

IAAP E-News (May, 2019)
(Division 17)
Division of Professional Practice

NEW! IAAP Webinar Series - Webinar 1
Hosted By Division 17: Professional Practice



NEW IAAP WEBINAR SERIES

The Critical Role of Psychology in an Integrated Primary Care Model

The cost of mental illness to society is massive – from both an economic standpoint and from its impact on individual health, wellbeing and relationships. By 2030, the largest economic health burden globally will be due to mental illness – greater than heart disease, cancer, diabetes and respiratory diseases combined.

Here's the issue: even with such a large and growing impact on overall health, mental health is typically treated outside of the primary care models that address physical health concerns so proactively and efficiently.

But that model is changing fast – and psychologists have a key role to play in working alongside family physicians and other primary care workers to integrate mental health assessments and treatments into team-based care. Both the United Nations and World Health Organization have called for the greater promotion of mental health and wellbeing, primarily through local primary care interventions.

Learn more about this emerging and exciting area of practice. Professor James Bray (Division 17 Immediate Past President) and Dr Robyn Vines (current Division President) provide an overview of primary care psychology and answer questions from the Convenor, Professor Lyn Littlefield, about the details of this work. The panel will also highlight current developments at the UN with the IAAP “Integrated Mental Health Care Initiative.”

Please join us for this first-ever IAAP Webinar! This new series of web broadcasts offers **members** the opportunity to learn from IAAP peers about some of the most current topics in applied psychology. There is ***no charge*** for IAAP members to attend these webinars.

First webinar hosted by IAAP Division of Professional Practice (Div. 17)

Webinar: Wednesday, May 15th / Thursday, May 16th

date depends on your time zone

22h30 UTC (Coordinated Universal Time)*

**To calculate your time zone, please follow [this link](#).*

Details

Date: May 15 / May 16

Time: 22:30 UTC / 8:30 AEST

**The times to join in listed are to participate live, but if you cannot join us live, the webinar can be downloaded from the IAAP website and viewed at your convenience following the broadcast.*

Follow the link below to register for the first webinar in IAAP's webinar series! Once registration has closed, anyone registered for the webinar will receive the webinar link and log in information to the email provided. **Register by Tuesday, May 14!**

TO REGISTER – GO TO:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7L9SJMX>

DIVISION 17 ACTIVITIES:

Integrated care: As outlined in our previous E-Newsletters (see links below) a key priority for our Executive Team is the development of psychology as a key player in **integrated mental and general health care across the world.**

- The above **Webinar** is an opportunity to discuss this relatively new area of practice with us and to ask questions about **“Why? How? - and to what Benefit?”**
- We recently assisted our IAAP UN Team to develop a **United Nations position paper: “[Integrating Mental Health Care into Primary Health Care](#)”**. Our UN Representatives: Dr. Judy Kurianski and Ms. Lucy Fagan have provided an update on progress at the UN in another article in [April E-News](#). We are extremely grateful to Judy, Lucy and their team for progressing this.
- We have started an **“[Integrated Health Care Psychology Interest Group](#)”** (Division 17) with a membership list established from attendance and EOIs (Expressions of Interest) at our symposia on *“International Perspectives on Integrated and Primary Health Care”* at ICAP in Montreal. We hope to provide information about initiatives in integrated psychological service delivery in both primary and secondary care settings across the world (please send us your email if you are interested and/or know of any such initiatives in your locality).
- **Alternative paradigms of mental health and illness:**
One of our key objectives, in developing an Integrated Care perspective and platform for psychologists working in the mental & general health care systems, is to develop alternative ways of thinking about and framing mental health dilemmas, issues and problems. As is well known, the predominant paradigm operating in western society remains **medical**. This is particularly pernicious in the area of mental health where such ways of framing clients’ dilemmas may in fact be disempowering. The **“medicalization of unhappiness”** in our society is a

dilemma for us all – and our role as psychologists is to provide a “complement” and/or “alternative” to these modes of thinking. Whilst there may be a welcome decrease in stigma associated with talking about mental health issues in public, we still have a long way to go in dealing with reductionist views and ways of viewing and describing mental health disorders.

(May 2019)

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LINKS:

- [UNITED NATIONS INTEGRATED CARE INITIATIVE](#)
- [JANUARY NEWSLETTER](#)
- [MARCH NEWSLETTER](#)
- [APRIL NEWSLETTER](#)