

Contents

- 1 Grand Opening of Medical School Phase 1
- 2 Information Resources
- 2 Undergraduate Medical School Project
- 3 Student Recruitment & Admissions Update
- 4 Staff News
- 6 Medical Students in the Community
- 7 Staff Development
- 8 One Semester On a Student's Review



A very warm welcome to the first issue of Keele Med News. Many months have passed since we last issued a Newsletter – apologies for this, but we have been putting a lot of energy into setting up the Undergraduate Medical Course! This issue is solely concerned with Undergraduate Medicine, but we hope that future issues will also encompass news from our postgraduate colleagues. We aim to publish on a quarterly basis from now on, and any contributions would be welcome. Please send these to me, Margaret Hollins, Operations Manager, at 60 The Covert, Keele University, or email m.a.hollins@keele.ac.uk.

We would also welcome any feedback on the content of the Newsletter, or suggestions for future content.

Margaret Hollins, Editor

Grand opening of Medical School Phase 1



The first phase of North Staffordshire's new medical school was officially opened on Thursday, 23rd January, by the renowned heart surgeon, Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub, accompanied by senior figures from Keele University and the North Staffordshire Hospital.

Keele University and North Staffordshire Hospital NHS Trust have established a major building programme to provide facilities for the school at the University and the Hospital. This first building will provide first class facilities for the students including lecture theatre, seminar rooms, learning resource room and staff offices.

Professor Calum Paton, Chairman of the North Staffordshire Hospital Trust Board, said,

"This event is the culmination of many years of collaborative work undertaken by the Trust and Keele University, not forgetting North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare and our other partner the University of Manchester. The need for more doctors and therefore more medical students, as we know, has never been greater. Here in North Staffordshire we are already seeing the fruits of our medical school in terms of enhanced recruitment of new consultants even in shortage specialties. The key to a successful medical school, and its successful relations with the NHS, lies in genuine partnership working between this Trust and Keele. I am pleased that the groundwork for this has been securely laid."

Keele University Vice-Chancellor, Professor Janet Finch, said,

"Keele already makes a major contribution to the academic, cultural and economic life of North



Staffordshire. The creation of the new medical school means that, with the North Staffordshire NHS Trust, we will be making a significant additional contribution through the training of new doctors in a period when both nationally and locally demands are increasing. It is expected that many who train here will choose to work in hospitals and community healthcare roles in Staffordshire, Shropshire and Cheshire."

Later this year, a building will open on the Keele campus which will house first year students for their pre-clinical training. (See Undergraduate Medical School Project piece on page 2). The final building, which will integrate training for doctors, nurses and other health professionals, is due to be completed at the Hospital in 2004.

Information Resources

Information resources, paper and electronic, play an important role in supporting medical education and training. The needs of Keele medical students are provided for at three local facilities:

- Main Library, Keele campus, houses lending and reference books for pre-clinical students, including short-loan material in the Nuffield Library
- Health Library, Nurse Education Centre, Hospital campus, houses textbooks and reference material for clinical students, besides a few periodicals (BMJ, Student BMJ, Lancet, and Medicine)
- NSMI Library, North Staffordshire Medical Institute, offers an extensive collection of medical journals

Clinical students can also borrow books from the NSMI Library and the University Library at Manchester. It is anticipated that the Health Library and the NSMI Library will merge and relocate, next year, in an Integrated Clinical Education Centre to be built at the Hospital campus.

All medical students have access to rich collections of electronic resources provided by Keele and Manchester Universities.

David Bird
Health Faculty Librarian

Undergraduate Medical School Project

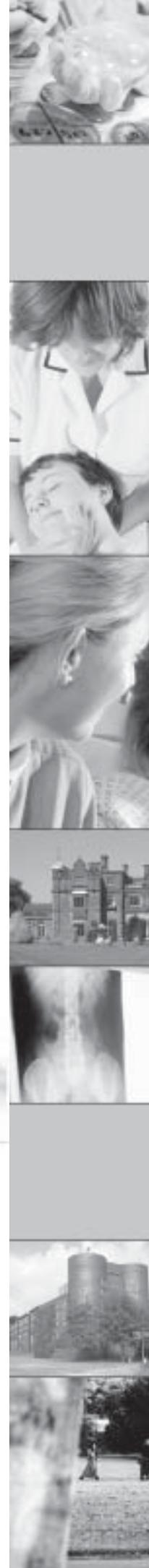
Construction of the second phase of the Medical School project started on the University campus in July 2002 and is now well on the way towards planned completion in September this year.

The building will contain a 250 seat lecture theatre, an anatomy suite, 55 place computer suite, three large laboratories, plus other teaching, student and staff facilities. One wing has been specially designed to accommodate the Primary Care Sciences Research Centre.

The main contractor is Pochin Ltd who is based at nearby Northwich and there are also a large number of specialist sub-contractors on the site. Together they employ up to 100 people each day and this number is likely to rise as the pace of work accelerates.

Located in a parkland setting on the University's large semi-rural campus, the striking building is close to other teaching facilities and student residences. The architect's drawing below shows how the completed building will look.

Stephen Protheroe
Development Manager



Student Recruitment and Admissions Update

It is an exciting time for admissions to the Medical School, as we look forward to welcoming our first cohort of year 1 medical students to our brand new facilities in the Undergraduate Medical School Building on the Keele University Campus this September.

This year we have been working very closely with admissions staff at The University of Manchester Medical School and have been pleased with the quality and volume of applications received - approximately 350 applications for 60 places.

In order to gain a place at the Medical School applicants must submit their Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) application by the 15 October for entry the following year. Applications are then screened and assessed by our Admissions Tutors in order to ascertain which candidates should be called for interview. This year we have held over 200 interviews for the 60 places available. Successful applicants are then

Table showing how student numbers increase from 2002 - 2009

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Year 1		55	55	110	110	110	110	110
Year 2			55	55	110	110	110	110
Year 3	50	50	50	90	90	130	130	130
Year 4		50	50	50	90	90	130	130
Year 5			50	50	50	90	90	130
TOTAL	50	155	260	355	450	530	570	610

invited back to the University Campus to come and find out more about the university, course, view the facilities and to meet staff and students.

The admissions process requires a great deal of staff input, both from administrative and teaching staff at the University and also from hospital consultants whom have been involved in the selection and interviewing process. In addition our current students have been instrumental in providing an overview for applicants. I should like to take this opportunity to thank all those involved in this year's activities.

If you would like to find out more about admissions to the Medical School we would encourage you to come along and meet us at one of the University's Open Days:
 Sunday 17 August 2003
 Saturday 18 October 2003
 Sunday 19th October 2003

In addition to the Open days we recently hosted the successful Royal Society of Medicine Careers Day on Wednesday 5th March. This was the first occasion on which the event had been held outside London, and we were delighted that Keele was chosen as the venue. We very much hope that this will become an annual event for those interested in finding out what a medical career entails.

For further information about admissions to the Medical School please contact me on 01782 583632 or email medicine@keele.ac.uk

Julia Molyneux
 Admissions Administrator

Staff News

We would like to take this opportunity to provide a 'Who's Who' of the current staff in Undergraduate Medicine. Since the last edition of this Newsletter, we have been very busy recruiting staff, and are delighted with the way in which our team is being assembled. Here are a few brief words about each of them:

Head of School of Medicine and Head of Undergraduate Medicine – *Professor Susan Dilly*. Susan came to Keele to the post of Dean of the Faculty of Health in 1998, from St. George's Medical School. She is also a Consultant Histopathologist, and manages to squeeze in regular sessions at the Path Lab into her very busy schedule. Susan was one of the major players in the bids to gain government approval of an Undergraduate Medical School here in North Staffordshire, and in forging a close relationship with Manchester Medical School.

Years 3 – 5 of the course

Director of Clinical Undergraduate Studies – *Dr. Carol Gray*, Consultant in Accident & Emergency Medicine. Carol has been an integral member of the team since late 2000, and has played a major part in the setting-up of the course, and also in liaison work at the Hospital Trust.

Community Medical Education Co-ordinator – *Dr. Andrew Bartlam*, General Practitioner. Andrew was another early staff appointment, and has played a vital role in the set-up phase, developing the Community side of the curriculum, and forging links with local practices where students will be placed. He is also co-ordinating the Communications Skills element of the course, and is ably assisted by a team of part-time teachers including Dr. Gordon Carpenter, Dr. Janet Lefroy, and Dr. Vince Cooper.

Course Leader for Curriculum Implementation and Marketing – *Dr. Paula Roberts*, Senior Lecturer. Paula was the first staff appointment made by the Medical School, and has extended her original part-time role to full-time. Following the successful launch of the Year 3 curriculum, Paula continues her work on implementation with the remaining years of the course, which should keep her busy for some time to come!

Year 3 Leader - *Miss Aideen Walsh*, Consultant Surgeon. Aideen's role includes overseeing all matters concerning Year 3 of the course, and she deals particularly with mentorship and Special Study Modules.

Module Leader for Nutrition, Metabolism and Excretion module (Year 3) - *Dr. Tim Bowling*, Consultant Gastroenterologist. Tim has been involved in curriculum planning and development from the inception of the medical school.

Module Leader for Heart, Lungs & Blood Module (Year 3) - *Dr. Charles Pantin*, Consultant Physician in Respiratory Medicine. Charles has extended his role in medical education, which previously included training, planning and implementing specialist respiratory registrar service and training, to the development of the Undergraduate curriculum.

Clinical Skills Co-ordinator - *Dr. Valerie Williams*, Consultant Anaesthetist. Together with Lorraine Clews, our Clinical Skills Teacher, Valerie has been responsible for setting-up the vital 4 week Basic Skills Course for Year 3, and overseeing our first OSCEs (Objective Structured Clinical Examinations).

Clinical Skills Teacher – *Miss Lorraine Clews*. Lorraine's Lorraine's background in midwifery training has equipped her very well to develop and implement the clinical skills teaching for Year 3, and she will now be working on the skills required for Year 4 teaching

Year 4 Leader – *Dr. Stephen Williams*, Consultant Paediatrician. Stephen joins us officially in April 2003, although he has been involved in the developmental stages for a long time now.





Module Leaders for Mind & Movement Module (Year 4) –

Dr. Andrew Hassell, Consultant Rheumatologist, and *Dr. Lisetta Lovett*, Consultant Psychiatrist. Andrew has also been involved in a ‘background’ role for a long time, and we look forward to welcoming him and Lisetta to their official roles in April this year.

Project Option Co-ordinator

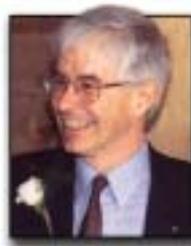
– *Dr. Karen Schofield*, Consultant Haematologist. Karen will be co-ordinating the 11 week Project Options which our students undertake in Year 4, and although her official start date is April, like many other Hospital staff, she is already working in the background.

In addition to the above list, the Medical School is indebted to the able assistance of staff on consultant firms, problem-based learning tutors, tutors in the community, and many other staff contributing individual teaching sessions. It is impossible to list everyone here, but we are most grateful for their contributions – without them, the students’ learning experience would not be as rich as it is currently proving to be.

Years 1 & 2 of the course

Director of Biomedical Undergraduate Studies –

Dr. Lindsay Bashford. We welcomed Lindsay to Keele in October 2002, from St. George’s Medical School. He is currently extremely busy setting up Years 1 & 2 of the course, ready for our first intake of students in September this year.



Director of Anatomy –

Mike Mahon. Mike has been an ‘official’ member of Keele



staff since December 2002 but, as a member of the teaching staff at Manchester Medical

School, he had been assisting us in the background for a while, and we were delighted when he transferred to North Staffordshire. His experience of the Manchester course is proving invaluable in setting up the first two years of the course here at Keele.

Behavioural and Social Sciences (BASS) Co-

ordinator – *Judy Rock*. Judy has been a member of the Psychology teaching staff at Keele for some years, and is now seconded for part of her working week to the Medical School. With a brief to co-ordinate all the Psychology, Sociology, Law & Ethics, History of Medicine, etc. teaching for years 1 & 2, Judy’s appointment is another essential move in the build-up to the start of the course in September 2003.



In implementing the year 1 & 2 curriculum, Lindsay, Mike and Judy are also working closely with staff from other Keele academic departments such as Life Sciences, Mathematics, Chemistry and Computer Science. One such member of staff is Douglas Corfield, who has recently arrived in Life Sciences as a Senior Physiologist, and will be making a major contribution to the medical curriculum.

Lack of space in this edition of the Med News prevents us from listing our administrative and support staff. They will feature in the next issue.

Margaret Hollins
Operations Manager

Staff Development News

The 'Teaching the Teachers' Team have put together a comprehensive programme of staff development courses for 2003, many of which are specially designed for staff who will be teaching on the Undergraduate Medical Course. These are aimed at those clinicians who will be Problem-Based Learning tutors for years 3 & 4, who will act as OSCE examiners, Communications Skills tutors, or anyone who is interested in a Mentoring role for undergraduate students. The 2-day introductory course is useful for any clinician who may be teaching medical students, including those who have students attached to their firms. May we draw your attention to the dates listed below. Please contact Pam Stone on 01782 554998 to book a place on any of the courses.

COURSE	DATES 2003	VENUE
2-day Introductory Course	Mon 19 May Tues 20 May	Keele Management Centre, Keele University
	Tues 15 Jul Weds 16 Jul	School of Medicine, (Postgraduate)
	Thurs 18 Sep Thurs 25 Sep	Keele Management Centre, Keele University
	Mon 10 Nov Tues 11 Nov	School of Medicine, (Postgraduate)
Appraisal ½-day PM	Weds 7 May	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
Appraisal ½-day PM	Weds 5 Nov	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
Assessment ½-day PM	Tues 10 Jun	TBA
Assessment ½-day PM	Tues 21 Oct	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
Beds.Teach. ½-day PM	Tues 9 Sept	TBA
Comm.Skills 1-day UG	Thurs 17 Jul	Undergraduate Med. School
Comm.Skills 1-day PG	Weds 1 Oct	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
Mentoring ½-day UG PM	Mon 12 May	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
Mentoring ½-day UG PM	Thurs 13 Nov	Undergraduate Med. School
OSCE ½-day UG AM	Mon 13 Oct	Undergraduate Med. School
PBL 1-day PG	Thurs 3 Jul	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
PBL 1-day PG	Thurs 27 Nov	School of Medicine (P.Grad)
PBL 1- day UG	Mon 14 Apr	Undergraduate Med. School
*KEELE CERT. IN MED. EDUC. Portfolio Introduction Day 1 day workshops: Theories of Learning in Medical Education	Thurs 12 June	Keele Management Centre, Keele University
	Thurs 20 Nov	School of Medicine, (P.Grad)
Small Group Teach. ½ day PM	Thurs 27 Mar	TBA
Small Group Teach. ½ day PM	Thurs 16 Oct	School of Medicine (P.Grad)

for further information:
 tel: 01782 554998
 fax: 01782 747319
 email: p.stone@pmed.keele.ac.uk

One Semester On A Student's Review

In a year with its share of ups and downs, all the medical students at North Staffordshire Hospital will agree on one point; it has definitely been an experience. Many of us began the year not knowing how we would adapt to the switch from Manchester to the relatively smaller town of Newcastle-under-Lyme. Whether we would find new friends. Whether the uncertainties of our peers about the new Keele University medical course would be confirmed. Whether this new hospital's excellent reputation for postgraduate teaching would be conferred to its undergraduate course. With so many questions to answer and whilst undergoing so many changes, we grit our teeth and attempted to take on anything Stokies could throw our way.

Many students got off to a running start, making sure that they had a chance to take bloods, insert venflons, catheters, adjunct airways, etc. by the end of the first semester. The thanks for this can go to the nursing staff on the wards who were helpful enough to give us the supervision and then leave us unaccompanied so we could learn and then master these skills. Those students who were a bit hesitant to carry out procedures on patients were helped along by the rest of the crowd.

The clinical teaching sessions were helpful in preparing us for the actual procedure on the ward, but students found that it was very different carrying out the procedures on real patients

than in the controlled environment of the skills lab. However, the reasoning behind the procedures was explained very well and gaps in our knowledge were filled. Staff on the wards have been impressed by our competence and professionalism in carrying out these simple procedure. Credit for this is due, in part, to the facilitation of the clinical skills team.

The teaching on the wards has been variable. Some people have found excellent opportunities to learn, whilst others have not been so lucky. The primary concern has been where consultants and registrars have been too busy to organise a teaching session. The question most students have asked is, "Then why have they asked to teach us?" A sentiment shared by the house officers who are left to fend off the challenging questions directed at them. Overall though, most consultants and their firms have been excellent. Weekly teaching sessions and patient feedback during ward rounds has been much appreciated by the students.

The community aspect of the course has been useful for seeing the primary care perspective of the NHS. Some students have questioned why it has been integrated so early on in our course when we spend eight weeks in a GP surgery in our fifth year. It has been suggested that the GP placement be reduced to half a day so that students can visit more clinics in the hospital. As there have been clashes between the sign-ups available for us to visit and the GP day, we have not always been able to cover our weekly learning objectives.

Students have found some GP's have prepared timetables whilst others have not. Some have prepared patients in advance whilst others have waited to see what comes through the door. Each student's evaluation of their GP placement has varied depending on how the student themselves likes to learn. Some have found their placements too restrictive. Others have had too much free time. All in all, the GP's have had an excellent rapport with the students and no one has complained of not having enough teaching.

The new medical school looks excellent and apart from a few moans about the size of the student common room, it has been well received. It will serve as a good base for those students who join us next year. The staff are a radiant bunch and have been receptive, efficient and understanding in all matters. Students will be glad to be supervised by such a committed bunch of people.

With half of us living on Keele campus, the others living in Newcastle and a couple of students commuting from other cities one would imagine the 40 of us would have difficulty in having a group social life. This has definitely not been the case. We have gelled exceptionally well and those people who were a bit hesitant to get involved in social events have gradually opened up. We have made many new friendships and have had many good times together. The social life in Manchester was always on a different scale, but as our numbers swell, expect to see Newcastle town centre over-run by inebriated, scrubbed-up medical students in the future.

One semester on, there are very few students who would not give a thumbs up to our experience at North Staffordshire Hospital. Keele University are definitely onto a winner if they keep this up. Hopefully, in the next three or four years when we graduate and join the ranks of house officers we will prove ourselves and the teaching we have received to our patients, colleagues and employers. Till then, we're contentedly preparing to meet the challenges that come our way.

Faizan Awan (Keele Medical Students' Representative Council)