

## **Regular Meeting Global Mental Health Research Group:**

Wednesday, 7 December 2016, 10.00-12.00,

Centre for International Health, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, assembly area

### **- Minutes -**

#### **1. BSRS2017: Presentation of BSRS framework and objective – Ingunn Engebretsen**

Opening the meeting, Ingunn presented the new framework of the annual Bergen Summer Research School. A consortium of HIB, UIB, NHH, CMI and Uni Research collaboratively hosts six methodology focused PhD-courses. In 2017, these 2-week courses will take place in Bergen from 12-22 June. One of the courses, *Mental health and child development in societies of change*, focuses on child mental health and migration, [here's](#) a brief description. Ingunn coordinates this course and GMHRG-members will play leading roles. 8-20 Researchers – mostly PhD candidates - from around the world working on child mental health and migration will participate. Please see attached presentation for more detail.

#### **2. BSRS2017: Discussion on course focus and content; on course contribution from the GMHRG-members, particularly from the Faculty of Psychology – In Gunn Engebretsen**

We discussed focus areas and thematic priorities of the BSRS2017-course, based on a draft course schedule. We agreed

- to further sharpen the focus of sessions on methodological discussion and to maintain a research focus throughout the course
- to give participants an early-on opportunity to introduce their field of research and embed it in the course theme.
- to shift, change, and trim the schedule at some points – a new, reviewed schedule will be shared soon.
- We agreed on the external and internal contributors, and how we will integrate the various sessions more harmonically.

#### **3. "Migration and Health" - David Sam**

David kindly offered a glimpse into the course subject, he gave an overview of the nexus of health and migration. He first clarified key concepts and offered a broader than conventional definition of "migrant". On this basis, he suggested that health systems and societies are challenged by migrants' cultural backgrounds, their different understandings of health, as well as their uncertainties when facing new systems. To address this, systems and societies need to understand the complexity of ethnicity and the lasting influence of trauma. Building intercultural expertise among health care providers was thus suggested as priority measure

towards a health system for plural societies. Please see attached presentation for more detail.

#### **4 Closing – Benet Moen**

Bente commended the interdisciplinary nature of the research group, which is in line with the University's "Global Challenges" focus defined for 2017. Moreover, she reminded us of the SDG relevance of the group's topic – and that therefore she recommended the the GMHRG highlights the connection to the SDGs in future proposals and projects. She closed the seminar at 12 o'clock.