



Invitation

Pre-Conference Research Workshop on “Religion, Spirituality and Health”

May 13-16, 2018, in Coventry (UK)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Preceding the 6th European Conference on Religion, Spirituality and Health (www.ecrsh.eu) in Coventry, we invite you to participate in the Pre-Conference Research Workshop. The workshop is open to all interested in research on religion, spirituality and health (we welcome participants of any educational level or degree, including theologians, chaplains, physicians, nurses, allied health professionals, psychologists, pastoral counsellors, public health specialists, epidemiologists, or other potential researchers).

The main presenter is Prof Harold G. Koenig. He holds a professorship at Duke University Medical Center (Internal Medicine, Psychiatry, and Behavioral Sciences). Furthermore, he is director of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health. This center offers a 2-year post-doc program in religion and health, which Dr Koenig has compressed into a 4-day-workshops like the one offered here.

The following topics will be discussed:

- Previous research on religion, spirituality and health
- Importance of definitions
- Understanding mechanisms and pathways
- Highest priority studies for future research
- Strengths and weaknesses of religion/spirituality measures
- Designing different types of research projects
- Statistics and statistical modeling
- Funding your research, writing a grant
- Managing a research project
- Writing a research paper for publication; getting it published
- Developing an academic career in this area

European experts will complement the program with the following topics:

- Theological reflection on religion and health research
- Overview on European research and research institutions/groups
- Qualitative methods in RSH research
- Using physiological and biological parameters in RSH research

Individual mentorship meetings with the presenters will allow the participants to discuss their specific questions and their own research projects.



PROGRAM

Pre-Conference RESEARCH WORKSHOP				
	Sunday May 13 th	Monday May 14 th	Tuesday May 15 th	Wednesday May 16 st
8:00		Individual mentorship	Individual mentorship	Individual mentorship
9:00		Sources of information Definitions Relevance to public health Prof. Harold Koenig	Strengths and weaknesses of religious / spiritual measures Designing a research project (observational studies & clinical trials) Prof. Harold Koenig	Developing a career Highest priority studies for future research Writing a paper Funding for research Prof. Harold Koenig
10:00				
11:00				
12:00		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:00		Individual mentorship	Individual mentorship	Individual mentorship
14:00		Reviews of mental & physical health Pathways & mechanisms: how religion affects health Prof. Harold Koenig	Quantitative methods Prof. Harold Koenig	Theological reflections Prof. Niels Ch. Hvidt
15:00			Recent developments in research in the USA Prof. Harold Koenig	Selection of R/S instruments – European Perspective Prof. Arndt Büssing
16:00	Welcome & Introduction of participants & individual research projects/interests		Physiological measures in RSH-Research René Hefti, MD	Qualitative methods Prof. Constantin Klein
17:00		Individual mentorship	Individual mentorship	Registration ECRSH 2018 (1 st part)
18:00				

ORGANISATION, ACCOMMODATION, FEES

The workshop is organized by the Research Institute for Spirituality and Health (www.rish.ch) in collaboration with Coventry University. The persons responsible for the organization are: René Hefti, M.D., head of the Research Institute RISH, Thomas Wartenweiler, research assistant at the Research Institute RISH, as well as Dr Deborah Lycett from Coventry University.



The workshop will be located at Coventry University (www.coventry.ac.uk). Please find more information about the conference venue on the conference website (www.ecrsh.eu). Participants are advised to book their own accommodation. You can register for the workshop at <http://ecrsh.eu/ecrsh-2018/registration>

The workshop fees are as follows:

	Early Fee (until Nov. 30, 2017)	Normal Fee (from Dec. 01, 2017)	Early Student (until Nov. 30, 2017)	Normal Student (from Dec. 01, 2017)
Category I	850	950	650	750
Category II	750	850	550	650
Category III	650	750	450	550

The fee depends on the date of payment and on the country of living (Category I to III). For explanations about the categories see <http://www.ecrsh.eu/ecrsh-2018/registration/conference-fees>.

The fee includes lectures, mentorship meetings and coffee breaks.

If you also participate in the European Conference on Religion, Spirituality and Health ECRSH in Coventry, May 17-19, 2018, the fees are reduced as follows:

Conference fee plus Pre-Conference Research Workshop fee minus EUR 100.

Please note: The number of workshop participants is limited, so early registration is encouraged!

For further information contact: René Hefti, M.D., Research Institute RISH, Phone +41 62 919 22 11, e-mail: rene.hefti@rish.ch, or Thomas Wartenweiler, e-mail: thomas.wartenweiler@rish.ch.

Workshop Presenters (in order of program appearance)

PROF DR HAROLD KOENIG



Dr Koenig completed his undergraduate education at Stanford University, his medical school training at the University of California at San Francisco, and his geriatric medicine, psychiatry, and biostatistics training at Duke University Medical Center. He is board certified in general psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry and geriatric medicine, and is a Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, and Associate Professor of Medicine at the Duke University.

Dr Koenig is the director of the *Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health* at the Duke University Medical Center, and has published extensively in the fields of mental health, geriatrics, and religion, with over 300 scientific peer-reviewed articles and book chapters and 40 books in print or in preparation. He is past editor of the Medline research journal, the *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*. His research on religion, health and ethical issues in medicine has been featured on over 50 national and international TV news programs (including NBC's The Today Show and ABC's Good Morning America), 100 national or international radio programs (including multiple NPR and BBC Radio 5 interviews), and hundreds of national or international newspapers or magazines (including cover stories for Reader's Digest, Parade Magazine, Newsweek, and Time).

In September 1998, Dr Koenig was invited to give testimony before the U.S. Senate concerning the benefits of religion and spirituality on health; in September 2008, Dr Koenig gave testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Science & Technology. He has been interviewed by James Dobson on Focus on the Family and by Robert Schuller in the Crystal Cathedral on the Hour of Power. Dr Koenig has been nominated twice for the Templeton Prize for Progress in Religion. His latest books include: *The Healing Power of Faith* (Simon & Schuster, 2001 paperback), *The Handbook of Religion and Health* (Oxford University Press, 200, 2012), *Spirituality in Patient Care*, 2nd Ed. (Templeton Foundation Press, 2007), *Medicine, Religion and Health* (Templeton Foundation Press, 2008), *Religion and Spirituality in Psychiatry* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), and *Spirituality and Health Research: Methods, Measurement, Statistics, and Resources* (Templeton Press, 2011). He is the recipient of the 2012 Oskar Pfister Award from the American Psychiatric Association and the 2013 Gary Collins Award from the American Association of Christian Counselors. His latest book is *Health and Well-being in Islamic Societies* (2014, Springer International).

Dr Koenig travels widely to give workshops and seminar presentations (see www.spiritualityandhealth.duke.edu/index.php/speaking-engagements-harold-g-koenig-m-d). For more information about Dr Koenig see for example www.spiritualityandhealth.duke.edu/index.php/harold-g-koenig-m-d.

DR RENÉ HEFTI



René Hefti graduated from the medical school at Zurich University in 1987. He completed residencies in internal medicine and cardiology in Switzerland, Austria and Jemen from 1988 – 1998. In parallel Dr Hefti did an additional training in psychosomatic medicine and existential psychotherapy. 1998 he became head of the psychosomatic department of the Clinic SGM Langenthal, Switzerland. Dr Hefti founded the Research Institute for Spirituality and Health in 2005 (www.rish.ch) and initiated the European Conferences on Religion, Spirituality and Health

(www.ecrsh.eu). His research interests include religion as a stress buffering “agent” and the integration of spirituality into an extended bio-psycho-social model.

PROF DR NIELS HVIDT



Niels Christian Hvidt, born 1969, 1997 Master’s degree at the Divinity School of the University of Copenhagen; 1998 Advanced Expository Writing, Harvard Summer School; 1999 Proficiency exam, Cambridge University; 2001 Doctoral dissertation (ThD – Roman equivalent to the PhD-grade) at the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome on the thesis “Christian Prophecy - Its Preconditions, Function, and Status in the Church”, awarded with the Gold Medal of the University of Copenhagen dissertation prize. 2000-2002 Editor, Scandinavian section of Vatican Radio; 2000-2004 Visiting professor, Pontifical Gregorian University, Rome; 2002-2006 Post-doc research on Theological perspectives on religion and coping, financed by H. Lundbeck A/S; 2001 Visiting professor, Angelicum University, Rome; 2004 Visiting fellow at the Divinity School at m University as well as the Duke Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health; 2004-05 Visiting fellow at Institute of Cancer Epidemiology, Danish Cancer Society; 2005-06 Visiting fellow at the Theological Faculty of the University of Notre Dame, IN, USA. Since 2006 Associate professor, Research Unit of Health, Man, and Society, Institute of Public Health, The Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Southern Denmark. Selected memberships: Member of the scientific board of the museum project “Marie de Nazareth” since 2002; Reviewer for Oxford University Press and the Medical Journal of Australia since 2007; Co-founder of International Society for Research in Spirituality, Religion and Health, Bern, Switzerland (in process of realization) since 2010; Coordinator for Interdisciplinary Nordic Network for Research in Faith and Health since 2011.

PROF DR ARND BÜSSING



Arndt Büssing is professor for Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping at the University of Witten/Herdecke, Germany. His research interests are non-pharmacological interventions and the identification and support of individual resources to cope with chronic disease. Subsequent to his studies in medicine at the RWTH Aachen and his PhD thesis in pediatrics/human genetics, he worked as assistant doctor at the Department of Medical Immunology, RWTH Aachen, followed by an appointment as director of the Department of Applied Immunology, Communal Hospital Herdecke. After his habilitation he was lecturer at the department of Medical Theory and Complementary Medicine at the University of Witten/Herdecke. Since 2010, Arndt Büssing is full professor for Quality of Life, Spirituality and Coping at the University of Witten-Herdecke, Germany. He is editor of the Deutsche Zeitschrift für Onkologie and editorial board member of the Journals Evidence-based Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Religions, and Spiritual Care. He is also spokesperson of the Transdisziplinäre Arbeitsgruppe Spiritualität und Krankheitsumgang (TASK), chair of the Internationale Gesellschaft Gesundheit und Spiritualität (IGGS), and non-residential faculty scholar of the Center for Spirituality, Theology and Health, Duke University Medical Center, USA.

PROF DR CONSTANTIN KLEIN



Constantin Klein, born 1977, 2003 Diploma in Psychology and 2004 Diploma in Theology at Leipzig University, 2005 Assistant Professor for Personality Psychology at Leipzig University; 2006 Assistant Professor for Church History at Bonn University; 2007 Assistant Professor for Medical Psychology at Technical University Dresden; 2009 Assistant Professor for Religious Education and Religious Studies at Bielefeld University; 2013 Doctoral dissertation (Ph.D.); 2016 Call at the Chair for Spiritual Care at Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich.

Selected memberships: International Association for the Psychology of Religion (IAPR; webmaster and editor of the newsletter 2009-2012); Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR); Internationale Gesellschaft

Gesundheit und Spiritualität (IGGS; board member 2011-2013); consultant for the assessment of religiosity and spirituality in several international large-scale surveys (ALLBUS/ISSP, Religion Monitor).