

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2017

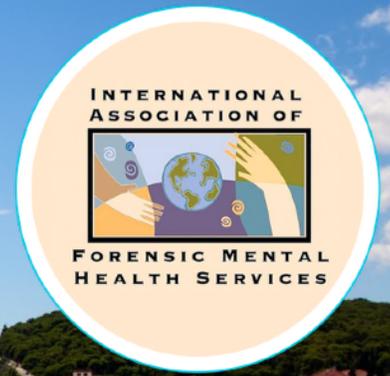


Photo by Ramón

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Summer is here!

Let us be among the first to congratulate everyone on concluding yet another successful academic year. We hope that everyone is enjoying a swift completion of course work, teaching and research! We are happy to present the second edition of the IAFMHS Newsletter, which features a range of excellent contributions, including a message from the IAFMHS president, Dr. Michael Doyle, and a note from Dr. Roger Almvik, the head of the Conference Local Organizing Committee. The IAFMHS Student Section has been working hard and would like to highlight their interview with the founding Student Section President, Dr. Simone Viljoen and the tips they gathered from the IAFMHS 2016 Student Invited Panel: Getting the Word Out. Inside, you will also find a feature on the International Journal of Forensic Mental Health's special section on the Selection of Risk Assessment.

I would like to personally thank **Dr. Kaitlyn McLachlan** and **Ilyv Goossens**, the Outgoing Newsletter Editors, for their work on the IAFMHS newsletter. Their contributions to this and previous editions, as well as the development of the IAFMHS newsletter more generally, have been invaluable.

Looking ahead to our upcoming conference, we wish you all safe travels to Split, Croatia, and would encourage you to start planning your visit early! Furthermore, if you have not already, do consider submitting a manuscript to the International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, the official journal of IAFMHS.

All the best,

Alicia Nijdam-Jones, Newsletter Editor

IAFMHS President Michael Doyle

There have been a lot of surprising changes in the world since I last contributed to the IAFMHS newsletter in 2016, including Brexit, a new British Prime Minister, the unexpected presidential result in the USA and now another general election planned in the UK. What hasn't changed is the commitment of the IAFMHS to encourage international dialogue and provide a forum for sharing information and experience about research, leadership and best practices in forensic mental health across professional and national boundaries. This has been strengthened in several ways in the past year by continuing support and new developments in our student section, holding the annual conference in an Eastern European city for the first time and by offering bursaries for members from developing countries to attend the annual conference.

As the president, it has been truly inspiring to be involved in these developments while continuing to work closely with the board of directors, the conference local and scientific committees and the advisory board. I am pleased to confirm that the association has never been in better health and I believe this newsletter provides more evidence of our progress as it provides short but important articles for our members and potential members on current issues, developments and activities.

In this edition of the newsletter, Alicia Nijdam-Jones, our new Newsletter Editor, provides a welcome and introduction. Many thanks Alicia for your contribution to the newsletter and student section. We also hear about the conference in Split, which Dr. Roger Almvik and team have worked tirelessly on for nearly 2 years. Thank you to Roger, Dr. Peter Braun, Dr. Quazi Haque, Dr. Cathy Wilson and colleagues for all their hard work. I'm looking forward to visiting the beautiful country of Croatia for the first time and I'm planning to mix business with a little pleasure! The keynote speakers are also highlighted and this year we seem to have an excellent mix of research, practice and expertise based on experience. Ilvy Goossens, provides sound guidance on social media etiquette while Simone Viljoen is under the 'spotlight' and we thank her for all her pioneering work for the association and the student section. You will also find information on last year's student panel and useful references to recent contributions to our Journal, which also goes from strength to strength.

I do hope you enjoy reading the newsletter and find the content interesting. Again, any comments, suggestions or contributions are very welcome as we look forward to developing the newsletter for the future.

Michael Doyle,
President of the IAFMHS

IAFMHS Board of Directors



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Michael Doyle, Ph.D.

Deputy Director of Nursing, Clinical Governance and Safety and Honorary Senior Lecturer

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San Diego, USA

Forensic Mental Health Across Borders: Challenges in a Changing World

The [annual IAFMHS conference](#) is approaching and we can look forward to another amazing conference – this time in wonderful and beautiful Split, Croatia. As usual, the conference has a great program with profiled international speakers and a high-quality, multi-disciplinary scientific programme that will review the most important aspects and the latest achievements in this field of mental health services.

This is the first time IAFMHS has hosted a conference in Eastern Europe and we couldn't have chosen a better place! Split is the pearl of the Adriatic, and June will be a beautiful time to visit. You will be able to enjoy the beauty of this country with the amenities of the [venue's 5 star hotel](#) (at 3 star prices!) Split is often viewed as a base for island hopping day trips, but its buzzing Dalmatian culture begs a second look. The city is a fascinating nexus of tradition and stylish modernity, and its beautiful coastline of course doesn't hurt either. A World Heritage UNESCO site, the story of Split is 17 centuries old, dating to the time the Roman Emperor Diocletian decided to build his Palace on the peninsula. The Palace turned into a city, which to this day lures visitors with its rich tradition, glorious history and beauty of its natural and cultural heritage (which, of course, the creators of Game of Thrones obviously agree on).

A walk through the ancient city takes you through time, along the great examples of ancient architecture like Peristyle, the middle aged Romanesque Church and Gothic Palace, Renaissance portals of the noblemen's houses, Baroque facades and modern architecture superbly merged in the rich heritage. And not to forget the beaches and the extreme crystal clear water (which you can enjoy between sessions at the hotel's private beach).

We also have developed an array of activities that will allow participants the opportunity to interact and network with colleagues from around the world. This includes the annual conference banquet, which will take place in the heart of the city in one of the most intriguing Mediterranean squares next to the Diocletian Palace and the harbour promenade, a welcome reception, poster-sessions and several pre- and post-conference workshops. We will also have several student section led activities, such as the fun run, the student breakfast and a student social on the beach.

If you have not registered, do so soon so that you may enjoy the many highlights of the conference, but also, don't forget to bring your swimsuit!

Dr. Roger Almvik,
Head of the Local Organizing Committee
(and totally in love with Split)



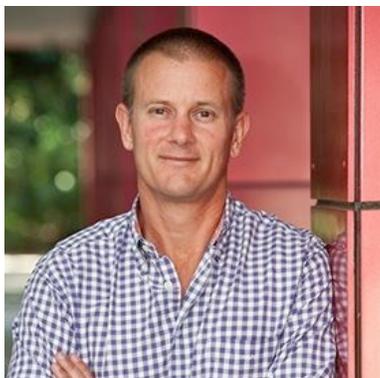
Photo by József Csontos

Student Member Rate	\$320 CAD (~\$240 USD; ~€220; ~£185)
Member - Standard Rate	\$730 CAD (~\$545 USD; ~€510; ~£425)
Non-member - Standard Rate	\$860 CAD (~\$640 USD; ~€600; ~£500)

<http://www.iafmhs.org/Registration>

2017 Keynote Speakers

Dr. Michael Daffern | Treatment of Violent Offenders



Michael Daffern is Professor of Clinical Forensic Psychology with the Centre for Forensic Behavioural Science, Swinburne University of Technology, and Consultant Principal Psychologist with the Victorian Institute of Forensic Mental Health (Forensicare). He divides his time between teaching, clinical practice and research, the focus of which is the assessment and treatment of violent offenders.

Dr. Jeffrey Swanson | Mental Health & Firearms Control Strategies



Jeffrey Swanson is Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioural Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine, in Durham, North Carolina, USA. He holds a PhD in sociology from Yale University. Dr. Swanson has devoted his career to building evidence for policies and laws to improve outcomes for adults with serious mental illnesses. His recent research has focused on legal tools to prevent firearm-related violence and suicide in the U.S. He received the 2011 Carl Taube Award from the American Public Health Association for outstanding career contributions to mental health services research.

Julie Warren-Sykes | Safeguarding Vulnerable Persons and the Prevent Duty



Julie Warren-Sykes' professional career spans across 25 years both as a Registered Nurse (RMN) and a Social Worker. She is currently employed as an Assistant Director of Nursing and Quality within South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, and also is a trustee of the charity Samantha Sykes Foundation Trust which was established in 2014 in memory of her daughter. She will be providing a presentation from a policy and personal perspective, focussing on the origin and development of the Prevent Duty as a safeguarding mechanism, while sharing lessons learned from recent inquiries highlighting failure to address what some would consider extreme misogynistic views.

Social Media Etiquette at #IAFMHS2017

Ilvy Goossens, M.Sc., Simon Fraser University (CA) | Communications Officer, IAFMHS Student Board

The annual conference of IAFMHS is intended to be an interactive conference, a place to meet professionals from all over the world across various disciplines, with forensic mental health being the primary tie. Our organisation and the conference are also interactive on various types of social media. Although we encourage everyone to partake in tweeting and sharing their conferences stories online (e.g., Instagram, Twitter, Facebook), for some people a professional social media presence may deviate from their private social media presence. So we have combined a few tips below, to help you navigate social media at IAFMHS 2017.

- (1) **Our conference hashtag is #IAFMHS2017.** Are you interested in creating your own hashtag within our conference? Consider hyphenating our hashtag with your initials (e.g., #IAFMHS2017-JKL) and sharing it on the first slide. This way, avid tweeters will be able to identify the conversation specifically to your talk.
- (2) Are you concerned about your results being scooped? As highlighted in the summary on the previous page, we understand how important it is to control how and when your research is shared with the general public. If there are certain slides that cannot be shared (e.g., no pictures on social media), use the “no social media” symbol (attached here) on the slides that cannot be shared. 
- (3) Are you having the best time? Did you find a great place to eat in Split? Did you come across an amazing activity? Let us know! Tweet us: @IAFMHS and @IAFMHS_Student, using the hashtag #IAFMHS2017 and let the other conference goers know. We will be monitoring the hashtag; any shoutout that comes our way will be rewarded with a like and perhaps even a retweet!
- (4) **Finally, remain respectful.** If you disagree with a speaker, if you find a fellow conference goer in an unflattering situation, ... No pictures, no tweets, no snaps. Similarly, be mindful of what you post on your social media. By following the conference hashtag, you are part of the conversation. Consider using a professional social media account for conferences, and using your personal one for more private content. A few great professional users to **gain inspiration** from are @MCSeto, @Ruth_E_Mann or @ADPerillo. Dr. Perillo live-tweets haikus based on the conference talks he attends. Talk about engaged & positive social media presence!

THANK YOU

We would like to take a moment to thank **Ms. Michelle Collins** for her contributions to IAFMHS. After 3 years as the IAFMHS Administrator, Michelle is moving onto a new career opportunity. While we are excited for her new career ventures, she will be missed. Throughout her time with IAFMHS, she really was a ‘Jacqueline of all trades’. Ms. Collins was responsible for the board website (www.iafmhs.org), membership, day-to-day administration, liaising between the Student Board and the General Board, various aspects of conference planning and organization, and the list goes on.

We have really appreciated her willingness to help out wherever needed. Her flexibility, dedication, and “can-do” attitude helped our organization grow into what it is now. Ms. Yan Lin Lim, a graduate student in Clinical Forensic Psychology at Simon Fraser University, will be taking over the torch for Ms. Collins. We would like you all to join us in welcoming our newest team member, while wishing Michelle all the best on her new path. Thank you so much, Michelle ... And welcome aboard, Yan!

Simone Viljoen: Founding IAFMHS Student Board President



South-Africa & Canada

Education

BA, University of British Columbia,
Canada

MSc, Maastricht University, Netherlands

PhD, Simon Fraser University

Internship

Southwest Consortium Doctoral
Psychology Internship, Albuquerque (NM)

Current Position

Adjunct instructor, University of New
Mexico, Albuquerque (NM)

Forensic evaluator, Washington State
Dept. of Social and Health Services,
Seattle (WA)

I have always been interested in understanding human motivations towards violence, so forensic psychology was an obvious choice for me. South Africa can be a violent and dangerous place, and I think growing up in that environment motivated to contribute to the conceptualisation and prevention of violence. Additionally, my father is a Clinical Neuropsychologist; (forensic) psychology seemed like a great way to try to learn about violence perpetration and also about the prevention and management thereof.

The student board first began when Dr. Ron Roesch asked me to be the student representative of the IAFMHS board. Having been a student in 4 countries, I recognised the benefit of having a network of students to support each other. Furthermore, **IAFMHS has always been my favourite conference.** I saw an opportunity to create something that would benefit numerous international students. At that time, there were very few student-focused events and opportunities, and I wanted to create something that could help engage students more in IAFMHS. IAFMHS has been a pivotal part of my professional development. Creating the student board and serving as the student president was beneficial to me in many areas of my professional practice. **The professional networks that I made through IAFMHS are invaluable.** It truly feels like **the world is my oyster as it is for any student member who takes advantage of what IAFMHS has to offer.**

My advice for student members is that you should **never let anyone tell you there is one way to achieve your goals.** I once had a supervisor tell me that I never take the common path; I always create my own path. Taking the path less travelled has really worked for me. So, to new IAFMHS student members, I would say: **take advantage of international opportunities** when they come your way, **try new things** - even if it is not in your area of expertise or interest. I have always and will always love Forensic Psychology but I opened my horizons and tried other areas and feel that I am a much better clinician and researcher because of those experiences. And also, SELF CARE - SELF CARE - SELF CARE!!!!!! If you want to stay in our field, it is so important to take care of yourself and your own needs. I cannot stress that enough!

INTERESTED? Consider becoming a student board member yourself!
Calls will go out after our annual conference and self-nominations are welcome.

Student-Invited Panel: Disseminating Research

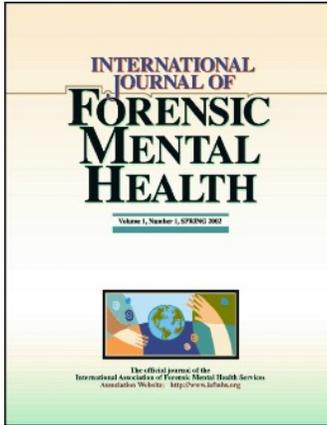
Sarah Brown, Ph.D., Edinburgh University (UK) | Fundraiser Coordinator & Treasurer, IAFMHS Student Board

<p>Turning conference papers into peer-reviewed publications</p> <p>Dr. Sarah Desmarais, North Carolina State University</p> <p>Turning a conference publication into a manuscript/Steps to writing a manuscript</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose an outlet before you write. Find two examples of a similar paper in the chosen journal(s): 2 that are methodologically similar, 2 that are similar content-wise. 2. Draft an outline using the examples above. Start with methods and results; this is generally the easiest part. 4. Think about your introduction. What is the story leading up to the results? Justify the focus of your variables of interest and highlight the innovative nature of your study. 5. In your discussion, be precise and summarize your findings in an easily digestible manner. Discuss the relevance of your findings in a clinical, political, policy-focused way. A well thought-out limitations section is key. 	<p>DR. DESMARAIS' TOP TIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Everything counts twice: Presentations are intended to become publications Make the time: Check out 'How to write a lot' by Paul Silvia. Draft a 2-page concept paper first to submit for supervisor/co-author feedback Do not simply state that there are research implications, but explain why there are
<p>The peer-review process and benefits for students</p> <p>Dr. Tonia L. Nicholls, University of British Columbia, BC Mental Health and Addictions Services</p> <p>Why become a (student) reviewer?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is part of the give and take of being a researcher, scholar, and educator. It is important for grantsmanship; you will pick up new ideas about topics, methods, limitations etc. along the way. It is great for your CV and essential for maneuvering an academic career. It is a good exercise for determining where to publish your own work. <p>What are editors looking for?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Do you have the expertise and the time? Are you thorough, yet respectful of the work you review? It is the responsibility of the reviewers to support authors and provide feedback in a respectful, supportive manner. Are you willing to do a second round of edits in case of a revision or resubmission? 	<p>DR. NICHOLLS' TOP TIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set aside time to review Keep track of the journals you have reviewed for Put yourself in the authors' shoes when providing feedback Comments to the authors and confidential comments to the editors should be consistent If you are unsure, open the dialogue with the editors
<p>Knowledge dissemination to non-academic stakeholders</p> <p>Dr. Anne G. Crocker, McGill University, Douglas Mental Health University Institute</p> <p>Speaking to non-academic audiences using the Kipling Method: 5W's & H</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> WHAT: is the message you want out there, and what difference would it make? As yourself: "So what?" WHY: is it important? Think about the relevance of your work for legislation, policy, recent events. WHO: might be interested, who are you targeting? Target audiences include: policy-makers, decision-makers, the general public. HOW: might different types of people respond to the findings; how might different people alter or interpret your message? Once your message is out there, you lose control over certain aspects, there may be unintended consequences. WHERE: is the best platform to communicate to your message with and WHO is the best person to communicate it to? WHEN: do you want your message to get out? This typically occurs around the time of publishing, although sometimes communication is based on current events or opportunities. 	<p>DR. CROCKER'S TOP TIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Get involved in local & national organisations. Be prepared, humble and confident Do not fly solo: Use communication teams Anticipate reactions Sexy it up: Make it interesting

NEXT | Student Invited Panel | SPLIT CROATIA | "Collaborative research across disciplines"

Drs. Jennifer Storey, Kevin Douglas, Marie-Helene Goulet

International Journal of Forensic Mental Health



The Use of Meta-Analysis to Compare and Select Offender Risk Instruments: A Commentary on Singh, Grann, and Fazel (2011)

Kevin M. Williams^a, J. Stephen Wormith^b, James Bonta^c, and Gill Sitarenios^d

^aIndependent Researcher, Princeton, New Jersey, USA; ^bDepartment of Psychology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; ^cIndependent Consultant, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada;

^dMulti-Health Systems, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

In the latest issue of the International Journal of Forensic Mental Health, Williams, Wormith, Bonta and Sitarenios (2017) re-examine Singh, Grann, and Fazel's (2011) meta-analysis of the relative predictive validity of nine common offender risk instruments. The authors identify several methodological issues that likely impact the interpretation of the results, while providing important guidelines for researchers, clinicians, and practitioners. This same issue includes a response from one of the original study's authors (Fazel, 2017), and three commentaries highlighting the role of risk assessment instruments in mental health and criminal justice evidence-based practice and policy (Desmarais, 2017), the important lessons gained from the experience of completing several risk assessment meta-analyses (Boccaccini, 2017), and inter-rater reliability in field settings (Edens & Kelley, 2017).

Remember, as a member of IAFMHS, you will receive electronic access to current and past issues of the International Journal of Forensic Mental Health!

GET INVOLVED!

Do you have ideas of what you would like to see in the upcoming newsletter or would like to get more involved? We would like to hear from you! For any inquiries, please contact anijdamjones@fordham.edu

Editorial Team

Ilvy Goossens, M.Sc., Simon Fraser University (CA)

Kaitlyn McLachlan, Ph.D., C. Psych., University of Guelph (CA)

Alicia Nijdam-Jones, M.A., Fordham University (USA)