

HUMAN REPRODUCTION STUDY GROUP

1. Established: 2003

2. Current Membership Figure: 176 (JISC mailing list)

It is unknown how many of these are BSA members

3. Income and expenditure

Income from June event: £1189

Expenditure: £1030.78

Opening balance: £1545.05

4. Aims of SG:

The Human Reproduction Study Group brings together academics who are interested in the social aspects of human reproduction. The group also encourages networking and collaboration activities between a wide range of academics, activists and practitioners interested in social aspects of Human Reproduction.

5. Review of Year and Key Activities:

The group continues to grow and in addition to the group activities being attended by researchers working in the discipline of sociology, delegates have also been drawn from bioethics, anthropology, history; nursing and midwifery, science and technology studies, demography and psychology.

The group now runs two events a year, the annual conference which is held during the summer but also a second 'winter event' sometimes at another institution.

In 2016, the summer conference was held at De Montfort University (DMU) on the 10th June. This was the first time the annual conference was held at DMU under the convenorship of Kylie Baldwin (who replaced Laura Machin as convenor in 2015) and Cathy Herbrand (who replaced Sam Murphy as convenor in 2016). Due to the large number of high quality abstracts submitted to the annual conference an additional concurrent stream was added to the event making this a three (rather than usually two) stream conference. Positive feedback on the event was received from delegates who tweeted under the hashtag #HRSG2016.

The winter event was held on Monday 5th December 2016 at De Montfort University. This half day event brought together three invited speakers from History, Sociology and Reproductive Health to examine the past, present and future of abortion in the UK and to illustrate the centrality of abortion to wider understandings of women's position in society.

The JISC mailing list continues to grow and now has 176 members. Its main function tends to be for information regarding publications, events and job opportunities in the field.

6. Forthcoming events

We are currently organising the coming events:

- A symposium on the sociological aspects on new reproductive technologies for mitochondrial disorders (5th May, London) supported by the Sociology of Health and Illness Foundation and the BSA.
- The Annual Conference of the BSA HRSG that will take place on 23rd May at De Montfort University with professor Jacqui Gabb as the keynote speaker. A Call for Papers has been sent out and abstracts will be reviewed by 1st April.

7. Concluding Remarks:

This year has also seen further changes to the convening of the group with Sam Murphy stepping down as convenor from 2016 onwards. We are very grateful to Sam for all her hard work and commitment to the group whilst she has been a convenor. Sam is being replaced by Dr Cathy Herbrand from De Montfort University.

7. Convenor/s Name/s:

Kylie Baldwin
Cathy Herbrand

8. Contact E-mail:

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9. SG web link:

<https://www.britsoc.co.uk/groups/study-groups/human-reproduction-study-group/>