

BSA Human Reproduction Study Group Annual Report 2023

Name: Human Reproduction Study Group (HRSG)

Established: 2003

Number of members: 176 members on jiscmail list

Income: Closing balance £1991.96

Aims:

The Human Reproduction Study Group brings together academics who are interested in the social aspects of human reproduction. The group also encourages networking and collaboration activities between a wide range of academics, activists and practitioners interested in the social aspects of human reproduction.

Review of the year:

This year, after a long period of service, Dr Kylie Baldwin (convenor since 2014) and Dr Cathy Herbrand (convenor since 2016) handed over the convenorship of the HRSG to Dr Zeynep Gurtin (UCL) and Dr Amarpreet Kaur (University of Birmingham). Dr Christina Weis (De Montfort University) will also be joining as a new convenor directly after her maternity leave in September 2023.

The 2023 Annual Conference was held at UCL on 22 June 2023. It was a fantastic day, with the theme ‘Reproduction and Progress? Reflections and Revisions’. The programme included:

- A Plenary Address entitled ‘Revisiting IVF as ‘Hope Technology’ by Professor Sarah Franklin (University of Cambridge), chaired by Professor Emily Jackson (LSE)
- A Roundtable Discussion entitled ‘Regulating Reproductive Technologies’ with Clare Ettinghausen (HFEA); Dr Kirsty Horsey (Kent Law School); Professor Amel Alghrani (Liverpool Law School) and Dr Lucy van de Wiel (King’s College, London)
- 24 presentations across six streams entitled: ‘Global ARTs’; ‘Repro Online’; ‘Third-party ARTs’; ‘Repro Violence’; ‘Queering Repro’; and ‘Conceiving Pregnancy’.

We were particularly pleased to have presenters from across all stages of academia, and from all over the UK as well as from as far away as University of Melbourne, Australia. The conference was very well attended with over 70 participants on the day, and over 50 abstracts were submitted for consideration.

The conference expenses resulted in a deficit of £264.93. In future, we will be mindful to take measures to avoid incurring any further deficit.

Concluding remarks:

The HRSG would like to thank Dr Kylie Baldwin and Dr Cathy Herbrand for all their work in making this group so vibrant and engaging. We look forward to growing and continuing the HRSG’s successes under new leadership in the coming years.

Under the new convenorship we will be looking to diversify the group's activity, and to co-host events with other study groups.

Convenors Names:

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