

The 4th International Conference of the International Society for Critical Health Psychology



The conference, held at the Marriott Hotel in Sheffield UK between March 29th and April 1st 2005, has been acclaimed as both exciting intellectually and friendly. Many participants took the trouble to report back to the organizers that it was one of the most enjoyable conferences they had ever attended.

Delegates came from all over the world including the US, Canada, Japan, Eastern Europe, the Philippines, Iran, France and India. The main organizer was Paula Nicolson from the University of Sheffield UK along with colleagues from Sheffield (Sarah Baker, Caroline Dryden and Tria Moore), the Open University (Wendy Stainton-Rogers), City University (Carla Willig) and Leeds (Brendan Gough) with support from several members of the international advisory group of the ISCHP.

The web-site (www.ischp2005.org.uk) has full details of all those involved and brief CVs of the keynote speakers from the US, New Zealand, Australia and (Richard Alderslade, Kerry Chamberlain, Alan Radley, Jonathan Smith, Jane Ussher and Lorna Warren), key topic participants (along with the papers which were discussed in this event) and the invited symposia topics and organizers.

Papers and posters presented were examples of cutting edge research and scholarship in the area of critical health psychology. The programme timetable can be downloaded from the website. The book of abstracts from the conference is also available on e-mail by request to p.nicolson@sheffield.ac.uk.

The event included a conference dinner followed by a performance by *Return to Red* a local band, two of whom are critical health psychologists (Kathy Doherty and Caroline Dryden – the lead vocalist).

The web-site also has a link to the web-site for the ISCHP whose aims are:

- To promote increased debate about critical ideas, qualitative and participatory research methods, and social, political and cultural issues within health psychology.
- To facilitate contact and collaboration between critical health psychologists.
- To promote the development of resources and training opportunities in critical health psychology.

Further details can be obtained from Michael Murray (Michael.Murray@med.mun.ca) or Kerry Chamberlain (k.chamberlain@massey.ac.nz).

Shortly after the conference we received the tragic news that Precilla Choi, who had come from Melbourne as one of the invited key symposium conveners, had died suddenly. Our thoughts are with her family and friends.