

## WORKSHOP ON CULTURAL COMPETENCE AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES IN MENTAL HEALTH

16 -17 August 2019

To sensitise the mental health professionals to approach mental health issues in a culturally relevant manner without losing its evidence base.

> Dr. Baiju Gopal, Associate Professor, Dr. Jayashankara Reddy, Professor

Department of Psychology, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bangalore

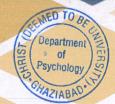
collaboration with MIAMI university (Oxford, Ohio, USA)

Hurry... Seats are limited

Venue: Conference Hall, Block B, Christ University, NCR

Contact:

Dr. Akashdeep Ghosal



# Workshop on Cultural Competence and Evidence Based Practices in Mental Health Care in Diverse Societies

#### Organised by

#### Department of Psychology, NCR Campus

Date – 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August

Venue: Block A Discussion Room, Christ (Deemed to be University) Delhi-NCR

Resource Persons: Dr. Baiju Gopal, Associate Professor, Dr. Jayashankara Reddy, Professor and Dr. Padmakumari

A Two-day state level workshop was conducted on Cultural Competence and Evidence Based Practices in Mental Health Care in Diverse Societies organised by Department of Psychology, Delhi-NCR campus on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August, 2019. Forty-three participants attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to sensitise the mental health professionals toapproach mental health issues in a culturallyrelevant manner without losing its evidence base. Modules for the workshop are developed based on research conducted as part of the US-Indo 21st century knowledge initiative award incollaboration with MIAMI university (OxfordOhio, USA) funded by USIEF.

The workshop began with an inaugural in the presence of Campus Director Rev. Dr. Fr. Viju P. Devasy, Co-ordinator Dr Surekha Chukkali and Faculty In charge Dr Padmakumari along with other faculty of Department of Psychology. Ms Kavan, Assistant Professor set the context by briefly explainingthe updated mental health policy by the government of India (Ministry of Health and Welfare, 2014) which calls for curricula that focus on evidence-based training and incorporate the local cultural elements, which is critical in diverse societies such as India and USA. The participants of the workshop were warmly welcomed by Dr Padmakumari followed by the inaugural address by director.

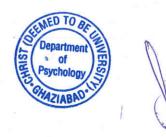
The workshop on day 1 began with session by Dr Baiju Gopal highlighting the focus on complex, social, psychological and cultural processes such as belief systems of the client. To facilitate this learning among the students, an activity and a simulation was conducted for the participants to understand their own cultural beliefs and then their core beliefs. The idea was to trace where the core belief came from, whether it has any form the culture one has and

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checking for any biases that one may have developed that stops one from being open minded. Participants participated very enthusiastically for the same and openly spoke about their apprehensions of being culturally competent.

On day 2 of the workshop, Dr. Jayashankara Reddy briefed the students about some essentials to understanding one's own biopsychology. He then presented a psychogenic seizures case in front of the students and asked them to identify the possible causes from a psychological perspective. A successful interactive session was hence conducted for the same. The next session thereafter by Dr Padma Kumari effectively educated the students about how universal tests need to be culturally tailored to suit the client's needs. She effectively pointed out the importance of the same and possible errors that can occur in a psychological assessment if the mental health professional does not take due care of the client's culture. An activity to induce critical thinking was conducted and a successful discussion took place. The session ended with Dr Padma Kumari giving the students some important information on how one can make their cultural assessments more effective.

The workshop also included a question and answer session, wherein the resource persons addressed the queries of participants. The workshop ended with a valedictory presided by Campus Administrator, Rev Fr Sunny Joseph and guest Dr Anoop, Professor, Department of Psychology, Ambedkar University, Delhi. Fr Sunny Joseph and Dr Anoop inspired the students to take forward their learning towards meaningful practice. The certificates weregiven away to the participants and a formalvote of thanks was proposed by the coordinator, Dr Surekha Chukkali.









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# Workshop-Feedback

Dear participants,

We solicit your valuable feedback regarding the recently concluded workshop. You are requested to rate various aspects of the workshop using the following rating scale:

- 1 Poor
- 2 Fair
- 3 Good
- 4 Very good
- 5 Excellent

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