

Social care research bulletin No 1.1 – student special.

March 2017.



The annual Social Care Ireland conference was held in Galway this year and while the sudden cold snap delayed temporarily the arrival of some delegates, it did nothing to dampen spirits. The theme of the conference was *The Changing Face of Social Care* and this was reflected across the conference, especially in contributions from students. Undergraduate and postgraduate students took the opportunity to showcase their research through both academic poster and oral presentations. The Irish Association of Social Care Educators kindly sponsored first and second prizes for the postgraduate oral presentations, which no doubt added a little extra incentive for presenters. The judging panel included a representative from each of Social Care Ireland's constituent groups – Ms Christine Barretto (workers), Mr Micheal Hackett (managers) and Mr John Byrne (educators).



First prize went to Sharon O’Flaherty (LIT) for her presentation – *Exploring food insecurity among single parents in Ireland*. A close second was Caroline Dunne (ITC) – *Perceptions of formal supervision in social care services*.

Postgraduate oral presentations.

There was keen interest in the postgraduate oral presentations, with seven postgraduates competing. The presenters in order of presentation were: Jacqueline Kearney (LIT) on ‘*The importance of mentoring our youth of today in a rapidly changing landscape of care*’. Sharon O’Flaherty (LIT) on ‘*Exploring food insecurity among single parents in Ireland*’. Elena Vaughan (NUIG) on ‘*Changing the conversation: Discourses of “responsibilisation” in newspaper coverage of HIV in Ireland and implications for prevention and policy and practice*’. Nancy Rochford-Flynn (LIT) on ‘*In good times and in bad: Exploring older people’s narrative on emotional resilience*’. Jaroslava Velartova (NUIG) on ‘*Perceptions of risk in social care*’. Caroline Dunne (ITC) on ‘*Perceptions of formal supervision in social care services*’, and the final presenter was Aoife Gallagher (ITS) on ‘*Supporting the bereaved child: A systematic review of interventions*’.

Unfortunately, Debbie Vaughan (DIT) was unable to present on ‘*Positioning social care: How policy discourses position care providers and recipients*’ due to illness and we wish Debbie a speedy recovery.

Academic posters.

There were posters by both undergraduates and postgraduates. Postgraduate research was represented by Ms Lucy Barry-Dawkins, Jennifer Stritch and Carmel McKenna’s (LIT) poster on *Ambiguous loss*. Undergrad posters were presented by Mr Barry Prendergast and Ms Susan Lee (NUIG) who presented a poster asking ‘*Does interprofessional working contribute to quality service provision?*’. While Ms Yvonne Wehrly (NUIG) examined ‘*How social norms around masculinity limit domestic violence service provision for men*’.

Congratulations to the winners and presenters.

If you have research updates that you would like included in future bulletins, please email researchsig@socialcareireland.ie

Regards, The RSIG.