

# The WEDHS Research Bulletin - 3

## May 2008

### Contents

- Information resources
- Funding news
- Events
- Vacancies
- Acknowledgements

### Information resources

- [The Race Equality Foundation have produced two new health briefing on 'User participation in health care services' and 'Long-term ill health, poverty and ethnicity'.](#)

These *Better Health* briefings are part of a programme of work by the Race Equality Foundation to *improve the health, housing and social care provision to black and minority ethnic communities*. Each briefing paper provides an overview of the key messages for practice on a range of topics for health practitioners. Each paper includes practice examples, list of resources and further reading. Further information is available on the website [www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk)

- [Race Equality Briefing Paper on: Long-term ill health, poverty and ethnicity](#) by HARRISS Kaveri and SALWAY Sarah Publisher: London: Race Equality Foundation, 2008. 8p. bibliog.

Abstract: Chronic ill-health is now recognised as a major public health and social welfare issue, with significant new policy initiatives in recent months. This report presents findings from a detailed new investigation into the experiences of individuals living with long-term ill-health and their families. New in-depth qualitative material is combined with secondary analyses of national datasets to examine the ways in which long-term ill-health impacts upon different dimensions of poverty. Series: (Better Health Briefing; no. 8) Full text: Click here for the full text link: <http://www.raceequalityfoundation.org.uk/hsc/files/health-brief8.pdf>

- ['Get active today': PRIAE report](#)

The Policy Research Institute on Ageing and Ethnicity (PRIAE) has published the report of a three-year project to promote physical activity among black and minority ethnic (BME) elders. It recommends that:

- BME elders are offered support by professionals, carers and families;
- easily accessible information is provided;
- needs of different faiths and cultures are considered; and
- Community champions are identified.

A DVD demonstrating a range of culturally sensitive physical activities for older people can be ordered online at <http://www.priae.org/projects/aim.htm> a culturally sensitive physical activity programme for BME elders. End of project report, March 2008. Tel: 0113 285 5990 (PRIAE)

- **New Publication: Social Policy *for* Social Welfare Practice in a Devolved Wales (edited by Professor Charlotte Williams, University of Keele)**

There is mounting evidence both in terms of legislation, policy and practice that key differences are emerging between Welsh social policies and those that exist elsewhere in the UK. Devolution in Wales has had profound impacts on policy directions, how we as social welfare practitioners carry out our work and on wider issues of national identity that affect the social relations of welfare. In this text leading academics in the field outline the policy framework and political philosophy and values underpinning core areas of welfare practice. It is argued that Welsh social policy reflects a strong commitment to social democracy by contrast with the neo-liberal agenda of Westminster and that devolution has produced a more inclusive politics, enabling a much higher level of involvement by local communities and service users in matters that affect their wellbeing. At the same time, growing divergence across the UK raises questions about widening inequalities and disparities in service delivery that must be of concern to welfare practitioners. This book arises from the need for students, practitioners and other policy actors in Wales to be attentive to and involved in the creation of indigenous policy making and shaping. There is little doubt that policy differences across the UK will widen and the responsibility will grow for social welfare practitioners to engage proactively and critically with this development in ways that bring real benefits to service users. Charlotte Williams is Professor of Social Justice at Keele University. She has been in social work education for over twenty years and has researched and published widely on race and ethnicity in welfare practice and more latterly on social policy issues in the context of devolution. To order your copy: <http://www.basw.co.uk/Default.aspx?tabid=199&product=75>

- **Collaborative Research in Wales  
CRC - Cymru Newsletter - CRIW Issue 17 April 2008**

The April issue of CRIW, the CRC Cymru Newsletter is available at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/Documents/580/CRIW%20April07.pdf>. This month's issue focuses on the recent MHRNC and Involving People conferences, as well as new staff profiles from the Thematic Research Networks (TRNs), Co-ordinating Centre (CC) and Research Professional Network (RPN). Also featuring are key communications from the Co-ordinating Centre, information on upcoming training and events, as well as the monthly regulatory update.

## Funding news

### Funding calls from the MRC & Wellcome Trust

➤ [MRC - Medical Research Council - MRC Pilot Industry Collaboration Award - Small Exchange Award](#)

The MRC and MRCT have committed a budget of £3m for 2006/07 to set up the Pilot Industry Collaboration Award Scheme. This award supports academic / industry exchanges in either direction for up to six months.

Funding: Generally less than £50,000 Amount: £10K - £50K. Closing Date: 30-Jul-08  
Duration: < 6 months

➤ [MRC - Medical Research Council - MRC Pilot Industry Collaboration Award - Joint Fellowship](#)

The MRC and MRCT have committed a budget of £3m for 2006/07 to set up the Pilot Industry Collaboration Award Scheme. This award allows academic and industry partners to share a postdoctoral fellow working on a shared project, in academia, industry, or both for a period of two to three years

Funding: One salary plus recurrent costs. Amount: Unspecified Closing Date : 30-Jul-08  
Duration : 1 year - 3 years

➤ [MRC - Medical Research Council - MRC Pilot Industry Collaboration Award - Research Projects](#)

The MRC and MRCT have committed a budget of £3m for 2006/07 to set up the Pilot Industry Collaboration Award Scheme. These awards are to support pilot work for larger projects or networks, develop research in areas of joint interest or to help move work closer to application for a period of one to three years

Funding: £60,000 - £500,000 including Full Economic Costs (FEC). These (but not the smaller awards) will be LINK awards, and the MRC will expect a contribution of 50 per cent or more from the industry partner.

Amount : > £100K Closing Date : 30-Jul-08 Duration : 1 year - 3 years

➤ [MRC - Medical Research Council - Innovative Medicines Initiative](#)

The research funded under IMI will aim to address the IMI Strategic Research Agenda (SRA), which was compiled through consultation with many varied stakeholders and is available on the IMI website. The research funded will all seek to address problems in the medicines development process: - predicting safety, - predicting efficacy, - bridging gaps in knowledge management, and - bridging gaps in education and training.

IMI will be funded by a combination of European Union money and contributions from the pharmaceutical industry. The European Union contribution of 1 billion euros (approx £750 million) will come from the EU Framework Programme 7 budget, via the Health Theme. The industry contribution totalling 1 billion euros (approx £750 million) will be made in kind by the members of the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations. The MRC has set aside £50,000 for UK participants to put together their proposal ideas. Costs can be requested for all organisations within the applicant's consortium which would be eligible for European Commission funding from IMI. If demand for networking costs is high, priority will be given to funding travel costs for partners based in the UK. As a guideline most claims are expected to be between £1K and £2K.

➤ [Wellcome Trust - Senior Research Fellowships in Basic Biomedical Science](#)

To provide support for outstanding postdoctoral scientists based in academic institutions in the UK and Republic of Ireland. Candidates are expected to have an excellent track record in their scientific field and be able to demonstrate their ability to carry out independent research.

Support for five years in the first instance. The Fellow's basic salary as determined by the host institution (normally up to £55,000 pa) with an additional Trust Fellowship supplement of £12,500 pa. The essential costs of the research programme (e.g. consumables, equipment, research assistance, travel and subsistence and overseas allowances, where appropriate). In addition to the essential costs, a Flexible Funding Allowance and support to attend scientific meetings will be provided.

Amount : Unspecified. Closing Date: 06-Jun-08 Duration: > 3 years

➤ [Wellcome Trust - Biomedical Science Career Re-Entry Fellowship](#)

These fellowships are particularly suitable for applicants wishing to return to research after a break for family commitments. Funding : Two to Four years support depending on seniority before career break, either on a full-or part-time basis. A basic salary as determined by the host institution with an additional Trust enhancement for basic science fellows. Research expenses (consumables, animals, and travel support to attend scientific meetings). Modest requests for equipment and funding for re-training may also be considered.

Amount : Unspecified. Closing Date : 25-Sep-08 Duration : 1 year - 3 years

➤ [Wellcome Trust - Research Career Development Fellowship in Basic Biomedical Science](#)

This scheme provides an opportunity for postdoctoral scientists from across the remit of the Trust's funding streams to become independent research scientists and undertake high-quality research. Fellowships are tenable for five years.

Funding : A basic salary as determined by the host institution with an additional Trust enhancement for basic science fellows; Research expenses; Research assistance if required (in the form of one graduate research assistant or technician); Overseas allowances where appropriate; Travel and subsistence for scientifically justified visits of up to 12 months. Please see their website for further details.

Amount: Unspecified. Closing Date: 25-Sep-08 Duration: > 3 years

➤ [Wellcome Trust - Biomedical Science International Senior Research Fellowship](#)

This scheme supports outstanding researchers, either medically qualified or science graduates, who wish to establish a research career in an academic institution in India or selected European countries - Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovakian Republic and Slovenia.

Funding : the duration of the fellowship is five years, and it provides: The fellow's salary, set according to age, experience and the appropriate academic scales. Applicants should discuss the appropriate salary with their sponsor; Essential costs of the research programmes, including research expenses, equipment and research personnel if appropriate; a flexible funding allowance and support to attend scientific meetings.

Amount: Unspecified. Closing Date: 06-Jun-08 Duration: > 3 years

## Events

➤ [INTERVIEWING TECHNIQUES & RESEARCH QUESTIONNAIRES 4th June 2008 Talardy Hotel, St Asaph North Wales.](#)

This event is aimed at researchers, health and social care professionals and users involved in CRC Cymru research who would like to know more about how research questionnaires are designed and used. The training will explore the issues around the delivery of questionnaires to research participants. The training will also provide practical guidance and advice on how to conduct interviews with research participants in a clinical setting, at home and in care environments.

The course will cover:- Ethical issues and good practice in research interviews- An overview of interview techniques- Best practice for interviewing research participants- Considerations when interviewing children, adolescents and vulnerable adults- Interviews and lone worker policy- An overview of the principles of good questionnaire design- It's not over when it's finished: Piloting and pre-testing questionnaires

The day comprises a series of presentations with the opportunity for questions and discussion throughout the day. This training is provided by AWARD. A registration form is available here: <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=580&pid=22922>. If you are interested in attending, please complete and return as indicated. Please note, CRC Cymru courses are offered free of charge.

➤ **Newport's First Funding Fayre** for the Voluntary Sector on 21st May 2008 at the YMCA is Mendalgief Road, Newport NP20 2HF.

➤ **The European Centre for Migration and Social Care at the University of Kent** invites you to our International Workshop "Promoting Change through Innovation: New Approaches in Services for Migrants and Refugees" at the University of Kent, Canterbury from the 13th to the 15th of June. The Workshop is open to all researchers, social care and mental health professionals, planners and policy makers interested in promoting best practice in services for migrant and refugee groups. Speakers include Dr Angela Burnett, (Sanctuary Practice, Hackney and the Medical Foundation), Dr Charles Watters, European Centre for Migration and Social Care, David Palmer, MIND Bexley, Professor Suman Fernando and Dr Chris Endersby, Honorary Lecturers, University of Kent.

The cost of the workshop is £150 which includes all lectures, seminars and teaching materials, meals and refreshments. Overnight accommodation not included. To book a place and for more information please contact Kalli Glezakou [K.Glezakou@kent.ac.uk](mailto:K.Glezakou@kent.ac.uk) 01227 827613.

➤ **Symposium at Leeds: Migration and the Gender/Race Nexus:** Methodologies, Epistemologies and Normative Commitments. 5 September 2008.

Recent debates on migration and the (re)production of global inequalities have contributed significantly to the deconstruction of some social myths that plagued academic scholarship in the past. Commonplace perceptions of migrants as young and male have been challenged. It has been acknowledged that the interplay of various social factors in the decision of individuals to migrate affect the two genders in different ways. Gender roles and relations over determine who migrates and why, and the impacts the phenomenon has both on policy-making in the 'host' country and the newcomers. The academic feminisms of the 1980s and the 1990s were complemented by activist work; the two together contributed to a better understanding of how migration can cement traditional roles and inequalities - or even expose women to new dangers. At the same time, a new wave of feminist critique moved away from the myth of 'victimisation', suggesting that women are not passive recipients but active agents in migration processes. 'Colour' and ethnicity (as well as a wilful conflation of the two) also matter, of course. 'Race' remains essential in the production of local, national and global hierarchies of cultural and political value, sanctioning and naturalising ideas of 'second' and 'third' class citizenships. Such changes in the political and academic arenas led to a better understanding of migration and settlement processes in different political, economic and cultural contexts, and according to factors such as gender, class, and, most importantly, race/ethnicity. Gendered and racialised migrations invite questions concerning citizenship rights and duties, the future and nature of 'cosmopolitan identities' and the battle for recognition of social and cultural

'difference' in receiving countries. Finally, they introduce questions of power, knowledge and relationality in the field of social research: how can these issues be addressed?

This symposium will explore methodological questions and epistemological challenges in migration research on the gender/race nexus. Suggested themes for discussion include: 1. Research methods (interview sampling, structured/unstructured interviews, focus groups, auto/biographical narratives, archival research) 2. Methodological innovations in the field 3. Questions of knowledge in research on gender/race and migration 4. Emerging themes and theoretical approaches 5. Normative commitments in research and the role of academic work in the making of alternative socio-political futures.

Centre for Ethnicity and Racism Studies at the University of Leeds has a history of critical interdisciplinary engagement with the origins, production and conditions of racism. This symposium forms part of CERS' Racialised Hostilities programme of activities for 2008 in celebration of its tenth year of existence. For registration or further details contact: Ms Marie Ross : 0113 343 4407. Email: m.b.ross@leeds.ac.uk

➤ **Swansea's links with Africa** are set to be strengthened later this month with a visit from a prominent charity worker. Reverend Walter and Mrs Marian Pimpong will visit the city at the end of the month. Rev Pimpong is Executive Director of International Needs Ghana and member of the International Board of International Needs Network. He will speak at a special event at Swansea University to highlight the work of his organisation. The event will also showcase the Swansea-Gambia student Link and include a talk on renal disease in people of African descent. In addition, there'll be an open forum discussion. The free event will take place at the University's Grove Lecture Theatre, Grove Building, on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May between 6pm and 8.30pm. For more information contact: Dr David Abankwa, Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine, Morriston Hospital Tel: 01792 703426 David.Abankwa@swansea-tr.wales.nhs.uk.

➤ **SRA Cymru Seminar**

**Evaluation of Four Projects to Address Anti Social Behaviour (ASB) in Wales Led by John Wicks and Laura Hunt (MVA Consultancy)**

**Time: 16:00-17:30 Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008**

**Place: Welsh Assembly Government, Conference Room 6, Cathays Park**

SRA Cymru are pleased to announce the next in our evening seminar series, which is to focus on an evaluation of four projects to address anti social behaviour in Wales. This evaluation was conducted by MVA Consultancy between September 2006 and April 2007 and sought to examine how each of the projects was established and managed.

This seminar will focus specifically on the technical aspects of the research undertaken with the four anti-social behaviour projects - including what was learnt and can be applied in the evaluation of similar, community based projects in the future.

**Booking:** Open to SRA Members and Non-members. To book a place at this event, please contact Naomi Copestake (029 2082 5595) [naomi.copestake@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:naomi.copestake@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

**Seminar Fee:** £5 SRA Members; £10 non-members. (Please note our preferred method for payment is by cash or cheque).

## Vacancies

- [Director / Deputy Director / Statisticians / IT Specialists, UKCRC Registered Clinical Trials Unit.](#)

Bangor University's registered clinical trials unit, NWORDH (North Wales Organisation for Randomised Trials in Health) was awarded full UKCRC registration in November 2007 and is one of the infrastructure support services within the Clinical Research Collaboration Cymru (CRCC). It has developed a strong portfolio of pragmatic RCTs over the last few years.

With the anticipated transfer of Professor Ian Russell, NWORDH's founding director, to Swansea University later this year, we plan to recruit trialist/statisticians, at a senior level (Director/Deputy Director) who can take the unit forward into its next phase of development. This is an exciting opportunity to further develop health and social care research in Wales and the UK within this growing, professional and enthusiastic clinical trial unit.

In order to continue and increase NWORDH's capacity to conduct high quality clinical trials, other appointments to be advertised shortly include statisticians and IT specialists at an earlier career stage. We invite anyone who may be interested in these posts, located in a beautiful setting, between Snowdonia and the sea, to make informal contact, in the first instance, with Prof. Bob Woods (Acting Head, IMSCaR) to discuss potential opportunities: [b.woods@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:b.woods@bangor.ac.uk) <<mailto:b.woods@bangor.ac.uk>>

NWORDH is a section of the Institute of Medical & Social Care Research (IMSCaR), within the College of Health and Behavioural Sciences at Bangor University.

## Acknowledgements

Articles for this bulletin were received from our sister e-group (minority ethnic health - [MINORITY-ETHNIC-HEALTH@JISMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:MINORITY-ETHNIC-HEALTH@JISMAIL.AC.UK)), our OPAN colleagues (<http://www.opanwales.org.uk/>) and members of the WEDHS network.