

Introduction

Welcome to our latest Centre for Midwifery Maternal & Perinatal Health (CMMPH) newsletter where we share with you news about and activities undertaken by staff, students and visiting faculty. We are proud that the BU Midwifery Team has been short-listed for the Bournemouth University Vice Chancellor’s Excellence Award (page 6).

In this issue we welcome three new members of staff: Dr Preeti Mahato (page 3), Dr Laura Iannuzzi (page 4) and Dr Michelle Irving, who is also congratulated on recently being awarded her PhD (page 6). Katherine Gregory, PGR student (page 2) also joins us. We have been successful in showcasing our research, with the number of abstracts being accepted at a variety of international conferences. As always we continue to publish our work in journals as well as books and book chapters. The Centre continues to be active in Nepal and we are in the final stages of agreeing a contract to upskill nurse/midwife educators with the aim to enhance their midwifery knowledge and skills (page 4).

You will notice that the Faculty of Health and Social Science is now a five department faculty and midwifery has moved into the Department of Midwifery & Health Sciences (page 4). We are also preparing ourselves to move ‘house’, from Christchurch Road to the Bournemouth Gateway Building (page 7).

A date not to miss is the forthcoming exhibition of the breastfeeding paintings by Leanne Pearce (page 7), please put the date in your diary. Leanne will be exhibiting in Bournemouth University’s Atrium Art Gallery from March 7th till May 1st 2020. There will be a full length feature in our next edition.

Susan Way



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CMMPH aims

We promote the health and wellbeing of women, babies and their families by enhancing practice through education, research and scholarship.

Our strategy is to develop nationally and internationally recognised research that:

- Promotes the health and well-being of women, babies and their families
- Underpins clinical midwifery practice
- Informs policy making in relation to maternity care
- Ensures relevance and impact by maximising service user/voluntary sector involvement and the dissemination of results to health and social care professionals, service users and the voluntary sector
- Undertakes work across a wide methodological range.

Our educational and research activity has gained national and international recognition for its contribution to the enhancement of professional practice and maternal and perinatal health.

Newsletter Editors:

Prof Susan Way, Prof Edwin van Teijlingen & Prof Vanora Hundley

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Research in CMMPH:

The CILVRS Project

This project is about bringing virtual reality to the learning environment (VRLE) in order to improve healthcare education. Denyse King recently presented her Collaborative Immersive Learning Virtual Reality Series (CILVRS) project at a Parliamentary event: Further Education for Leadership symposium on Ed-Tech on July 17th 2019. She introduced a VRLE on 'safeguarding' to share with delegates who then experienced the VRLE through immersion with Oculus Quest headsets (photo). The response from symposium delegates to the VRLE was overwhelmingly positive and Denyse enjoyed some professional discussions regarding the possible content of future VRLE. Currently she has created a VRLE for urinalysis training as well as three VRLE related to safeguarding as part of her CILVRS project and is now writing lessons plans to demonstrate how resource savings can be gained from using the VRLE within FHSS.

The CILVRS Project is another excellent example of the BU FUSION with *Research* resulting in improvements in *Education*, which in turn are leading to better *Practice*.



CMMPH research at the international Normal Birth Research Conference.

In our last newsletter we reported on several CMMPH colleagues having abstracts accepted for the above conference, held in June 2019. Doctorate midwife Dominique Mylod presented the preliminary findings of the Ball Assisted Latent Labour (BALL) Trial, which identifies that women reported high levels of satisfaction when they use a birth ball at home in early labour. They are also more likely to be admitted to hospital in established labour and to have a normal birth. The study was also supported by an Iolanthe Midwifery Trust (IMT) award in 2017, so Dominique was thrilled that a member of the IMT committee attended the conference presentation. The photo shows the post-presentation recovery of BU colleagues, Juliet Wood (left) Dominique Mylod (centre) and Jane Fry (right) in the bar.



Dr Juliet Wood and Dr Jane Fry presented some of their initial findings from their study: 'What helps or hinders student midwives' confidence and ability to support women's normal labour and birth?' The conference provided a wonderful springboard for both national and international collaboration for further research and networking. Dr Fry also co-presented with an international group a co-operative enquiry of spirituality and childbirth. Prof Vanora Hundley also presented her research on media and midwifery, which has recently been published in the journal *Evidence Based Midwifery*.

Two NIHR internships award to midwives who will study at BU

Two midwives from Portsmouth Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, Laura Pugh and Amie Duce, have been awarded National Institute Health Research (NIHR) internships to develop their research skills and undertake two separate studies related to induction of labour.

Laura's research is a systematic review of current evidence to determine if there is a wider link between induction of labour and admission to NICU for term babies for respiratory distress syndrome. The aim is to determine if there is feasibility for a clinical trial to reduce term admissions for this group of babies. Amie is going to work with women to develop a resource package to inform them about the process of induction of labour and questions to ask the midwife. Both Laura and Amie will be supervised by Prof Susan Way.

NIHR | National Institute
for Health Research

Welcome to new PhD student, Katherine Gregory

Katherine Gregory is undertaking our first match-funded studentship with Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust. Katherine worked as a midwife at Southampton before taking up her studentship. Her research *Continuity model of midwifery care team: a new way of working – midwives views and experiences* is being supervised by Dr Luisa Cescutti-Butler and Lee-Ann Fenge, Professor of Social Care.

We are always looking for new ideas. If you have any ideas for research and are interested in developing a proposal for a match-funded PhD studentship then please contact Prof Susan Way: sueway@bournemouth.ac.uk or Prof Vanora Hundley: vhundley@bournemouth.ac.uk

PhD Studentships

Become a member of our global postgraduate research community

Research in CMMPH:

Abstracts accepted for ICM Conference



The International Confederation of Midwives (ICM) supports, represents and works to strengthen professional associations of midwives throughout the world. There are currently 132 Midwives Associations, representing 113 countries across every continent. ICM is organised in six regions: Africa (Anglophone and Francophone); Americas (North America & Caribbean and Latin America); Western Pacific; Eastern Mediterranean; South East Asia; Europe (Northern, Central and Southern).

Together these associations represent 500,000 midwives globally. ICM is an accredited non-governmental organisation and represents midwives and midwifery to organisations worldwide to achieve common goals in the care of mothers and newborns.

All oral presentations:

- **Hundley, V.**, and **van Teijlingen, E.** *Changing the narrative around childbirth: whose responsibility is it?*
- **Way, S.**, and Clarke, N. *Uniting the voice of midwifery education*
- **Fry, J.**, and **Wood, J.** *Are student midwives equipped to support normal birth?*
- **Taylor, A.**, and **Angell, C.** *Students' experience of "hands off/hands on" support for breastfeeding in clinical practice*
- Bower, H., **Way, S.** et al *Developing an evidence-based toolkit to support practice assessment in midwifery*
- Wrede, S., Benoit, C., Bourgeault, I., Sandall, J., De Vries, R. and **van Teijlingen, E.** *Symposium— Sociological lens on: (1) Caesarean Sections; (2) human resources for health (3) constructing midwifery knowledge, (4) contribution of midwives to quality care*
- ICM Education Standing Committee (including **Way S**). *Workshop— (1) Building a Skilled Midwifery Education Workforce for the 21st century and beyond; (2) Transforming Midwifery Practice; (3) Quality Midwifery Care; (4) ICM Essential Competencies for Midwifery Practice*

Welcome to new researcher Dr Preeti Mahato

Preeti worked as a public health practitioner in the field of maternal and reproductive health in Nepal before coming to the UK to pursue her PhD. She also has experience of teaching undergraduate public health students in a university in Nepal. At CMMPH, her PhD focused on studying the perinatal services among maternity users in a southern district in Nepal. She was involved in evaluating an intervention conducted in rural birth centres and how it affected utilisation of perinatal services in a period of five years. During her PhD she was also involved in several research projects. One of the research projects was around mental health aspects of the curricula of Auxiliary Nurse Midwives in Nepal and its associated evaluation. Another was around exploring the student feedback modes at Bournemouth University. Preeti joined CMMPH in July 2019 as a part-time post-doctoral researcher. Her work is focused on a study into maternity organisation and culture as a part of a project based in Dorchester with Dr Rachel Arnold, featured in our previous newsletter. This project looks into organisational behaviour and culture in the NHS where Preeti is involved in conducting research using mixed-methods approach along with fulfilling other duties.



The Applied Research Collaboration for Wessex

The Applied Research Collaboration (ARC) for Wessex was launched this month. This exciting development brings together health and care organisations (including NHS Trusts, universities, Clinical Research Network, Academic Health Science Network, voluntary organisations) to respond to the needs of the people living in Wessex.

The day was opened by Prof Alison Richardson, Director of ARC Wessex who highlighted the challenges faced in Wessex and the four ARC themes designed to address them. There were short presentations of some of the innovative initial projects within the themes: *Janis Baird* – food product placement; *Peter Griffiths* – workforce; *Stephen Lim* – physical activity for older adults; *Stephanie Health* – Wessex Activation and Self-Management (WASP).



CMMPH member Prof Vanora Hundley was a member of the question and answer panel, which followed the presentations. Future work will focus on developing new projects within the four ARC themes: Aging and dementia; Long term conditions; Healthy Communities and Health Systems and Workforce.

Education in CMMPH

Upskilling nurse/midwife teachers in Nepal



The midwifery team at BU has been approached by colleagues in Nepal to help develop midwifery education in this low-income country. The discussions were opened by a German aid agency bringing together midwifery educators in Nepal and at BU. As part of this exciting potential collaboration CMMPH has proposed UK midwife Margaret Walsh as Visiting Faculty. Margaret is currently working for the German aid organisation in Kathmandu, training both local midwifery educators and midwifery students.

The project will include developing a framework for providing academic support to nurse/midwife educators with the aim to enhance their midwifery knowledge and skills. Also, to design in collaboration with key stakeholders in Nepal a bridging programme to upskills current maternity workers so they can apply for their midwifery licence to practice. The final phase of the project will be an evaluation.

NMC Future Midwife standards

Contributions from the Thought Leadership Group of experts, which has included Profs van Teijlingen and Way has ensured the final draft standards were presented to Council for approval on the 3rd October 2019. The new standards place an emphasis on perinatal mental health to ensure midwives have the right knowledge and skills to identify the individual mental health needs of women as early as possible, and to work in collaboration with multidisciplinary teams to provide evidence-based, compassionate and appropriate person-centred care. The standards also ensure that midwives continue to have the knowledge and skills to be the lead caregiver for women and babies throughout their maternity journey.

Andrea Sutcliffe, CEO at the NMC says, "The standards have been co-produced in partnership with midwives, student midwives, women, families and other health and care professionals across all four countries of the UK. They are based on the best current evidence and reflect the transforming context in which midwives work.

There is an increased focus on midwives providing continuity of care, whether working in the community, a midwifery-led unit or hospital. Midwives will be a constant presence".

The standards will be embedded into the new midwifery curriculum, which is due to be approved by the NMC in April 2020, when they will be attending BU for the validation event.



Midwifery is now in a new department within the Faculty

In order to facilitate the delivery of BU 2025, the university's overarching strategy for the next five years, this September saw the realignment of a number of departments within the Faculties. The Faculty of Health and Social Science now has five departments (rather than the previous three): i) Nursing Science, ii) Social Science & Social Work, iii) Rehabilitation & Sport Sciences, iv) Medical Science & Public Health and v) Midwifery and Health Sciences. **The Department of Midwifery and Health Sciences**, as well as having midwifery also includes operating department practice and paramedic science. The Head of Department is Doctor Catherine Angell and interviews are soon to take place for the Deputy Head of Department. Prof Susan Way will take a lead within the department for PGRs.

Welcome to Dr Laura Iannuzzi



Dr Laura Iannuzzi joined the midwifery team in September having graduated as a midwife in Italy in 2001. She has practised in different settings but mostly at the Careggi University Hospital in Florence. Her last clinical appointment was as leader of one of the few existing Italian midwifery units, the 'Margherita' Birth Centre.

Laura has been a Lecturer in undergraduate and postgraduate Midwifery at the University of Florence and Milano-Bicocca and gained a PhD in Health Studies from the University of Nottingham in 2016. Her doctoral thesis, supervised by Prof H. Spiby and Dr D. Walsh, was a qualitative multiple case study, with a critical realist standpoint, on midwives' approaches to slow progress of labour in English and Italian birth centres.

She has collaborated in a number of research studies; in 2014-2018 she contributed to the Cost Action IS1405 'B.I.R.T.H' led by Prof S. Downe. This international and multidisciplinary research experience was particularly insightful for her. Laura's main areas of interest include normal birth, slow progress of labour, influence of socio-cultural-organisational elements on intrapartum interventions, healthy settings, midwife-led units.

Practice in CMMPH

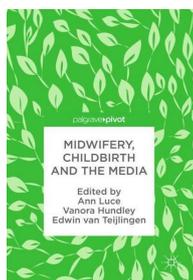
Prof Minesh Khashu: shortlisted for the BMA Patient Information Award

After launching the DadPad® Neonatal on Father's Day 2018, Minesh and colleagues were recently 'Highly Commended' in the 2019 British Medical Association (BMA) Patient Information Awards.

Established in 1997, the Awards endeavour to "encourage excellence in the production and dissemination of accessible, well-designed and clinically balanced patient information". The DadPad® Neonatal was HIGHLY COMMENDED in the Innovation Award category. The DadPad® Neonatal was conceived by Professor Minesh Khashu, Consultant Neonatologist at Poole Hospital, and was developed to cater to unmet needs of fathers on neonatal units. It has been very well received by parents, healthcare professionals and relevant charities. The BMA Patient Information Awards are very prestigious awards and this citation is testament to the quality of this resource.



Prof Edwin van Teijlingen spoke at RCM conference in Dorset



The conference was organised by the RCM Learning reps at Poole Hospital NHS Foundation Trust and Prof van Teijlingen shared the platform with two Bournemouth University Visiting Faculty both based at Poole: Prof Minesh Khashu, Consultant Neonatologist and Clinical Director Wessex Maternity Children and Young People Clinical Network and Ms. Jillian Ireland, Professional Midwifery Advocate.

The conference theme was 'Behind the trauma' and Edwin offered a sociological perspective on birth trauma. His presentation linked research conducted on the social/medical model of pregnancy and childbirth as well as research on the portrayal of childbirth in the media. Bournemouth University's interdisciplinary research into media and childbirth is conducted jointly with Prof Vanora Hundley and Dr Catherine Angell, and Dr Ann Luce in the Faculty of Media & Communication

RCM President Kathryn Gutteridge speaking at BU

Dr Andrew Mayers, Principal Academic in Psychology invited Kathryn Gutteridge, the president of the Royal College of Midwives (RCM) to Bournemouth University. Andy is closely associated with CMMPH through his interests in mental health in general and in perinatal mental health and the mental health of (new) fathers in particular.

Kathryn spoke in early October on perinatal mental health as part of BU's World Mental Health Day events. Mental health is so important and Kathryn Gutteridge reminded us of the World Health Organization's (WHO) dictum that 'a good birth goes beyond having a healthy baby'. The event in Bournemouth House was very well attended, especially by BU's midwifery students and staff.



BU Honorary Dr, Sheena Byrom invited to 'Woman of the Year' awards.

Sheena Byrom (left) attended this prestigious event by special invitation in October 2019 at a gala lunch in London. The Women of the Year was founded by Lady Tony Lothian OBE with Lady Georgina Coleridge and Odette Hallows in 1955 to recognise, celebrate and inspire women of all backgrounds. The annual awards aim to promote positive female role models who provide inspiration across all areas of society and the business community. Also in the picture is BU member of staff, Associate Professor Vanessa Heaslip (right) who was also invited



for her commitment to ensuring health and educational equity for individuals from marginalised groups. Vanessa's educational research in widening participation and fair access in higher education, alongside her clinical research in vulnerability and vulnerable groups in society whose voices are not traditionally heard, is nationally and internationally recognised.

Prof Vanora Hundley at the UNESCO World Bioethics Day

Prof Vanora Hundley was invited to lead a key session at the UNESCO World Bioethics Day conference at Swansea University. The day examined the challenges around informed consent and questioned who owns the knowledge. That underpins it.

Photo shows Dr Lesley Kay and Prof Vanora Hundley



Congratulations, news and events

Congratulations to Dr Michelle Irving on her PhD

Title: A Qualitative Study Identifying the Key Components of Independent Midwifery Practice in Mainland UK.



Independent Midwives in the UK provide relational continuity of care, using a caseloading model, throughout the pregnancy continuum, as recommended by current government policy. They report associated high levels of physiological birth and positive outcomes for women and babies, and low levels of interventions. Findings from this grounded theory study suggest that there are five key components of their practice which enable Independent Midwives to sustainably provide continuity of care: professional autonomy, time, mother-centred care, knowledge, evidence and practice, and midwifery philosophy. Having professional autonomy is fundamental to independent midwifery and enables these midwives to practise in ways which best serve their clients. Importantly, they are free to choose how they apportion their time, which is a critical factor in the provision of high-quality care. Providing continuity of care facilitates the development of trusting mother-midwife relationships and a mother-centred approach. This in turn results in individualised care and consequently safer care and better outcomes for mothers and babies. Independent Midwives' use of a continuum of evidence enables them to incorporate a range of information into the care they provide which caters to the individual needs of their clients, resulting in safer care. The midwives' philosophy of normality guides their practice, enabling them to promote health and physiological processes, and avoid interventions.

Michelle also joins the midwifery academic team on a permanent basis, working three days a week.

CMMPH features strongly on shortlist Vice Chancellor Staff Awards

The Vice-Chancellor's Staff Awards provide an opportunity to pause and reflect on the outstanding work of BU staff over the previous academic year, and to recognise and celebrate their achievements. There are eight categories and CMMPH colleagues have been nominated in three of them.

The midwifery team has been shortlisted for the Excellence Award category, which is for a person or team who has made a significant contribution towards developing excellence at BU. Prof van Teijlingen has been shortlisted for the Advancing Knowledge Award. This award is for a person or team who has advanced knowledge through Fusion and collaboration, and Prof Susan Way has been shortlisted for the Responsibility Award. This award is for a person or team who by taking responsibility has had a significant impact in developing a positive and supportive environment at BU in which staff and students thrive. The award ceremony takes place on the 21 November where those who have been shortlisted will find out if they have been successful. Good luck to everyone.



World Health Organization: Year of the Midwife 2020

Next year the WHO launch the year of the Nurse and Midwife 2020 <https://www.who.int/hrh/news/2019/2020year-of-nurses/en/> and CMMPH is going to celebrate the event by showcasing each month, midwifery achievements, past and present at Bournemouth University. The Student Union is also getting involved and will be supporting us in events.

If you have any ideas about what we can celebrate (we have a few already), then please let Luisa Cescutti-Butler lcbutler@bournemouth.ac.uk or Susan Way sue-way@bournemouth.ac.uk know



New book published: Squaring the Circle



Prof Vanora Hundley has a co-authored chapter title, *Media representation of childbirth*, in the newly published book, *Squaring the Circle: Normal birth research, theory and practice in a technological age*. The book is edited by Soo Downe and Visiting Faculty member Sheena Byrom, who also holds an honorary doctorate with BU. The book covers a collection of the latest research and debate on normal childbirth. The book focuses on factors that support human health and wellbeing, rather than on factors that cause disease.

Events: CMMPH in the community

Breastfeeding art exhibition at BU

Prof Minesh Khashu BU Visiting Professor and Consultant Neonatologist at Poole Maternity Hospital has collaborated with CMMPH staff to bring the artist Leanne Pearce to Bournemouth University. Leanne will exhibit her acclaimed paintings portraying breastfeeding to BU early in the new year. Staff at the Atrium Art Gallery at Talbot campus have kindly organised her exhibition *Breastfeed: Portraits with Purpose* for the spring of 2020.

Dr Alison Taylor, Senior Lecturer in Midwifery and BU's Breastfeeding Lead is planning several events for students, staff and the general public around these pictures. We shall be giving you more information about the programme around the painting in the next issue of the CMMPH Newsletter.



How We Think about Pregnancy and Childbirth

CMMPH's Drs Michelle Irving, Alison Taylor and Prof Edwin van Teijlingen in collaboration with Poole midwife and BU Visiting Faculty Jilly Ireland are running an event at Poole Hospital as part of the ESRC Festival of Social Science 2019.



The social sciences bring different perspectives and theoretical understandings to health care organisation in general. The presentation focuses on the sociological social/medical model of pregnancy and childbirth and its relevance to midwifery, women of childbearing age, their families and maternity care in particular.

Understanding key sociological models of pregnancy and childbirth can help politicians, journalists, policy-makers, midwives, doctors, and other health care providers, childbirth activists as well as pregnant women and new mothers (and their partners) to put issues around 'normal birth' into perspective.

This ESRC event will be held on Friday 8th of November from 17.30 till 18.30 with refreshments at the Education Centre at Poole Hospital, Longfleet Road, Poole.

Bournemouth Gateway Building

Those of you who live local to the area may have noticed a large building being erected at Lansdowne, next to the St Paul's roundabout on the Wessex Way. The building is known as the [Bournemouth Gateway Building](#) (BGB) and will soon be the Faculty's new home. The building will play a vital role in BU's future development, especially in the field of healthcare, medical sciences and social care.



The BGB is planned to open during the summer of 2020. The 10,000 square metres of space will create a unified base for the faculty's education, research and office activities. It will also be open and accessible to the community. The BGB is designed to be environmentally-friendly with a number of carbon-reduction measures. An attractive piazza will welcome staff, students and visitors to the site.

The BGB will offer students and staff the latest specialist equipment for their education and research. This will include simulation rooms such as: an operating theatre; hospital wards; a residential flat; a maternity birthing room and an MRI scanner.

Late 2019

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Early 2019

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Thank you to all contributors. If you have a story linked to CMPH you want to share in the next edition, or would like to be on our mailing list please email **Leah on HSSFacultySupportAdministrator@bournemouth.ac.uk**