

## RESEARCH STUDENTS' SEMINAR SERIES

**Tuesday 19 February 2013**  
**11:00 – 12:00**

A3 Room  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Strategakis Bldg

### **“Treatment response specificity: Exploring determinants of engagement in therapeutic process”**

**By**

**Mr Fivos Papamalis,  
PhD Candidate,  
ScHARR, TUoS**

#### **ABSTRACT**

While current trends indicate an increase of substance misuse in the Greek society, treatment services are being cut back as part of austerity measures. This state of art is further portrayed by a downturn of economic crisis that represents a fertile ground for expansion of multiple public health related problems. Under these conditions, it is of major importance to identify treatment barriers and key ingredients underlying treatment process and develop responses that facilitate recovery and behavioral change. Treatment evaluation represents a step forward to improve treatment effectiveness and is essential to increase and maintain best clinical practice. Literature indicates that engaging service users in treatment process represents consistent predictor of favorable outcomes. A number of factors have been found to predict treatment engagement, yet a large proportion of the variance remains unexplained. The presentation focuses on a study utilizing a longitudinal multi-site design to explore the extent to which individual and program level factors are associated to engagement indicators. Clinical applicability of contemporary psychodiagnostic frameworks is discussed in an effort to improve implementation of individualized interventions and evidence based practices.

**The seminar series is open to all members of *staff and students* of CITY and to any *externals* that wish to attend.**