



FOUNDATION MATTERS

THE SAINT JOHN OF GOD RESEARCH FOUNDATION BULLETIN



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Research Grant Update 2021

There were 12 applications for Research Grant Funding in August 2021. One Project Grant and 11 Seed Funding Grants were reviewed. Eight of the Malawi projects will be further assessed following updated governance arrangements. Two successful SEED FUNDING applications are approved

Provisional SEED Funding Recipients

1 Dr Sharon Hardiman, Dublin South East

The benefits of Cognitive Stimulation and Physical Exercise for Adults with Intellectual Disabilities at high risk of developing Alzheimer's Disease – A Pilot Randomised Control Trial .

Sharon will link with UCD School of Psychology who will co-join her in this challenging project.

2 Niall Turner, Cluain Mhuire Services

Growing Together: Exploring the benefits of a nature-based occupational therapy programme for attendees and occupational therapy students. Niall will link with the School of Occupational Therapy TCD.

Reminder OPEN CALL

Knowledge Translation and Dissemination

Grant available from <http://intranets/research3/dissemination-training-grant/>

Article of Interest : Winner of the RSD Oral Presentation Competition

Keith Gaynor

Awarded Seed Funding Grant while working in Saint John of God Hospital won the Oral presentation competition at the RSD—

Living through a global pandemic has effected each us like no other event in our life time. Three interlinked studies examined the psychological factors (i) *factors that maintain distress related to COVID- 19 in the general population (ii) Thoughts people in the general population have about themselves, the world, and others in relation to COVID-19 (iii) and the Development of an Online Cognitive Behavioural Group Intervention for those particularly distressed by living through the pandemic*

The results of the studies highlighted:

(i) that traumatic thoughts are a common response to living through a pandemic and therefore a key target for reducing distress in the general public. These results indicated that we can understand COVID-19 as a Continuous Traumatic Stressor like living in a police state, or during a period of terrorism. We might never experience or witness a specific life-threatening situation but can still live under a constant sense of threat.

(ii) the specific thoughts about themselves, the world and others that members of the public have are protective of their mental health. This allows us to target messages, supports and treatments to build resilience and reduce distress by focusing on building a positive cognitive framework that emphasises meaning, gratitude and empathy.

Article of Interest : Continued

iii) that formal cognitive behavioural therapy interventions are appropriate and likely to be helpful in a pandemic situation. This allows clinicians to utilize the existing evidence-base for mental health treatments.

(iv) that this model can be translated into an accessible, appropriate remote group therapy program for people in high levels of distress.

Out of these studies we have also developed some free resources: The Coping During COVID Workbook at www.stjohnofgodhospital.ie/resources and a Clinicians Manual for CBT for COVID-19 distress (available from the author).

Achievement

Health Research Board (HRB)

Host Institution Status



We are delighted to announce that the Research Foundation clg has been awarded Host Institution Status with the Health Research Board. This is a great achievement for the Saint John of God Hospitaller Services Group clg as we are the only** health service, outside of a 3rd level college/institute/ HIQA to achieve this status in Ireland.

[** or one of the few , depending on the 2021 results]

<https://www.hrb.ie/funding/funding-schemes/before-you-apply/all-grant-policies/approval-of-host-institutions/>

Achievements & Celebrations

International Award

Aoife Carolan, Saint John of God Hospital won the prize for best poster discussion at the recent *European Society of Clinical Pharmacy Conference*.

Aoife was the only Irish prize winner at what is a highly regarded forum. Posted on the forum website *'During the closing ceremony awards were given for the best Poster, Oral presentation and Poster discussion. These were given respectively to:*

- *Astrid Heeremans (Belgium), Nora Haltinner (Switzerland) and Aoife Carolan (Ireland).*

Shane Hill—Retirement

We would like to acknowledge the retirement of Shane Hill, Director of Cluain Mhuire Services in September 2021. Shane has been a great supporter of research over his long-time career in Mental health Community Services. A nurse by profession he was also a researcher on many projects and in the development of research activities over the years. He will be missed for his candour and gentle persuasion.

Pictured: Dr Aine Kelly, Shane Hill and Professor Mary Clarke



31st Research Study Day 2021

16th November 2021

The 31st Research Study Day took place on Tuesday 16th November 2021 in a hybrid event online from The Conference Centre, Saint John of God Hospitaller Services. The theme of the Study Day was **'Current Research; Future Considerations'**.

We partnered with the ICT department who managed the technical production of the day.

In all there were 82 attendees who accessed the event online and oral presenters delivered live via the webinar.

The College of Psychiatrists of Ireland awarded 5 credits and the Psychological Society of Ireland awarded 4 credits towards CPD for attendance.

This year's Poster Presenters were asked to provide a 3 min video clip of their paper.

A novel part of this year's Study Day was the poster presentation videos which played on a loop before and during the day.

Conor McCarthy, Group CEO, opened the proceedings with a welcome address, acknowledging the support of the Board of Saint John of God Hospitaller Services Group, and the Saint John of God Research Foundation clg.

Professor Mary Clarke, Detect Early Intervention service, chaired the first session.

Dr. Ian Kelleher, Lucena Clinic and UCD

Presented on *'Prediction and prevention of*

serious mental illness in children and adolescents'.



Dr Ian Kelleher

Dr Cathal McCrory,

Associate Professor (Psychology) of Life Course Development and Ageing, Dept. of Medical Gerontology, TCD presented on *'The biology of social inequality'* from Trinity College.



Dr Cathal McCrory



Dr Mary-Ann O'Donovan

Dr Mary-Ann O'Donovan, a SPHERE Alumni, presented from the Centre for Disability Studies, Sydney Australia on *'Housing mobility, stability and homelessness for people with intellectual disabilities'*.

Research Study Day continued ...

Continued



James Parry

Caroline Dench of the Callan Institute chaired the second session who introduced James Parry, UK Research Integrity Office presenting from the UK on

'Good research practice and a healthy research culture'.

The first session for the competitive perpetual trophy for staff oral presentations included Keith Gaynor, Aoife Carolan, Rebecca Corr, and Eugenie O'Sullivan who presented live in the conference center and were broadcast to the online audience.

The second session of staff presenters were chaired by Sharon Hardiman of Dublin South East services. Larkin Feeney presented live from the conference center, and then the online audience saw Chimwemwe Tembo's presentation which had been recorded earlier from Malawi. Niamh Burgess presented live, as did Fay Murphy & Sarah Burns.

The 5 poster video clips run in a loop were from—Lauren Naismith & Lucy Moore, Cluain Mhuire, Mckenzie Dow & Siobhan Grant, St Josephs, Georgina Gilsenan, SJOG Hospital & Dearbhail Ryan & Lucy Moore, Cluain Mhuire.

The winner of the Poster presentation was Dr Niki Nearchou UCD & Dr Amy Watchorn, SJOG Hospital for their poster

'Stigma and Alcohol Dependence: Insights from a qualitative study'



Dr Niki Nearchou



Dr Amy Watchorn

The winner of the Oral presentation was Dr Keith Gaynor for his presentation

'The Psychological Impact of COVID-19'.



Dr Keith Gaynor

The conference was then brought to a close by Dr Ruth Barrington Chair of the Research Foundation who praised all of the presentations and commented on how successful and interesting the day had been.

A special thank you was extended to Paul Callaghan and Andrew Kelly of ICT Services and the Research Department—Dr Aine Kelly, Peter Gallagher & Louise Syms.

Data Protection Officer & Research Privacy Officer Roles

All research is regulated through the General Data Protection Regulations (2016) and the Health Research Regulations (2018/ 2021). GDPR affects every aspect of the privacy and security of personal information in the provision of services and research.

One important requirement is the completion of a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) which is submitted to the Data Protection Officer through the Research and Privacy Officer. The two functions are:

Data Protection Officer (DPO)

- Mr Muhanned Bukhatwa for community Services clg.
- Mr Joe Kelly, Saint John of God Hospital clg.

Confirms that the description of the data processing activities in the document are consistent with the General Data Protection Regulations and the Health Research Regulations 2018/2021 and that any risks identified have been mitigated to the lowest possible risk level and actions recommended have been documented and reviewed.

Research Privacy Officer (RPO) – Peter Gallagher

The Research Privacy Officer (RPO) acts as a liaison between the DPO and the Researcher. Prior to submission to the DPO the Privacy Officer assists the researcher with completing the DPIA and ensures that the DPIA reflects the Governance and Ethical aspects of the application, highlights any areas of concern to the DPO and communicates with the researcher. The Research & Privacy Officer is available to offer support and advice with your DPIA application and other data privacy related issues contact peter.gallagher@sjog.ie

Data Protection Training and Resources

Are available of the Research website at

<http://intranets/research3/dp-guidelines-for-researchers/>

Further, the Research Department issued guidelines for data protection for researchers - *The Saint John of God Data Protection Guidelines for Researchers* (2021) provides some regulatory and policy information required to complete one's application to the Data Protection Officer (DPO).

This is available to download from the intranet

http://intranets/research3/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/FV_Data-protection-guidelinesV5-3_Sep2021.pdf

Library Services

Head of Library Services



In October 2021, Justin Smyth joined as Head of Library Services and will be based in the SJOG Hospital Library and Lucena Library Rathgar. He started in Libraries in 2007 and since 2014 he has worked as Librarian in a busy and vibrant private HEI, CCT College Dublin. Justin serves on two Library Association of Ireland groups: Library Ireland Week and the newly formed Open Scholarship Group.

Library Services:

Reopened on Monday 18 October in both SJOG Hospital and the Lucena Clinic. Q4 is the time of year to renew the subscriptions to various databases – the existing databases are well used and will continue to be used as normal. The Library has re-connected with IDAAL consortium, with whom competitive rates on subscriptions were negotiated. The Library also re-engaged with Health Journals Network Ireland, an invaluable resource for researchers in the SJOG services and other health research institutions. The library in the Lucena clinic in Rathgar is open 1-2 days per week, where the research focus is on CAMHS – Child and Adult Mental Health Services. Since opening a wide variety of research requests have been made by staff, students, registrars and other stakeholders. The Library Service is now under the auspices of the Research Foundation, and works to deliver best practice in research support.

New Research Foundation Team Members

Administrative Assistant

In May 2021, Louise Syms joined the Research Foundation as Administrative Assistant.



Louise comes from an extensive 14 year career with Irish Tourism and more recently the charity sector. This role is part time working five mornings a week.

Data Scientist

Kalianee Boodoo is currently doing a PhD in UCD which she will put on hold in order to complete this 2 year fixed term contract starting 22 November 2021.



Since 2006, she has worked in the IT Department of various organisation including the ESB Group. She was a part-time Lecturer at the National College of Ireland, worked in Banking Operations with Bank of Ireland, Lecturer & Senior Administrator with Eurocollege Institute of Education – Dublin and was an IT Trainer in the Fitzwilliam Institute & Business Computer Training Institute - Dublin. Her education and experience to-date has given her cutting edge skills in data science, digital forensics and management strategies.

Notices of Interest: Dates for your diary!

Research Integrity

Training is required for all researchers <http://intranets/research3/research-integrity/>

Policy on Allegations' of Research Misconduct FVrev3 2021 located <http://intranets/research3/research-policies/>

Research Department

Research Seminar Series 2022

<http://intranets/research3/about-us/research-seminar-schedule/>

These seminars are run 3 times a year. You can book on at anytime before the start of the sessions by registering with the Research Department.

CONTACT DETAILS

Dr Lesley OHara, General Manager, Research Foundation clg (On Maternity Leave 2021)

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Library and Information Services Website: www.library.sjog.ie

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