



45th Annual Meeting **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS**

Abstract Submission Deadline: November 30th, 2023



**Strengthening Cultural Psychiatry Through
Community Engagement, Social Connection,
& Interprofessional Collaboration**



April 11th - 13th, 2024

Omni King Edward Hotel
Toronto, ON, Canada

**Joint Conference Day with the
Hong Fook Mental Health
Association**

Friday, April 12th



SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF PSYCHIATRY AND CULTURE

45th Annual Conference

April 11th - 13th, 2024

Strengthening Cultural Psychiatry Through Community Engagement,
Social Connection, & Interprofessional Collaboration

Conference Theme

The theme of this year's conference is *Strengthening Cultural Psychiatry through Community Engagement, Social Connection, and Interprofessional Collaboration*. With this theme, we draw attention to community-based, peer support, and other approaches in cultural psychiatry that promote patients' social well-being. Cultural psychiatry is founded on the premise that communities and individuals with lived experiences are the experts in their concerns and care, highlighting the importance of engaging service users and support networks to promote healing.

Further, we deeply value our roots and traditions as an organization of cultural psychiatrists, while also aspiring to make our interdisciplinary community inclusive and welcoming to psychologists, licensed professional counselors, nurse practitioners, anthropologists, sociologists, and those of other training backgrounds who identify with the values of cultural psychiatry and global mental health. We are eager to highlight our diverse roles—as mental health providers, researchers, educators, junior and senior faculty, and trainees—and learn how our community is tackling the challenges we face today.

One day of the conference will be a joint conference day with the Hong Fook Mental Health Association, the leading ethno-cultural community mental health agency serving Asian and other communities in the Greater Toronto Area. Hong Fook provides a continuum of mental health services covering the spectrum from “promoting wellness” to “managing illness” in Cambodian, Chinese (Cantonese and Mandarin), Korean, Vietnamese, and English. This joint day allows researchers and practitioners to discuss cross-cutting interests and utilize a cultural humility stance to improve care for Asian communities across borders. By focusing on collaboration, community engagement, and integrating diverse perspectives within cultural psychiatry, we will use this Annual Meeting to create a vibrant space for dialogue and learning.

For our 2024 conference, we invite you to draw broadly from your research, scholarship, clinical practices, and personal histories to tell your story and share your approaches to building community.

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Thematic Domains for Submission

Examples of topics and domains related to the conference theme include the following:

Community-Based

Approaches to Mental Health

Submissions in this area will discuss successful community-driven initiatives that have effectively integrated cultural psychiatry principles into mental health care. Examples may include working with community navigators and lay health workers to support the mental health of post-migration individuals and families, examination of psychosocial interventions targeting social determinants of mental health, and interventions that are delivered in the natural environment where people live and work, including homes, schools, workplaces, or places of worship, rather than in clinical settings.

Navigating Interprofessional Cultures to Enhance Patient Care and Promote Justice

Submissions in this area will explore how interprofessional collaboration contributes to better understanding and addressing cultural factors that influence mental health, and/or how interprofessional collaboration contributes to dismantling structural barriers to equity in mental health care.

Decolonizing Mental Health

Illustrating methods or practices that challenge Western-centric paradigms. Submissions in this area could include centering indigenous knowledge and traditional healing, empowering local communities, fostering greater collaboration between disciplines, deconstructing stigmatizing labels or diagnostic categories, advocating for representation within the mental health field, or addressing historical trauma in training and treatment.

Research Collaborations and Approaches for Culturally-Centered Healing

Presentations in this area will explore how researchers from different backgrounds can collaborate to develop and test culturally sensitive interventions. This could include sharing examples of successful interdisciplinary research projects, the discussion of community-based participatory research, and other novel methodologies to better meet the needs of groups impacted by mental health disparities.

Lived Experience, Peer Support, and Collaborative Healing

Submissions will highlight the importance of involving individuals with lived experience in shaping mental health care services, and consider how professionals and service users can collaborate to co-design healing approaches

Promoting Social Well-Being

Submissions in this topic area may explore social isolation and loneliness as a cultural explanatory model for distress, and discuss centering the promotion of social connection as a key treatment goal.

Training and Education in Cultural Psychiatry and Mental Health

Submissions in this area will share innovative approaches to training future mental health professionals in cultural psychiatry, and discuss how diverse disciplines can collaborate to develop comprehensive and decolonized training programs

Conference Learning Objectives

After attending this meeting, participants will be able to:

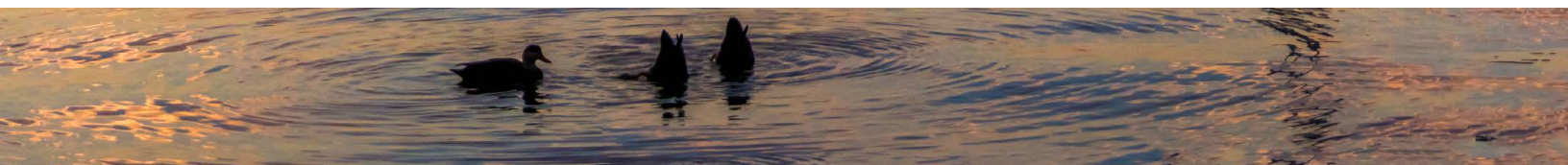
1. Demonstrate an increased understanding of cultural psychiatry principles and how they can be effectively integrated into mental health care, including community-based approaches, interprofessional collaboration, and the promotion of social well-being.
2. List three ways that interprofessional collaboration contributes to a more equitable mental health care system. Get equipped to identify and address cultural factors influencing mental health, as well as structural barriers to equity, thereby fostering greater inclusivity in your own mental health practices.
3. Acquire knowledge and skills related to culturally sensitive interventions and research methodologies.
4. Explain how the mental health field can collaborate across diverse backgrounds to develop, test, and implement interventions that better meet the needs of groups affected by mental health disparities, ultimately contributing to the decolonization of mental health practices.

Submission Guidelines

Abstracts can be submitted for Workshops, Symposia, Individual Papers or Posters, Works in Progress, and Trainee Fellowship Papers.

Abstracts that meet one or more of the following conditions will receive priority:

1. Addresses the conference theme.
2. Empirical research: Empirical work includes primary quantitative research (e.g., observational studies) and/or primary qualitative research (e.g., interviews), with the use of appropriate methods for analysis of the original data. Empirical research also includes work based on clinical encounters (e.g., case series). Finally, empirical research includes secondary data collection and analysis, such as secondary analysis of existing datasets or prior empirical work, systematic reviews, or scoping reviews. Literature reviews that do not use a protocol for organizing and analyzing the literature are not considered empirical, nor are opinion or position pieces empirical. procedure for Data may be qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods, or based on clinical encounters
3. Interactive components: This particularly includes Workshops that allow for participants to gain skills or Work-in-Progress submissions with a thoughtful set of questions or topics for discussion with the audience.



Presentation Formats

SSPC's Annual Meeting features a variety of presentation formats:

Workshop

Workshops are approximately 1.5 hours long. They should have one organizer and up to four co-facilitators. Workshops are different from symposia in that they are more interactive and are required to have interactive activities for participants for at least half of the workshop time. In addition to an abstract, workshop submissions must include a timeline of activities. Workshop themes should address specific skills, debates, or concepts, either related to the conference theme or broadly applicable to cultural psychiatry and/or global mental health. Examples include how to work with youth to develop engagement strategies that encourage diverse youth with first-episode psychosis to participate in care or how to collaborate with LMIC partners in GMH research.

Symposium

Symposia are approximately 1.5 hours long. We recommend three original papers be included, with a recommended presentation time of 20 minutes each. Organizers may opt to include four shorter presentations if preferred. The organizer or moderator may provide introductory remarks on the topic. A discussant may be included if desired. Be sure to allot a minimum of 25 minutes for open discussion (per CME guidelines).

Individual Papers or Posters

Abstracts may be submitted by individuals, indicating a preference for paper or poster presentations. Individual papers will be grouped into Paper Sessions by the conference organizers.

Work-in-Progress

This category allows individuals or teams the opportunity to receive feedback during the early stages of developing a research study, grant application, quality improvement project, curriculum, clinical service, etc. Abstracts can present preliminary concepts or findings and should include specific topics or questions for discussion. Each Work in Progress is typically allocated 30 minutes, including 10 minutes for brief presentation and 20 minutes for feedback. Individual Works-in-Progress will be grouped with others into a Work-in-Progress Session.

Trainee Awards

Social science (masters or PhD students) or medical (medical student or resident) trainees may submit papers for consideration for a fellowship presentation. Up to two fellowships are given each year. SSPC Fellows have registration costs waived and receive a \$500 honorarium to offset travel costs. More information about the awards can be found on the submissions page and on the conference website.





Submission Deadline & Notification

The deadline for conference submissions is **November 30th, 2023**. The deadline for award applications is **December 15th, 2023**. All submissions undergo a multiple-reviewer selection and scoring process. After notification of acceptance, all presenters (including workshop co-facilitators and discussants) will be required to pay the conference registration fee by February 15th for their submission to be included in the annual meeting program.

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For additional information, please visit the Annual Meeting page at:
<https://www.conference.psychiatryandculture.org/>

If you have any questions, please contact:
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