

**Report of Comparative Policy and Practice SIRG
IASSID Council Meeting
May 27-28, 2007**

Summary of Past Year Activities

The first meeting of the comparative policy and practice SIRG was held at the Maastricht European Congress and the Executive committee elected with Jim Mansell (UK) as the Chair, Johannes Schaedler (Germany), Julie Beadle-Brown (UK) as secretary/treasurer and Chris Fyffe (Australia), Chris Bigby (Australia), Eric Emerson (UK) and David Braddock (US) as ordinary members.

It was agreed at that meeting to hold the 2007 SIRG roundtable in Prague, attached to the final conference for the current EU project led by Jim Mansell and Julie Beadle-Brown (among others) and involving other members of the SIRG. It was agreed that Eric Emerson, Julie Beadle-Brown and Jim Mansell would form the programme committee and the Julie Beadle-Brown would work with Jan Siska (Czech Republic) and Judith Klein (Open Society Institute Mental Health Initiative) in order to sort the organization of the roundtable. It was agreed that the first meeting would take the form of topic discussions rather than lots of presentations and would also include a meeting about how the SIRG would operate in the future.

JBB, EE and JM met in December 2006 and agreed the topics for the programme and identified some possible discussants, all of whom subsequently agreed to the role.

The organization of the conference is now complete and registration is now open on the IASSID website.

Membership for 2007 stands at 39.

Plans for Upcoming Year

The main event for next year will be the Prague Roundtable meeting 16th – 17th November 2007. At that meeting, future activities will be discussed and planned.

Issues or Acting Items

None at present

Discussion Points for Council

Representation of the SIRG

Comparative Policy and Practice SIRG Financial statement for 2007.

Expenditure since last report

Due to the fact that this is the first year of the CCP SIRG there has been no expenditure to date.

Income

Membership fees as of 1st April 2007 amounted to \$648.15.

Registration fees for the Roundtable are being collected by IASSID and will be transferred to the University of Kent before the payment of conference costs are due to the venue in Prague. It is anticipated that no profit will be made from these fees but that fees will just cover the costs of running the Roundtable meeting. However, should there be any profit, this will be added to the SIRG funds and used towards budget item 3 below.

Budget for 2007/2008

In terms of the budget for next year, the CCP SIRG does not have representation on the council of IASSID in the coming year. In addition, registration fees for the first CCP SIRG roundtable in Prague had already been set before SIRG membership income was confirmed.

It is therefore proposed that we use the fees available to us (both from 2007 and from 2008 membership) to do three things:

- 1) To offer two registration fee scholarships/grant for applicants from Eastern European or less developed countries at the SIRG Roundtable in Prague and/or the preceding international conference on Deinstitutionalization and Community Living (approximate cost \$380).
- 2) To contribute towards the costs of a SIRG meeting at the World Congress in Cape Town in August 2008 (to include room hire if necessary and subsidy towards registration fees for the roundtable – arrangements to be discussed at the Roundtable meeting in Prague).
- 3) To help speakers from Eastern European and other less developed countries to contribute to a comparative policy and practice symposium at the World Congress in Cape Town.

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