

IASSID

Report on the SIRG *Profound Multiple Disabilities (PMD)*

C. Vlaskamp
L.Lambe
B. Maes
30th May 2005

The SIRG PMD organized its last meeting in Montpellier in 2004. During that meeting , there was a change of board. The current board is constituted as follows:

Chair	: Loretto Lambe (UK) and Carla Vlaskamp (NI)
Chair elect and secretary	: Bea Maes (Bel)
Treasurer	: vacancy
Past chair	: Han Nakken (NI)

Members:

Mary Arnold (USA)
Anne Brown (UK)
Garè Fabila (Mex)
Barbara Fornefeld (Ger)
Mats Granlund (Swe)
Paul Pagliano (Aus)
Knut Slåtta (No)
Sui Sone (Japan)

Members of the SIRG: an update

We keep up a list of SIRG-members without asking extra subscription fees (at least for 2005). We have encouraged the members to renew or to start their IASSID-membership. At present 51 members are on the PMD-SIRG-list.

Members receive the newsletter and have the opportunity to participate at the SIRG-round table as well as becoming involved in the organising of and contributing to symposia on PMD issues for IASSID's 4 yearly World Congresses. We plan to start an interactive website to ask questions or send comments to other SIRG-members and to link our members to other members' websites as relevant. We also know that members are already exchanging information on an informal basis which shows the need for a SIRG on PMD.

Activities coming up:

A Round Table conference will be organized in Brugge, Belgium, October 6-8 2005. Two broad topics are chosen as key topics for our conference:

- (1) quality of service provision and support in community services and families, with special attention to staff attitudes, skills, working methods and training
- (2) procedures and evaluation of educational and developmental programs and activities and of treatment programs and methods

For the 2nd European IASSID-conference at Maastricht (the Netherlands) from 2-5 August 2006, the programme committee has decided that there will be 4 symposia on the theme of 'PMD'. In each symposium there will be 4 presentations. The board has suggested the following symposia:

1. Families of persons with PMD (Convenors: Loretto Lambe / Carla Vlaskamp) (contact: l.lambe@dundee.ac.uk)

2. Program evaluation and quality of support for persons with PMD
(Convenors: Bea Maes/James Hogg) (contact: bea.maes@ped.kuleuven.be)

3. Health and treatment programs for persons with PMD
(Convenors: Han Nakken / Heleen Evenhuis) (contact: h.nakken@ppsw.rug.nl)

4. Communication and relation between persons with PMD and caregivers
(Juliet Goldbart / Barbara Fornefeld) (contact: j.goldbart@mmu.ac.uk)

SIRG Members are being asked to contact the convenors of the above noted symposia. with suggestions for presentation they would be willing give on the chosen topics.

Newsletter

In 2005, our fifth Newsletter was send to all our members. Within the coming weeks, there will be information send to our members with regard to the Roundtable conference in Brugge, Belgium, in October and the European congress in Maastricht in 2006.

Web-site / E-mail

The SIRG information can be found on the web-site of the IASSID under IASSIDoffice@aol.com, SIRG, Profound Multiple Disabilities. The information on this web-site still needs revision.