

**CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT
AND
CALL FOR WORKSHOP PRESENTERS
FOR
THE ANNUAL DR MICHAEL CORRY MEMORIAL
CONFERENCE:
'CRITICAL POSITIONS ON AND BEYOND RECOVERY'
10 AND 11 NOVEMBER 2010, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE CORK,
IRELAND**

**INCLUDES THE LAUNCH OF THE 'IRISH
FORUM/MOVEMENT FOR CRITICAL VOICES IN MENTAL
HEALTH'**

This two-day conference is dedicated to the life and work of consultant psychiatrist, Dr Michael Corry. Michael was a key note speaker at last year's conference. Sadly, he died earlier this year after a short illness. Michael was a fearless campaigner for the rights of mental health service users and all those experiencing psychological distress. He was an opponent of bio-psychiatry and its reliance on psycho-pharmacology, an implacable campaigner for the abolition of ECT as a so-called 'therapy' and a compassionate healer appreciated by thousands of patients.

The **free** two-day conference aims to provide a forum for people from diverse backgrounds to present, discuss and debate critical perspectives on and beyond recovery. The conference will also provide a space for interested parties to meet and debate, with a view to establish an Irish forum/movement for critical voices in mental health. This forum/movement is intended to be a coalition of service users, carers, professionals, academics and interested others who want a mental health system which is not based on the traditional bio-medical model.

Confirmed Keynote Speakers:

Aine Tubridy (psychotherapist and partner of the late Dr Michael Corry will present the opening keynote address), **Pat Bracken** (consultant psychiatrist in West Cork, and a well known critic of the traditional bio-medical model), **Erica van den Akker** (a Dutch psychiatric social worker and Hearing Voices Movement member), **John McCarthy** (founder of Mad Pride Ireland).

The conference will have keynote addresses and workshop presentations of 45 minutes' duration. The afternoon of the second day has been set aside to debate and establish a forum/movement for critical voices in mental health. Conference programme and registration details to follow in late September.

Call for Workshop Presenters:

The organisers are now inviting workshop presenters to submit an abstract (in Word) of 250 words max, related to the conference focus, outlining the aims of and intentions for the workshop. The deadline for abstract submission is **20 September 2010**. Please email abstracts to h.gijbels@ucc.ie. Queries to h.gijbels@ucc.ie or l.sapouna@ucc.ie. We look forward to hear from you.

The Conference organisers are Harry Gijbels, Catherine McAuley School of Nursing and Midwifery, and Lydia Sapouna, School of Applied Social Studies, University College Cork, Ireland