

International Society for Critical Health Psychology General Meeting

Friday 28 July 2023, 15:30-16:00

O'Higgins University, Rancagua, Chile

Action Notes

Welcome and Previous Notes
1. Sarah welcomed us all to the General Meeting, acknowledged how it was positive to see many people stay for the meeting on the last day of a very busy and successful conference.
2. Confirmation of the Action Notes of the previous ISCHP General Meeting. The last action notes from the ISCHP General Meeting from the 2021 conference in Poneke/Wellington in Aotearoa/New Zealand (as well as all archived previous meeting notes) are available at https://ischp.net/past-conferences/
Reports
a. Chair's Report (Sarah Riley) Highlights for me in the last two years, since the previous chairs report are as follows: Membership: we've increased it from 850 to over 1000. We've had two conference successes, recognising the Aotearoa New Zealand pivoted at the last minute online, and the work that the committee did to create hubs in different countries to create community during the Covid crisis. And I acknowledge the continuing commitment to developing community and inclusive conferences by the Chile committee, in particular doing our first hybrid online/in person, bilingual conference. I also celebrate the fact that this was our second conference in the global south, and our first in the continent of South America. I'm also delighted to know that there is a personal commitment by the Irish conference chair for 2025 to continue to build relationships with our colleagues in South American countries. I acknowledged the success of the email list, it's simple, easy to use and effective. I have many comments from people personally about how much they enjoyed the supportive style and its usefulness in developing them as researchers I celebrated the success of the blog, and noted that much as work is done by students, and how much we appreciate student and early career researchers, recognising importance both of their contribution to the society, and the society's responsibility to support them as our future generations of critical health psychologists. I made a commitment to developing a handbook for doing the Society conference, so we don't ask conference organisers to reinvent the wheel, and note that we have two student reps undertaking this work. And finally, I was delighted to make the announcement that the Massey health psychology team have successfully been awarded the opportunity to create an open access book. We will use this to expand the reach and impact of critical health psychology, by creating an open access handbook for critical health psychology that can be used for teaching and training, as well as professional development for established academics. The open access book will be freely available and under a creative Commons license. That means scholars in different countries can reproduce the book and add/replace parts of it with their own more relevant content, for example, using their national statistics.
b. Treasurer's Report (Tracy Morison) Finances continue to be run as per ISCHP's operational principles (https://ischp.net/). Surplus from all previous conferences are held in ISCHP's central bank account, which is with Kiwibank in New Zealand and 2 signatories are required for transactions. The current signatories are Kerry Chamberlain, Chris Stephens and Tracy Morison. The surplus from the previous conference, organised by the NZ conference committee chaired by Alexandra Gibson, was transferred to this account in October 2021.
c. Communications Co-Ordinator's Report (Kerry Chamberlain) The ISCHP list (ischp@lists.massey.ac.nz) is our major communication network, which keeps track of our membership, announces items of interest, and has occasional bursts of discussion on germane topics. This last is actually its major function for the Society, and it has proved a highly useful one on several occasions over the last two years. Post statistics: Between July 2021 and June 2023, the list carried 924 posts, an average of 38.5 per month. The majority of these were announcements of jobs, conferences, workshops, seminars, calls for special issues of journals, calls for chapters in edited books, and various other matters, totalling around 70% of the posts. The remaining 30% were discussions and interactions between members. The list is unmoderated for members, with posts going out to all automatically, and replies directed to all, since this is intended as a discussion list. Posting from non-subscribers (and from subscribers using a different email address) are moderated and distributed or rejected according to content. We have been virtually free of spam postings until late 2022, but these have increased since, with one commercial entity posting one or two per day for several months. These require manual checking, so are a real nuisance for the moderator. We have had the odd occasion when someone has subscribed to post commercial content, and this is managed by a personal email asking the member to desist, which has been effective so far. Membership statistics: Membership of the list hovers between 1090 and 1130. All new memberships require moderator involvement to confirm the subscription. Members can depart without moderator involvement, but about half of departing members fail to follow the

instructions correctly and require moderator involvement. Members are auto-reminded of their subscription to the list once a year, and this usually produces a small wave of resignations. Other small waves of resignations are caused by a burst of posting (4 or 5 on the same day) and by contentious debates on the list, which occur every 18 months or so. Such resignations are not of concern as they are presumably lurkers on the list who do not value the bulk of the content and cannot hit the delete button. Resignations are offset by a continual flow of new memberships, and the membership has not dropped below 1090 or above 1130 for the last two years. As the list has a simple subscribe system, which only documents a member's email, it is not possible to determine country of membership (e.g., we have 280 current members with a Gmail address), but membership is spread widely across the world, with a concentration on the Anglophone world.

The ISCHP Blog

The Blog editors have delivered a detailed report on the ISCHP Blog (below). Do note that we will be seeking volunteers to act as Blog Commissioning Editors after the AGM.

The ISCHP Podcast

The podcast is currently in abeyance.

d. Blog Editors' Report (Franciska Neuhauser and Jessica Tappin)

Publishing Record:

1. In the period since the last ISCHP conference we have published **25 blogs** (just over one per month).
2. These have consisted of **15 original blogs**, and **10 reposted blogs** from other sources (eg., The Conversation, The Research Whisperer).
3. There has been a wide range of interesting topics. The blogs tend towards three categories. Firstly, outlines and overviews of interesting critical health psychology research. Secondly, issues & challenges of *doing* critical health psychology research. Lastly, commentary on research more broadly, including academic publishing. Some examples include:
 1. The researchers' place in community-based research;
 2. Gender-diverse healthcare;
 3. Human-dog companionship and wellbeing;
 4. The burden of "free-labour" in public research dissemination.
 5. Online sperm donation and reproductive justice.

Readership:

1. Averaging approximately **120 views per blog**.
2. We have **248 blog subscribers**. These people receive an email whenever we post a new blog. If you are interested, you can sign up on our website: <https://ischp.net/sign-up-to-the-ischp-blog/>
3. Original content tends to receive more traffic than reposted blogs.
4. The blogs automatically post to Twitter and Facebook.
Going forward:
 1. Increase our average to 2 a month
 2. Decrease the number of reposts, aiming for a higher percentage of original content.
 3. Anyone who has an idea for a blog post can contact the publishers (Jessica or Franciska), or any of the commissioning editors. Contact details found here: <https://ischp.net/committee/>

a. Report from the ISCHP 2023 Local Conference Organising Committee (Nicolás Schöngut-Grollmus)

Nicolás thanked everyone who contributed to a successful ISCHP2023 conference and acknowledged the work of the local organising committee, the support of the Exec, and reflected on the success of simultaneous interpretation, and engagement with the local Rancagua community. At the moment, we are in line to come away with approximately 2,000,000CLP of the seed funding to return to ISCHP, but this exact figure will change depending on the outcome of liaising with the University.

Action: The finalised financials are to be provided to the Treasurer and any balance transferred to the central ISCHP account.

ISCHP Executive Committee

Following the call on the ISCHP mailing list for nominations for the Executive Committee ahead of the conference, the following members were nominated and seconded, and are now new or continuing Executive Committee members:

Yanela Ndabula

Janice Moodley

Kristi Urry

At the ISCHP conference, the following members were nominated and seconded, and are now new Executive Committee members:

Maria Horvath

Irmgard Tischner

Paulina Bondaronek

ISCHP 2025 Bid Presentation and Discussion

Chris Noone from Ollscoil na Gaillimhe / University of Galway in Éire / Ireland presented a bid to host the ISCHP conference in 2025. The Society has received confirmation from the local head of school with regards to support for the bid.

The bid was comprehensive, with some of the key details being:

1. **Dates:** Possible dates put forward for the conference are in the first week of July, 2025
2. **Local organisers:** Chris already has support from a team of local colleagues to support conference organisation and expects other collaborators would advise the team.
3. **Proposed theme:** The proposed theme of “Contesting Borders” acknowledges the historical context of Ireland and also resonates with ISCHP principles in considering permeation of ideas from critical health psychology to mainstream health psychology.
4. **Local organisations and projects.** Several local community groups working to achieve social justice and improve health and wellbeing in communities have links with the organising team.
5. **Venue.** The Arts Millenium building is convenient to campus and the city centre.
6. **Budget.** A draft budget has been provided which looks feasible. There was a question from the audience about student scholarships (particularly noting that South American students attending ISCHP 2023 would like opportunities to continue to engage with the Society and conference). Chris mentioned that there are opportunities locally that the organising team will explore and was enthusiastic about student support.
7. **Travel.** Chris outlined travel and accommodation possibilities, with several options for getting to and staying in town.
8. **Social programme.** A barbeque at the university bar, Sult, has been suggested for the conference dinner given the beautiful and accessible location. Galway has an excellent reputation for food and nightlight.

Following the presentation of the bid, the general meeting voted and it was unanimously and enthusiastically agreed that Galway should be the host of the ISCHP 2025 conference.

Date of next meeting

The next General Meeting will be held in July 2025 in Gaillimhe / Galway

ISCHP Executive Committee Members following the 2023 General Meeting

(email:ischp-exec@lists.massey.ac.nz; only emails from list members' addresses will distribute)

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Vice-Chair	Bridgette Rickett	b.rickett@shu.ac.uk	Department of Psychology, Sociology and Politics, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK
Secretary (and podcast co-editor)	Brett Scholz	brett.scholz@anu.edu.au	School of Medicine and Psychology, The Australian National University, Canberra, Australia
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Past Chair	Gareth Treharne	gareth.treharne@otago.ac.nz	Department of Psychology, University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand
Past Conference Chair (2023)	Nicolás Schöngut Grollmus	nicolas.schongut@uoh.cl	Institute of Health Sciences, O'Higgins University, Rancagua, Chile
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