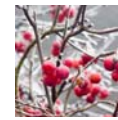




Newsletter



February 2010
Issue 8

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Editorial

We are happy to produce our latest newsletter for the start of the new year and new decade! The Lifespan Research Group and the CATS centre have had a busy time with several research opportunities, seminars, publications and training events underway. We continue our Knowledge Exchange activities with health and social services. This autumn we successfully completed our evaluation of research in primary care (PCCRSP) for Guys' & St Thomas' Charity and have a new commission to work with Safeguarding Services in Kingston. Our work with Looked After children for St Christopher's Fellowship is also expanding. We are extending our activities in Forensic Psychology, with dedicated training on childhood neglect and abuse to prison services (HMP Whitemoor). In addition our SWan (South West London Academic Network) seminars with our Kingston University and St George's UL colleagues, on forensic psychology issues, seeks to develop research opportunities around offenders, utilising our CECA and ASI measures.

The European study on internet grooming in which we are partners, is progressing well with the first report and a scoping of the area produced (lead Stephen Webster at NatCen). We had a very fruitful meeting with our colleagues on the continent before Christmas in a very festive Brussels. We are now working with colleagues on an ESRC application to extend the study of internet grooming to other aspects of ICT (production of abuse images, mobile phone contact etc) and to study victims of such

abuse. Our application (Kingston University lead) is shortlisted and we look forward to a full application in March.

Our JISC funded work to develop a data Archive around the Lifespan Collection has progressed well with a very stimulating workshop on the ethics and copyright issue of re-using data. We had a well-attended session with experts from a range of disciplines on the issue to inform the next stage of our scoping of the Archive creation.

Our training courses are proving popular with both researchers and health/social care practitioners. We have recently extended these to introduce the Parenting Role Interview for Safeguarding services—the first training was run successfully with a second course planned. We are also extending our range of short courses including an Advanced ASI day for experienced users of the ASI to deal with complex cases, and an Adolescent ASI day for those working with young people. We will also run some introductory courses this year for both practitioners and managers.

In terms of our staff news - we congratulate Laura on her wedding and wish her luck in her upcoming PhD viva. We also congratulate Leonie on acquiring her doctorate but say a sad farewell as she moves on to work in further education. Another farewell to Helen Fisher who has been a wonderful addition to our team in her ESRC Fellowship capacity. We also congratulate Arnon Bentovim for his award as Visiting Professor to RHUL.

We wish all our friends and colleagues a secure and productive 2010

Antonia Bijl

The Lifespan Research Group with the Centre for Abuse and Trauma Studies

Lifespan and CATS provides research and consultancy in health, social care and criminal justice services, including:

Service evaluations - training in interview assessments, research consultancy, research capacity building, research dissemination, research collaboration.

Research applied to practice - training in assessment techniques, practitioner research and professional development in social care and health.

Academic research - causal factors in mental health; investigation of lifespan and intergenerational transmission of risk for social exclusion and mental health problems. Measurement design and training for researchers.

Knowledge exchange - from universities to public services (social, health and criminal justice) and voluntary services.

lifespanresearch.org.uk



11 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RF



Research, Access and Consent Study day

18th November 2009

On 18 November, Lifespan RADAR held a study day entitled "Research, Access and Consent", which explored the ethical and legal issues surrounding providing future access to the Lifespan Collection for new research purposes. Lifespan RADAR, a one-year JISC-funded project, investigates the preservation of, and access to, Lifespan's extensive and valuable collection of social-scientific research data, including 3,400 hours of recorded interviews, for use in a variety of future research projects.

One of the main challenges faced by the Lifespan Collection is the sensitive nature of the interviews, which relate personal life histories, including details concerning mental health issues. Another interesting challenge, encountered by many other similar collections, is the retrospective nature of this attempt: the research was carried out at a time when archiving and secondary analysis were not yet common practice. Thus, it is important to develop a strategy that respects both the original consent forms and ethical permissions, but preserves the great potential for future use of the material. The purpose of the study day was therefore to collate relevant expertise in this area to inform future research procedures and to work towards an authoritative statement on the ethical position of re-use. This statement should also have relevance for other data collections facing similar issues.



We invited a number of experts to inform the day - from archiving and re-use projects (Dr Libby Bishop and Dr Niamh Moore), from a technical standpoint on ethics and copyright (Dr Philip Johnson), as well as from those wishing to re-use the Lifespan Collection from oral history (Dr Graham Smith), research psychology (Dr Helen Fisher) and social work (Julia Feast & Margaret Grant) perspectives. The day was introduced by Professor Antonia Bifulco, together with Dr Leonie Hannan and Ananay Aguilar who outlined the Lifespan Collection and explored some of the ethical considerations of accessing the data. We are grateful for the important contributions provided to the day.

JISC projects start-up meeting

7-8 July 2009

[link](http://lifespanscollection.org.uk/blog/) to blog article <http://lifespanscollection.org.uk/blog/>

The JISC Information Environment and VRE programmes' start-up meeting provided a lively opportunity to become acquainted with other JISC-funded projects and their people. Building on JISC's collaborative nature, the programme managers offered the tools and atmosphere for successful networking amongst participants. The workshop for first time project managers focused on the importance of community building exercises in order to share solutions, build on similar experience and strengthen the overall structure for future projects. We were happy to meet with participants and discuss similar experiences in developing a research data collection. We hope to cultivate these contacts and make use of the community's experience.

Metadata Schema

Work has begun on the creation of an appropriate Metadata Schema for the Lifespan Collection. This is an important step in our longer-term aim of submitting a digital manifestation of the Lifespan Collection into the research data section of the University's Digital Object Repository. As the Lifespan Collection represents a complex and multi-faceted data set, tailoring a schema that can manage and reflect the depth and the breadth of the material is essential. Combining the technical expertise of Business Analyst, and Lifespan RADAR consultant, Alison Pope with Lifespan Research Group's in-depth understanding of the collection, we are working towards achieving this goal by the end of the Lifespan RADAR project in 2010.



Our digitisation strategy

[link](#) to blog article

In July we were able to publish the digitisation strategy for our audio tape collection on our blog

<http://lifespanscollection.org.uk/blog/>.

Using the Lifespan Collection as a case study, the intention of this document was to describe best-practice digitisation and preservation solutions and propose a workflow in order to accomplish these tasks.

The approach taken is outlined under the following headings: Content and Organisation of the Collection, Audio Quality and Transfer, Storage and Access and, finally, Workflow. Each section documents the progress that has been achieved to date making explicit the decision-making processes involved.

Contact: Ananay Aguilar Lifespan@rhul.ac.uk



Children's Services

Kingston CECA workshops and evaluation in Child Safeguarding

We are very pleased to have received an additional small grant from the West London Life Long Learning Network to continue with the development of CPD courses for health, social care and criminal justice services, using the CECA. The grant covered the provision of 6 one-day workshops on different aspects of child neglect/abuse as CPD to help social workers in Child Safeguarding with assessments. We are fortunate to have been partnered in this by Kingston Safeguarding Services, with manager Lee Hopkins providing additional funding to conduct an evaluation to look at the impact of learning on the day-to-day practice.

The workshops will run from February to April with the evaluation running in parallel to look at current assessment practice in safeguarding and the best way that the CECA interview and scoring can fit into the current Assessment Framework. We hope that the findings of the study will enable us to roll out training for social workers on an amended version of the CECA interview and scoring schedule.



St Christopher's Fellowship

Lifespan's work with St. Christopher's Fellowship on the SHARP (Specialist Homes Action Research Programme) project continues to be a success. Recent work has included a visit in December to one of St. Christopher's residential homes to conduct interviews as well as give a briefing workshop on attachment. Additional such meetings are planned for the New Year.

Work continues in the form of baseline and follow-up assessments; these evaluate self-esteem, life events and significantly, attachment, in the young people. To date Lifespan has been able to gather baseline data on 25 young people. Follow up data has been more difficult to capture, however Lifespan, together with the SHARP teams, are working to find ways to capitalise on the available information to generate a report on the effects of SHARP. Other work entails workshops and discussions with the SHARP teams.

Another planned joint project is the design and trial of the Child ASI (more on page 4). Through St. Christopher's it will be possible not only to develop this crucial measure, but to standardise it with vulnerable children, such as those being fostered and looked after and compare it with a sample of children taken from a school. Such a project would contribute to the creation of a measure which could potentially benefit numerous services, and crucially, the children they look after.

We wish our colleagues at St. Christopher's a happy new year and look forward to another year of successful collaboration.

Contact Yael.Ilan-Clarke@rhul.ac.uk
www.stchris.org.uk

Primary Care Health Services

Primary and Community Care Research Support Programme (PCCRSP)

November 2009 marked the end of the evaluation of the Primary and Community Care Research Support Programme (PCCRSP) after a 2 year follow up. The evaluation followed the progress of the PCCRSP, funded by Guy's & St. Thomas' Charity, which was aimed at developing a research infrastructure amongst front line practitioners in Southwark and Lambeth PCTs, through working with Kings's College and Southbank University. The evaluation consisted of qualitative and quantitative measurement of outcomes in terms of research outputs and culture change. The evaluation found that the programme was successful in developing key skills and research expertise, and that there was indeed a greater awareness following the programme, of the need for and relevance of research in primary care. However, further investment is needed in order to capitalise on the existing achievements of the programme. We wish to thank our colleagues who worked with us on the evaluation and those who participated in the interviews/focus groups. We look forward to the opportunity to work together again in the future.

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Forensic services

CECA training at HMP Whitemoor

A CECA training was held for all the psychology and psychiatry staff in HMP Whitemoor over two sessions in Summer and Autumn of 2009. In all 14 staff have been trained to use the Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse interview. This is an exciting development to look at the use of this interview in a dangerous and severe personality disorder (DSPD) unit. The aim is to use the prisoners' memories of their early trauma and abuse experience to help in the trauma therapeutic work that is being undertaken. The staff felt that having a more standardised way of collecting early life memories will serve to provide comprehensive time-based account of early life, attachments, separations and neglect/abuse. This will help to understand more of the psychopathology of the offenders, but talking about the issues may also be of benefit to therapy.

We were joined in the training by Dr Rob Hale (consultant forensic psychiatrist at the Tavistock and Portman clinic) and Dr Rhaj Dar (consultant forensic psychiatrist at the Bracton clinic). They are both keen to use the CECA in forensic settings with patients with antisocial personality disorder and psychosis to help differentiate these two diagnoses in dangerous patients.

We are grateful to Naomi Murphy for commissioning the training for her staff at the DSPD and to Lucinda Caulkett for making all the arrangements. It was certainly a novel experience for Toni Bifulco to conduct the training in a maximum security prison, but this added to the cogency of the training experience.

For further information on the CECA Interview please visit www.cecainterview.com



Child and Family services

Parenting Role Interview (PRI) Training

Lifespan and Child and Family training were pleased to host the first ASI Parenting Role Interview supplementary course this autumn, which was well attended. The Parenting Role Interview and rating (ASI-PRI) training is provided as a supplement to the Attachment Style Interview and is now available to those who have been fully trained on the ASI. The ASI is used in both adoption/fostering contexts and in Children's Social Care and the Parenting Role Interview supplement is relevant to both contexts, where the client is a parent or carer. The aim of the ASI-PRI supplement is to add questions and ratings to the main interview to provide linkages between the individual's support-based attachment categorisations (ASI) and their attitudes and behaviour in their parenting role (PRI). It assesses the interviewees' view of their parenting role, and provides some practitioner estimates of the likely parenting competence, based on their own report about attending to the children's needs and the quality of interaction. The next ASI PRI training is taking place on the 16th April 2010 and is being run by Professor Toni Bifulco and Catherine Jacobs. Bookings are being taken by Jane Phythian, Administrator

jane.phythian@childandfamilytraining.org.uk

For further information on PRI please visit
www.attachmentstyleinterview.com/parenting.html

Developing the Child Attachment Style Interview (ASI)

Due to a number of requests from practitioners and researchers for a child version of our Attachment Style Interview, we have been developing two versions for children aged 8-12 - a computer-based self-report which can be administered to groups of children in class room settings which uses a series of cartoons to depict different styles of attachment, and an interview measure which is adapted to a younger age group but nevertheless questions about relationships with parents and peers in addition to attachment attitudes.

Our child ASI study group includes Lifespan researchers, together with Maxine McBrier and Helen Giddings from St Christopher's Fellowship, both with extensive experience of children in residential care, and Kate Nicolson (special needs teacher) together with Geraldine Thomas (child therapist) and colleagues at the University of Padua (Prof Alessandra Simonelli, Mahesh Casiraghi and Erika Petech). Both Mahesh and Erika have worked on versions of the measure as visiting researchers at Lifespan.

We have undertaken the first pilot successfully at Abbey School Merton, with the kind permission of head teacher Stella Fry. We have been in discussion with St Christopher's fellowship to test out the measure further in schools and in their Looked After children services (residential and fostering). We are very pleased at their interest in the project and offer of funding. We are also pleased that the team in Padua under Prof Simonelli plans to validate an Italian version of the new measure.

Contact: a.bifulco@rhul.ac.uk

Psychology & Psychiatric services

Training in the ASI in Bochum Germany

LWL Universitätsklinik Bochum, der Ruhr-Universität Bochum. 13-15 January 2010

Following from two earlier seminars and briefing days on the Attachment Style Interview for clinical practice and research, we were very pleased to run the first German ASI training for the Psychiatry Clinic at the University of Bochum. This was attended by 11 psychologists and psychiatrists from the home university as well as from Universities at Heidelberg and Essen. Prof Corinna Reck was able to provide a German translation of the interview questions, which she is using with colleagues in a perinatal study of attachment and depression in mothers in relation to various biological markers of risk.

We are very grateful to Dr Adina Rusu for organising the conference and contributing to its smooth running. Adina did her psychology Phd at RHUL and also worked as a research assistant in Lifespan for nearly two years. On returning to Germany she took up junior professorship training track at the University of Bochum on issues of pain experience. She intends to develop linkages with support and attachment issues in her future research. It was very good to see Adina again and to see how well the ASI was received in Germany. We look forward to some interesting research projects emerging.

ASI Conference in the University of Padua

12th March 2010

Professor Alessandra Simonelli has invited Toni Bifulco to undertake a series of lectures with psychology masters and PhD students in developmental psychology at the University of Padua in March. This will culminate in a one-day conference showcasing ASI research, particularly its use in Italian universities. Contributors will be from groups in Palermo, Milan and Florence, as well as from RHUL and our new SWan PhD student Lisa Gabbarelli who is using the ASI on an adolescent sample in an intergenerational follow-up study. Lisa who is bilingual will be able to use her language skills to good effect. We also hope to meet up with esteemed colleagues Dr Vittoria Ardino, Dr Nicoletta Rigoletto and Dr Vania Valoriani - all experienced ASI users in a range of different psychological settings in Italy.

We are grateful to Professor Simonelli for organising this Conference and teaching series to promote the use of the ASI and introduce the CECA further to Italian academics.

New Lifespan one-day training courses

Advanced ASI training—for experienced ASI users

Adolescent ASI training day—supplemental to existing ASI

Introduction to evidence-based interviews for Practitioners and Managers:

Focus on assessment of relationships, stress, early experience and attachment style.



New: Electronic ASI pack

Electronic Attachment Style Interview pack

Due to numerous requests Lifespan are very pleased to now be able to offer a high quality electronic version of the Attachment Style Interview (ASI) pack for social care teams trained in the assessment tool. In response to practitioner demand, Lifespan have developed the pack utilising the latest PDF technology for convenience of use, for data sharing, and to fulfil agency demands for electronic storage of evidence-based assessment records.

The PDF Acrobat format document enables the Electronic ASI to be shared amongst members of an organisation and can be re-used an indefinite number of times throughout its licence period. It is very simple to use, with clear distinction between standard questions and scoring instructions which are fixed, and fill-able fields for notes, rating justifications, verbatim ratings and scores.

The advantages of the new Electronic ASI Interview Pack include:

- Convenient and easy use with time and paper savings
- Clearer presentation of word-processed inform
- Sophisticated presentation to keep formatting intact if printed out
- Simple to save and reuse in its digital format
- Can be used a countless number of times
- Easy to store in compact format for service records
- Easy to share electronically with colleagues and agencies

For further information contact LifespanTraining@rhul.ac.uk

Staff & student updates

Congratulations to Professor Arnon Bentovim



We are very pleased to announce that RHUL has offered a Visiting Professorship to Arnon Bentovim. Arnon has been a great supporter of our CATS initiative as well as working closely with the Lifespan group on developing our CPD training for social workers through

his organisation Child and Family Training together with Liza Bingley-Miller. As a consultant CAMHS psychiatrist Arnon has had a major influence on the Child Protection and forensic field during his distinguished career. We are delighted that RHUL has honoured Arnon in this way and hope to continue to collaborate over our future activities in a mutually beneficial way.

Jo Campling Bursary for PhD students in Health & Social Care

We were very pleased to receive a bursary from Rosemary Brotherhood to help fund two PhD students in the Department of Health and Social Care. The bursary is in memory of Jo Campling who was an alumni of RHUL with interest in social care. We awarded the funds on the basis of need, to one UK student (Anthony Schaffarczyk) and one overseas student (Lun Chi Chang).

Staff & student updates—continued

Leonie - Congratulations and sad farewell



We would like to congratulate Leonie on being awarded her doctorate in history at the end of 2009. She defended her thesis successfully with very little change to be made to her thesis. Knowing how she managed to juggle a variety of roles (including essential input to the Lifespan group) whilst undertaking her studies, it is a tribute to her hard work as well as brilliance in being able to have completed in such good time.

However, we are very sad that Leonie is now leaving us to pursue teaching in a management role in further education. Whilst we are very pleased she has got this great opportunity to develop her skills in education, it is sad to see Leonie move on after being with us for 5 years. She has been a great member of the group. She transformed our large sprawling collection of MRC data into a structured whole which helped us to get JISC funding to scope out its eventual preservation and archive. Leonie showed a natural aptitude for the lifespan psychosocial material collected and developed a detailed knowledge of the complex data collection process. We will be keeping close contact with her and hope that she will still retain her interest in the development of the archive. We wish her luck in her new job and future career!

Farewell to Helen Fisher



Helen joined us 3 months ago as a visiting ESRC fellow from the Institute of Psychiatry and is now moving on to other placements at the NSPCC and elsewhere. It has been a real pleasure having Helen in the group, and she will be missed by us all. She has had the most remarkable work output -during her brief stay, having undertaken 3 separate analyses on our MRC data set and drafted three papers. She also contributed to our JISC seminar on the ethics of data re-use. She has proved to be a very valuable team member in a very short space of time. We will of course keep in touch with Helen and wish her the best of luck during her fellowship and in her future research career.

Congratulations to Laura

This Christmas, after submitting her doctoral thesis, Laura journeyed to New Zealand to get married. We wish her and husband Richard every future happiness! We also wish her the best of luck with her viva at the end of January. Laura has worked at Lifespan part-time managing the Primary Care Research Support Project which was completed this autumn. We are hoping Laura will return in the spring to undertake further projects with Lifespan.

New Phd student - Jeffrey DeMarco



We are happy to welcome new PhD student Jeffrey, who is a psychologist interested in forensic issues in young offenders and their cooperation with interventions and 'therapeutic alliance'. Jeffrey is being supervised by Prof David Denney in Criminology/Sociology, with Toni Bifulco as co-supervisor. Having been virtually snowbound visiting his family in Canada he rejoined us again in January. Jeffrey did his Masters at London Metropolitan university with Dr Vittoria Ardino, who is on our CATS advisory board.



www.cats-rp.org.uk

Final report on young people's internet use

Research led by Prof Davidson and funded by the National Audit Office and the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre will be published by the NAO soon. The research included an online survey of 11-16 year olds (n=1808) & focus groups (n=83) with young people in the UK. Key findings suggest that a substantial proportion of children reported having engaged in high risk behaviour online (defined by degree to which they share information with strangers), 37% had shared an email address; 34% provided information about the school they attended; 23% provided a mobile number; 26% a personal photograph. A significant proportion said they will continue with such behaviour following Internet safety training (particularly 13+), only 36% said Internet safety training would make them more careful online. Focus group findings indicated that interacting with strangers (i.e. adding them as ISM or Facebook friends and exchanging messages) is becoming an accepted behaviour not perceived as 'risk-taking'.



WORKSHOP: Two Sides of Trauma - Victim and Offender Experience: Childhood violent trauma and PTSD in forensic settings: focus on assessment and treatment

This workshop, jointly organised by CATS and the European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ESTSS), will offer an introduction to the main psychological and criminological issues underlying the definition, measurement and treatment of childhood violent trauma and PTSD in forensic settings with relevant reference to research. It will discuss the use of Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) interview instrument for assessing childhood abuse, and will introduce the concept of "perpetration-induced" traumatic stress and to the relationship between PTSD and criminal behaviour. Narratives of traumatized offenders will be used to challenge attendees' knowledge about the interplay between trauma re-enactment, chronic PTSD and re-offending risk. A critical review of treatment for sex offenders will be provided, with focus upon the cognitive behavioural approach.

The workshop takes place on Thursday 15th April 2010 at London Metropolitan University.

Contact: Vittoria Ardino v.ardino@londonmet.ac.uk

CATS first PHD student

CATS' first PhD Studentship is awarded to Nicola Dillon to begin in January 2010. Nicola will be supervised by Profs Davidson & Bifulco. The research will focus upon cyberstalking and the experiences of adult Internet users. We are looking forward to having Nicola join our CATS team.

SWAN SEMINAR SERIES:



Inter-Disciplinary Approaches to Abuse and Trauma in Offenders

The South West London Network encompasses Royal Holloway, Kingston and St Georges universities. A grant was awarded for running a series of seminars and workshops combining the different disciplines and perspectives of Toni Bifulco, Julia Davidson and Gill Mezey from the three universities respectively.

The first seminar held in November at Kingston University reviewed offender behaviour and profile in relation to victimisation and trauma. It explored gaps in the research and sought to bring together themes from expertise in the 3 universities. The invited audience of experts in the field contributed to a full discussion to take further some themes for future research application.

The second seminar, held on 27th January at Lifespan Offices in Bedford Square, focused on 'Measurement issues in offenders around experience of abuse and trauma.' It was well attended with very interesting discussion of relevant issues in forensic research and services.

The final seminar at SGUL will focus on 'Samples, services and interventions for offenders with prior abuse experience'.

We have found the collaboration between the 3 universities and the three disciplines of Psychology/Social Care; Criminology and Forensic Psychiatry to provide a fertile ground for future research collaboration.

NEW BOOK: Online groomers profiling, policing and prevention

By Julia Davidson and Petter Gottschalk



The Internet has greatly facilitated the ways in which paedophiles can groom children and young people. This important book offers numerous new insights and, in the process, provides a sound conceptual approach to understanding continuing developments in issues such as characteristics of the Internet and how these are explored and exploited by sexual offenders to groom their victims, legislation against online grooming, the conviction and treatment of offenders and many other related issues.

It uses international examples to illustrate larger concepts and cases, and the difficulties involved in tackling a world-wide problem where individual countries have their own laws protecting children, but where there is no concerted law enforcement and international legislation to combat child abuse; and where there is no direct governance of the Internet by an international body to curb illegal online content and activity. Above all, this book demonstrates how people working in many different specialisms and countries can co-operate to help ensure children and young people remain safe online.

Paperback. Approx 192 pages. ISBN 9781905541560.

The book can be ordered through www.amazon.co.uk or www.russellhouse.co.uk



www.cats-rp.org.uk

European Online Grooming project reports



The European Online Grooming Project has three interlinked phases. The first is a scoping project - subject of this progress report. The second and third phases involve interviews with convicted online groomers across Europe and dissemination activity respectively. The research has the following overarching objectives: describe the behaviour of both offenders who groom and young people who are 'groomed' and explore differences within each group and how these differences may have a bearing on offence outcome; describe how information, communication technology is used to facilitate the process of online grooming; further the current low knowledge base about the way in which young people are selected and prepared for abuse online; and make a significant contribution to the development of educational awareness and preventative initiatives aimed at parents and young people.

The first six months of the project have been extremely productive. The objectives to this point were to conduct scoping activity, develop dissemination partnerships and begin work developing the sample of online groomers.

Fieldwork: All scoping activity is now complete. This has encompassed a review of online groomers' police case files, interviews with strategic stakeholders across Europe and a comprehensive literature review.

Main stage activity with online groomers: HM Prison Service in the UK has approved access for the research team to commence work in 2010. A sample of 400 Internet offenders has been developed by HMPS staff and sent to NatCen for sample pool development. Partners have also been working on identifying and recruiting online groomers and have made good progress here.

Dissemination: A series of press releases announcing the study and subsequent scoping findings have been published by consortium partners. These releases have been published by national newspapers such as the Daily Telegraph in the UK and well as television broadcasters in Norway. The consortium has also held meetings with media consultants in order to develop an effective brand for the study and website content. The project website was launched in November 2009 and currently contains an overview of the project and the consortium. More recently, the project has been promoted at national conferences such as the UK Council for Child Internet Safety. This event was attended by the Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Children and Schools. The consortium has also completed the first annual report of scoping findings six months ahead of schedule.

Meeting in Brussels on EU Internet Grooming Project



In December we held a meeting with our EU partners in Brussels hosted by Prof Thierry Pham and attended by Profs Gottschalk (Oslo) and Caretti (Palermo University) with his colleagues Drs Schimmenti and Cuilla. The group discussed the progress in the first 5 months of the project and provided feedback on the Scoping Report and literature review. Unfortunately Stephen Webster and Julia Davidson both came down with a pernicious virus just before the

meeting and were unable to attend, but Toni Bifulco represented the London partnership and the meeting was highly successful in taking the project forward.

CATS Continuous Professional Development courses on Child Internet Safety



A CPD training event took place in January for police and social services. The event aimed to present CATS CPD training in the Internet abuse area focusing upon policing the Internet and working with young victims of Internet abuse. Presentations

were made by Profs Davidson & Bifulco, Jon Taylor (Metropolitan Police High Technology Crime Unit) and Tink Palmer (Marie Collins Foundation).

CATS Training

CATS centre is now offering workshops and short training courses around issues of abuse and trauma for practitioners in health, social care or criminal justice services. For more details visit www.cats-rp.org.uk



CATS event to be held at the House of Lords

Internet Grooming: Understanding offender behaviour and protecting young people 26 March 2010

CATS is holding an event to raise awareness about the threat posed by online groomers who use the Internet and other technologies such as mobile phones, to select and groom or prepare young people for sexual abuse. The event will include presentations from Mark Williams Thomas (who presented the recent ITN documentary 'To catch a paedophile'), Jon Taylor who has worked online as an undercover officer for the Metropolitan Police High Technology Crime Unit for 5 years and presentations from Profs Davidson and Bifulco on the European Online Grooming Research Project. The event will be free, advertised soon and open to those working in the Internet safety and law enforcement arenas. To pre-book a place at this event contact CATS@rhul.ac.uk

CATS Advisory Group Meeting

The first meeting of CATS Advisory Group members took place on 18 December at RHUL Central London location. In spite of adverse weather conditions we are pleased to say that the meeting was well attended! We were joined by experts from fields of police child abuse and protection and crime prevention; social work—child safeguarding and adolescent care, residential services, victim protection and counselling and academia.



A presentation by Profs Bifulco and Davidson on recent and future CATS activities and project was followed by group discussion in which many interesting points were raised and recommendations made for future directions. The round table discussion was followed by an informal chat, with wine and mince pies! We very much look forward to the next Advisory Group meeting later in the year.

Training dates at Lifespan offices, Bedford Square, London

Attachment Style Interview (ASI) for Research and Clinical Practice

24-26 February 2010, Central London

New dates: 9-11 November 2010, Central London

One day advanced ASI training workshops

(for practitioners already trained in ASI measure):

Advanced ASI: Wednesday 23 June 2010

Adolescent ASI: Wednesday 22 September 2010

One-day introductory evidence-based assessment workshops

(for Health and Social Care practitioners and managers):

Introduction to evidence-based interviews on adversity, stress and attachment:

Workshop for Health and Social Care practitioners—Autumn 2010

Workshop for Health and Social Care Managers—Autumn 2010

Childhood Experience of Care and Abuse (CECA) training courses

24 and 25 March 2010, Central London

New dates: 20 and 21 October 2010, Central London

for further information or to book a place contact: Yael Ilan-Clarke (ASI) or Natasa Blagojevic-Stokic Tel: 020 7307 8619
Email: LifespanTraining@rhul.ac.uk or visit www.attachmentstyleinterview.com & www.cecainterview.com

See pages 3-5 for more details on our courses, including new attachment training courses and tailored CECA courses

CATS Training

The CATS centre offers workshops and short training courses for practitioners in health, social care or criminal justice services. Courses being planned for 2010 include:

One day workshop on trauma

(in conjunction with the European Society for Trauma and Stress Studies)

Workshops on internet abuse and internet safety for professionals

Courses can be provided on site of services, or arranged to take place at our Central London University premises. For further information and course fees please visit www.cats-rp.org.uk or contact CATS@rhul.ac.uk

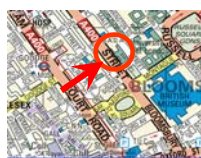
The Lifespan Research Group

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www.lifespanresearch.org.uk
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11 Bedford Square is located on the corner of Gower Street and Montague Place and is 15-20 minutes walk from mainline stations (Euston, St Pancras, Kings Cross) and close to Tottenham Court Road and Russell Square tube stations.

