TPATH in August

Recent publications by members

Books
The Gender Affirmative Model: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Supporting Transgender and Gender Expansive Children
Colt Keo-Meier and Diane Ehrensaft

Understanding Trans Health: Discourse, Power and Possibility
Ruth Pearce

Transgender Health: A Practitioners Guide to Binary and Non-Binary Trans Patient Care
Ben Vincent

Academic Articles
Creating Gender: A Thematic Analysis of Genderqueer Narratives
Nova Bradford, G. Nicole Rider, Jory M. Catalpa, Quinlyn J. Morrow, Dianne R. Berg, Katherine G Spencer, & Jenifer K. McGuire

Gender Identity Differences in Autistic Adults: Associations with Perceptual and Socio-Cognitive Profiles
Reubs Walsh, Lydia Krabbendam, Jeroen Dewinter, and Sander Begeer

Editorials
Ford’s Drug Plan Changes Will Out Many Young Adults’ Private Lives to Parents
Florence Ashley

Man who Changed Legal Gender to get Cheaper Insurance Exposes the Unreliability of Gender Markers
Florence Ashley
Job opportunities
LGBT Program Coordinator, Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

Manager, Center for Gender Affirming Care
San Diego, California

Transgender Services Case Manager RN
San Francisco, CA

News

ICD-11 Revision
The World Health Organization has completed the ICD-11 and announced the movement of all trans-related categories from the Chapter on Mental and Behavioral Disorders to the Chapter on Conditions Related to Sexual Health. This is a big win for depathologization and credit goes to GATE, AKAHATA, TGEU, APTN, ILGA, Post-Soviet Trans* Coalition, Iranti.org, and the STP International Campaign Stop Trans Pathologization.

Exclusion of GRS from US Veterans’ Medical Benefits Package
The US VA has requested commentary on whether they should exclude ‘gender alternation’ from provided medical services. They are specifically inviting commentary addressing the following;

● What evidence is available about the safety and effectiveness of gender alterations for the treatment of gender dysphoria and how reliable is that evidence?
● Given the challenge of the high rates of Veteran suicide, what does the evidence, including peer-reviewed evidence, suggest about the impact of gender alterations on the rates of suicide and suicide ideation among those suffering from gender dysphoria?
● Given that any addition to the medical benefits package will have an associated cost and burden on existing specialists, especially urological and vascular surgeons and other highly trained specialists who are already in short supply nationwide, what is the potential impact of adding “gender alterations” on Veterans’ access to care, particularly for Veterans facing life-threatening medical conditions waiting to see surgical specialists?

Commentary is due by September 7, 2018. Please consider giving some time to addressing their concerns, as they seem woefully under informed on the issue.

Japan to fund gender-affirming surgery
The Japanese Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare has announced that GRS will be partially covered by public health. Concerns remain about some of the restrictions on trans people in Japan and those who would like GRS.
Communication
TPATH has a number of different communication platforms, including a very active Facebook, a Google Listserv, and the website forums. The Facebook group in particular now has over 500 members! All of these platforms require individual registration, which is open only to trans and/or intersex identified folks. Please feel welcome to add friends and co-workers to the Facebook group, but remind them to answer the membership questions, as they cannot be approved until they do so.

Volunteering
If you are interested in volunteering or collaborating with TPATH please send us a note.

TPATH Leadership
We are actively recruiting folks from the Global South to take on a leadership role. Commitment is flexible and takes place primarily online.

Newsletter
If you have design skills and/or an interest in writing we’d love to have your help.

Blog Posts
TPATH has a blog! Right now we mostly use it for expressions of solidarity, announcements, and what not. We’d really love to make it available to folks that want to write posts about their experiences with and as trans healthcare Providers. Please get a hold of us if you’re interested in writing something.

Let us know if you have news, a job posting, or one of your recent publications to share.

What’s up with the PATHs?

WPATH

Election for Officers and Board of Directors
The election closed on July 24th and results should be announced shortly. There is some concern about the manner in which this election was conducted and some TPATH members are preparing a response. Stay tuned to the FB group for more info.

Response to Genital Surgery Open Letter
WPATH has responded to this letter. A discussion about the response is taking place on the TPATH Facebook group. If you are interested in participating in this process please contact Gaines Parker.
Planning for Buenos Aires

TPATH continues to work hard on organizing for the upcoming WPATH conference in Buenos Aires (Nov 2-6, 2018). Abstract submission acceptance notices have gone out and WPATH has committed to setting aside a room for trans and/or intersex attendees, as space permits, throughout the conference. We are in touch with them about where and how often it will be available.

Hotels

We have identified a few alternatives to the official conference hotel, which has rooms starting at $229/night. It is our hope that this will be a more affordable option and will allow us to be in the same spaces, away from the larger conference. TPATH can’t make any guarantees about these hotels, but the reviews are good and present them as basic and clean (note that prices are in USD and for Nov 1-7).

1. Located in the Retiro neighbourhood, the Feir’s Park Hotel is a short 29 min by transit and 32 min walking from the WPATH conference site. Since originally posting this, prices on Priceline have gone up to $168/night. The ‘blind’ deal appears to be gone for now, but keep an eye out as their inventory changes all the time. In the meantime, you may find it a bit cheaper on Tripadvisor or similar travel sites. Don’t wait too long though, as prices are going up as we get closer to the conference. The hotel itself includes an airport shuttle, wifi, fitness centre, pool, and restaurant on site. The site also has elevators and should be relatively accessible.

2. Several TPATH members have booked rooms at the Anselmo Buenos Aires, located in the San Telmo neighbourhood, about 31 minutes walking and 25 minutes by transit from the conference site. Room prices are currently down as low as $107/night (w/ Hilton Honors membership), but may be found cheaper on discount booking sites. The hotel includes wifi, fitness room, and a bar area. It also has a full accessibility audit.

3. The Hotel Bauen has been recommended to us by an Argentinean TPATH member. It has a fascinating history and is run cooperatively by employees that occupied it after mismanagement and closure in 2003. While still operating as a hotel, it also serves as community hub and meeting space for Argentine leftist and worker’s groups. Located in the Barrio Norte neighbourhood, it is about a 37 minute walk and 38 minutes by transit from the conference site. Keep in mind, however, that the hotel is old and funding for upgrades are minimal, so it may be a little dusty and the elevator reportedly sometimes has problems. You will need to contact them about reservations and costs. We were quoted $28/night for a single room in a large group booking.
4. There are a number of very affordable hostels in Buenos Aires, with what appears to be an average price of $15/night.

Registration
Conference registration is now open. Rates start at $555 USD for the conference itself and increase or decrease depending on whether you register for additional courses, are a student, or from a Least Developed Country. Student scholarship applications were due on June 30, 2018. WPATH is also collecting funds to provide scholarships to, allow global advocates to attend WPATH conferences. They have not yet announced whether they will be disbursed for Argentina.

Scholarships
We are looking to launch a crowdfunding campaign to raise funds. These scholarships will be open to all TPATH members with a financial need, but will prioritize individuals that are particularly marginalized, including (but not limited to) those who are racialized, (dis)abled, sex workers, and/or from the Global South.

WPATH Global Education Initiative
WPATH has a pathway to get grandfathered into the certification process. There is apparently an exam to complete before this can be done. You will need to complete the intent form, which contains more details about the requirements of this process.

WPATH Student Initiative
There are two research grants of $500 USD available for individuals who are or would be eligible to be a WPATH Student Member and are currently registered in a graduate program. More information on the application requirements and process can be found in the July Student Initiative newsletter. Please direct questions to Luke Allen or Penelope Strauss.

CPATH
CPATH is seeking public input on a set of guidelines for ethical research practices with trans communities from Canadian trans people, researchers, and practitioners.

USPATH
The results for the recent election of officers are posted. Congratulations to the new Board of Directors, elected on July 9th.
  Thomas (Dana) Bevan, PhD
  John Capozuca, PhD
  Maddie Deutsch, MD, MPH
  Lisa Griffin, PhD
  Johanna Olson-Kennedy, MS, MD
  Asa Radix, MD, MPH