

BSA Sociology of Mental Health Study Group Annual Report

The group's aims are to:

- Heighten the profile of study in the area of sociology of mental health; □
- Provide a forum for the communication and discussion of work being carried out in the area; □
- Facilitate networking and information-sharing between those working within or having an interest in the sociology of mental health; □
- Provide a forum of support for those interested in studying mental health and distress from a sociological perspective; □
- Provide a core of expertise in the area of sociology of mental health. □

Events □

The Group co-sponsored a one-day conference '*Mental Health and Welfare Reform: Resisting cuts and sanctions, building alliances*' on Saturday 5th November 2016 at Liverpool Hope University. The conference was attended by 125 people, and a conference report is currently in production.

Publishing □

In November 2016 a special edition of the Journal *Critical and Radical Social Work* was published based on papers from a conference in 2015 that was co-sponsored by the Study Group, '*PsychoPolitics in the Twenty First Century: Peter Sedgwick and radical movements in mental health*'.

Membership and networking □

In March 2017 the Study Group co-convenors set up a BSA Sociology of Mental Health jiscmail list ('SOCMH' email address SOCMH@jiscmail.ac.uk) in order to develop more effective communication with Study Group members.

Finances

The Study Group received a one-off payment of £400 from the BSA in 2016-17 towards the cost of the 'Mental Health and Welfare Reform' conference.

Future activities

We will seek to review the convenorship of the Study Group in 2017 with a view to recruiting additional co-convenors.

The co-convenors are keen to receive proposals for future events from Study Group members.

**Rich Moth, Liverpool Hope University and Ewen Speed, University of Essex
(Study Group Co-Convenors 2016-17)**