

‘CRITICAL PERSPECTIVES ON LEARNING FROM MAD KNOWLEDGE’

The 15th Annual Critical Perspectives Conference takes place on 15 and 16 November 2023 in University College Cork. This conference, now well established and valued both nationally and internationally, is organised annually by Lydia Sapouna and Harry Gijbels, both from University College Cork, Ireland, in partnership with the Critical Voices Network Ireland (CVNI).

This year’s theme focuses on the concept of Mad knowledge. Mad knowledge has been historically invalidated by academic and professional disciplines. Despite the rhetoric of ‘social inclusion’ and ‘co-production’, service users/survivors/Mad people continue to be viewed as non-credible knowers in relation to their own experiences. This is a form of injustice that renders them powerless within the systems that are meant to support them. This year’s conference provides opportunities to consider Mad knowledge and the challenges involved in learning with and from Madness and distress. The conference will consider:

- The diversity of Mad knowledge
- The processes that marginalise Mad knowledge
- Issues of credibility and representation
- What it means to learn from Mad knowledge
- The implications of this learning for education and practice systems
- How we create environments to honour, and nurture Mad knowledge

The 2-day conference offers 5 keynote and 27 concurrent presentations. The 5 keynote presentations are also offered live online, for a minimum £1 registration. Registration and other details (days, times, titles, abstracts, and presenters’ bios) can be found on: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/15th-annual-critical-perspectives-conference-tickets-730115744847>

The conference details are regularly updated on <https://cvni.ie/2023-2/> on <https://www.ucc.ie/en/appsoc/resconf/conf/> and on <https://www.ucc.ie/en/nursingmidwifery/conferences/critical-voices/>