



## IASP Special Interest Groups (SIGs) Annual Report July 2018

### Overview

A survey of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) was conducted during late 2017/early 2018. A structured template was sent to all Co-chairs, with a view to collecting information relating to: rationale, objectives, main activities during 2017, proposed activities during 2018, and current challenges. Text on activities during 2017, for uploading to the IASP website, and details of members' names and email addresses were also requested.

There was a considerable range of activities across the 13 active SIG, all of whom completed the survey. In line with procedures the survey was also completed by the Early Career Group Co-chairs. Activities included:

- SIG launches of the SIG on the Development of effective national suicide prevention strategy and practice, at the IASP World Congress, 2017 and a virtual launch of the Early Career Group in Winter 2017.
- Organisation of symposia, workshops and presentations at the IASP, ESSSB and other conferences worldwide.
- Production of peer review publications.
- Production of reports, guideline documents and books.
- Publication and dissemination of IASP newsletter articles.
- Sharing of SIG related materials via social media including Twitter, Facebook and online blogs.
- Collation of online evidence based research reservoirs relevant to SIG topics.
- Provision of evidence-informed advice and support to national and international organisations and agencies working in the area.
- Sharing of evidence-informed statements and advice to stakeholders affected by media portraying the topic of suicide.
- Establishment and maintenance of research partnerships and collaborations.
- Establishment of Task Forces undertaking specific, clearly defined tasks within a limited timeframe.
- Tutoring/mentoring and training of undergraduate and postgraduate students.
- Obtaining funding and research grants for the work of their SIG.

Since the 2017 report there have been many changes to the IASP SIGs. Two new SIGs have formed, the SIG on the Development of effective national suicide prevention strategy and practice and the SIG on Suicide and self-harm in middle-aged adults. The SIGs on Emergency medicine and suicide and also the SIG on Youth suicide are currently not active but new Chairs have been selected and work on recruiting members for these SIGs will begin in Summer 2018. New co-Chairs were appointed to the SIG on Clusters, contagion and suicidal behaviour and the SIG on Suicide bereavement and postvention.

The tables within this report provide summarised and selective information for each SIG (Additional information is available on request).

**Rory O' Connor, IASP 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Caroline Daly, Research Officer, IASP Central Administration Office**

**July 2018**

## SIG: Development of effective national suicide prevention strategy and practice

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Steve Platt & Mohsen Rezaeian (29 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To establish an active forum of international experts who will support the development of effective suicide prevention strategy and practice in countries (especially lower- and middle-income countries) where, historically, there has been little or no suicide prevention activity.</li> <li>2. To develop and maintain an online resource library which will include guidance on evidence-informed suicide prevention interventions (both top-down and bottom-up approaches), evaluation protocols and good practice manuals.</li> <li>3. To develop guidance for establishing, implementing and evaluating community-level suicide prevention activities in countries where a national strategy is not currently feasible.</li> <li>4. To support and mentor communities, regions and countries in their development of suicide prevention programmes (strategic and operational elements).</li> <li>5. To collaborate with relevant organisations, ministries and NGOs in LAMICs in the development of effective suicide prevention strategy and practice</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The SIG was launched at the IASP World Congress in Kuching, Malaysia, on 20 July 2017. Accompanying the launch, the terms of reference of the SIG and some preliminary ideas for taking the work of the SIG forward were discussed.</li> <li>2. Most of the work of the SIG is being conducted through Task Forces (TFs). Steve Platt is temporarily coordinating TF1, which aims to establish processes for the development and maintenance of the resource library.</li> <li>3. Richard McKeon and Jerry Reed are coordinating TF2, which aims to evaluate current models and develop guidance for establishing, implementing and evaluating community-level suicide prevention activities.</li> <li>4. Jan Mokkenstorm is coordinating TF3, which aims to identify and consider communities and countries which would benefit from SIG support and mentorship.</li> <li>5. TF4, which is intended to support the planning and organisation of a pilot meeting of Health Ministers in Caribbean basin in 2018 to develop national suicide prevention strategies, is currently on hold pending a final decision about whether or not the meeting will go ahead.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. TF1, TF2 and TF3 will be fully operational during the year. The initial emphasis will be on finalising tasks, timeline, ways of working and resource requirements, in conjunction with a call for colleagues to become active members.</li> <li>2. In conjunction with TF2 and TF3, several case studies of LAMICs which are at an early stage of developing national suicide prevention strategy or activity are being planned. Work on these case studies will also be underway this year.</li> </ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<p>There are ongoing challenges in several countries, including criminalisation of suicide (24 countries), insufficient resources, ineffective co-ordination, lack of enforcement of guidelines, limited access to surveillance data, and lack of independent evaluation. There is a need for greater attention to the content of national suicide prevention programmes, in particular the rationale for the selection and prioritisation of components and actions.</p>	

## SIG: The genetics and neurobiology of suicide

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Dan Rujescu (20 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To promote studies of genetic aspects of suicide ideation and behaviour among suicidologists and behavioural geneticists.</li> <li>2. To provide a place where those interested in genetics of suicidal behaviour can network and stimulate the field with new studies and results.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hosted a symposium during the WPA conference 2017 on Tuesday, 10 October 2017, on the Genetics of suicidal behaviour and depression.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have submitted to host a symposium at the ESSSB17 conference Ghent 2018.</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Suicide and self-harm in middle-aged adults

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Ping Qin, Paul Yip & David Gunnell
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To provide a platform for exchange of knowledge regarding suicide and self-harm in adults of middle ages.</li> <li>2. To facilitate and develop international research collaboration and networking in this topic area.</li> <li>3. To provide statistic overview and conduct systematic reviews.</li> <li>4. To organize symposia on suicide in middle-aged adults at international conferences.</li> <li>5. To support and coordinate other SIGs for their initiatives relevant to middle-aged population.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Detailed planning of SIG program of work.</li> <li>2. Annual review of SIG progress and activities.</li> <li>3. Biennial update of information on SIG activities on the IASP website.</li> <li>4. Organization of workshops and symposia at IASP conferences.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recruitment of SIG members.</li> <li>2. Finalisation of SIG objectives.</li> <li>3. Finalisation of SIG's initial program of work (years 1-2).</li> <li>4. Ascertainment of administrative support for SIG.</li> <li>5. Organization of symposia at ESSSB2018, IASP2019 conferences.</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Suicide in older adults

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Annette Erlangsen & Sylvie Lapierre (135 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To create a network between researchers to facilitate joint research projects that focus on suicide in older adults.</li> <li>2. To increase IASP's involvement in suicide prevention of older adults.</li> <li>3. To increase awareness and understanding about suicide in older adults.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hosted a full-day pre-conference workshop entitled "Suicide in older adults from a clinical perspective" and two symposiums, each with 4 presenters, were offered at IASP World Congress Malaysia-Kuching (July 2017). Symposium 1: "Older adults who want to die prematurely. " Symposium 2: "Protective factors, suicide risks, and intervention with older adults".</li> <li>2. 25 Members are working on a paper entitled: "Predictors of request of euthanasia and assisted-suicide by older adults". They have reviewed papers for the review and the PIs (Sylvie Lapierre and Dolores Angela Castelli Dransart) are analysing the results and drafting the manuscript currently.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The paper entitled: "Predictors of request of euthanasia and assisted-suicide by older adults" should be submitted to Crisis.</li> <li>2. Three Symposia from the IASP Special Interest Group on Suicide in Older Adults were submitted by Dimitris Kiosses for the 17th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour (2018). Symposium 1: Suicidal Ideation and Behavior in Older Adults with Cognitive Impairment and Functional Deficits. Symposium 2: Suicide Prevention and Decision-Making in Older Adults. Symposium 3: Societal Factors and Suicidal Behaviour in Older Adults: Prevalence and Risk Predictors.</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Suicide and the media

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Daniel Reidenberg & Thomas Niederkrotenthaler (44 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To improve linkages between suicide experts and media professionals.</li><li>2. To systematically review research about suicide and the traditional as well as social media (including evaluations of media guidelines), to identify gaps in knowledge, to develop a research agenda to address these gaps, and to encourage relevant research.</li><li>3. To identify, collect and collate media guidelines which have been developed around the world, and examine and report on their content, development and implementation.</li><li>4. To work collaboratively with media professionals to develop recommendations for developing and implementing media guidelines.</li><li>5. To work collaboratively with media professionals to promote media guidelines to journalists, editors and other stakeholders.</li><li>6. To work on prevention of suicide using online media.</li><li>7. To provide an international body of experts that can provide authoritative comment on issues regarding suicide and the media, including issues surrounding media guidelines and both traditional and newer "emergent" media.</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Hosting symposia/workshops/meetings: Two Symposia hosted by the SIG were presented in Malaysia at the world conference and symposia are to be submitted to the ESSSB17.</li><li>2. Development of a book with contributions from SIG members on Media and Suicide: International Perspectives on Research, Theory and Policy.</li><li>3. IASP /WHO media recommendations (2008): This task was led by TN and DR, finalized for WSPD September 10 2017. Revised guidelines at: <a href="http://www.who.int/mental_health/suicide-prevention/resource_booklet_2017/en/">http://www.who.int/mental_health/suicide-prevention/resource_booklet_2017/en/</a>.</li><li>4. Development of media recommendations for Bloggers / Social Media guidelines: Initiative by DR; completed and released in 2017.</li><li>5. IASP Statements on 13RW, Blue Whale Game both in 2017.</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Provide an update on implementation strategies on Media Recommendations (initiative DR and TN). This work has already been started to inform the revision of the WHO recommendations. Currently a draft proposal is at WHO.</li><li>2. SIG members who have been involved in these tasks in their own countries will collaborate on defining a framework for media responses within IASP.</li><li>3. Action items: Regarding above point, pre-written templates could be easily adapted when needed for specific media event. Templates discussed included three types: Widely disseminated entertainment industry product; Criminal issue / internet safety issue; Celebrity suicide</li><li>4. Host symposia at suicide-related conferences</li></ol>	

## SIG: Suicide bereavement and postvention

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Myfanwy Maple, Sean McCarthy, Vita Postuvan & Sharon McDonnell (95 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To hold a meeting of members at biannual world congress, to evaluate past activities and plan future goals and activities.</li><li>2. To ensure appropriate representation of postvention at IASP and similar conferences.</li><li>3. To contribute to the IASP newsletter.</li><li>4. To ensure appropriate communication between members, with the TF established under the SIG umbrella.</li><li>5. To identify initiatives to be undertaken by TFs, to be subsequently reported to the Board of IASP.</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Significant reconfiguration of the SIG and appointment of new Chairs.</li><li>2. Completion of the TF on bereavement and postvention research publications in Crisis.</li><li>3. Facilitation of the remembrance ceremony at the IASP World Congress.</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Ongoing planning for bereavement and postvention involvement in the Derry 2019 conference.</li><li>2. Proposal for TF on best practice in postvention.</li><li>3. Revision of web content for SIG.</li></ol>	

## SIG: Helplines best practice

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Alan Woodward & John Draper (44 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To pursue a shared interest in Helplines and related online and social media services for suicide prevention, with a view to making a substantive contribution to improved understanding, practice or policy relating to their operation, effectiveness and impact.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SIG Meeting at IASP Congress Malaysia in July 2017, re-confirmed the interest in this SIG and the desire for continued information exchange.</li> <li>2. IASP Congress Malaysia – included a symposium on helplines research related to the profiles of users and data collection to monitor trends, with presenters from Danish, Netherlands and Australian helplines.</li> <li>3. Facebook Group to enable communication and exchange with SIG members established – currently with 14 members.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Promotion and utilisation of the Facebook Group.</li> <li>2. Exploration of a Task Force to be formed on the collection and use of data by Helplines for research and service improvement purposes.</li> <li>3. Regional meeting of interested helplines at the IASP Asia Pacific 2018 in New Zealand/Aotearoa.</li> </ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Communication across such a wide range of Helplines in many countries</li> <li>2. Most SIG Members are involved in operation of helplines services – their priorities therefore are oriented towards these operations rather than research activities, for which there is limited funding opportunity also</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Culture and suicidal behaviour

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Erminia Colucci & Joseph Osafo (54 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To share resources and information relevant to the topic of culture and suicidal behaviour (including publications and funding opportunities).</li> <li>2. To discuss ideas and provide suggestions around culturally-sensitive suicide research and prevention activities.</li> <li>3. To deepen knowledge about and advocate for a greater consideration of the socio-cultural context of suicidal behaviour and for the development of suicide prevention strategies.</li> <li>4. To represent a point of reference for individuals and organizations seeking expertise on the SIG theme and sub-themes.</li> <li>5. To Identify potential funders and co-apply for financial support to initiate and carry out SIG specific research and prevention projects and organize themed meetings/conferences/workshops.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The SIG organised one symposium and a Special Lecture at the IASP congress in Malaysia, as well as supported the presence of an artist with lived-experience and jointly organized presentation of her work as well as the launch of the latest film by lived experience advocate/artists Mic Eales.</li> <li>2. A SIG meeting with current and potential members was held where specific task for the SIG were set in collaboration with attendees.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To submit a book proposal about the SIG themes with contribution from current members.</li> <li>2. To organize IASP workshops about in-depth and culturally-sensitive qualitative research and on culturally-adequate suicide prevention strategies.</li> </ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. During the SIG meeting in Malaysia, we agreed several exciting activities with the newly appointed President (Murad Khan). So far we ave not been approached regarding these proposed SIG activities (in particular, the workshops, which are planned to start at next IASP conference 2019).</li> <li>2. We have requested website updates which so far have not taken place but as agreed at last SIG phonecall, we will resend updates to the webmaster and were reassured that this time they will be promptly implemented.</li> <li>3. We have also agreed that, as IASP does not have a mailing list system, we will set up a free mailchimp account. Once set up, we will send an updated list of members.</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Prevention of intentional pesticide poisoning

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Keith Hawton, Michael Phillips & Melissa Pearson (30 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Collate evidence, knowledge and information on the epidemiology, characteristics and prevention of intentional pesticide poisoning.</li><li>2. Facilitate collaboration between different projects currently underway.</li><li>3. Promote research and links between research projects.</li><li>4. Develop innovative research methodologies to evaluate different types of interventions.</li><li>5. Act as a focal point for the dissemination of information on the prevention of pesticide poisoning.</li><li>6. Identify potential funders that could support an IASP-supported multi-country project.</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Hosted a symposium at IASP World Congress Kuching.</li><li>2. IASP newsletter item on the SIG submitted for publication in the IASP newsletter.</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Review of SIG for expanding the remit of the group to a broader means restriction theme.</li></ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Engagement of the members of the SIG has been limited apart from symposiums at IASP meetings. Some consideration of expanding remit will take place.</li></ol>	

## Early Career Group

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Caroline Daly, Carl-Maria Mörch & Olivia Kirtley (18 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To encourage and provide a platform for knowledge exchange between group members and experts in suicidology.</li><li>2. To encourage and develop collaboration and networking nationally and internationally.</li><li>3. To provide information to members on available career-related opportunities, including jobs, conferences and funding.</li><li>4. To actively participate at IASP and other conferences in the area of suicide prevention</li><li>5. To connect group members with SIGs in their area of interest.</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. During 2017 the majority of the set-up of the ECG took place. This involved gaining approval from the IASP Board for the establishment of the group and also to submission of proposals around membership fees.</li><li>2. In late 2017 we began recruiting and welcoming members.</li><li>3. We launched our inaugural newsletter Engage and also had a piece in both the July/August 2017 and December 2017 IASP newsletter introducing the group.</li><li>4. Social media in relation to the group was established, including the ECG website (<a href="https://iasp.info/iasp-ecg/">https://iasp.info/iasp-ecg/</a>) and Twitter account (@IASP_ECG), which is maintained by Co-chairs.</li><li>5. We have made regular contact with group members and associates, advising them of opportunities, and ways to participate with IASP.</li><li>6. We hosted our first Twitter Q&amp;A with Professor Ellen Townsend.</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. We will continue recruitment of members with additional newsletter pieces and an additional mail out to IASP members, to encourage joining.</li><li>2. We will also host our second and third Twitter Q&amp;A with confirmed and also host our first webinar.</li><li>3. We plan to disseminate periodic Engage newsletters this year</li><li>4. We will send periodic mail outs to members regarding opportunities and group updates and to continue our activity on social media.</li><li>5. We will match ECG Members and Associates with SIG co-Chairs, to provide the SIGs with assistance and host a skype session to ascertain progress in Summer 2018.</li><li>6. We will arrange presence of our SIG at the Asia Pacific conference</li><li>7. We will create promotional materials for the ECG to be disseminated at conferences.</li><li>8. We will coordinate a presence at the ESSSB17 conference in Ghent, Belgium.</li><li>9. We will continue to have regular Skype calls to coordinate our activities.</li></ol>	

## SIG: Nomenclature

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Diego De Leo & Morton Silverman (8 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To increase attention on nomenclatures through the international distribution of a survey on use and attitudes towards current terminologies for all suicide-related behaviours.</li><li>2. To produce high-level publications in the area, inclusive of volumes, booklets and articles, in addition to all other forms of diffusion (e.g., conferences, media, etc.).</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Produced a piece for the February, 2018. IASP newsletter to update members on the group's activities and also to attract new members to the SIG.</li><li>2. Published an article in Suicide and Life Threatening Behavior: Goodfellow B, Kolves K, &amp; De Leo D (2017). Contemporary nomenclatures of suicidal behaviors: A systematic literature review.</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Distribute an international survey on use and attitudes towards current terminologies.</li><li>2. Report the analysis of survey results at professional meetings.</li><li>3. Expand membership and interest in SIG's activities.</li></ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Receiving external funding to continue the work of the SIG</li><li>2. Using the same terminology and set of definitions would be of paramount importance for all surveillance programs and large cooperative projects. The nature of the task (standardising the nomenclature) is itself a challenging one.</li></ol>	

## SIG: Clusters & contagion in suicidal behaviour

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Ella Arensman & Jo Robinson (17 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Share information on definitions and the methodologies used in identifying clusters and contagion in suicidal behaviour.</li><li>2. Share information obtained in research into clusters and contagion in different countries and facilitates comparative international research.</li><li>3. Share information on policy, response procedures and prevention strategies for clusters and contagion in suicidal behaviour from different countries and compare effectiveness.</li><li>4. Increase awareness of clusters and contagion in suicidal behaviour and associated risk factors.</li><li>5. Share and transfer expertise across countries when clusters in suicidal behaviour emerge.</li><li>6. Facilitate international collaborative grant applications to progress international comparative research, prevention and policy in this area.</li><li>7. Act as an expert group for individuals and organisations seeking information and advice.</li></ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Plenary lecture: Self-Harm and Suicide Contagion and Clustering at 29<sup>th</sup> IASP World Congress in Kuching, Malaysia, July 2017.</li><li>2. Establishment of Ireland-Australia consortium on Socio-ecological and Geospatial Research into Suicide and Self-Harm Clustering.</li><li>3. Development of Suicide and Self-Harm Observatory for identifying emerging clusters of suicide.</li><li>4. Workshop: An enhanced psychological autopsy approach towards examining suicide and supporting families bereaved by suicide.</li><li>5. Recruitment of new members</li></ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Symposium on Suicide Clustering and Contagion at the IASP Asia Pacific Conference in New Zealand, May 2018.</li><li>2. Presentation submissions made to ESSSB17 conference in Ghent, 2018.</li></ol>	

## SIG: Risk, resilience and reasons for living

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Danuta Wasserman, Bruce Bongar, Maurizio Pompili & Maryke Van Zyl (SIG coordinator) (17 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To study warning signs of suicidal behavior and protective factors that may vary or remain consistent cross-culturally. This is also referred to as cultural risk and resilience.</li> <li>2. To adapt various measures used for the assessment of suicide risk to different cultures.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Participated in the World Congress of the International Association for Suicide Prevention in Malaysia.</li> <li>2. Presented at the Suicide Research Summit in Henderson, NV.</li> <li>3. Annual meeting held in June 2017 to discuss future directions.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To expand and maintain our social media presence, including our Facebook page.</li> <li>2. To continue our collaboration with Native American Tribes to implement culturally sensitive suicide assessment and prevention methods utilizing resilience and reasons for living.</li> <li>3. To conduct online surveys based in California and Belgium to study suicide risk, resilience and reasons for living among gender and sexual minority individuals.</li> </ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. New members are interested in the SIG, but the cost of IASP membership appears to be an issue.</li> <li>2. It may be helpful to have a central database of SIG members, particularly in follow-up to interest shown at the IASP congress in Malaysia.</li> </ol>	

## SIG: Suicide and the workplace

<b>Chairs (number of members)</b>	Sally Spencer-Thomas, Allison Milner & Katrina Witt (52 members)
<b>Objectives</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To expand scholarship exploring suicide and workplace issues;</li> <li>2. To develop model policies and protocols for workplaces to adapt;</li> <li>3. To share promising practices of suicide prevention programs and training;</li> <li>4. To develop a community of researchers and practitioners interested in workplace suicide prevention.</li> </ol>	
<b>Main activities - 2017</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SST established two national research partnerships, with Dr. Thomas Joiner's Lab and Professor Anthony Fulginiti.</li> <li>2. SST Programmatic Activity in Construction in United States and Canada included trainings, presentations and a podcast.</li> <li>3. The SIG was involved in the creation of additional documents including blogs, case studies, a guidebook, new programmes and a workplace needs assessment tool. <b>(All documents are available)</b></li> <li>4. Co-Chairs were awarded three different funding streams and one fellowship to conduct research and evaluations on the SIG topic.</li> <li>5. Co-Chairs were involved in two book chapters and multiple peer review publications, all available on request.</li> <li>7. Co-Chairs gave multiple presentations to gatekeepers, stakeholders, at conferences and to the public.</li> <li>8. Held an SIG meeting and honouring ceremony at the IASP World Congress.</li> </ol>	
<b>Proposed activities - 2018</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. AM undertaking travel to France to further progress collaborative research on the relationship between job stress and suicide.</li> <li>2. A dedicated stream for work and suicide included in IASP Asia Pacific Conference, 2018 and the ESSSB17.</li> <li>3. AM included Conference Selection Committee, IASP Asia Pacific Conference, 2018. SST selected as featured speaker on workplace topics.</li> <li>4. New funded program of work (AM and KW) to examine the lifelong effects of self-harm in adolescence on educational outcomes, employment outcomes, and psychosocial job quality.</li> <li>5. KW and colleagues received funding to undertake a review and provide recommendations to reduce suicide rates in Australian medical students and doctors.</li> <li>6. SST to develop a series of on-line courses for workplaces (HR, employment law and safety professionals) on resilience, mental health promotion and suicide prevention.</li> <li>7. SST and research team to launch new study on how best to reintegrate an employee after a suicide attempt or mental health crisis.</li> </ol>	
<b>Challenges</b>	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Opportunities to grow awareness of the SIG though collaborations with INSERM, MCRI, and others? How to convert these into memberships?</li> <li>2. Would benefit from some administrative support to help us foster a sense of community within the SIG and better social media presence.</li> </ol>	



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