

Join us on **June 12-13, 2024** at the University of Leeds, UK for the  
**Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Symposium**  
**New Research Directions in Global Mental Health**

How is a changing world changing mental health? And how is it changing attitudes towards mental health? What are the emerging societal challenges and how can our research network respond to these challenges? How can mental health researchers respond to the impact of **poverty, violence and inequity** within diverse communities and cultures worldwide?

The purpose of this two-day symposium is to bring together researchers from a wide range of national contexts and disciplinary backgrounds from across WUN and their partners in order to share knowledge, generate new research ideas and approaches. The conference will combine traditional conference practices with participatory workshops to develop new research.

### Programme

The program will include presentations from international experts, poster sessions, workshops and discussion with funding agencies.

Themes include:

- Global inequities (social, cultural and economic) and mental health.
- Power imbalances and global mental health.
- Decolonising knowledge and interventions in mental health.
- Gender violence, trauma and mental health.
- Marginalised communities, minoritised ethnic groups, refugees / immigrants and mental health.
- LGBTQI+ communities and mental health.
- Disability and mental health.
- Systemic racism and mental health.
- Indigenous and traditional mental health practices.
- Culture, religion and mental health.
- Digital mental health.
- Lived experience and survivor-led research.
- Critical suicide research and global mental health / suicide prevention strategies.
- Alternative / innovative methodological approaches: music, art, theatre, film.
- Languages, discourse and definitions of global mental health.

**Objectives of the symposium:**

- To bring together researchers in mental health from across the Worldwide Universities Network to discuss how collaborative research could and should be addressing the major mental health challenges in our societies today.
- To encourage collaboration across diverse disciplinary, cultural and national contexts in order to share insights, generate new ways of thinking, innovative approaches and methodologies.
- To address the intersectional dimensions of global mental health, considering the complex interplay between social context, ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation and religion in shaping lived experiences and outcomes in mental health.
- To build connections between researchers and research funders.

The symposium is open to faculty members/academic researchers, doctoral students and postdoctoral trainees. It will be an in-person event, but the keynote presentations will be live-streamed. The venue facility is limited to a maximum of 100 participants. Watch for more information in February 2024 when registration will open, along with a Call for Abstracts.

The symposium is supported by WUN and the Leeds Interdisciplinary Mental Health Research Network (LIMHRN) and the Horizons Institute, University of Leeds.

**Questions, or for more information, please contact Dr. John Bell at the University of Alberta at [john.bell@ualberta.ca](mailto:john.bell@ualberta.ca)**