Head of School

February 28th saw the retirement of Professor Val Wass as Head of the School of Medicine. We wish Val every happiness in her retirement during which she will continue to be active within the medical education world. Val led the School during a period of considerable success as indicated by a variety of metrics, internal and external. I fervently hope we can sustain this success in the years to come. Key to this success has been the commitment of all staff and students to excellence in medical education. This commitment is hugely appreciated.

There are some crucial challenges facing us over the next few years. Within undergraduate medicine we have the prospect of a national licensing examination, of registration at graduation and of the requirement for our graduates to be prepared to work in rapidly changing health services. We will be cognisant of this as we launch our curriculum review in autumn 2015, to be led by Dr Peter Coventry and the newly appointed Director of Undergraduate Curriculum.

Within the Postgraduate arena, we face the uncertainty of education service commissioning by NHS organisations in a time of relative economic austerity and the difficulty of positioning academic postgraduate courses when the key currency is often professional qualifications. Many congratulations to Dr Kay Mohanna who has secured the position of Professor of Value Based Practice at Worcester University. Kay will be greatly missed. We hope to appoint her successor as Director of Postgraduate Programmes in the near future and look forward to the continued development of our postgraduate strategy.

Finally, can I welcome Professor Bob McKinley to his new, additional role as Director of Education Research and Scholarship? In collaboration with colleagues in the School and the Institute for Primary Care and Health Sciences, Bob will be developing our portfolio of focused education research in an effort to promote excellence, foster development of School members and develop the reputation of Keele. Exciting times!

Professor Andrew Hassell, Head of School
Festschrift for Val Wass

At the end of a very successful Medical Education Conference, The School of Medicine held a surprise Festschrift for Professor Val Wass, in celebration of her outstanding career in medical education, culminating in the recent award of an OBE. Keele colleagues, family and friends gathered together with specially invited guests who had worked with Val in the wide variety of roles she has held over the years.

Tributes and reminiscences were shared, together with video contributions from invitees who were unable to attend in person. Contributors to the event included colleagues from the Medical Schools Council Assessment Alliance, the Royal College of GPs, WONCA (World Organisation of Family Doctors), fellow medical students from Guy's Hospital, ex-colleagues from Kings College, Manchester Medical School and NHS practices, research collaborators, close friends and current staff from the School of Medicine. All paid tribute to Val's engaging and encouraging spirit, her years of dedication and hard work in her chosen career and numerous achievements including her recent Gold Medal from the Association for the Study of Medical Education.

The day culminated in the presentation of gifts from the School, including two bound volumes of Val's academic papers, a Moorcroft vase and a painting. A celebratory dinner at Keele Hall followed, where Professor Andy Garner, Dean of Health, paid tribute to Val's achievements.

At the end of the event, organised by a team including Professor Andy Hassell and Val's PA, Sara Lockett, Val and her family departed to London, as Val was due to receive her OBE from Prince Charles the following morning.

Val is pictured at her investiture at Buckingham Palace.

School Successes

Enviro-MENTALISTS win Academic Gold in Green Impact Scheme

The Enviro-MENTALISTS team from the David Weatherall Building, who have participated in the Green Impact Scheme this year, were presented with an Academic Gold award at a ceremony on Monday 18 May. The Green Impact scheme is run by the National Union of Students, and ran for the first time at Keele in 2013-14, when the team achieved silver and narrowly missed out on Gold. This year they were determined to reach the Gold Standard, and topped this by also fulfilling all of the Bonus criteria as well, finishing as one of the top 3 teams and being the only academic building to achieve Gold.

The team comprises David Myatt, Faculty of Health Business Manager, Alison Berrisford from the Faculty Office, Jo Bailey, Sue Weir and Dan Green from Primary Care Health Sciences RI, and Margaret Hollins, Sarah Thirlwall, Fiona Allen and Peter Coventry from Medicine. Dan, David and Margaret collected the award from Jonathan Porritt on behalf of the team. The student auditor who visited the building after the submission of team workbooks, commented upon the fantastic engagement in sustainability matters from all the staff in the building, and the team spirit for all activities, particularly citing the Pedometer Challenge week and the enthusiasm for putting up artwork to “make a wall more interesting”.

Pictured: Professor Mark Ormerod Pro Vice-Chancellor, Mrs Margaret Hollins, School Business and Finance Manager, Mr David Myatt, Faculty of Health Business Manager, Dan Green PhD student in Primary Care and Jonathon Porritt CBE, University Chancellor

Mrs Margaret Hollins, School Business and Finance Manager
Medical School awarded 2nd Academy of Medical Sciences INSPIRE

The Keele School of Medicine has secured a second INSPIRE award of £10,000 to continue its successful programme of research activities within the undergraduate medical curriculum (including summer studentships, conference bursaries and an annual research showcase which attracted over 100 delegates in 2014).

INSPIRE is a five year, UK-wide initiative funded by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the Wellcome Trust.

Leads for the programme, rheumatologist Dr Sam Hider (Institute for Primary Care Sciences) and neuroscientist Professor Divya Chari, Institute for Science and Technology in Medicine, said: "We are delighted with the award which will enable us to consolidate an active programme of student engagement with high quality research, offering wide ranging benefits to medical students and research staff alike.

"We are also extremely grateful to the Faculty of Health, Research Institutes and North Staffordshire Medical Institute for their additional generous financial support for this programme."

A good time was had by all. Thanks to AJ Odulaja (Year 2 Medical student) who organised the event and captained the student team, and to Dr Stuart McBain who persuaded several colleagues to form the staff team.

Science careers day for primary school pupils

The afternoon of Friday March 27th saw pupils of Willaston Primary in Nantwich investigating how Science is used in employment and industry. The event was organised by the school's science leader Becky Fitzhugh and was a fitting end to a two week school science event. Parents were asked to attend to promote their own occupations in science, aimed at giving a flavour of the many ways that science can lead pupils to their future careers.

Dr Sam Martin, Associate Teaching Fellow at Keele School of Medicine, attended with some of the teaching equipment used by the first year undergraduates of the current MBChB course. The reception by the junior pupils aged between 7 and 11 was extremely good. Pupils measured their lung peak flow rates with enthusiasm, listened to heart valve sounds with a stethoscope and inspected anatomical models. Other participants included parents employed within a range of healthcare careers as well as representatives from veterinary and Earth sciences.

Dr Sam Martin, Associate Teaching Fellow at Keele School of Medicine

Margaret Hollins, School Business and Finance Manager
Admissions News
The Northern Admissions Network of Medical Schools (NANMS) meets annually to discuss issues surrounding medicine admissions. This year’s meeting was held in May at the University of Manchester and was attended by around 50 delegates from the region’s Medical Schools including Newcastle, Birmingham, Hull York, Bradford, Leeds and Leicester. Dr Gordon Dent, Dr Andy Spencer and Susan Farrington represented Keele.

The morning session was mostly dedicated to discussing Widening Participation in Medicine with sessions from current Manchester medical students who had been through their Access Programme and details on their comprehensive programme from Mrs Helen Franklin, the University’s Widening Participation Officer for Medicine. The final morning session was from Dr Paul Redmond, Director of Student Life at Manchester. He gave an engaging and thought-provoking talk about generational differences and some of the challenges this creates for universities when thinking about current and future students.

The afternoon sessions were an opportunity to discuss other admissions topics including GCSE and A-level reform, use of eForms and iPads, and use of personal statements.

Overall it was an informative day and a great opportunity to network with fellow admissions staff and to be reassured that we are not alone in the issues we face. It was also encouraging that in some areas we are even leading the way.

Susan Farrington, Deputy Admissions Manager

Public and Patient Involvement (PPI) News

Public Involvement Conference – Authenticity to Action

During March I attended the ‘Authenticity to Action Conference: Involve and Evolve’ held at University of Central Lancashire. The conference was focused on innovation in service user and carer involvement within health and social care.

I delivered a workshop around the work the School has done in establishing public involvement, in particular introducing the lay members onto School committees. The workshop was well received and attended by delegates from as far afield as Australia and Belgium. I received many positive comments and suggestions on how we could engage with under-represented groups and empower patients to give their patient view.

I also presented a joint workshop with colleagues from UCLAN and Leeds Medical Schools. We presented on ‘Emerging, new and established user involvement within medical education’, offering our perspective on public involvement, drawing out comparisons and common themes. Keele stood as the new Medical School compared with Leeds as an established medical school with long running patient involvement and UCLAN as a newly emerging School aiming to involve patients in the inception of the School.

Other particularly interesting sessions I attended included the use of the public in the development of e-resources to support values based recruitment, how digital storytelling can cultivate compassion and how patient involvement can blend with Inter-professional Education to help international students.

Helen Clifford, Community & Public Engagement Officer
Community Leadership Projects

Another year of the Community Leadership Project has passed and the standard of projects continues to grow. The Year 5 projects give students a chance to develop leadership, project management and practical skills in planning and improving services. It also allows students the opportunity to make a difference to communities and patients who have supported their learning during their 15 week GP assistantship.

Projects have included:
• Producing a film to promote the Pharmacy First Service directing patients to the most appropriate service.
• Exploring young people’s perceptions and knowledge of mental health conditions and running sessions on depression, anxiety and eating disorders.
• Identifying and interviewing some of the vulnerable and lonely amongst the patient population and producing starter packs for ‘Compassionate Communities’ to allow volunteer groups to befriend the elderly and lonely.
• Surveying users with a mental health condition to explore their views on GP support and the Crisis team, taking these findings to GPs and exploring mental health provision with them.
• Running a session for volunteers working with families affected by post-natal depression.
• Reviewing prescriptions at a care home.
• Looking at knowledge and attitudes of medical students towards deafness and producing a guide for students.
• Producing a story book on asthma for teenagers with a learning disability.
• Assisting asylum seekers to familiarise themselves with the UK health system including helping them to get registered with a GP.

Feedback has shown that students enjoy engaging with different patient groups, working as a team and doing something or producing something that will be of benefit to charities and their users.

Helen Clifford, Community & Public Engagement Officer

Staff Conferences

Keele’s Medical Education Research Group win the ASME/GMC Excellent Medical Education Award

The current GP workforce and recruitment crisis makes us wonder how junior doctors decide on their training posts and why the proportion choosing General Practice is far short of the 50% Health Education England target. Career intentions are already forming while these future doctors are in medical school and differ substantially between schools.

At Keele School of Medicine our students spend a total of 23 weeks in General Practice placements including a 15 week assistantship in the final year. While this GP assistantship is a departure from the norm, it is intended to be a generic preparation for practice in both hospital and primary care and as learning-on-the-job, has the support of the General Medical Council (GMC).

With the Association for the Study of Medical Education/GMC Excellent Medical Education award for the study: ‘Authentic undergraduate placements in General Practice: a recruiting force for generalists?’ we will extend an existing study of the transition from student to doctor, to explore:
• What underpins the choice of speciality for training of Foundation2 doctors from Keele and other medical schools
• The influence of undergraduate curricula, in particular exposure to specialities (including general practice), on the doctor’s thinking about career options

The Medical Education Research Group at Keele are grateful to ASME and GMC for funding the award and are excited to be embarking on this study in the autumn of 2015.

The researchers on the project will be Dr Janet Lefroy, Professor Robert McKinley, Dr Ruth Kinston, Dr Simon Gay, Dr Stuart McBain, Dr Sarah Yardley

Dr Janet Lefroy, Senior Lecturer in Medical Education, Keele University School of Medicine, Clinical Education Centre, RSUH
Medical School Staff Development
Medical Education Conference

On Wednesday 25th February nearly two hundred Primary and Secondary Care Doctors along with Academics and selected Medical Students assembled in the Medical School to hear a series of presentations from international experts, attend workshops and join in a debate.

The conference was opened by Cees van der Vleuten from Maastricht who is recognised as an expert in assessment in the medical field. He gave a fascinating presentation encapsulating his current views on assessment and explained how they had evolved over a number of years. Frequent sampling with formative longitudinal assessment was the message of the day moving towards programmatic assessment of professional competence. Kamila Hawthorne from Cardiff then gave a plenary entitled ‘The Future of Community Learning in the UK’. She developed persuasive arguments for expanding learning in the community enriched by examples from her clinical practice; she also touched upon the highly topical interface between the NHS and Social Care.

Delegates were then invited to a number of workshops run by both internal and external experts. The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh contributed alongside General Practitioners and the Heads of three Medical Schools running a total of eleven varied workshops which were all filled to capacity and which received excellent feedback from participants.

The afternoon commenced with a Debate between Professor van der Vleuten and Mr Niall Dickson, the Chief Executive and Registrar of the General Medical Council. The motion ‘This House believes that Summative Assessment should be Abolished’ was opposed by Niall Dickson who argued very cogently that although formative assessment had its place in the armoury of assessment tools, it would not be appropriate to qualify new registrants or progress doctors in training without high stakes summative exams to mark their progress.

The day concluded with presentations from the Head of School elect, Professor Andy Hassell and Professor Bob McKinley, Head of Academic General Practice giving delegates an update on wider School activity over the previous year and looking into the future.

The day concluded with presentations from the Head of School elect, Professor Andy Hassell and Professor Bob McKinley, Head of Academic General Practice giving delegates an update on wider School activity over the previous year and looking into the future.

World Rural Health Conference

In April, I had the opportunity to attend the 13th World Rural Health Conference of the World Organisation of Family Doctors, in Croatia. I had been invited to talk about Keele’s teaching hub in Ludlow as part of a workshop run by EURIPA; the European Rural and Isolated Practitioners Association.

The workshop was well attended by doctors from a variety of European countries including Germany, Slovakia, Romania, Spain and Slovenia. There was great interest in the concept of students learning generic medical skills during placements in rural practices, and contributing to the communities by means of the cluster projects.

Many of the participants wished to have similar opportunities for teaching in rural community settings. I hope that there will be ongoing discussion with those who asked for more information about our placements, and that we will have the opportunity to host visits from them in the future.

Dr Maggie Bartlett, Senior Lecturer in Medical Education
‘Patient involvement and communication education’, UK Council for Clinical Communication

This was a very enjoyable and stimulating conference in Manchester, with a strong contingent from Keele. Our Patient Volunteer Team and a patient presented an Innovation, examined real patients giving feedback to Year 2 students in a classroom setting, and this was very well received. The day showcased and celebrated the various contributions patients can make to medical undergraduate curricula. Angela Towle (Associate Professor at the Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia. Co-Director of the Division of Health Care Communication in the College of Health Care Disciplines) talked about their opt-in Patient Health Mentor programme at Vancouver in her keynote address ‘Words Matter: Patients teaching students about communication’, which was beautifully illustrated photographically. The power and detail of language was emphasised in a chronic disease context, and ‘health’ redefined as in BMJ 2011 (Huber et al ‘How should we define Health’), challenging the widely-held WHO definition.

Overall the day affirmed that we are doing a lot of the right things, and things right, and re-enthused and motivated us to consider how we can broaden and enrich what we currently do – in particular the use of feedback, patient input into scenarios, use of video clips, using real patients as simulated patients, and extending our patient working group into a more hands-on, proactive advisory forum to develop and reflect upon our curriculum. We were also challenged to consider how we might promote resilience in our students, and how the Creative Arts can be a powerful way for student to reflect and express what they think and feel about the patients that they see and the difficult situations they face on their journey to becoming doctors.

Alison Irvine, Teaching Fellow and Patient Volunteer Co-ordinator

AUA CONFERENCE

Eight staff from the Faculty of Health and School of Medicine provided Keele with excellent representation at the annual Association of University Administrators (AUA) Conference last week. The event was held at Nottingham Trent University, and had a wide-ranging selection of sessions. The conference, entitled Disruption, Diversity and Devolution, commenced with a very entertaining opening plenary given by Laurie Taylor, Emeritus Professor of Sociology at York University, Fellow of Birkbeck College, broadcaster and writer of the weekly satirical column The Poppletonian in the Times Higher Education. The Wednesday programme included two excellent plenaries from Nick Hillman, Director of the Higher Education Policy Institute, and Professor David Greenaway, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Nottingham.

Keynote presentations included the useful The Future of Data and Information in Higher Education from Andy Youell, Director of the Higher Education Data and Improvement Programme, and inspiring Leadership Challenges from Alison Johns, Chief Executive of the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education. Julie Lydon also gave an interesting session on ‘Disrupt or be Disrupted: The University of South Wales Experience’.

Delegates also chose working sessions on such topics as Helping Bright Ideas Shine, Fit to Study?, Diverse Perspectives in the Student Journey, and the Impact of Internationalisation.

Vanessa Hooper from Keele gave a working session entitled Demonstrating Diversity – it’s easy isn’t it? which was very well received. The Keele delegation also made a good showing in the Conference quiz, finishing eighth out of over 20 teams. All agreed that it was a very interesting and thought-provoking conference, and hope to see a wider Keele attendance in future years.

Next Year’s AUA Conference will be held in Leeds from 21 – 23 March 2016.

Margaret Hollins, School Business and Finance Manager
Postgraduate Update

Talent Fast Forward: Skills for Medical Educators

This new exciting programme commissioned by the Birmingham and Solihull Local Education and Training Council (LETC), funded by Health Education West Midlands and delivered by staff at Postgraduate Medicine is created specifically for educational leads, educational supervisors and clinical supervisors working in the six acute Trusts in Birmingham and Solihull. The programme is organised into five cohorts of 30 participants in each cohort and delivered over a six month period. The participants are mostly consultants working in a variety of specialities and aims to develop their leadership skills to enhance influence and impact; use the skills to help trainees to obtain the best experience from their attachments and be effective leaders and also to enhance the management of challenging trainees.

Photo shows: Dr Wynne Thomas Senior Teaching Fellow; Dr Louise Stewart Interim Senior LETC Lead; Jenny Cowpe Director, Craig Mcllhenny Surgical Director, Faculty of Surgical Trainers & Dr Kay Mohanna Director of Postgraduate Studies.

Dr Wynne Thomas, Senior Teaching Fellow

Staff Personal News

Promotions to Senior Lecturer

Dr Maggie Bartlett - Maggie Bartlett graduated in medicine from Sheffield and qualified as a GP in 1989. She has been a Clinical Lecturer in Medical Education and a member of the GP team at the Medical School since 2009. Maggie leads community teaching in Shropshire and led establishment of the Ludlow hub in 2010. This centre accommodates students from years 3 and 5 of the MBChB programme undertaking placements in general practice. Maggie also leads the clinical reasoning course in year 4 and contributes widely across the MA (medical education) programme in respect of learning theory, curriculum design and simulation in medical education. Beyond the Medical School she is a tutor on the Independent Prescriber’s Course in the School of Pharmacy, a member of a University Ethics Committee, and a mentor and reviewer for Keele’s HEA fellowship programme. Away from Keele, Maggie is a general practitioner in Shropshire, a GP appraiser and an associate of the General Medical Council in performance assessment.

Dr Simon Gay - Simon Gay graduated in Medicine from London in 1988 and qualified as a GP in 1992. He now practices clinically as a part-time salaried GP in Hanley and is a GP appraiser for NHS Staffordshire. Having worked at Keele since 2005, Simon was appointed as a Clinical Lecturer in 2007. He is currently Deputy Director of Education in General Practice, the clinical co-lead for year 5 and leads the innovative 15-week GP assistantship in the final year as well as jointly leading three postgraduate modules for the MA in Medical Education. Simon is a member of the National Educator Development Group and the UK Clinical Reasoning in Medical Education special interest group for ASME (Association for Study of Medical Education). In the early 1990’s, Simon’s first substantial research project focused on the investigation of community screening for colorectal cancer. More recently, his research interests have focussed on consultation skills, the student-to-doctor transition and teaching of clinical reasoning, a topic on which is presently co-authoring two book chapters.
Medical Schools Council Selection Alliance (MSCSA)

Dr Gordon Dent, Director of Undergraduate Admissions, has been elected to the board of the Medical Schools Council Selection Alliance (MSCSA) for a four-year term. The Selection Alliance is a new group that has been set up to oversee medical student selection, initially with the goal of implementing the recommendations of the 2014 Selecting for Excellence report.

The Alliance will work through a reference group comprising two representatives from each of the UK’s 33 medical schools. The board consists of 11 of these representatives, elected by MSC Council members in April 2015. Its challenges include increasing transparency of medical student selection processes, improving methods for identifying and supporting prospective students from under-represented backgrounds, and ensuring that medical schools adhere to principles of values-based recruitment.

Congratulation to….

Jemma Tellwright and Nikki Crouch on completing the Effective People Manager Programme on 23rd April 2015.

Angela Lovatt, Kirsty Binnington and Dan Daw on successful completion of the Institute of Leadership and Management Level 2.

Vanessa Hooper and Helen Clifford currently completing the Aurora (Women’s Leadership Development) programme.

Professor Paul Horrocks on his Chair in Molecular Parasitology.

Dr Russell Crawford who has been recognised as a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA) via the new CPD Route Recognition Panel.

Student News

Student Council Update

The last student council meeting of the academic year has now taken place. The council has again achieved a great deal this year including a new structure for medical societies to encourage a more cohesive running of societies and their events and working more closely with the university students’ Union. Discussions have also taken place regarding medical student placement travel distance across the clinical years with approval by the student council to implement the new allocation proposal.

With the end of the year nearing the student reps have voted in the student president for next year and I am pleased to welcome Marcus Cabrera-Dandy to the role, I am sure he will continue to take the medical student student council from strength to strength. Finally I would like to thank all the student reps this year for their hard work, you have done a fantastic job this year and really helped shape positive changes to the medical school.

Fatima Dalal, Student President, Keele School of Medicine Student Council

First prize at the national Grunenthal pain awards 2015

Congratulations to Phil Molloy, Year 3 Medical Student who received first prize at the national Grunenthal pain awards 2015 for the patient pain category.

Phil says, “As the first student to ever reach the finals I was very nervous and humbled to be accepted by many leaders in the pain management industry/profession. The £3,000 will be used to further investigate the sale of OTC medication and its safety. We hope to make a huge impact both locally and nationally through a public health campaign.

 Furthermore, I have just received an email from the RCGPs accepting my abstract which I will be presenting at this October’s conference in Glasgow. Finally, we plan to submit at least one BMJ paper this year which will be affiliated with Keele University.”

Phil Molloy, Year 3 Medical Student
BMA Annual Medical Students Conference

On the weekend of the 24th April, three Keele Medical Students went to the BMA House in London for the BMA Annual Medical Students Conference. Theo Omar (who has previously held the position of Chair of Conference), Alex Delaney and Esme O'Loughlin, were selected to put forward motions by Keele Medical Students. The Medical Student Conference provides an opportunity for medical students across the UK to debate together and put forward issues for BMA policy.

The first day began with a welcome from the Medical Students Committee and an inspiring keynote speech from Professor Jane Dacre (President of the Royal College of Physicians). The afternoon followed with workshops and the beginning of the debates. The most contentious debate was a suggested Scholarship Programme which would enable 10% of Medical School places in England to be tuition free. After a lively first day, a fabulous Great Gatsby themed Dinner was put on for the evening. Day two continued with the agenda and a highly controversial debate on whether the non-disclosure of one incident of drug use should be lobbied.

On closing, the elections for next year’s Medical Students Committee were held. Alex Delaney was elected to be a member of the Committee and Theo Omar was re-elected as Chair of Conference - a thoroughly fantastic result for Keele to have such great representation at the BMA.

It was an inspirational weekend highlighting the importance for all medical students to take an interest in the policy decision which affects us all.

Study success

Angela MacFoy was the lead author of the study “A questionnaire study of electronic cigarette usage in patients attending respiratory clinics in a district general hospital”. This study was co-authored by Dr Emma Crawford (ST7 registrar), Dr K Srinivasan (Consultant Respiratory Physician) and Dr H Moudgil (Consultant Respiratory Physician). The study was completed at the Princess Royal Hospital, Telford during her 4th year SSC in Respiratory Medicine.

The abstract for this study was accepted for inclusion in the prestigious British Thoracic Society Winter Meeting 2014 and was presented as a poster at this event. Subsequently, the abstract was published in Thorax - BMJ journals.

This was a very exciting achievement and it is hoped that the study will contribute to emerging research into e-cigarette usage amongst patients.


(please see the article listed as p284 on pA199 (this is on p277 of 316 of the pdf)

http://thorax.bmj.com/content/69/Suppl_2/A199.1.abstract

Angela MacFoy, Year 5 Medical student

Institute of Medical Ethics Medical Student Debate

Congratulations to the Keele Medical School Ethics Debate team who came 3rd in the 2015 Institute of Medical Ethics Medical Student Debate. Emily Robins, Jacob Baker and Rebecca Finch debated in the regional heat and national finals on diverse topics; telling the truth to patients, the extent of the duty to patients who self-discharge and whether organ donation should be automatic. They were supported by Susanna Crocker-Buque and Lauren Allen-Warwick who helped to research the arguments.

The debate is an annual event. Any medical students interested in being part of next year’s team please contact Miss Lorraine Corfield, Lead for Healthcare Law and Ethics on l.corfield@keele.ac.uk
Head of the Royal College of General Practitioners comes to Keele

On 3rd March 2015, Keele GP society was lucky enough to be visited by the Head of the Royal College of General Practitioners, Dr Maureen Baker. The event was a great opportunity for GPs within the community, and medical students from Keele and neighbouring medical schools, to hear first-hand about future changes within the profession. It was fantastic to be able to hear from Dr Baker herself and to discover her thoughts and views on key issues within General Practice which have recently been highlighted in the media.

As a speciality, General Practice is going through a lot of change at present and the future of training has been a much talked about topic as of late. Having key GPs within the Stoke and Stafford area as well as a panel composed of our president, Amy Goodman, Dr Baker, Professor McKinley, Professor of Education In General Practice, and Professor Hassell, The Head of School, provided much debate around these issues. Thank you to all of those who attended. We hope to bring you further events and learning opportunities throughout the next year. To join the society, check our Facebook and twitter pages!

Emily Jelfs, Vice President Keele GP Society

Keele Student wins Prime Minister's UK Point of Light Award

Adrian Craig, a 5th Year medical student at Keele, currently intercalating, has become a potential lifesaver by setting up and supporting seven new bone marrow groups, encouraging over 1,200 students to sign up to the Anthony Nolan bone marrow register.

Adrian is the 90th recipient of a UK Point of Light award, which recognises outstanding individual volunteers, who are making a change in their community and inspiring others. Adrian signed up to the bone marrow register at a Keele University event and was soon inspired to volunteer to register people himself by the passion and enthusiasm of the people he met.

Adrian has now been the Expansion Coordinator for Marrow, the student arm of Anthony Nolan, for two years and in his time Keele University has become one of the most successful university recruitment groups in the country with 240 students signed on to the bone marrow register.

Prime Minister David Cameron said: “Adrian’s success in encouraging people to sign onto the bone marrow register is testament to his hard work and dedication to Anthony Nolan. Bone marrow donations can save lives, and I’m delighted to recognise Adrian’s outstanding service by making him a Point of Light.”

Adrian said: “I got involved with Marrow as I had joined the register before starting university and came across Marrow one afternoon and thought it would be great to get involved in and I haven’t looked back.

“When I was told I was receiving this award I was really shocked, you don’t expect it and I’m still a little speechless now. All I can say is thank you.”

See more at: http://www.anthonynolan.org/news/2014/08/26/local-lifesaver-wins-prime-minister%E2%80%99s-award#sthash.q6V2BO9n.dpuf
Keele Neurology Society

The Keele Neurology Society (KNS) held its first ever research symposium this March as part of the first instalment of a ‘Neurosciences to Neurology’ lecture series concept devised by this year’s committee.

There is little exposure to research in neuroscience and related fields for medical students, therefore the aim of the first instalment was to bring together students and staff from the medical school and the Life Sciences department with a shared interest in this area.

The evening kicked off with light refreshments followed by a series of talks delivered by professors and lecturers from the Keele Life Sciences Department and the Institute for Science & Technology in Medicine (ISTM). Professor Christine Roffe started off the evening introducing the audience to the importance of stroke research in understanding the workings of the brain, followed by a range of talks from Professor Furness, Dr Glazewski and Dr Caruana on topics ranging from neuroplasticity to the effects of caffeine on the brain!

There was a fantastic turnout with over 70 attendees from the medical school and Life Sciences and ISTM departments. Please look out for future KNS events including knowledge and OSCE teaching sessions, and the second instalment in the lecture series which will have a clinical focus, coming early next semester.

The KNS would like to give special thanks to Professor Divya Chari for her help and support this year.

Pictured (left to right): Professor Furness, Professor Roffe, Dr Caruana, Mina Al Shalchi (medical student, KNS Chair), Professor Chari, Shaila Hussain (medical student, KNS Vice-Chair)

Mina Al Shalchi, 3rd Year Medical Student

Midlands Air Ambulance Charity Fundraising event- V-festival 2014

This summer, a group of 4th year Keele Medical students (Joanne Webster, Jonathan Beckett, Rehaan Adat, Thomas Mitchell) had the opportunity to join Dr Ben Clark at V-festival, Weston park, in order to fundraise and raise awareness for the Midlands Air Ambulance Charity. We managed to set up an eye-catching stand with a barbecue, face painting and an amazing VW beetle equipped with a hot tub. We were able to raise £748 for an extremely valid cause whilst also increasing awareness by wearing t-shirts with the Midlands air ambulance logo and answering questions regarding the organisation. It also gave us the opportunity to get involved in the festival, and see some of the performers whilst getting very wet and muddy camping for the weekend!

Before getting involved in fundraising events for the Midlands air ambulance some of us weren’t fully aware that, as an organisation, it does not receive any government or National Lottery funding. When considering the fact that the Midlands Air ambulance respond to an average of 2000 missions per year, this may seem surprising. Therefore it is crucial that enough money is raised through donations and fundraising events in order to reach the £6.5 million pound yearly target to keep its air ambulances operational.

I think all four of us felt very lucky to be involved in this event and to be able to contribute in some way to such a valuable service, whilst also having an amazing time!!

(referenced and image obtained from: http://www.midlandsairambulance.com/about-us/about-us)

Joanne Webster, 3rd Year Medical Student
Keele Teddy Bear Hospital School Visits

The Keele Teddy Bear Hospital Society had another successful, busy and fun-filled year visiting some of Staffordshire’s local primary schools with our medical student volunteers! The Teddy Bear Hospital Society scheme run by medical students that aims to educate primary school children about various aspects of health and safety including hygiene, road and kitchen safety as well as hospital visits.

The year began with the society's annual volunteer training evening, where medical students from years 1-5 were invited to learn all about the important aspects of working with children with a talk delivered by Dr Stephen Williams (Consultant Community Paediatrician), with free ‘Dominos’ pizza provided for all! Following this, the society was invited to several primary schools across Staffordshire throughout the year, where their medical student volunteers took the children through various interactive teaching stations, even giving them the opportunity to scrub up their teddy bears for surgery!

The society received excellent feedback from schools and volunteers alike and the committee members have thoroughly enjoyed putting together this year's events.

Look out for future training events and school visits if you are interested in getting involved!

Paediatric Society Joint Conference

Saturday 21st March saw the collaboration of the paediatric societies from Keele University and University of Liverpool for the inaugural Keele-Liverpool Paediatric conference. An entertaining day consisting of informative lectures and workshops allowed students to explore what a career in paediatrics may entail. It was a great success with 100 delegates attending as well as many enthusiastic clinicians!

Attendees attended a host of lectures covering different specialities from celebrity speakers such as Dr Curry from Great Ormond Street Hospital and Dr Shiels, a familiar face from the BBC’s ‘Junior Doctors’. There was also the opportunity to listen to talks from lesser known paediatric specialities such as neonatal medicine and paediatric psychiatry. The workshops were also very well received, and included paediatric basic life support and electives in paediatrics. These offered students an opportunity to find out more about their options to explore paediatrics during medical school and practice skills that are not usually practiced, especially in the earlier years. Of course, pizza at lunch time went down a treat! A thoroughly successful day was enjoyed by all.

Keele Paediatric Committee 2014-15

MedPath Update

260 students in 4 different high schools in the space of a week. Sounds like a whole lot of fun right? Well MedPath volunteers have done just that for local schools participating in science week! By the sounds of it they had just as much as we did; having received some great feedback from schools saying the “medical students were stunning” and the volunteers’ ability to teach “various classes in relation to needs was exceptional”. All this is incredibly encouraging for the big plans we have next year.

We would like to thank our previous year's committee, especially Kerry Blackett and Alex Cawley who were Chairs for 2014/2015. Both have been fundamental in building a new scheme which we are starting next academic year. MedPath is a student run group that aims to inspire children in the local area to have a career in medicine. If you would like to find out more about MedPath and how you can get involved please contact us at keelemedpath@gmail.com.

James Ryley, Chair of MedPath, 2nd Year Medical Student
Inaugural meeting of Keele Tropical Medicine Society

The Keele Tropical Medicine Society, founded early this academic year, is open to health and natural science students who are interested in global health and tropical diseases. The society's first event was held on the 17th March 2015, at the Clinical Education Centre, Royal Stoke University Hospital, where they welcomed Mr Jeremy Lefroy, MP for Stafford and chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Malaria and Neglected Tropical Diseases. Mr Lefroy spoke about the work of this group within the UK government and international partners in tackling malaria worldwide. He was also joined by Professor Paul Horrocks of Keele University, who talked about the challenges in developing a 21st Century drug for malaria treatment, and spoke about the current research being undertaken at the University.

James Coultas, Year 4 Medical Student and President of the Keele Tropical Medicine Society, says: “We would like to thank Mr Lefroy for his fantastic support of our inaugural event, and we look forward to welcoming new members to support what we hope will be an exciting forum to discuss these global health issues”

An evening of Sports Medicine with an International Football guest

On 14th January Keele GP Society and Keele Sports and Education Society collaborated in a fantastic evening exploring the speciality of Sports Medicine. For this evening of delving into the life of a sports medicine doctor, we were lucky enough to have Dr A. Dent, doctor for Stoke City Football Club, to come and speak for us. Having a key member of this field speak provided great insight for medical students into the opportunities within the sports medicine specialty. As well as explaining what is involved in this career path, Dr Dent also provided great training opportunities through demonstration of OSCE based examinations. Students present at the evening were able to participate in a number of OSCE stations, from knee examinations to examination of Peter Skapetis, a currently injured international football player!

The event not only gave our own Keele medical students the chance to delve into the world of a sports medicine doctor but also attracted medical students from other universities, including Nottingham and Liverpool. This follows our work as a society to be involved in the RCGP inter-university project scheme. As a society we have a number of exciting upcoming events, with opportunities for careers advice, specialist teaching and OSCE practice. Check our Facebook and Twitter pages for important dates to add to your diary! We look forward to seeing you at future events.

Emily Jelfs on behalf of Keele GP Society

Auction winning galore!

On the 2nd December 2014, Keele Medical Charity Society hosted its Annual Charity Auction. This year supporting North Staffs Mind, supporting those with mental health problems in the local area.

A variety of auction lots were on offer including a weekend sailing trip with Mr Morgan, Delta Force paintballing and Vue cinema tickets. With many generous donations from companies, staff and students this event has managed to raise over £2000.

Thank you to everyone who donated and supported the event. Thank you also to the MDU of their sponsorship.

Sajan Khullar, President, Keele Medical Charity Society
**Trauma Day**

Persuading 75 medical students to turn up at The David Weatherall Building at 08.30 on a Saturday (and pay for the pleasure) would not look out of place amongst the twelve labours of Hercules. Miraculously ‘Keele Trauma Day’ and its promise of an immersive, hands-on learning experience (led by a plethora of subject matter experts) appeared to meet the strict student criteria for rising before midday on a weekend.

Attendees were split into groups that ensured an even mix of clinical and pre-clinical students. The initial sessions consisted of lectures and hands-on teaching which covered a variety of topics such as fracture care and airway management, with the intention of equipping students with practical skills that they might draw upon if they found themselves at the scene of an emergency.

Ravenous after a morning’s triaging and splinting, students set upon the buffet lunch like a swarm of locusts. Thereafter the groups waddled out into the biting cold to tackle the afternoon sessions. Undoubtedly the highlight of the day, students were given the opportunity to put the skills from the morning’s teaching into practice in two demanding scenarios; an IED explosion run by 202 field hospital (Army Reserve) and an RTA with multiple casualties run by pre-hospital care staff. Brought to life by some Oscar-worthy performances from our freezing yet seemingly inexhaustible simulated casualties, the scenarios were a fitting end to an exhausting but enjoyable day. Roll on Keele Trauma Day 2016…

Owen Davis, 2nd Year Medical Student

**Take Me Out flirts to £1500 in aid of Mencap!**

On 8th November 2014, Keele premiered its own Take Me Out event organised and hosted by the Keele Medical Charity Society. The event raised £1500.51 for Mencap – a charity who campaign and fight for inclusion and equality for individuals with a learning disability.

The night kicked off with an introduction from special guest Neil Baldwin and followed by a spectacular entrance from the lovely ladies to ‘Here Come the Girls’!

With exciting performances from Hip Hop Society and Bhangra Society, a game of Heads and Tails in pursuit of Krispy Kreme donuts and a heart-warming speech from Mencap’s Young Ambassador it was a fun filled night, packed with plenty of laughs, all in support of an amazing cause.

The KMCS would like to thank the contestants, all of the special guests, the tech team and those who came to the event, for their amazing support and generosity in making it a night to remember! Thank you also to the MDU of their sponsorship.

Sajan Khullar, President, Keele Medical Charity Society

**Keele Health Faculty Charity Ball**

On the 2nd May 2015, Keele Medical Charity Society hosted Keele’s very first social event combining all parts of the health faculty. This event consisted of students from the schools of medicine, nursing and midwifery, physiotherapy and pharmacy.

The ball was supporting a local charity, 4Louis, which supports bereaved parents. One of the charity founders spoke on the night and talked about the huge effect the support is having on these parents. After speeches, the guests enjoyed the fun money casino as well as the dancefloor.

This ball was a great success with not only financial gains for the charity but also with the integration of the different students, sitting together and quite happily chatting away with each other. This event will be followed up every year due to its great feedback and demand.

Thank you to Keele Medical Charity Society and Midwifery Society for the support and planning. Thank you to the MDU for their sponsorship.

Sajan Khullar, President, Keele Medical Charity Society
Staff changes

Hellos / Goodbyes

Welcome to:
At David Weatherall Building
Mr Niall Walsh, Caretaker
Sophie Ellis, Laboratory Technician (MUL)
Professor Andrew Hassell, Head of School
Dr Peter Coventry, Director of Undergraduate Programmes
Rose Kennedy, Laboratory Technician (MUL)
Jane Leech, Student Support Administrator
Dr Audrey Skidmore, Teaching Fellow in Bioscience

At UHN/M / RSUH Hospital Campus
Dr Ruth Kinston, Yt5 Co-Lead
Natalie Barcroft, Year 4 Teaching Support Administrator
Philip Kamara, Caretaker
Dr Helena Crook and Dr Ram Matsa, Clinical Teaching Fellows in the Communications & Clinical Skills team

At Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals Trust
Dr David Green, Clinical Skills and Simulation Lead
Dr Eleanor Damm, Teaching Fellow

At South Staffordshire & Shropshire Healthcare Trust
Dr Malcolm Locke, Undergraduate Tutor in Psychiatry at Shrewsbury

Farewell to:
Margaret Bourke. 29th May was a sad day for colleagues in the School of Medicine as we said a fond farewell to Margaret Bourke as she retires. Margaret joined the Medical School on 3rd August 2009 as a Placement Administrator and has helped to streamline community placements in Years 3-5 of the course. Margaret will be missed by all, especially those who worked with her direct but we wish her the best of luck and health as she moves onto the next stage of her life and hope she maximises her time being spent with family.
Sarah Thirlwall (Placements Co-Ordinator)

Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital Trust
Dr Charles Wynn-Jones
Dr Christopher Alsop