
Miscellany

King's College London are offering **MSc/Diploma Courses in Mental Health Studies (Learning Disabilities)**. The MSc is a two-year course and the diploma a one-year course. Participants will be offered opportunities to enhance their knowledge and skills by focusing on theoretical, clinical and research components. The emphasis of the Diploma will be on practical skills. The courses will be suitable for nurses, therapists, psychiatrists and other professionals who have had or are planning to have practical experience with people with mental health needs and learning disabilities. The closing date for receipt of applications is 31 May 1999. Further information available from: MSc Course Administrator, Division of Psychiatry and Psychology, 5th Floor, Thomas Guy House, Guy's Hospital, London SE1 9RT (telephone: 0171 955 2903, fax: 0171 955 4273).

New publications

An evidence-based briefing (EBB) focusing on the subject of dementia will be available shortly. Developed by the Royal College of Psychiatrists' Research Unit, EBBs are a summarised collection of the current synthesised 'evidence' (research, guidelines and national guidance) in a given topic area. EBBs aim to support clinicians in obtaining research evidence to inform their practice and promote and encourage the critical appraisal of research-based information and national guidance. EBBs will be particularly useful for clinicians who do not have easy access to information sources such as the Internet or a postgraduate library. The College Research Unit plans to produce two EBBs per year. Further information: Book Sales, Publications Department, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG (telephone: 0171 235 2351, extension 146).

The fourth *Clinical Effectiveness in Mental Health Information Sheet* is now available. Priced at £3.00, plus £3.00 handling charge, it focuses on dementia and Alzheimer's disease user groups and information sources. Further information: Victoria Thomas, Research Unit, Royal College of Psychiatrists (telephone: 0171 235 2351, extension 282).

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has published a report on organisational changes in the workplace and how they affect employees' mental health. Entitled *Organisational Interventions to Reduce the Impact of Poor Work Design*, the report says that one way to prevent or reduce stress is to redesign the way that jobs are structured, such as increasing workers' discretion to make their own decisions. This publication covers a three-year programme of research which has explored the effects of work redesign on employee well-being and effectiveness in modern manufacturing industries. Priced at £44.00 copies are available from (ref. CRR196, ISBN 0-7176-1632-0): HSE Books, PO Box 1999, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 6FS (telephone: 01787 881 165, fax: 01787 313 995).

Organised by The Wellcome Trust's History of Twentieth-Century Medicine Group, *Wellcome Witnesses to Twentieth Century Medicine* is a series based on transcripts of 'witness seminars' - workshops at which key figures are brought together to discuss key events or discoveries in twentieth century medicine. Volume 1 of the series is priced at £9.00 plus postage and packaging. Volume 2 is available at £12.50. Further information: Tracy Tillotson (telephone: 0171 611 8486, fax: 0171 611 8703).