



Evidence into Practice Special Interest Group

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Welcome

Welcome to our first edition of the Evidence into Practice Special Interest Group *Newsletter*

The purpose of the EIPSIG Newsletter is to keep members up to date with any items of interest in events or activities and snippets of information that may be relevant to our Special Interest Group (SIG).

To ensure that we all get the most value from our Newsletter it is important that it is used as a two-way flow of information. Do therefore ensure that you use it for informing other members of work that you are involved, or any events you are hosting or are aware of that you consider to be relevant and would be of value to others.

Send your information to [EiPSIG@hscni.net](mailto:eiPSIG@hscni.net)



Click here to find out more/ under SIG link





A message from Anne McGlade - Convenor

My name is Anne McGlade, Social Care Research Lead employed within Northern Ireland Social Care Council. The Social Care Council is the regulator [\(See details by clicking on the blue box\)](#) for social work and social care workforce and in 2023 took on responsibility for the Strategic Research and Evidence agenda for social work and social care. On behalf of members I wish to say a huge thank you to Sigrid James, with whom I have worked closely since the 2020 Pre-Conference event in Amsterdam, when Sigrid took on the role of Convenor. I'm delighted that Sigrid will remain engaged as an

There also a number of others including Brian Taylor (co-founder), Siddhartha Bavisar, Kresta Sørensen and Bruce Tyler whose names you will hear throughout the year and who have been engaged with this SIG since its inception.

It is an exciting time to be engaged in this work, but also it is becoming increasingly important. A plethora of terms are currently in use on websites, in blogs and in journal articles to describe the activity such as *evidence use*, *evidence utilisation*, *evidence mobilisation*. Some have been more concerned with the science associated with *evidence implementation*. All are valuable in their own right.

Our SIG has adopted a very broad interpretation of evidence and consider qualitative research approaches and strategies as well as quantitative strategies to be important. Likewise, the issue of context, including organisational factors, is critical with getting evidence into practice and adopted.

[About the regulator read more here](#)



A little bit of history on how EIPSIG started

For anyone new to the group and who would like a little bit more about the history of EIPSIG we were delighted to have had an article accepted in 'Research, Policy and Practice Exchange' section of this new journal, European Social Work Research (a collaborative venture involving European Social Work Research Association). This was written to bring the launch of the Evidence into Practice Special Interest Group to a wider audience and to encourage participation. The article gives something of the context for the Evidence into Practice Special Interest Group and a flavour of the presentations at the 2022 European Conference for Social Work Research.



European Social Work Research

View EIPSIG Article

Find out more



Catch up from Vilnius ESWRA Conference 2024

SIG Event Big Data Analytics

In view of the 2024 ESWRA Conference Theme **Envisioning Future: Social Work Research and Discourse in the Age of Industry 4.0** featuring technological innovations in social work and social work research we were delighted to welcome Professor Brian Taylor and Dr Beth Coulthard Ulster University to our pre-conference SIG Event. Beth's presentation commenced with a somewhat challenging proposition;

Artificial intelligence (the robot!) WILL steal your job!

Using an interactive and engaging style, interjected with quizzes and videos Beth led us through this challenging proposition exploring pros and cons.

It is evident AI can assist users in all phases of the big data cycle, or the processes involved in the aggregation, storage, and retrieval of diverse types of data from various sources. These include data management, pattern management, context management, decision management, action management, goal management, and risk management. But like all good debates and research discussions the answer is inconclusive. It will like so many things have its proponents and its opponents. The answer will lie somewhat in the middle.

Click below to view more articles and contributions by the presenters

[Big data analytics for making decisions and managing risk — Ulster University](#)

[Click here to view Beth C and Brian Taylor's](#)

As convenor and Newsletter editor I am using my privilege to add a comment. "As a newcomer to the whole debate on AI, I appreciate that I really need to better understand it. In the meantime, I am prepared to admit AI has a role when applied sensibly and thoughtfully by subject-matter experts. By that I mean people with long-standing experience with the problem that they are trying to solve. Deciding what to predict and how to frame those predictions is frequently the most challenging aspect of applying AI - Despite extensive talk of algorithms and big data. Likewise, subject expertise will be required to know if models will continue to work in the future, be accurate on different populations, and enable meaningful interventions".

Our EIPSIG Plans for 2024

We are delighted that for 2024 a number of seminars will be arranged as part of our objective for networking, engagement, building relationships and sharing good practice. Siddhartha Baviskar and Sigrid James are currently compiling a programme of seminars, speakers and topics.

If you are interested in being added to the programme for a future seminar do provide your topic and details to EiPSIG@hscni.net

Our first seminar will be in June 2024

Change of Details of speaker for first seminar

Our speaker is now is Siddhartha Baviskar, Ph.D., is Associate Professor at the Institute of Social Work, University College Copenhagen, Denmark.

Registration Details for our first seminar remains the same



Change of details of speaker

Presentation by: Siddhartha Baviskar

Date: Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Time 19:00 (CET)/ 18.00 BST/ 13:00

SAVE THE DATE - Evidence into Practice Special

Interest Group (EIPSIG) is delighted to announce the first in a series of seminars



Speaker Biography

Dr Siddhartha Baviskar, Ph.D., is Associate Professor at the Institute of Social Work, University College Copenhagen, Denmark.

He teaches and conducts applied research on topics related to vulnerable children and youth, including program development and testing, and the use of quantitative measures in routine social work practice. He is currently leading a feasibility study of the intervention *Me and My Foster Family II* (MOMP2) in two Danish municipalities.

You can find more information on www.momp.dk



Title: Bringing
evidence *into* and
from social work
practice:
What can we learn
from the Danish
intervention *Me and
My Foster Family?*

[Click here to join the meeting](#)



Note from Bruce Thyer

I'd like to invite all of you to consider the journal I edit, *Research on Social Work Practice*, as a possible outlet for any data-based empirical outcome studies on social work. We are also open to psychometric studies on measures for use in practice or research, and to meta-analyses or systematic reviews with a focus on interventions.

Research on Social Work Practice is a disciplinary journal devoted to the publication of empirical research concerning the assessment methods and outcomes of social work practice

Best Wishes Bruce Thyer

Note to readers: Bruce Thyer is pleased to let other EiPSIG members know that his new book exploring the world of experimental research designs in social work has been published. If any EiPSIG member would like a free copy, contact a suitable journal and offer to write a review (about 500 words). The book review editor of the journal will usually be delighted to arrange for you to receive a copy for review, and the new ESWRA journal: *European Social Work Research*, is looking for book reviews. If there is any problem in getting a free copy, Bruce has offered to reimburse the \$35 price to anyone writing a review! This is a good way to read a book in detail, and is valuable for early career academics and researchers, and for PhD students. If you are new to this, Brian can give advice on writing book reviews in general.



If you have any questions contact Bruce Thyer at bthyer@fsu.edu

If you are not a member and wish to join EiPSIG please email the convenor at EiPSIG@hscni.net

Check out the journal on *Research on Social Work Practice*:
Sage Journals (sagepub.com)



Your views are welcome

As this is our first newsletter If you think it is of value do let us know on EuPSIG@hscni.net. Ideas on how to improve it are always welcome!

- *What else would you like to see included?*
- *Are you prepared to contribute items?*

See this link for a more detailed update from ESWRA about the conference and call for abstracts for journal

[European Conference for Social Work Research \(mailchi.mp\)](#)