperial College, London and leads the Perinatal Psychopathology and Offspring Development research group.



Dr Susan Ayers presented the SRIP Lecture entitled '*Birth trauma and PTSD*'. Susan is currently director of doctoral studies and leads the Perinatal Anxiety Research Lab (PEARL) at the University of Sussex.



We hope you all enjoyed yourselves!



PRIZE WINNERS AT ANNUAL SRIP CONFERENCE

Every year, the society awards two awards. The Doctoral Student prize is £250 awarded for a research thesis submitted as a full or partial requirement for a post graduate degree, including M.Phil., D.Clin.Psy. and Ph.D and other similar awards. The Student prize is £150 awarded for a research thesis submitted as part of an undergraduate degree (BSc/BA), masters by research (MA, MSc) or equivalent level professional training (e.g. MBBS). For both of these awards the thesis may be any topic relating to the psychological, behavioural, medical and social aspects of birth, reproduction and infancy.

In addition, SRIP awards a poster prize. Donna Moore, from the University of Sussex, and James Newham, Newcastle University, were jointly nominated as the winners of this award and received a £30 cash award each.

Donna's poster was entitled 'A review of postnatal mental health websites: help for healthcare professionals and patients' while James's poster was entitled 'Postnatal outcomes of the CALMA study (Can Antenatal yoga Lower Maternal Anxiety'



Caroline Lafarge was successfully awarded the *SRIP Student Prize* and gave a presentation on the coping strategies used by women who undergo a pregnancy termination for fetal abnormality (TFA). Caroline is currently a research assistant in the School of Psychology, Social Work & Human Sciences at the University of West London and is in the first year of a PhD in Psychology. We look forward to hearing more of Caroline's future research at upcoming meetings!

What got you interested in this research?

"I have been volunteering for the charity Antenatal Results and Choice (ARC), which provides support to parents when an abnormality is detected in their baby. I came across many women who had undergone TFA, with many ways of dealing and coping with this experience. A literature search further established that while much research had been conducted on the psychological outcome of TFA, little attention had been paid to the coping processes involved."

How did winning the award and visiting the conference help your research?

"Winning the award was a great moment for me. It was not only a recognition of the hard work I had put into the research but, more importantly, it was an acknowledgement of the importance of this area of research and helped raise awareness about TFA. It was a great opportunity to present my work to an expert audience as well as a chance to network."

Nicole Massey Hastings was awarded the *SRIP Doctoral Student Prize* and presented her dissertation research, '*Choosing the Parenting Lifestyle (CPL): A Psycho-Educational Model for Couples Regarding Reproductive Decisions*'. Nicole has a Doctorate of Clinical Psychology and is a Post-Doctoral Fellow in a private practice. She has created and teaches the first Psychology and Systems of Reproduction and Family Formation class in the USA.



Tell us a bit more about the research you presented?

"CPL is a psycho-educational, therapeutic program designed to assist couples in long-term, committed relationships explore—and ultimately decide—if becoming parents is the right lifestyle choice for them; as individuals, as a couple, and as members of extended family systems and the community. Many couples contemplating whether to become parents have very few resources to turn to for advice. Often parents, friends, and other family members, as well as helping professionals, expect couples to have children, glamorize parenthood, and imply that having children is—perhaps—the only life path that is meaningful and satisfying. There are many problems with this assumption, including the increased likelihood of negative outcomes for children that are born to adults that have unstable romantic partnerships and/or who are not likely to be satisfied as parents."

How did winning the award and visiting the conference help your research?

"It was such an incredible experience to attend the conference and meet so many people invested in this topic (as I do not have that kind of professional community in the USA). It was the highlight of my graduate career to have won an international award and to have received a free trip to London and to present my research on the campus of Oxford University! I am so grateful to have found a new, multi-disciplinary professional home which is dedicated to collaboration and a meaningful exchange of ideas. I can't foresee a time in my professional future that I will not be a SRIP member and I am so grateful as I launch my career."

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF SRIP?

If you would like to join SRIP, or if you are existing member whose contact details have changed, please email the SRIP membership administrator Anita Hughes (anita.hughes@nottingham.ac.uk). Please note that we can no longer accept payments by American Express Cards.

REPORT FROM DEVELOPMENTAL GRANT WORKSHOP

SRIP continues to invite applications for grants to support single occasion research development workshops in any area of interest to the Society. The Society will provide up to £1500 to help cover travel and accommodation for participants and other small incidental costs. Applications can be made at any time. At least one of the organisers must be a member of SRIP. If you have an idea for a research development workshop then further details about the grant criteria and how to apply can be found under 'Developmental Grant Guidelines' on the funding page of the SRIP website(<http://www.srip.ac.uk/funding/>).

Our last successful awardee was *Professor Olga van den Akker*, Middlesex University and *Dr Marilyn Crawshaw*, University of York, for a workshop entitled '*A research and practice informed approach to family building through donor conception*' which was hosted at The Nuffield Foundation offices in London on June 26th, 2012.

The aim of the workshop was to consider in depth a research- and practice- informed model of collecting and using donor information that carries the potential to maximise individual and family well being following the use of donor conception. By bringing together academics, practitioners, regulators and policy makers, it could be considered how this model could be applied/developed in the UK.

Workshop presentations:

Professor Ken Daniels: Canterbury University Christchurch, New Zealand

Ken Daniels' talk focused on acknowledging the past, embracing the present and anticipating the future.

Jane Ellis: Donor Conception Network Workshops

Jane provided the meeting with an overview of the workshops that DCN has been running since 2008 with funding from the DoH for single women, heterosexual and same sex couples.

Dr Marilyn Crawshaw: University of York

This presentation provided an overview of Marilyn's research of 29 clinics. There is little literature about practitioner skills in putting together information for exchange in later life.

Julia Feast: BAAF -debate

Introducing Sam Gregory and Jocelyn Hanson, both DI conceived, to talk about how they coped with their DI information at a personal, wider family and social levels.

The group are planning to propose a multi-disciplinary publication, and a multi-disciplinary research agenda to influence current debates, including the forthcoming Dept of Health Consultation on the future of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority (HFEA).

NEXT YEAR'S CONFERENCE

Even though we've just had our annual conference, the 33rd annual SRIP conference has already been scheduled for the 17th/18th September 2013 at the University of Hull. The conference will be held at 'The Lawns' which is situated in a large parkland area on the outskirts of the village of Cottingham. The Lawns is approximately three miles from the main University campus and five miles from the city.

The city itself boasts a marina, good shopping, dining and cultural experiences including a Museum quarter with 8 free museums, including Wilberforce House, the Hull and East Riding Museum, Streetlife and the Arctic Corsair trawler.

Hull offers easy access to historic towns and cities such as Beverley and York, seaside resorts like Scarborough and Bridlington, beautiful coastline and countryside along the Yorkshire Wolds.



The conference dinner will offer a unique opportunity to dine with sharks and rays at 'The Deep', one of the most spectacular aquariums in the world and home to over 3,500 fish.

Hull is served by good air, sea and train transport links. Hull is on the East Coast mainline from London Kings Cross, Humberside Airport is only 30 minutes' drive from Hull, Leeds and Doncaster Robin Hood airport are 1 hours drive and P&O Ferries offer daily overnight services from Rotterdam and Zeebrugge to Hull's port.

We look forward to seeing you all there!



ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Submissions for symposia, papers and posters on the psychological, behavioural, medical and social aspects of all areas of reproduction, birth and infancy are invited from researchers, students or practitioners. More details will be given in the next newsletter but please contact the conference organiser Julie Jomeen (j.jomeen@hull.ac.uk) with any queries.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Dr Jane Morrell, Nottingham University, has begun work on an evidence synthesis, meta-analysis and decision analytic modelling following a systematic review of quantitative and qualitative studies evaluating the effectiveness, cost-effectiveness, safety and acceptability of interventions to prevent postnatal depression. This is a collaborative project with Dr Paul Sutcliffe, Professor Matthew Stevenson, Andrew Booth, Dr John Stevens, Dr Alison Scope, Anna Cantrell, Professor Michael Barkham, Professor John Brazier, Professor Pauline Slade, Professor Sarah Stewart-Brown, Dr Carol Henshaw, Dr Dick Churchill, Professor Helen Spiby, Professor Cindy-Lee Dennis and Jo Newstead. Please contact Jane if you would like further information on this exciting project (jane.morrell@nottingham.ac.uk).

There are currently vacancies at Middlesex University in London for two Senior lecturers and a Professor in Psychology within the School of Health and Education. Please contact Professor Olga van den Akker for further details (O.vandenAkker@mdx.ac.uk)

COMMITTEE NEWS

At the recent conference a number of changes were made to the committee. Anita Hughes and Debbie Carrick-Sen have both decided to step down from their respective roles of Secretary and Membership secretary. Both have worked tremendously hard for the committee and SRIP is very appreciative of the work they have done for the Society.

Anita will be taking over Debbie's role as membership secretary while Cathy Ashwin will be taking over from Anita as Secretary for her first committee post. The change over in committee roles will take place in the new year.

SRIP would also like to thank Kirstie McKenzie-McHarg who has decided to step down from the committee. Kirstie has been on the organisation committee since 2004 and was Book Review Editor for the Journal during time. We wish her well and thank her for her contribution.

JOURNAL OF REPRODUCTIVE INFANT PSYCHOLOGY

As part of your membership to the Society 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 <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/cjri20>

For anyone who gave an oral or poster presentation at the recent conference, it may worth be considering submitting your findings to the Journal! Or if you have a recent book published which you would like reviewed. We are also very keen to publish more reviews so if you are currently writing a literature review for a thesis, why not consider submitting it for publication!

Co-Editors:

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TOP 5 CITED ARTICLES FROM 2006-2010

1. Van den Bergh, B, Simons, A: A review of scales to measure the mother-foetus relationship, 2009, 27 (2), 114-126.
2. White T, Matthey S, Boyd K, Barnett B: Postnatal depression and post-traumatic stress after childbirth: Prevalence, course and co-occurrence, 2006, 24 (2), 107-120.
3. Jomeen J, Martin CR: Assessment and relationship of sleep quality to depression in early pregnancy, 2007, 25 (1), 87-99.
4. Clark A, Skouteris H, Wertheim EH, Paxton SJ, Milgrom J: My baby body: A qualitative insight into women's body-related experiences and mood during pregnancy and the postpartum, 2009, 27 (4), 330-345.
5. Cornish AM, McMahon CA, Ungerer JA, Barnett B, Kowalenko N, Tennant C: Maternal depression and the experience of parenting in the second postnatal year, 2006, 24 (2), 121-132.

Remember if you have any items you think our members would be interested in then please contact our newsletter editor James Newham (james.newham@ncl.ac.uk)

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!