

Expression of interest

- Please add my name to the mailing list to receive a registration brochure.
- My organisation is interested in trade exhibition details. Please contact me.
- I am interested in presenting at the *10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference*. Complete the section below.

Abstract submission

If submitting:

- via email, please include all the information requested on this form
- via disk or CD Rom, please attach the submission form to your disk or CD Rom and two (2) paper copies of your 250 word abstract
- more than one abstract, please attach a separate form to each mailed submission

Please consider my submission for:

- Oral presentation
- Workshop
- Poster presentation
- Either (oral, workshop or poster)
 - I have included my biographical paragraph

My abstract relates to one of the following themes:

- Spirituality & suicide prevention
- Spirituality in counselling and therapy
- Spirituality & recovery
- Spirituality & post vention
- Spirituality & youth
- Bereavement through suicide
- The place of Meaning in preventing suicide
- Research
- Innovation & program development in suicide prevention

Publication/recording

- I agree for my abstract to be published in conference literature
- I agree for my presentation to be audio or video recorded (if applicable)

.....
Signature

.....
Date

Invitation to participate and call for abstracts

It is a great pleasure to invite you to participate in the 10th Annual SPA National Conference in Brisbane, 12th–15th June 2003.

The conference title, 'Finding meaning to sustain life: The place of spirituality in suicide prevention', signals a theme of universal concern. It not only links those who suffer and those who care about and for them, but all human beings. It is about our attachments, our sense of what is ethical and just, and is relevant to the communities in which we live and the networks in which we participate.

The theme is topical. Religion and spirituality historically have been greatly neglected in Australian mental health services and research, perhaps because of restricted definitions of 'science' and suspicions of religion. A growing body of high quality research now indicates that what we tell ourselves about our lives and their ultimate significance is central both to our health and well-being, and to the prevention and management of physical and psychological disorders. Spirituality, culture, the sciences and medicine share much common ground. The conference will make clear that nowhere is this more so than for indigenous people.

Our adoption of this theme is not a fashion statement. The 2003 conference is a signal that SPA takes this understanding (of mental health and well-being in the broadest sense) seriously. It may in some respects be a controversial choice of topic, for instance for those who may distrust what they regard as the blurring of boundaries between science and spirituality, and in a different context, among some who advocate 'rational suicide'. Nevertheless, it arises from the expressed wishes of suicidal people that they be treated as whole people, and from a profound conviction that whatever enables resilience and fosters hope should be promoted.

The theme also has national meaning at a time in our history in which the fabric of our society is rent by divisions, for example between the rich and poor, between indigenous and non-indigenous people, between asylum-seekers and those who call Australia or New Zealand 'home'. In some cases, these divisions are increasing. That sense of ultimate reality that anchors and provides purpose and agency, is named and experienced differently by different cultures. However, high rates of suicide and suicidal behaviour continue among young indigenous males in some communities, and also males in some refugee and immigrant groups. This suggests that the need for cross-cultural dialogue and for further exploration of the spiritual dimension in Australian mental health promotion, service delivery and research, has never been more pressing.

We need your contribution to these debates. They are part of the future of suicide prevention in this country, and part of our national future. Please participate by attending, speaking and chairing sessions.

Welcome!

Dr Michael Dudley
National Chair, SPA

PLEASE DIARISE THESE DATES NOW!

Important dates

- 10 March 2003** Deadline for receipt of abstracts and biographical details by Conference Managers
- late March 2003** Registration brochure distributed
- 11 April 2003** Authors notified of acceptance of abstracts
- 17 April 2003** Authors to confirm intention to present
- 24 April 2003** Earlybird registration closes; and deadline for authors to register for the conference
- 12–15 June 2003** 10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference

Failure to meet the specified deadlines and guidelines may result in exclusion of the abstract from conference program and promotional materials.



10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference

hosted by **Suicide Prevention Australia Inc**
Conference ABN: 64 461 352 676

Contact the conference managers to register your interest.

10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference
c/- Intermedia Convention & Event Management
PO Box 1280
(Intermedia House, 11/97 Castlemaine Street)
MILTON QLD 4064 AUSTRALIA

Telephone: 07 3858 5563
Facsimile: 07 3858 5510
E-mail: spa2003@im.com.au
Website: www.suicidepreventionaust.org

*Finding meaning to sustain life:
The place of spirituality in suicide prevention*

10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference

12–15 June 2003

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre Queensland Australia



Who should attend?

Delegates will comprise a wide range of decision-makers, professionals, and those affected by loss through suicide.

Delegates will include:

- Therapists
- Counsellors
- Leaders from a range of ethnic and religious backgrounds
- Professional religious workers
- Teachers
- Psychiatrists
- Psychologists
- Social workers
- Nurses
- Consumers who have survived the desire to suicide
- Families, friends and carers affected by loss through suicide
- Government representatives
- General practitioners
- Community workers
- Youth workers

Trade exhibition

The trade exhibition will form an integral element of the conference. To acknowledge the trade exhibition's importance, the program has been structured to ensure delegates have ample time to inspect the displays. Organisations interested in participating in the trade exhibition should contact the Conference Managers immediately.

10th Annual Suicide Prevention Australia National Conference information will be posted to the SPA website (www.suicidepreventionaust.org) as it becomes available.

Call for abstracts

Authors are invited to submit abstracts by 10 March 2003 based on the following themes for oral, workshop and/or poster presentation, for consideration by the organising committee:

Themes

- Spirituality & suicide prevention
- Spirituality in counselling and therapy
- Spirituality & recovery
- Spirituality & postvention
- Spirituality & youth
- Bereavement through suicide
- The place of Meaning in preventing suicide
- Research
- Innovation & program development in suicide prevention

Selection criteria

1. Structure and clarity
2. Professional integrity
3. Potential significance
4. Relevance to the theme/s
5. Innovative presentation materials/methods

Submission deadline

Abstracts must be submitted by 10 March 2003 for consideration by the program committee.

Acknowledgement of abstract receipt

Receipt of abstracts will be acknowledged.

Author notification

Authors will be advised by 11 April 2003 whether their abstracts have been accepted.

Presenter registration

All presenters should register for the conference by 24 April 2003. Registration payment not received by this date may result in presenters being withdrawn from the program.

Publication

Successful abstracts will be published and distributed to delegates at the conference.

Preparation guidelines

Length and structure

250 words containing an objective, statement of findings, and key conclusions.

Language

English is the official conference language. All abstracts should be thoroughly checked for spelling and grammar before submitting.

Layout and format

Title: To be set flush left of page, using sentence case i.e., initial capital letter, followed by lower case.

Followed by double spacing, then author/s name/s in upper and lower case. Name of the presenting author **must** be asterisked. Authors and their organisations to be linked by number, for example:

Suicide prevention: Finding meaning to sustain life

Smith S^{1*}, Jones R²

(1) Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Melbourne, Australia
(one line per entry)

(2) Jesuit Social Services, Richmond, Australia
(one line per entry)

Please refrain from using:

- Printing enhancements such as italics, underlining, bold text, etc. Italics may be used for non-English words or scientific names where necessary. The typesetter will add all other printing enhancements.
- Hard spaces. Instead, use tabs or indents.
- References, tables or figures.

Disk file name

Presenter's surname/initials (up to 8 characters)

Audio visual presentation

Oral presenters are strongly encouraged to prepare their audio visual slides in IBM compatible format, eg Microsoft PowerPoint 98.

Submission guidelines

- 1 • E-mail as an attachment saved in Microsoft Word format
OR

- Mail to conference managers on a 3.5" IBM high density disk or CD Rom in Microsoft Word, together with two (2) paper copies

Faxed submissions **will not** be accepted.

- 2 Please complete the abstract submission form and indicate whether your abstract is being submitted for oral presentation, poster presentation, either oral or a poster presentation, or workshop. The abstract submission form must accompany your abstract **at the time of submission** and should not be forwarded separately.
- 3 Ensure **all information** requested is provided either on the abstract submission form or in the text of your email. One form per abstract should accompany each submission.
- 4 All submissions, excluding poster abstracts, must be accompanied by an 80-word biographical paragraph of the presenting author. Biographical details will be used by the session chair for introduction purposes and may also be published in conference literature.
- 5 Abstract submissions and biographical paragraphs must be received by the conference managers by **10 March 2003**.

Expression of interest and abstract submission form

Please complete and return this form to the conference managers by **10 March 2003**.

Email: spa2003@im.com.au

Post: 10th Annual SPA National Conference
c/- Intermedia Convention & Event Management
PO Box 1280
MILTON QLD 4064 AUSTRALIA

Courier: 10th Annual SPA National Conference
c/- Intermedia House
Unit 11, 97 Castlemaine Street
MILTON QLD 4064 AUSTRALIA

Contact Details

Title (eg Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss)

Surname

Given name

Organisation.....

Position.....

Postal address

Suburb/townState.....

CountryPostcode.....

Tel (work) (.....).....

Fax (.....).....

Mobile:.....

E-mail.....

