

East Midlands Medical Sociology Group – annual report 2011

Having been reawakened from a period of dormancy in late 2009, the group has had an active 2010, with two major events organised by the group. A 'relaunch' conference in June 2010 attracted about 40 delegates from around the East Midlands and beyond, and included a keynote presentation from Sarah Nettleton plus further presentations from medical sociologists from around the region, as well as a 'speed networking' event and a workshop to discuss the format of future events organised by the group. This was followed in November by an 'ethnography masterclass' with the renowned American medical sociologist Charles Bosk, who was visiting colleagues in Leicester and kindly agreed to lead what turned out to be a hugely stimulating event, attended by just over 30 delegates.

The group made the decision not to charge for either event: the 'relaunch conference' was intended to prompt interest and participation from as wide a group as possible, while the ethnography masterclass was put on at minimal expense to the group (£11.71 for refreshments). The group will make decisions about attendance fees for non-BSA members in future on an event-by-event basis.

In 2011, the group plans to hold at least one further conference, likely to take place in the summer at De Montfort University. Paula Saukko (University of Loughborough) has succeeded Graham Martin as convener.