

International Association for Counselling's Counselling Practitioners' Round Table

"Sharing practice around the world"



June 10, 2017 Counselling Practitioners' Round Table Conference Plenary Session Report

The following report highlights the proceedings of the June 2017 Counselling Practitioners' Round Table (CPRT) for the International Association for Counselling (IAC), which met online on Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 9:00am-10:30am (Chicago/ CST time). The round table proceeded online through the Blue Jeans web conference with four participants.

The Round Table aims:

To provide a forum within the International Community of Counsellors for practitioners to share and discuss matters arising from their practice for celebration or concern; create mutual support and encouragement across International and multi-cultural contexts around the world using video conference, webinar, Skype, e-mail and text, designed to combat isolation; and to address the wider professional and research community with matters of interest or concern.

Order of CPRT meeting

- Introduction to CPRT and activity overview
- Review of the 2017 CPRT Plenary session; feedback and discussion
- Discussion points raised from the round table
- Next steps for CPRT
- Member check-out (sharing closing remarks on current experiential themes in current practice)

CPRT Participants (in English alphabetical order by last name):

- Dr. Jayita Datta—Licensed Psychologist at Student Counseling Center at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio USA
- Ms. Anita Engstrom Jones—counselor with Idaho Supreme Court and adjunct professor Boise State University in Idaho, USA
- Dr. Sandy Kacakek—professor at Adler University in Chicago, IL USA
- Dr. Nate Perron—Chair of CPRT, professor with Counseling@Northwestern at Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA

2018 IAC Conference CPRT in Rome, Italy

The theme for the CPRT for the 2018 conference has yet to be decided, but CPRT members can anticipate with being involved in a plenary session for it. The CPRT will discuss how to structure the annual conference CPRT plenary session with a topic that fits the conference agenda. CPRT members may be reminded that a summary of all conference proceedings



are provided to UNESCO to support further consultation and dialogue on meeting needs by advancing the counselling profession worldwide.

Discussion points

IAC certification—IAC certification is currently underway. Teaching organizations can seek IAC certification for their programs, and the CPRT was encouraged to consider programs that could be a good fit.

Increasing CPRT representation: the group discussed ways to include more people from a variety of global locations who would be interested in participating in the CPRT

Research and collaboration: the group discussed what topics might be beneficial to consider.

The group was reminded that the blog is now available on the IAC website to collaborate around research discussions. The research topics of interest included:

- Trauma and refugees
- Transgender health; more needs to happen around healthcare knowledge and mindset
- Portability and strengthening of the counseling profession
 - How do we provide support where the profession is less recognized and there is no counseling license?
 - What can the CPRT do to encourage and support counseling colleagues in their own countries where the support is lacking?
 - Brochure is available on the website to explain the CPRT
 - MHF program through NBCC is a good starting point for assisting in this effort, as it is well-established; explore how to establish some kind of financial support system around providing this training
- Grant opportunities through UNESCO, UN, or WHO to support MHF training
- More knowledge needed: decide on what countries are currently represented and begin looking at what countries that are most in need at this time; it was suggested the CPRT needs a world map to view what is and what is not there; understand further how mental health is considered in different countries

Follow-up items

- The CPRT chair will request data from IAC Executive Council regarding what countries are represented at IAC.
 - What needs are expressed most poignantly?
 - What counseling licenses/certifications are currently recognized?
 - What grant opportunities have been available or may be possible avenues?
- Dr. Kakacek offered to begin the process of writing a grant to target the concerns of the CPRT, specifically how to support local rural communities worldwide desiring to provide counseling care.
- The chair of the CPRT will compile and distribute the CPRT meeting notes from the 2017 conference (represented with this document)
- *The next CPRT meeting online with Blue Jeans will be held on **Saturday, September 30, 2017 from 9:00-10:30am (Chicago time)**. Please go to <http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/> to confirm your local time.*
- *IAC members new to CPRT are welcome to join. (Please contact Dr. Nate Perron at nate.perron@northwestern.edu in order to receive the invite.*
- CPRT members may begin using the online Blog by signing into the IAC website and using the online forum for discussion

