

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2018

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.

Interest Network: Psychology

Lead Contact Person: Vincent Chesney, MS, FAAIDD, vincentchesney@hotmail.com, 570-492-2145

Annual Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.

This year the Psychology Interest Network (PIN) **successfully acquired the Mental Health Services Interest Network (MHSIN)**. Developed as a special interest group from PIN in 2000, MHSIN has since grown to rival size of PIN. However, as it grew MHSIN became more homogenous with PIN based on **membership surveys conducted this past year**. Resulting from the merger, **PIN (being an original division within AAIDD) will retain its name** and the MHSIN chair will assume the vice chair of PIN's successive executive board.

PIN held a plated meal luncheon at the AAIDD 142nd Annual Meeting for the first time in many years. The luncheon was billed as a joint meeting of PIN and MHSIN. In previous years PIN and MHSIN held continental breakfast or buffet lunch meetings. **At the luncheon PIN awarded two doctoral students with conference scholarships**. Rebecca Kirchner from The Ohio State University, Nisonger Center won the "DIVERSITY" scholarship for her poster: Disparities in access to mental health services in the Hispanic/Latino population while Sarah Glencross from University of the Sunshine Coast won the "INCLUSION" scholarship for her poster: Internet access, skills, and attitudes among people with intellectual disability in Australia.

Also recognized at the luncheon was MHSIN's scholarship winner: Mashal Hirani, BScN Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi for her poster: Sexual Abuse in Children with Intellectual Disability; A Systematic Literature Review.

Unfortunately, the winners from Australia and Pakistan were unable to attend. This means we only gifted monies for one award, although all three people were honored.

Also, unable to attend was the luncheon's scheduled guest speaker: an assistant professor of school psychology at the University of Missouri – St. Louis, due to health issues.

The luncheon also saw the unveiling of the newly restructured PIN. As a result of the merger, a standing Mental Health Services Committee will now report directly to the chair. The committee's first manager is Paul Kolstoe, PhD (MHSIN's founding chair). A newly formed Technology Committee that both maintains PIN's social media as well as monitors, in conjunction with the MHS Committee, how tech can advance psychology. A newly formed Research Committee will double-down on producing scientific findings that advance our field. There will also be Ad Hoc Workgroups.

Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

Due July 31, 2018

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2018

This year will see the long-awaited re-emergence of Psychology Interest Network (PIN). With a new structure and resurgence of members from the recent acquisition, PIN will develop talent to solidify its future as a continued strength within AAIDD.

- Discussions are being conducted with Rob Fletcher, DSW to better collaborate PIN and NADD. Suggestions to date include webinars and increased visibility at NADD events.
- Discussions are also being planned with APA Division 33 (IDD/ASD). While our connection to NADD will cover 'practice', we hope our connection to APA will cover 'research' in some way.
- Communication between PIN and groups like the Association for Psychological Sciences (APS) which do not currently have a division specifically for I/DD will be attempted.
- Students and early career professionals will be engaged regularly to encourage more involvement in various initiatives
- Quarterly conference calls with follow-up minutes that are published electronically will motivate members.
 - The minutes can be scavenged for bullet points to further develop and promote as unique discussions on our social media platforms.
- Members who presented posters or PowerPoints at AAIDD conferences will be encouraged to film a 5-minute video of their presentation and submit it for uploading to various social media platforms.
 - If the video presentations are popular, an online symposium will be considered for new presentations.
- At least two conference scholarships will be awarded to deserving student presentations to attend this year's annual meeting.
- A plated meal luncheon will be served during the PIN meeting at the AAIDD annual meeting.
 - A psychological clinician native to the location of this year's AAIDD annual meeting will be the invited guest speaker at the luncheon.
 - A small gift may be purchased to offer as honorarium to the local speaker.
- An annual award to recognize outstanding psychological work will be established.
 - Exact criteria and the name of the PIN award are still being developed.
- Greater involvement in the AAIDD annual meeting through pre- or post-conference seminars.

As always, PIN wishes to thank AAIDD staff for their support and excellent work.