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

Please send these to me, Margaret Hollins, Operations Manager, at Keele University Medical School, or email m.a.hollins@keele.ac.uk.

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Official opening of the Clinical Education Centre

Professor Sir Liam Donaldson, Chief Medical Officer for the Department of Health, and Kate Billingham, Deputy Chief Nurse for the Department of Health, performed the official opening ceremony at the Clinical Education Centre at the City General Hospital site of the University Hospital of North Staffordshire NHS Trust on Friday 4th March.

The Clinical Education Centre is the third phase of the Medical School building programme, and brings together not only the undergraduate medical students and nursing & midwifery students, but also some elements of postgraduate medical and dental education, and a prestigious new Health Library.

Both Sir Liam and Ms. Billingham also gave keynote speeches in the lecture theatre at the Medical School building at the Hospital campus. Sir Liam spoke on "How can Healthcare be made safer", and Ms. Billingham's speech was entitled "Quantity and Quality - Preparing Nurses for a Changing World"

On the previous evening, Sir Liam gave a lecture at the Keele Medical School building, entitled "First do no harm: Safety in modern Health Care".

The visit to North Staffordshire was agreed to be a resounding success, and in his speech, Sir Liam revealed his fond memories of the area where he resided for several years during childhood.



Keele moves to Validated MB ChB Course

From September 2004 Keele Medical School entered into a new partnership arrangement with the University of Manchester, in that it moved from a collaborative arrangement to a "validated" one. The rationale for doing so was that the University of Manchester made changes to their MBChB programme and Keele decided to continue with the existing programme, prior to the introduction of the new Keele Curriculum in 2007.

This move to a validated course has resulted in the appointment of Siobhan Cartwright to the post of Validation Manager to the Keele Partnership in October 2004. Siobhan was appointed by the University of Manchester, but works at Keele one day per week.

The main difference in the new arrangement for Keele is that students apply directly to Keele, rather than via Manchester, for Year 1 entry, but will continue to get a University of Manchester award. Although appointed to oversee the validated programme delivered by KMS, Siobhan also acts as first point of contact for the non-validated MBChB. Siobhan works closely with Dr Judith Hoyland who is Academic Adviser to the validated MBChB. Judith oversees the academic

affairs related to the validated programme on behalf of the University of Manchester, and Siobhan the administrative procedures. Siobhan is a regular visitor to the School and has commented on how welcoming the staff have been both here and in the hospital.

ISO Commitment to Quality

In 2004, the School of Medicine took the decision to apply for ISO 9001:2000 accreditation of its internal procedures and processes. This followed on the example of the School of Nursing & Midwifery, who obtained ISO accreditation last year.

Demonstrating its commitment to high quality standards, the application to the ISO (International Standards Organisation) has involved the appointment of a Quality Assurance Co-ordinator to lead on this project, and also the involvement of an independent ISO consultant (Colin Mellor) to help and guide us through the processes involved.

Who is involved?

Every member of staff within the School Of Medicine has a responsibility towards the ISO implementation.

How will the implementation of ISO impact on the working lives of Staff within the Department?

The implementation of ISO9001:2000 will implement a quality management system. The scope of registration is that all documentation and procedures will become standardised to the department. It will be quality controlled via a document controller and the system will be internally and externally audited.

ISO Progress report.

Colin Mellor first visited the Medical School on 18th October 2004 and gave an ISO presentation to all staff within the department. Since then Colin has made four more visits and has helped us to near completion of the Quality Policy Manual and Quality Operating procedures. Progress is going well for our July 2005 accreditation.

Hayley Gratty

Facilities & Quality Assurance Coordinator



Health Library at the Clinical Education Centre

Since opening in October 2004, the library at the new Clinical Education Centre has proved to be very popular with its users. The Library replaces former NHS and university hospital-based library services and now provides a common facility for both the local NHS community and Keele staff and students – particularly medical students in their clinical years, many postgraduates, and all nursing and midwifery students.

The distinctive circular reading room houses an enquiry desk and 54 study places with a further 20 seats available in a separate quiet-study room. More than 32,500 books are shelved in this area, besides smaller collections of DVDs, CD-ROMS, and videos. Journal titles number over 750, of which 550 are current subscriptions covering all major areas of medicine and health care. Self-service photocopiers are available opposite the main service counter.

A dedicated training room with 15 workstations provides a busy venue for the library's range of training and induction activities and there is a walk-in IT suite which currently offers 60 PCs with scanning and printing facilities.

The new library, with its enhanced facilities, extended open hours, and more convenient location, has generated a significant uptake of services. Loan transactions during January to March 2005, for instance, have increased by 30% compared to the same period last year. Further demands are anticipated as student numbers grow and the adjacent site is re-developed as a major single-site hospital service.

Library services cannot, of course, afford to stand still and mechanisms are in place to continually refresh printed materials, expand e-resources, and enhance services to users. Comments and suggestions are encouraged and welcomed from users of the service and a Library User Group meets regularly to discuss issues and exchange views. A management team also meets frequently to monitor and improve services and to implement development plans for the future.

To learn more about the Health Library, visit its web site at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/li/hl/>

Dave Bird
Health Faculty Librarian



Staff Profile - Professor William Farrell

Professor and Head of Human Genomics

William Farrell graduated from the University of Liverpool in 1986 with a BSc (First Class Honours) in Medical Cell Biology, and obtained the PhD from the University of Manchester in 1990. He came to Keele as a Lecturer in 1994. He is an Associate Investigator at NICHD/NIH, Bethesda, USA and Associate Professor of Medicine, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, UCLA School of Medicine, USA. His research interests include molecular pathological change in pituitary tumorigenesis, regulation of the cell cycle, epigenetic changes associated with the loss of gene expression, and isolation and characterization of novel cell cycle regulatory genes and those involved in apoptosis. He is the author of a large number of publications and has been invited to speak at many Conferences in the UK, Europe and North America.

Appointed Professor of Human Genomics within the Institute of Science and Technology in Medicine in July 2004, Professor Farrell's remit is to promote internationally competitive, fundable research within the Institute. He also heads a Disease Gene and Genomics Grouping comprising researchers with established international reputations in cancer and non-cancer diseases. Members of the group work collaboratively with an emphasis on translational research, and one of Professor Farrell's responsibilities is to foster these relationships and to provide a lead for others within and across Institutes seeking to apply molecular techniques to their investigations. To facilitate these responsibilities Professor Farrell heads the Genomics Unit, comprising state-of-the-art equipment including microarray facilities and high throughput genetic analysis equipment to carry out processes such as sequencing, pyrosequencing, Wave analysis, quantitative PCR etc. In addition, this Unit has dedicated technical support to assist in the implementation of molecular experiments. Through this Unit Professor Farrell will offer guidance in experimental design and for discipline hopping research proposals.

Professor Farrell delivered a very well attended and interesting Inaugural Lecture on 24 February 2005. The title was: *How Tumours Grow: Stepping on the Gas or Releasing the Brakes?*

Royal Society of Medicine Careers Day

The School of Medicine, in association with the Royal Society of Medicine, hosted a Careers Day, entitled "So You Want to be a Doctor?", on Wednesday 16 March, for schoolchildren in Years 10 - 12 (ages 15 & 16), who wanted to find out more about a career in Medicine. The programme included a range of talks, from applying for medicine, student experiences of medical school and pathways in a medical career. During the lunch period students were given tours of the Medical

School Building including interactive sessions. Speakers came from a range of Medical Schools including Sheffield University, Liverpool University and Keele University. In addition stand representatives from Nottingham University, Manchester University, Newcastle University, Liverpool University, The Royal Air Force and Royal Navy were available to answer queries and give out literature.

This is the third occasion Keele Medical School has held the event, and it was an ideal opportunity for young people to gain more information about becoming a doctor. More than 250 pupils attended the event from both local schools and those further afield such as Challney High School for Boys, Luton and Malet Lambert School, Hull.





Academic Psychiatry Unit's UK first

Keele's Academic Psychiatry Unit, School of Medicine, has launched an Adolescent Addiction Studies course, which has been developed to provide theoretical knowledge and practical skills for working with adolescents. It is believed to be the UK's only university accredited course of its kind and it is aiming to enable participants to develop a critical and systematic understanding of the theoretical and scientific basis of the assessment and management of substance misuse problems in this particularly vulnerable group. It also aims to enable students to have transferable specialist skills necessary for employment, or education and research related to substance misuse problems in adolescence.

The course is targeting a wide range of professionals, medical teams and organisations, such as social services, youth offender teams, and children's or women's services, concerned with the issue of adolescent addiction. Researchers in the field of medicine or mental health law, educationalists, or policy makers are also welcomed.

Faculty of Health News update

School of Health and Rehabilitation

From September 2004, the Department of Physiotherapy Studies has been renamed as the School of Health and Rehabilitation, to reflect the wide range of health care courses offered.

The School of Health and Rehabilitation offers both a full-time and a part-time BSc (Hons) Physiotherapy route. This School also offers two postgraduate programmes (MSc Neuromusculoskeletal Health Care and MSc Pain Science and Management) for all allied health care professions. The postgraduate modules which contribute to the masters programmes can also be undertaken as independent programmes of study to gain M level credits. In addition, the School offers Clinical Educators courses and an Accreditation programme for Clinical Educators. A variety of continuing professional development short courses are held each academic year, including research seminars which are led by both internal and external speakers.

For further information please contact the School Office on Telephone: 01782 584191, email: pta13@cc.keele.ac.uk, or visit the School website at: <http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/pt/>

Appointment of Faculty of Health Business Manager

As part of the Keele 2006 restructuring programme, Business Managers were recently appointed to the 3 Faculties of Health, Science, and Humanities & Social Sciences. Congratulations go to John Johnson, our Project Manager for the Undergraduate Medical School project, who has been appointed Business Manager for the Faculty of Health. John will phase in his duties as Faculty Business Manager over the next few months.

Student NEWS

Comic Relief

Since it began 20 years ago, Comic Relief has donated over £337 million to help people in both Africa and the UK. Through these donations, over 7000 projects have benefited. Because of this, we felt it would be a great idea to hold a fundraising event in order to raise some money to donate to Comic Relief – so we did!

We decided to hold a fancy dress karaoke party as our fundraising event. The theme decided upon for the fancy dress was 'popstars', and people were invited to dress up as their favourite popstars and sing one of their songs karaoke style!

The event was held on Tuesday 8th March in a bar in Newcastle, three days before Red Nose Day 2005 itself, allowing enough time to donate the money to Comic Relief in time for the big night. The party was really well attended, with plenty of people from all years there. The effort with the costumes was excellent – mentions have to go to the four members of Kiss and the five Village People, not to mention a certain American rock legend who's initials are BS. Need I say more??



Thanks have to go to everyone who came to the party, with a grand total of £316.54 being raised for Comic Relief. Special thanks to all who sold tickets at the Keele campus and at the hospital campus, it wouldn't have been possible without your help. Also, thanks to Reflex Bar, Newcastle for giving us the use of the bar for free.

Christmas Ball

Even though it was way back in December, I feel the Christmas Medical School Ball needs a mention!

The event was held in the wonderful surroundings of Keele Hall and made for a fantastic evening, if only because it provided a great excuse for everyone to get their glad rags out! Medics from all years were in attendance; there was plenty of drinking, plenty of dancing and plenty of suspicious goings on with the winners of the raffle prizes!



Many thanks go to all the students who contributed to the organisation of the event and to the staff at Keele Hall. All your contributions made it a thoroughly fantastic festive evening.

Pink Party

In October 2003, a Pink Party Pub Crawl was held in Newcastle in aid of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, with the theme being to wear as much pink as humanly possible!

The event was attended by many first and second years, and from the reports we've had in, the night was enjoyed by all.

Much effort was put into the evening and it was nice to see girls *and* boys in lots of pink! Although a few were slightly unnerved by the sight of a guy dressed up in pink women's clothing, all in aid of charity apparently! Hmm, one wonders...



In a matter of a few hours we raised over £150 for Breast Cancer Research, so thanks very much to all those who attended/donated and helped to make the night such a success.

Laura Bangs
Year 2 Medical Student



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