

To: Members of the Academic Faculty

ACADEMIC FACULTY NEWSLETTER Spring 2013



New members of the Faculty Executive

The faculty executive welcomes the following new co-opted members: Carmine Pariante (PoP Club link), Peter Jones (G&C link), Charlotte Allan (PTC rep), Howard Ring (Neuropsychiatry link), Hugo Critchley, Shon Lewis and Simon Wessely.

A list of the current membership of the executive is on the faculty web page:

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/specialties/faculties/academic/aboutus.aspx>

Pathfinder Fellowships

The College invited applications for Pathfinder Fellowships in December 2012. These were aimed at medical students in their penultimate year and are worth up to £5000 per person over 3 years. The funding can be used to support a research project or an elective, and other educational activities related to psychiatry.

We were delighted with the response to this initiative. 106 applications were received, of which the majority were of an exceptionally high standard. Short-listing was carried out by Dr Tom Brown (Associate Registrar for Recruitment), Professor Peter Woodruff (Chair of the Academic Faculty) and Dr Muj Husain (Chair of the PTC). We shortlisted 21 candidates for 10 Pathfinder Fellowships and it was our unanimous view that all 21 were appointable. Indeed, many applicants who were not shortlisted were eminently appointable.

Professor Peter Woodruff and Dr Tom Brown, assisted by two members of the PTC, interviewed over two days and had an extremely difficult job choosing the successful candidates such was the quality of those we saw. The names and medical schools of the successful candidates are as follows:

Alex Berry	Brighton and Sussex
Claire Eccles	Leeds
Vicki Gordon	Edinburgh
Cosima Gretton	King's
James O'Donovan	Newcastle
Jonathan Rogers	Cambridge
Liana Romaniuk	Edinburgh
James Stefaniak	Oxford
Adrienne Van Nieuwenhuizen	Cambridge
Kathryn Webster	Sheffield

The College plans to give each medical student a mentor and to arrange a programme of other activities. Many of the mentors are members of the Academic Faculty.

Those of us involved with this process found it a most encouraging and uplifting experience. It certainly underlines that there are a significant number of high quality medical students with an interest in a career in psychiatry. Dr Tom Brown has written to all the unsuccessful candidates assuring them of our continued interest in them and informing them of ways in which they can keep in touch with the College through their Divisions and the Faculties.

Academy of Medical Royal Colleges/Wellcome Trust initiative

The Academy of Medical Sciences has published a new report *Strengthening Academic Psychiatry*.

The report includes recommendations on how to strengthen academic psychiatry in the United Kingdom. It concludes that:

- **recruitment and retention in academic psychiatry** should be enhanced, for example by better identification of talented students and trainees, but also by providing improved career pathways.
- **research opportunities for academic psychiatrists** should be increased and improved. This can be achieved by providing excellent mentoring to trainees and enabling doctorate research in optimal settings. The report also highlights the importance of centres of excellence and the importance of realising their full potential and collaboration between them.
- **better integration of psychiatry and its training programmes with other disciplines relevant to mental health** should be ensured. Integrated training programmes and removal of unnecessary boundaries between psychiatry and related specialities might be a first step to achieve this.

The Academy hopes that this report marks the beginning of a step change in academic psychiatry in the UK, allowing us to build on our successes, and see this field flourish as it should. The Academy is now in the process of arranging meetings with key stakeholders to ensure that the report's recommendations are taken forward.

You can find the report and the College response on the Academy's web page:

<http://www.acmedsci.ac.uk/index.php?pid=118&pressid=106>

Dinner with Dame Sally Davies, CMO for England

We were particularly pleased to host a dinner for Dame Sally Davies at the College in November 2012, co-hosted by Professor Sue Bailey and Professor Peter Woodruff.

This was a most congenial and productive meeting where plans to strengthen clinical academic training were discussed.

Undergraduate Teaching Leads Forum

The Undergraduate Teaching Leads Forum of the Academic Faculty brings together representatives of all medical schools in the UK to develop leadership in teaching and learning of psychiatry. The Forum provides good communication between the clinical teachers who are delivering psychiatry teaching and the College and Academic Faculty Executive. The Forum's priorities include improving national standards of undergraduate education, developing education research networks and raising the profile of psychiatry.

Through wide collaboration, the Forum has developed a **Core Curriculum** relevant to all doctors. This work was led by Dr Paul Wilkinson and the document is available on the website on the Undergraduate Teaching page very soon.

Contact: Prof Ania Korszun (Chair) a.korszun@qmul.ac.uk or Kitti Kottasz academic@rcpsych.ac.uk

Summer schools

These have been enormously successful at raising the profile of psychiatry and academic psychiatry and inspiring many would-be psychiatrists in the fascinations of the science that underpins psychiatry.

In 2012 Summer Schools were held in Cardiff, the Institute of Psychiatry and Sheffield. Please contact Keisha Allen for details of this year's courses: kallen@rcpsych.ac.uk
Forthcoming events are advertised on the College's Student Associate web page: <http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/discoverpsychiatry/studentassociates.aspx>

2012 Prize winners

Congratulations to all prize winners! The following were presented prizes at the 2012 International Congress in Liverpool:

Margaret Slack Travelling Fellowship

Dr Amanda Sinai, UCL
Dementia in older adults with Down's syndrome

Oral Presentation Prize:

Winner – Dr Amy Manley
The predictive utility of rumination and attachment style in depression of chronic disease

Runner-up – Miss Louise Rayner

Is there an auditory processing bias in those individuals who are prone to experiencing auditory hallucinations?

Poster Presentation Prize:

Winner – Dr Vijay Harbishettar
A validation study of anxiety scales in Parkinson's disease in UK

Runner-up – Dr Sarah Dorrington

Perinatal maternal life events and psychotic symptoms in children at twelve years in a birth cohort study

Plaudits

We congratulate Academic Faculty members who were particularly honoured this year, including a knighthood for Professor Simon Wessely, who has pioneered academic work to improve mental health services, both preventative and treatment, for the British Army.

The following faculty members were awarded Clinical Excellence Awards in the 2012 round:

Bronze: Prof H Critchley

Silver: Prof J Geddes

Gold: Prof D Murphy, Prof S Scott

Obituaries

The Academic Faculty regrets to announce the sad loss of two distinguished psychiatrists: Professor Hamid Ghodse, and Professor Nitin Purandare, who contributed enormously to the profession through research, teaching and clinical leadership; and to the College and the Academic Faculty. They are sadly missed.

International Congress, EICC, Edinburgh, 2-5 July 2013: Psychiatry in Ascent

This year's Congress will provide overviews, workshops and training on important areas in the science, policy and practice of psychiatry.

Topics include:

• treatment • clinical skills • neurology • new science • communications & technology • holistic psychiatry • management & leadership • teaching

Plenary lectures from speakers including:

Professor Andreas Myer-Lindberg (Heidelberg) • Dame Fiona Caldicott (Oxford) •

Professor Eve Johnstone (Edinburgh) • Baroness Sheila Hollins (London) • Professor Sir David Goldberg (London)

A full day of trainee-focused lectures.

Call for papers (deadline: 28 April 2013 midnight)

You are invited to submit an abstract for presentation at the Royal College of Psychiatrists' International Congress 2013.

The emphasis will be on short papers and posters for dissemination of research findings. Trainees are particularly encouraged to submit abstracts and there will be prizes for the best oral and poster presentations by trainees. If you are submitting a paper or a poster, please follow the instructions below.

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/traininpsychiatry/eventsandcourses/internationalcongress2013/abstractsbursaries.aspx>

This is the Faculty's (as well as the College's) annual scientific event and the programme is excellent. Please encourage junior colleagues and trainees to attend the meeting and to submit an abstract. Please visit the

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/traininpsychiatry/eventsandcourses/internationalcongress2013.aspx> for more details.

Bursaries (deadline: 28 April 2013 midnight)

The College will be offering a number of bursaries to help enable medical students and trainees, who intend to present a poster or short presentation of their research, to attend the International Congress. Bursaries can be used towards covering the cost of registration fees, standard class travel, up to two nights' accommodation and reasonable subsistence expenses. Please note that bursaries are only available to those that submit an abstract for presentation at the conference.

How to apply for a bursary:

Applicants should ensure they indicate on the online submission form that they are applying for a bursary (this can be found in the format section).

After the abstract submission deadline, candidates with strong abstracts will be contacted for their CV and a covering letter (giving details of why financial support is required and other sources of funding that have been explored).

If awarded a bursary, recipients should submit all expense claims, together with receipts, to Kitti Kottasz, at the RCPsych, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG within four weeks of the conference. Applications for reimbursement received after this time will not be accepted.

Academic Faculty Dinner on 3 July in Edinburgh

You are invited to attend the faculty's dinner during the Congress.

Venue: The dinner will be held at the Heights Restaurant at the Apex Hotel (31-35 Grassmarket, Edinburgh, EH1 2HS):

<http://www.apexhotels.co.uk/en/hotels/edinburgh/apex-international-hotel/explore/eat/>

The restaurant is around 11 minutes' walk from the International Congress venue, the EICC. It boasts 2 AA Rosettes and has beautiful views of Edinburgh Castle.

Date/time: Wednesday 3 July 2013, 7.30pm for 8pm

How to book: To confirm your place, please send a cheque for £50 to Kitti Kottasz, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG. The cheque is payable to the Royal College of Psychiatrists. Please put Academic dinner, Edinburgh, your name and email address at the back.

Please let Kitti know if you are vegetarian or have any food allergies.

You are very welcome to bring guests.

Academic Faculty website

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/workinpsychiatry/faculties/academic.aspx>

Please let us know if there is any information or links that you would like made available. The web master is Andy Stanfield.

Membership of the Academic Faculty

We are keen to ensure that as many academics as possible join the Faculty. In this way we can best reflect the views and needs of those psychiatrists working within academic settings. Please encourage academic colleagues to join the faculty if they have not already done so. All they have to do is email membership@rcpsych.ac.uk and ask to join the faculty.

Contact us with comments, suggestions or questions

Please write to me at the address below:
Peter Woodruff, Chair of Academic Faculty
C/O Kitti Kottasz (Faculty Manager)
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