



**University of Brighton**

**Health and Social Policy Research Centre  
Director: Professor Marian Barnes**

# **CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

## **CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON USER INVOLVEMENT**

### **Speakers:**

- **Prof Nick Crossley** – The mental health user movement as a social movement
- **Dr Rachel Hurst** – Perspectives from the disability movement
- **Dr Lorna Warren** – Older women's participation
- **Dr Val Williams** - Involving people with learning difficulties in research

**Hove Town  
Hall, Norton  
Road, Hove,  
East Sussex,  
BN3 4AH**

**24<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Call for conference workshop  
contributions from:

- People with an interest in service user involvement who may be service users, carers, academic/researchers, activists, and/or user involvement professionals.



## University of Brighton

### Health and Social Policy Research Centre

This one day conference is an opportunity to take a critical look at the current state of 'user involvement'. Our plenary speakers are: Dr. Rachel Hurst, Director of Disability Awareness in Action; Professor Nick Crossley, University of Manchester; Dr. Lorna Warren, University of Sheffield, and member of the Older Women's Lives and Voices project; Dr. Val Williamson, Norah Fry Research Centre, and a co-researcher.

#### We invite contributions on the following themes:

**Margins to mainstream** - With its beginnings in radical activism, service user involvement has become a mainstream activity in many different settings. What are the consequences of this 'acceptance' and what may this mean for all involved?

**Motivations and expectations** - Should people always have to get involved? For those choosing to be involved, what are their reasons? What is involvement intended to achieve? And are expectations met?

**Nothing about us without us** - In the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is service user involvement able to challenge the status quo, resist oppression, and stand-up for social justice?

**Impact and outcomes** - Has service user involvement made a difference to services, research, how professionals practice, and to service users' lives?

**Agents of knowledge** - The expression 'agents of knowledge' is one used to suggest the possession of a knowledge that originates through living an experience or experiences. It is a knowledge that has originated from direct experience. Has such a knowledge influenced or challenged conventional 'expert' knowledges?

#### Selecting workshop contributions:

The criteria for selection will include: relevance to the conference theme; relevance to delegates from a wide variety of backgrounds; originality; quality of presentation of workshop proposal; contribution to a balanced programme; potential for a stimulating discussion.

#### Please use these headings to set out what your contribution will be:

1. Identification of a conference theme.
2. Brief outline of your background and interest in this theme.
3. Summary of workshop presentation.
4. List of up to five points for discussion.

Your workshop proposal (maximum two sides of A4) should be returned to HSPRC no later than 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008. You will be informed of the outcome in December 2008.

Please email proposals to [s.s.white@brighton.ac.uk](mailto:s.s.white@brighton.ac.uk) or post to Sallie White, Health and Social Policy Research Centre, University of Brighton, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9PH.



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## Proposal for workshop

### CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON USER INVOLVEMENT

*Please fill in the details below*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Postcode \_\_\_\_\_ Tel \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach separate sheet with your workshop proposal (maximum two sides of A4).

The conference fee will be £140.00, although a reduced rate of £30.00 is available for service users. All workshop presenters need to register as fee paying delegates.

Closing date for workshop proposals: 31<sup>st</sup> October 2008

Please keep a copy of this form and send the original to:

Sallie White, Research Administrator, Health and Social Policy Research Centre,  
University of Brighton, Falmer, Brighton, BN1 9PH. If you have any queries please  
contact Sallie on Tel: 01273 643480.