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Progress on Associate Teaching Hospital in Shropshire



The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust is on course to become an Associate Teaching Hospital for Keele University Medical School from September 2007. A Project Team and Design Team have been busy working on plans for an extension to the existing Staffordshire University School of Health building at the Shrewsbury site, in order to provide seminar rooms, a clinical skills laboratory, a student common room/resource room, and an integrated Health Library. The business case for this extension will be submitted to NHS West Midlands - one of the 10 new Strategic Health Authorities - for formal approval before construction can commence. Our picture shows an artist's impression of the planned extension. Until this is complete,

students will continue to be taught in the existing facilities in the Shropshire Education Centre and elsewhere in the hospital.

Dr. David Maxton was appointed as Director of Clinical Undergraduate Studies in September 2005, and he is engaged in planning the curriculum implementation and staffing provision, both at Shrewsbury and at the Princess Royal Hospital in Telford. Dr. Peter Coventry took up his post as Community Medical Education Co-ordinator earlier this year, and is busy developing the community elements of the curriculum in Shropshire. They are both supported in their roles by the Manager of the undergraduate medical education development, Susanna Barratt.

In September 2007, 32 third year students at a time will spend part of the year studying the 'core' modules in Shropshire. In 2008, the core modules of Year 4 will also be taught at Shrewsbury and Telford, and by 2009, some 96 medical students should be based at Shrewsbury for periods of between 8 and 22 weeks at a time. A residential accommodation block is also to be constructed to provide living accommodation for the students based in Shropshire.



Anatomy Facility Update

Since our last update in Keele MedNews (March 2004) a couple or so of things have happened. We now have a new member of staff, Gemma Bailey who we stole from UHNS pathology. Gemma joined us in April 2006 as our dissecting room Assistant Technician and has been helping Paul Clews in setting up practical classes as well as accepting bodies, embalming, dealing with Risk Assessments and COSHH and anything else that comes her way. She is currently into creating designer pots to hold our specimens and also makes a wicked cup of tea (note from MM)!

Prosector Derricott (otherwise known as Hayley) became a Licensed Teacher of Anatomy this year and has been busy producing specimens and worksheets and has been involved in classes for Medics, Nurses, Physiotherapists and Life Scientists. Indeed over 1000 students now use the unit each year. To accommodate the extra bodies (purposely ambiguous phrase) Paul has commissioned, and obtained university finances for four specialised two tier rotating dissecting tables.

Fliss Dunn, Bequeathal Secretary, has now fully taken over from Carolyn Derrett and was hit by a massive increase in donation requests following

Mike's publicity drives, appearing on BBC Radio Stoke, and articles in The Sentinel and Education Guardian.

Some updates to the facility over the summer, include several new models and atlases, the installation of seventeen Ethernet points, a new multimedia PC, LCD projection and WiFi in the dissection room and our very latest arrival – a baboon skeleton.

A highlight of the year was the last biannual inspection by Dr Jeremy Metters as Her Majesty's Inspector of Anatomy in April. Thanks to the excellent work by Team Anatomy we passed with flying colours. Rather less of a high note was the knock on effects of the introduction of the Human Tissue Act (2004) which repeals the Anatomy Act (1984). This means that from September 1st 2006 we become regulated and licensed by the Human Tissue Authority. To cut a very long story short this required a thirty-page compliance application involving self assessment on consent, governance, premises, and disposal, and the production of over 100 standard operating procedures to put onto paper things we already knew how to do! The really exciting bit is that we now have to pay a fee of £18,000 for a three year licence (previously free) and rather than being a Licensed Teacher of Anatomy the head of the unit gets to be called a Designated Individual and the rest of the team are


Persons Designated. Still it was all worth it and we now have even more robust documentation on consent. As always, for anyone interested, bequeathal information is available at www.keele.ac.uk/medicine/anatomy.

Last, but not least, in July the unit, assisted by Peter Willan, hosted a national conference for BACA (British Association of Clinical Anatomists) with over 80 delegates attending and 40 communications given. As usual, the splendid medical school building, Keele campus in the summer sunshine, an excellent meal at Keele Hall, not to mention the local banter of our minibus driver, made this a very successful occasion.

All in all, not too difficult to answer the student's annoying question – what do you do in the summer? But finally, a really big thank you to the team and the over 20 clinicians and other academics who help teach the students and keep the anatomy classes high up on the evaluation reports.

Mike Mahon, Director of Anatomy (DI)





The C2007 development process: an update on progress

The process of developing a new curriculum is rather different to what Keele has done in implementing the Manchester curriculum, and we face a complex few years as we combine this dynamic and interesting phase with the implementation of the existing curriculum. After a few months of re-thinking what we are trying to achieve with the new curriculum, the pace of development has now accelerated. Key components of the development are summarised, as follow:

1. The curriculum will be five years in duration and be designed as a 'hybrid' curriculum that builds learning opportunities around problem-based learning in the first three years. The curriculum will meet GMC learning objectives and have a Keele 'flavour' that builds on the resources and opportunities in Keele and the surrounding region. We are planning for 130 students (including 10 international students) in each year, although building in the potential to add up to 40 more students if medical school places are further increased. It is safer to plan for more than we may need!

2. We are designing into the curriculum model two possible entry points. The first is the standard entry point into Year 1, mostly for school leavers. The second is a graduate entry point into Year 2 for applicants with a relevant prior degree, most likely in medical or health science, initially for small numbers of students. Entering students from both groups will be merged sometime during the second year, so that Years 3-5 are common, as are the exit assessments.

3. The curriculum will be delivered in a distributed education model. There will be three years with all students based in North Staffordshire, rotating through integrated basic/clinical science content built around problem-based learning. The final two years will see students based in North Staffordshire, Shropshire or perhaps South Staffordshire. This will require a sound web-based virtual learning environment (VLE) that is accessible at all teaching sites.

4. The final big barrier assessment will be at the end of Year 4, with assessment in Year 5 utilising workplace-based assessments that reward development as a health professional.

5. Years 4 and 5 will include substantial clinical attachments within the local health economies of Staffordshire and Shropshire. Year 4 will be a

hospital-based rotation through key specialties, but will include regular community/primary care exposure. Year 5 will include a half-year unit of integrated clinical training based within community primary care practices, but involving consultant teaching in the major hospital-based disciplines within a variety of clinics, same day facilities and hospitals.

6. We are negotiating with the GMC a timeframe for the formal accreditation process, the membership of the accreditation team should be announced shortly, and we can expect 4-5 visits by members of that team between February and September 2007. We plan to have our submission ready by mid-September, and this will have to include an overview of the five years plus a detailed plan for the new Module 1.

7. The group developing Module 1 (Year 1) of the new curriculum has started work under the conjoint leadership of Rose Fricker-Gates and Peter Coventry. The team included members from curriculum theme groups and the former content groups. Others wishing to join should contact Sarah on S.Philpott@keele.ac.uk.

Richard Hays, Head of Medical School

Charity Football Tournament

In March, the Year 1 & 2 students held a charity six-a-side football tournament, with the winners playing a staff team. Despite a freezing cold day, 11 gallant

teaching and academic staff turned out (we needed plenty of substitutes!) and put up a good fight, losing only 1-3. A substantial amount was raised from

entrance fees and a raffle, and a good time was had by all. Our picture shows the valiant staff team ready for the fray.



ISO Quality update 2006

March 23rd 2006 saw our first ISO surveillance visit following accreditation last year. Colin Mellor spent the day at the Hospital Campus and the following areas were audited:
Electives Administration - Hospital Campus
Electronic Document Control

Reception – Hospital campus
Assessments – Hospital Campus

The department yet again passed with flying colours, with only seven observations submitted.

Our next audit will be on the 3rd of October 2006. Many thanks to all staff involved on the day and hope we receive your

continued support on the 3rd October.

*Hayley Gratty
Quality Administrator*





Royal Society of Medicine Careers Day – “So you want to be a Doctor?”

“The students came away buzzing from the day with a renewed enthusiasm for a career in medicine”.

This is just one of the many comments that came from a school following the recent ‘So You Want to be a Doctor?’ Careers Day held at the School of Medicine on Wednesday 29th March 2006 in association with the Royal Society of Medicine (RSM).

The Careers Day was aimed at Years 10-12 (aged 15 & 16) and more than 200 pupils attended the day from both local schools and schools from as far afield as Wales and Northern Ireland.

Pupils were treated to a full day, which incorporated lectures in the morning concerned with how to apply for medicine and pathways in a medical career. The afternoon was taken up with the opportunity to split into small groups with tours of the building by current students, and pupils participated in hands on practicals such as a ‘dipstick practical’ and a ‘respiratory practical’.

Current students were on hand throughout the day to answer any queries both about the medical course and life as a student.

Teachers that accompanied their pupils were given a separate morning timetable with talks addressing applications and interviews into medicine. The teachers then rejoined their pupils for the afternoon sessions.

Pupils were also given the opportunity to go round a number of exhibition stands including the Royal Air Force, the Royal Navy, Newcastle and Manchester universities, and staff were able to answer any number of queries regarding a career in medicine.

This is the 4th successful RSM Careers Day held at the School of Medicine and was thoroughly enjoyed by all concerned.

A big thanks goes to everyone who helped in any way with the organising of the day. Especially to the speakers for their invaluable contributions, to the cleaners who had to clean up after more than 200 pupils throughout the day, to the security staff who did a great job directing traffic on the day and to the support staff for making the day run so smoothly.

It was a thoroughly exhaustive and yet exhilarating day and I’m sure RSM 2007 will be even better.

Clare Sillitto, Year Secretary

Project Option students visit America

Two of our fourth year students have been accepted on to the Yale summer intern programme for 2007 to study at the Interdisciplinary Bioethics Center, as part of their eleven week Project Option . They will be supervised by Roger Worthington, our Law & Ethics specialist, who will liaise with colleagues at Yale.

Update on Undergraduate Admissions

This year there have been a number of changes affecting Medical School admissions. Firstly, back in October there was been a huge increase in applications from 589 for 2005 entry to over 1,000 for 2006 entry. September 2006 sees the introduction of a new course, the Health Foundation year for Medicine. This is similar to a pre-medical year for non science students, whereby successful applicants will be able to progress the 5 year MBChB programme.

We have admitted 6 Dental graduates directly to year 3, starting in September; these applicants wish to pursue a career in maxillo-facial surgery. Additionally, this is the first year we have been able to recruit international students, to both year 1 and 3 and in the future we hope to admit up to 10 international students per annum to the first year of the course.

142 medical school applicants have made Keele their first choice of University and we look forward to welcoming around 130 of them this September to year one of the MBChB programme at the Keele University Campus.

For 2007 admissions there will also be a number of changes including the new Keele University curriculum

and the introduction of the UKCAT test for all applicants. The UKCAT test is a selection test that aims to help universities make more informed choices from the many high qualified applicants. For the first year we do not intend to place any great emphasis on this new test.

Medical School Open Days

On Sunday 2nd July the Medical School welcomed over 170 visitors to an Open Day for applicants wishing to apply for Medicine at Keele University. Professor Richard Hays and Dr Paula Roberts gave a presentation on the new medical degree curriculum, which will be offered at the University from 2007. In addition delegates were given talks on applying to medical school and student finance. Potential applicants were invited to participate in a practical session as well as tours of the building and campus. Staff from several departments at Keele were represented including the Health Foundation Year Office, Accommodation Office and Student Finance Office. The staff and students involved helped to make the day a great success, despite the heat wave!

The Medical School will be hosting a further open day on Saturday 2 September, which is already oversubscribed. Any potential applicant wishing to visit the University campus should register to

attend the central University Open Day on Sunday 20 August 2006. Please see www.keele.ac.uk for further details.

New Interviewers Sought

Any staff that are involved with Medical School education and who are interested in becoming involved in interviewing Medical School applicants should contact the Admissions Office for further details on 01782 583632 or email medadmissions@hfac.keele.ac.uk

Schools Liaison

Are you interested in going into schools to tell them what a career in medicine entails? We need more staff to help with careers events at local schools. If you are interested in helping please contact the Admissions Office in the first instance on 01782 583632 or email medadmissions@hfac.keele.ac.uk

Julia Molyneux
Admissions Administrator





Recent staff appointments

The following staff appointments have recently been made:

Director of Undergraduate Programmes – Dr. Andrew Hassell

Dr. Hassell will have responsibility for managing all 5 years of the undergraduate course and be responsible for strategic development of undergraduate provision.

Director of Student Support – Dr. Carol Gray

Dr Gray will lead a confidential accessible student support service within the Medical School.

School Business Manager – Mrs. Margaret Hollins

The Business Manager will provide professional administrative support to the Head of School in the management and operation of the School across its various sites.

Lecturer in Primary Care Education – Dr. Sheena Gibson

Dr. Gibson joins the community education and primary care team, working across undergraduate and postgraduate sectors, covering undergraduate community medical education, communication and clinical skills, academic GP vocational training, curriculum and staff development.

Undergraduate student prizes

As usual at the end of the academic year, several prizes have been awarded to medical students for the 2005/6 academic year.

Prize for best overall performance in Year 1: Matthew Clarke

Prize for best overall performance in Year 2, sponsored by the North Staffs Medical Institute: Louisa Anderson

Donald Kemp Prize for best performance in Year 3 OSCEs: Lara Hutchins

Prize for best performance in Year 3 Progress Tests: Sam Creavin

Prize for best performance in Year 4 OSCEs, sponsored by the North Staffs Medical Institute: Suzy Stokes

Prize for best oral presentation in a clinical project: Suzy Stokes

Prize for best oral presentation in a science project: Greg Cooper

Prize for best performance in Year 4 Progress Tests: Suzy Stokes

Nigel Eastwood Prize for best performance in Year 5: Elizabeth Cotterill

Prize for best photograph taken on elective: Dipesh Vasant

Congratulations to all our prizewinners!

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www.blackwellmedstudent.com



Exam success for Undergraduate Finalists

On 13th July, the second cohort of finalists based at Keele University Medical School graduated from Manchester University. 46 students were successful, and many of these will be staying at the University Hospital of North Staffordshire for their Foundation Year training.

Our photos show a small group of the finalists attired in their graduation robes, and a group of Medical School staff who travelled to Manchester to see the graduation.



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

Please send these to me, Margaret Hollins, Acting Senior Administrator, at Keele University Medical School, or email m.a.hollins@keele.ac.uk.
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previous MedNews issues can be seen online at:
<http://www.keele.ac.uk/depts/ms/news>