

## **Invitation to Participate in State of the Science Colloquia on Ageing with Intellectual Disability at the IASSID Congress, Cape Town, 25- 30, August 2008**

The Special Interest Research Group on Aging and Intellectual Disability (SIRGAID) is coordinating the aging strand of the 2008 Congress. One strategy has been an open call for papers on issues associated with aging, which will be clustered thematically into symposia. A second strategy is to organise a series of “State of the Science Colloquia” .

### **Rationale**

At the Boston Roundtable on Ageing and ID held in 1990, groups of experienced researchers prepared summary documents about the state of science on a range of topics around ageing and ID, which were used as the basis of discussion at the Roundtable and subsequently published. These summaries provided a valuable resource to new researchers and policy makers in the field. Following the 1998 Roundtable on Aging and ID in Geneva, several groups of researchers worked to produce a significant set of papers summarising knowledge about aging and intellectual disability and health and mental health, which were distributed widely.

Now, 10 years later, a major challenge is to produce a new set of papers in order to analyse and document the increased knowledge in the field of aging and intellectual disability. This set would bring together recent research findings, document the lack of knowledge in some areas, point to problems of application, programming and planning, and assist in building future research agendas. The 2008 IASSID congress provides an excellent opportunity to share all this with others working in the field of intellectual disability. It's location in Cape Town on the African continent also provides the challenge of testing the practical applications of existing knowledge in other geographical and cultural areas.

### **Call for Expressions of Interest and Plan for Preparation of Papers**

- Below is a tentative list of topics that could be the basis for a State of the Science paper. Any one interested in leading or participating in a group to develop a paper on one of these or another topic should contact Meinert Haveman ([meindert.haveman@uni-dortmund.de](mailto:meindert.haveman@uni-dortmund.de)), Maria van Laake

(m.vanlaake@sp.unimaas.nl) and Chris Bigby ([C.bigby@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:C.bigby@latrobe.edu.au)) by August 20 2007.

- Participation is not limited to SIRGAID members but open to all informed researchers on the chosen topic of ageing and ID,
- Once expressions of interest have been received, the working groups on each topic selected will be formed and names and email contacts shared. This should occur by 1 September 2007.
- Goal for the groups will be to prepare a document in article or book chapter format about the state of science for that specific topic (a systematic review of articles and books in that content area published during the last ten years). The aim would be to have the paper completed by June 2008, two month before the start of the Cape Town IASSID congress.
- One member of the each group will present the paper as part of the colloquia at the congress. Each colloquium is envisaged to be 90 minutes, with 3 papers of 20 minutes. (once groups have been formed the SIRGAID will negotiate with the Congress program committee the required number of program slots)
- All active group participants will be included as authors on the presentation and subsequent publications.
- Further discussion will occur about the form of any publication from this initiative.

### **List of topics (titles and other options are open for discussion)**

- (1) Ageing with ID and health risks (f.e. agespecific incidence and prevalence rates,adequate diagnostic procedures, screening and intervention)**
- (2) Ageing with ID and mental health**
- (3) Dementia and ID**
- (4) Cross-country demographics of ageing with ID, mortality and life expectancy**
- (5) Ageing with ID and social inclusion**
- (6) Ageing with ID and its consequences for work and leisure**
- (7) Ageing with ID and residential living**
- (8) Ageing and Down syndrome**
- (9) Ageing and fragile X syndrome**
- (10)Ageing and other special syndromes**
- (11)Ageing with ID and families**
- (12)Ageing with ID and end of life issues**

