

Diagnosing Diagnosis—Social Justice and Diversity” Interdivisional symposium

Day/time: Saturday August 11, 4:00 - 5:50 pm

Location: Moscone Center/Room 158 Upper Mezzanine-South Building

Presenters: Peter Kinderman, Sand Chang, Jevon Rice, Anne Cooke, Karla Caballero and colleagues, Ashley Whitaker, Jeanne Marecek, Brent Robbins, Frank Farley (discussant), Sarah Kamens (chair)

Symposium description: The diagnostic landscape in the clinical psydisciplines is rapidly changing. While many clinicians, counselors, and other practitioners continue to use the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM-5) in everyday practice, researchers are increasingly drawing upon new classificatory models such as the National Institute of Mental Health's Research Domain Criteria (RDoC) project and the Hierarchical Taxonomy of Psychopathology (HiTOP) model. These new models have arisen in response to research indicating that the current paradigm does not cut nature at its [empirical] joints and thus inhibits progress in clinical research. Despite these historical shifts, both conventional and newly proposed classification systems do not explicitly incorporate research related to negative social experiences (e.g., discrimination and stigma), racial/ethnic disparities, and structural risk factors (e.g., socioeconomic inequalities and segregation). Further, despite improvements to cultural-formulation interviewing in DSM-5, clinical research has yet to address the ways in which DSM diagnoses reflect and extend the worldviews of the dominant culture. What happens when the act of labeling another person with a mental disorder contributes to their sociocultural marginalization by dominant institutions and structures? What does it mean when persons from marginalized groups do or do not identify with a diagnostic label? How can we reconceptualize psychological distress in a way that promotes social justice and cross-cultural understandings? This symposium brings together national and international experts with a diverse range of perspectives and practices related to clinical diagnosis in the psydisciplines. The presenters will diagnose diagnosis by addressing the implications of diagnostic systems for larger society and diverse populations within it, focusing on transgender communities, Latina/o populations, Black emerging adults, the Global South, and persons diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder or schizophrenia. Discussion will focus on a new movement to reconceptualize mental distress using person-centered, multicultural, and social-justice approaches.

Diagnosing Diagnosis Division 32 Hospitality Suite Session

Day/time: Sunday August 12, 10:00 - 11:00 am

Location: Marriot Marquis Division 32 Hospitality Suite (suite # TBA)

Description: This hospitality suite hour will be dedicated to open discussion and Q&A following the "Diagnosing Diagnosis" symposium