

Public Engagement in Education and Research (PEER) Network School of Healthcare Sciences Bangor University

Spring Newsletter Number 1 May 2016



Welcome

Welcome to our first newsletter where we will keep you up to date with events and progress within the PEER network. Please share with your group members and send any information you wish to be included in the newsletter to the Public Engagement Lead Dr Marjorie Ghisoni m.ghisoni@bangor.ac.uk. All information will be kept in easy to read format with minimal jargon, as suggested by Participation Cymru (2011) in their National Principles for Public Engagement in Wales. (For more Information, see <http://www.participationcymru.org.uk/national-principles>)

Public Engagement across the School of Healthcare Sciences

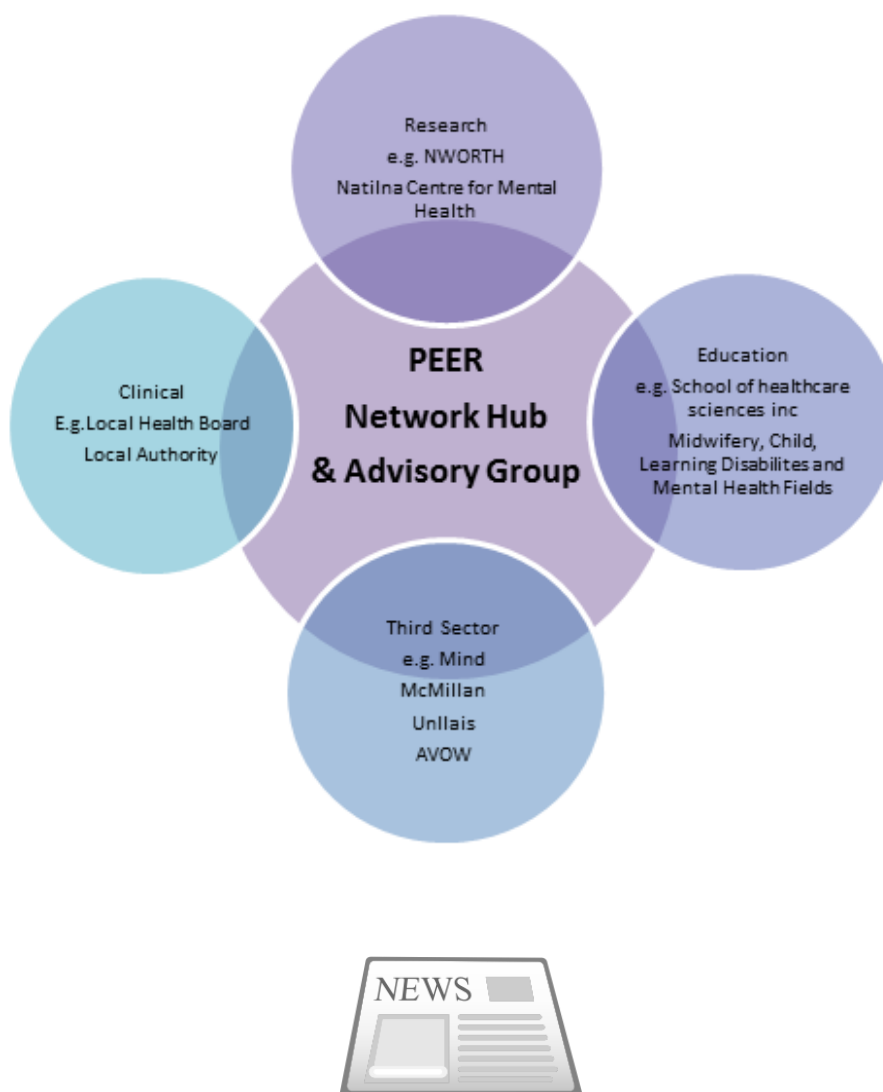
We now have a webpage up on the School website which will just be for information at the moment but hopefully we can develop it further as we grow and expand. There is also a network strategy being prepared and translated which can also go onto the website along with this newsletter, in an effort to be as open and transparent to the public as possible. See <https://www.bangor.ac.uk/healthcaresciences/> for more information.

Membership of the Public Engagement in Education and Research (PEER) Network.

The wider network consists of 29 key people who are linked into other organisations as well as individual members - see diagram below. This allows us to find members of the public more widely, to become involved with school activities and to share our information with other organisations. Hopefully, this will become a two-way system in that information is shared across all networks and also within this newsletter.

So that people do not get bombarded with emails there is also a smaller advisory group of around 10 people who are willing to give advice on activities within the network for example the strategy, curriculum documentation and research information sheets etc.

Diagram 1 Members of the PEER Network



News and Events

The purpose of this newsletter is also to share any news and events and this will depend upon members of the network sharing information as above and sending information to the Public Engagement Lead so that it can be cascaded through the other networks. There are some quite exciting things happening that should encourage members to become more involved in school activities.

February 2016 The School of Healthcare Sciences held weeklong student interviews on both the Wrexham and Bangor sites, which were well attended by both students and Service Users and Carer volunteers. Service users and carers worked alongside staff in leading group work tasks and interviewing individual students. Feedback from the volunteers was very positive in that it was very rewarding for them to be part of the process. For more information on volunteering at any events please contact the public health lead Marjorie Ghisoni who will notify the people who are organising the event.

Dr Malcolm Godwin has been working closely with The Pan London Initiative to develop a service user feedback form for students to take out with them to placement. Students are asked to gather at least 5 feedbacks per year and this appears to be working well in practice. To read more go to https://www.heacademy.ac.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/7.3_baillie_fish-eval_service_user_feedback.pdf

April 2016 Dr Seren Roberts successfully appointed four service user researchers to the “Finding a Way Forward for Mental Wellbeing” research project in mental health recovery. The researchers will become full members of the team and will be responsible for gathering and analysing data alongside the project team. This group is part of the All Wales Service User and Carer Mental Health Research Group, which is supported by the National Centre for Mental Health in Cardiff. (For more information see <http://ncmh.info/>)

11th May 2016 Dr Ruth Wyn Williams organised a Health & Wellbeing listening event at Fron Heulog in Bangor for people with learning disabilities and their carers to come together and discuss issues in health care. Ruth hopes to hold similar events in the east soon.

June 6th The PEER Network Advisory Group have been invited to join a meeting via video conferencing in the Wrexham Archimedes Centre as part of the All Wales Service User and Carer Involvement in Health care Sciences Network, which includes Swansea University, Cardiff University and the New South Wales University. This group have been asked to feedback to the Workforce Education Development Services (WEDS) who work with the Welsh Government and NHS Wales to monitor and provide good quality services and training. We will also meet as a group for the first time and discuss training and support for members of the PEER Network.



Useful Information & Links

INVOLVE is a UK wide organisation that helps people to learn more about becoming involved in healthcare research and there is some useful information on their website. You can also join their mailing list for up to date newsletters <http://www.invo.org.uk/>

Health and Care Research Wales is a new organisation that aims to bring together people who are interested in getting more involved in research. They also offer training and support across wales Please check the website for up to date venues and dates <http://www.healthandcareresearch.gov.wales/>

Participation Cymru is an all wales network that offers training and opportunities to network across public services including education, government and third sector organisations. Please check the website for venues and dates <http://www.participationcymru.org.uk/>