

Course director(s): Ian Brockington (Herefordshire, United Kingdom)
14.15 - 17.45, Hilton - Salon Studer

In the field of the psychiatry of motherhood, there is no more important, difficult or neglected problem than the care and custody of children by mothers suffering from mental illness. On the one hand, babies and children undoubtedly suffer when their mothers are severely mentally ill. In extreme cases there may be neglect or fatal assaults. On the other hand, the removal of an infant because of psychiatric illness is an appalling tragedy for the mother. In the diversity of Europe, with over 40 sovereign nations, each with its own traditions, laws and child protection systems, we have an opportunity to share ideas on how this problem can be addressed. We need to consider the principles, maternal psychiatric disorders, outcomes for the child, assessment procedures and legal arrangements. The Course will start with a brief introductory lecture, followed by two sets of parallel small group discussions, based on actual cases. These will be followed by reports from the small groups and feedback on the outcome. The Course will end with general discussion.

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

C-13. Educational course: Principles of psychiatric interview how to examine and assess personal experiences

Course director(s): Giovanni Stanghellini (Florence, Italy), Bill Fulford (Coventry, United Kingdom)
08.30 - 12.00, Hilton - Salon Orff

The aims of this Course can be summed up as follows: (1) improve the epistemological awareness of mental health professionals concerning the crucial situation of the interview (2) provide methodological guidelines for clinicians while performing the interview (3) provide criteria for clinicians and researchers to test the results of their interviews. We will first shortly revise the basic tenets of the mainstream tradition, i.e. the “technical” approach to psychiatric interview, and then pass to scrutinize the large repertoire of problematic issues concerning the situation of the psychiatric interview in general, and the procedures of structured interviews in particular. The second part of the Course will be devoted to the problems arising in assessing first-personal experiences (with a special focus on schizophrenic and pre-schizophrenic persons). Very little effort has been made until now to bring to the foreground the problem which arise in examining the psychiatric patients’ subjectivity. The

following are crucial questions: “Can subjectivity be made accessible for direct theoretical examination? Does each examination necessarily imply an objectivation and consequently a falsification? Which degree of falsification is acceptable?”. The last part of the Course will address the issue of alternative (with respect to standard techniques) approaches to the psychiatric interview as a way to illuminate the quality of subjective experiences and behaviours, their meanings, and the pattern in which they are situated as parts of a significant whole. I will sketch a concurrent, phenomenologically-oriented epistemological framework for the psychiatric interview, and provide evaluative criteria.

Tuesday, April 5, 2005

C-16. Educational course: Masterclass on ‘patient-level needs assessment’

Course director(s): Mike Slade (London, United Kingdom), Mirella Ruggeri (Verona, Italy)
14.15 - 17.45, Hilton - Salon Orff

The following topics will be covered: · Conceptual overview of needs · Standardised approaches to needs assessment · Development of the Camberwell Assessment of Need (CAN) · Clinical and research findings using the CAN · Skills training in using the CAN Learning objectives By the end of the course participants will be able to: 1. Understand population-based and individual definitions of need 2. Explain why needs are central to mental health care 3. Link recent needs research with clinical practice 4. Use the most widely reported needs assessment approach Course trainers Dr Mike Slade is a clinical senior lecturer in clinical psychology at the Institute of Psychiatry and consultant clinical psychologist in rehabilitation with South London and Maudsley Mental Health NHS Trust. His main research interests are outcome-focussed mental health services, user involvement in and influence on mental health services, staff-patient agreement on need, and contributing to the development of clinically useable outcome measures, including the Camberwell Assessment of Need and the Threshold Assessment Grid. Prof Mirella Ruggeri is Associate Professor in Psychiatry at the University of Verona and President of the Italian Society of Psychiatric Epidemiology. Her main research interests are Epidemiological and Social Psychiatry, Mental Health Service Evaluation, and the Assessment of Outcome for Psychiatric Disorders. In her projects she has especially explored self-perceived outcomes including service satisfaction, quality of life and needs for care.