Celebrating 21 Years of Health Psychology at NUI Galway

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY IN IRELAND
Hannah McGee, PhD, RCSI

RCSI DEVELOPING HEALTHCARE LEADERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE WORLDWIDE
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY: a one-slide history

- Late 1970s – US: biopsychosocial model (Engel, ‘77)
- APA Division of Health Psychology & Society for Behavioural Medicine
- 1981: PSI Society Lecture – Psychology Applied to Medicine (S Lewis)
- 1985: establishment of Dept of Psychology at RCSI
- 1986: PSI Special Interest Group in Psychology Applied to Medicine & Health
- 1986+: series of special issues on HP themes in Irish Journal of Psychology
- 1994: MPsychSc in Health Psychology, NUI Galway
- 2001: PSI Guidelines on Assessment of Postgraduate Training in Health Psych
- 2003: evolved to PSI Division of Health Psychology (2004+: annual conference)
- 2007: All Ireland Health Psychology Initiative (Conference - Derry 2008)
- 2008+: Structured PhD (NUIG) & distance learning PG Dip/MSc (UU)
Division of Health Psychology, PSI: Leadership  
(Special Interest Group to 2002)

2015-: Gerry Molloy, NUIG  
2103-15: Frank Doyle, RCSI  
2012-13: Phillipa Coughlan  
2010-12: Anne Hickey, RCSI  
2009-10: Sinead Ni Mhurchada, DCU  
2008-9: Suzanne Allen  
2007-8: Deirdre Desmond, NUIM  
2006-7: Jane Walsh, NUIG  
2005-6: Molly Byrne, NUIG  
2004-5: David Hevey, TCD  
2003-4: Brian Hughes, NUIG  
1999-02: AnnMarie Groarke, NUIG  
1998-9: Patricia White , TCD  
1995-8: Anne Hickey, RCSI  
1991-4: Ciaran O’Boyle, RCSI  
1988-91: Anne Hickey, RCSI  
1986-8: Hannah McGee, RCSI
Division of Health Psychology, PSI: Leadership
(EHPS conference, Bordeaux, 2013)
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY: Irish & European interdependence

• European Health Psychology Society (EHPS) – first conference 1985

• 1996: EHPS 10th conference in Ireland (RCSI)
  “Making a Difference: Health Psychology & Chronic Disease”


• 2005: EHPS 19th conference in Ireland (NUIG) (R Curtis - president)
  “Enhancing Individual, Family and Community Health”

• 2016-18: K Morgan (RCSI) president of EHPS (secretary 2010-2014)

• EHPS Executive Committee membership (elected): 2006-8: D Hevey (TCD);
  2012-14: G Molloy (NUIG); 2014-16: M Byrne (NUIG)

• Also CREATE early career committee support; national delegate roles and
  roles on conference scientific committees
Friends of Irish Health Psychology:
from PSI Society Lecture in 1998

Pictured from (l-r) are Professor Hannah Mc Gee; Dean; Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences; Professor Marie Johnston; University of Aberdeen; Dr. Anne Hickey; Department of Psychology; RCSI; Dr. Karen Morgan; Dept. of Psychology RCSI; Dr. Frank Doyle; Dept. of Psychology RCSI; Dr. Mary Clarke; Dept. of Psychology RCSI and Professor Cathal Kelly; Registrar / CEO of RCSI.
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HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY: engagement within Ireland

Engagement with other disciplines re education

• MEDICINE: Behavioural Sciences as part of core undergraduate medical curriculum - now required by Irish Medical Council accreditation
• PHARMACY & Other Health Disciplines: Health psychologists as educators in undergraduate programmes

Engagement with other disciplines re research

• Many multidisciplinary project teams funded by HRB, IRCHSS, IRC, national charities and EU funding
• HRB Structured PhD programmes in population health & health services research (Scholars 2007-14; SPHeRE 2014-21)

Engagement with policy developers

• Small number of engagements at individual level to date
Selamat pagi to all in Galway from Malaysia. I hope you all have a wonderful celebration today.

Health Psychology in Ireland continues to go from strength to strength, with NUIG as one of its main driving forces.

Given what has been achieved in the last 21 years, the years to come promise great things!

Congratulations to all.
LEADERSHIP: the Galway influence
Ruth Curtis, FEHPS
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY IN IRELAND: history enabling the future

- Health behaviour – understanding and informing behaviour change in the Irish population
- Chronic health conditions – understanding quality of life & supporting self-management skills
- Life cycle focus – Growing Up in Ireland (now ages 9 and 17/20: 3rd wave)
- TILDA (now aged 55+) 93rd wave) – Ageing Perceptions Q’aire
- Health system understanding – focus on health professionals
- Health professional education – from knowledge to skills
- Health policy – greater engagement with translating evidence to policy and practice
HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY IN IRELAND

Congratulations to all at NUIG on your 21st!

CARPE DIEM!