

“Editorial”

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Message from Head of School

Dear students and staff,

Already we are well into October and I would like to take this opportunity to once again welcome our new cohort of Year 1 BDS students to Bristol. Hopefully you will find the termly BDS programme newsletter helpful and informative, and it should give you the opportunity to familiarise yourself with features of, and developments throughout, the whole programme. I trust you are settling into your accommodation, are making new friends, have enjoyed freshers’ week, have met your personal tutor and, in general, are getting used to University life. Of course, teaching sessions in University are different to those in School, and we expect you to quickly become accustomed to them. Please let your personal tutors know how you are getting on, and respond to their emails when they contact you.

For those of you in Years 2-5 returning from your summer vacation I hope you had a good break and welcome back to the newly structured BDS programme. You will recall that a consultation process took place and the Head of Teaching gave a detailed presentation of the restructure process and reasons for doing so to each year of students. As a result the new structure has been introduced from Term 1 of this academic year providing a ‘blanket’ implementation to all years apart from Year 5 students. We have worked hard to design a

curriculum which is fit for the 21st Century dentist, and fully complies with the changing requirements of the General Dental Council and the University. Embedded within the new structure is clinical activity at South Bristol Community Hospital which student feedback already shows to be a fantastic addition to our curriculum.

The 2012 National Student Survey results for Bristol dentistry were most gratifying. Students indicated 100% overall satisfaction with the BDS programme and we will be working hard this year to maintain this excellent standard of student satisfaction.

We welcome Alaa Daud, Tanya Cerajewska and James Puryer to lecturer positions in Restorative Dentistry. We are grateful to Lisa McNally who has recently agreed to be the Clinical Dean and will also lead the Personal Tutor scheme, and to Angela Hague who has taken on the role of Disability and Health Representative.

We have a demanding year ahead of us. Like all UK dental schools, Bristol will be inspected by the General Dental Council, the visits being scheduled for April 18th and 19th and for BDS Finals in May and June. Bristol dental school prides itself in the sense of community that exists within which students and staff have positive and supportive interactions. I look forward to this continuing in the coming year.

Best wishes,



Professor Jonathan Sandy
Head of School of Oral
and Dental Sciences

'You said, we did'

Students are frequently asked for feedback on teaching provided within the BDS programme. Staff review the data and comments obtained and, where appropriate, respond with a view to improving the overall educational experience for students. Recent examples are outlined below.

Health sciences: Anatomy

Private study practical sessions and consolidation stations in topographical anatomy have been introduced into each term to allow students to study specimens of their own choice and at their own pace.

Student lectures, chosen for subject area using eVoting, have been introduced in the last week of each term. These have proved very popular.

Health sciences: Oral Biology – Year 2

Unit tutorials have been moved to the weeks immediately prior to 'in course' assessments, which can lead to examination exemption, rather than at the end of each taught theme. This will allow focus on areas identified by students requiring further clarification by teaching staff.

Human Disease

Assessments were changed in 2011-12 from essays to eAssessment format. Feedback indicates students prefer the new format and this will be retained in 2012-13.

Dental skills – Year 2

To allow a smoother transition from the clinical skills laboratory to the clinic students will undergo instruction for completion of prescription forms to describe crown and bridge work.

Primary care dentistry – Years 3, 4 and 5

A system is being introduced so that when patients do not attend it may be possible to obtain suitable replacement patients from the Primary Care Unit.

News from Units

Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery - Teachers Away Day An 'away day' (well, afternoon,) for all teachers in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery based at BDH took place on 8th August 2012. The jam-packed afternoon was a great opportunity to get together to discuss issues relating to teaching of undergraduates in the

OMFS department. Dave Dymock kindly took the time to update all staff on the BDS restructure and Prof O'Sullivan explained how the new GDC learning outcomes might impact us in future. Louise Nash delivered an update on Community-based teaching at South Bristol and discussions took place around how OMFS staff may be involved to complement BDH teaching for students. Mike Wheeler clarified how student teaching is resourced to the oral surgery department and how the NHS service continues to collaborate with undergraduate tuition, and Tamara Khayatt presented promising feedback from the phantom head tutorials and highlighted areas that require refining for next year. Enthusiasm was shown at the meeting by many OMFS staff members in undertaking their own further training in education which demonstrates a real interest in delivering high quality teaching and learning for students in our department. The 'away day' was a valuable session to reassess and focus on the next year ahead and we look forward to seeing you all brandishing your forceps in the department soon!



Oral Surgery
Phantom
Heads

Oral Disease - Overview of the new teaching structure.

We are launching a completely revised lecture programme for the Oral Disease course. The ground floor consultant clinic rotations have been rearranged and now include some case based oral medicine teaching. A new consultant senior lecturer post has been advertised and we hope to recruit before the end of the year.

The Faculty Quality Enhancement Teams (FQET) report from the Oral Disease Course Unit last term was very positive and did raise issues regarding lack of patients for teaching radiography in the afternoons. It is hoped that clinics may be changed to provide more patients in the afternoons when outpatients is reviewed.

Patient Satisfaction

During the first quarter of 2012, patients attending the Primary Care Unit (PCU) and Oral Medicine clinics were asked to complete an anonymous survey, which aimed to provide us with valuable data on the quality of our services from the perspective of its users. 109 Oral Medicine and 96 PCU patients responded.

Ninety nine percent of all respondents found reception staff friendly and helpful. Ninety percent of Oral Medicine and 93% of PCU patients reported that staff and students introduced themselves, while 99% felt that staff and students acted in a professional manner during the appointment. Ninety nine percent of Oral Medicine and 96% of PCU patients felt they received a clear explanation of what would happen during the examination. Eighty one percent in Oral Medicine and 85% in PCU received a completely clear explanation of their oral problem, while most of the remainder felt it was clear "to some extent". Ninety two percent (Oral Medicine) and 87% (PCU) were given the opportunity to discuss their problem with the clinician, although a small number felt they did not fully understand the explanation they were given during this discussion.

Overall, 96% of all patients surveyed rated their experience of the Dental Hospital as either Good or Excellent. Full results of the survey were presented at the Dental Audit Oscars on 27th June.

Library news

A number of [new books and eBooks for clinical dentistry](#) have been purchased in the last year to support the BDS curriculum, including extra copies of key texts.

A bid to the Dental Alumni resulted in a generous donation of £1,015 to purchase multiple copies of books required for the new "Personal and Professional Development" unit.

The Library has recently purchased the [Elsevier Dentistry & Oral Surgery eJournal back file](#), which contains content from 21 Dentistry journals published by Elsevier prior to 1995. We hope this will make access to this material more convenient following the relocation of the hard-copy journals to the Medical Library last year. The package also includes archives of

additional titles we have not subscribed to in the past. Please contact Emma Place for more information:

emma.place@bristol.ac.uk

Restructured BDS programme

A major restructure of the BDS programme was approved by the University Programme Approval Group in April and is being implemented this academic year. The restructure accommodates activity at South Bristol Community Hospital, new learning outcomes recently produced by the General Dental Council within [Preparing for Practice](#), and complies with University regulations about Unit structure and student progression.

| Certificate | | Diploma | | BSc | | BDS | |
|--|--|--|--|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Year 1 30 weeks | Year 2 37 weeks | Year 3 42 weeks | Year 4 42 weeks | Year 5 42 weeks | Year 4 42 weeks | Year 5 42 weeks | Year 5 42 weeks |
| Health sciences: Anatomy | Health sciences: Oral Biology – Year 2 | Health sciences: Oral Biology – Year 3 | | | | | |
| Health sciences: Biochemistry | Health sciences: Pathology & Microbiology | | | | | | |
| Health sciences: Physiology | Health sciences: Pharmacology | Human disease | | | Advanced care dentistry – Year 4 | Advanced care dentistry – Year 5 | |
| | Health sciences: Dental biomaterials | | | | | | |
| | Dental skills – Year 2 | Dental skills – Year 3 | Dental skills – Year 4 | | | | |
| | Primary care dentistry – Year 2 | Primary care dentistry – Year 3 | Primary care dentistry – Year 4 | Primary care dentistry – Year 5 | | | |
| Personal and Professional Development – Year 1 | Personal and Professional Development – Year 2 | Personal and Professional Development – Year 3 | Personal and Professional Development – Year 4 | Personal and Professional Development – Year 5 | | | |

New curriculum structure (above) with themed (colour-coded) units.

The underlying teaching is little changed from the programme structure delivered previously apart from full incorporation of South Bristol patient treatment within Primary Care Dentistry units. There will be some changes to assessments, particularly in Years 3 and 4, but students will be informed of these well in advance. In 2013 BDS Finals will have the same format as in summer 2012.

South Bristol Community Hospital

Community-based teaching at South Bristol is now in full swing. Groups of final year students are now coming to SBCH for a 2 day rotation every 4 weeks and are seeing patients of all ages with a wide variety of treatment needs. They are assisted by qualified nurses and some of their year 4 colleagues who are learning how

the clinic runs and getting to know the computer record system. This will stand them in good stead for when they return as operators after Easter.

Year 4 students are required to be on site by 9am, clearly causing an issue with the busy lecture programme during the autumn term. Therefore a Skype link up has been set up between the Dental School and South Bristol so that students are able to receive lectures while on the South Bristol site. They hear the lecturer and view the PowerPoint as if in the lecture themselves. This enables them to be ready to go on clinic at the correct time. So far this is working well most of the time although we have experienced a few teething troubles. It is hoped that as this link develops it will become extremely useful on a number of fronts. A big thank you to the IT departments on both sites for getting this up to speed.

The HUBS bus is now running daily and delivering students safely to the clinic by 8.30am and taking them back to Bristol at 5.20pm; we have also negotiated a reduced parking rate of £3.06 per day for students who wish to drive their own cars.

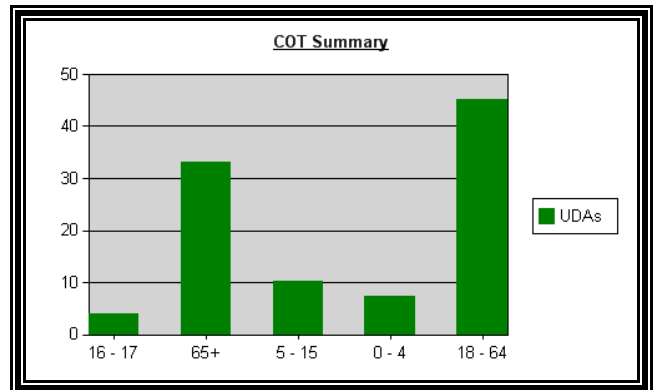
Patient feedback has been excellent, which is very reassuring, and we continue to strive to deliver a high standard of patient care while giving the students a great learning experience.



Year 5 Students at SBCH

We have just recruited a full time special care dental officer who will be involved in student teaching. This will be a very important adjunct to student experience and will give them the confidence to treat patients requiring additional care within their own capability. There will be opportunities for students to accompany on domiciliary visits as well.

SBCH had 700 patient appointments during September. The graph below shows the age distribution of patients per completed course of treatment (COT).



A recent installation of art works depicting local land marks was celebrated at the hospital – this involved many balloons and chocolate cakes which were very well received- see photo; the patient gave full consent!

National Student Survey (NSS) results and Key Information Sets

We were very pleased with the 2012 NSS results which placed Bristol very firmly within the highest ranks of UK dental schools. Indeed, 100% of Bristol students indicated they were 'satisfied overall with the quality of the BDS programme'. It is possible to view 'Key Information Sets, including NSS results and other measures of the programme such as balance of teaching and assessment, and compare with other dental schools from the Unistats website.

<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>

We very much hope that the high level of satisfaction with the BDS expressed by students in 2012 will continue in the future.

Dental Audit Oscars – Summary

The Audit Oscars is an annual event providing an opportunity for all staff to learn about Clinical Audit work that has taken place in the past year. On 27th June, the audit leads for eight projects shared their results with an audience from around the hospital in order to demonstrate the value of their work for improving our services. Nigel Harradine (former chairman of the Dental Audit Committee) and

Student news

Stuart Metcalfe (the Trust's Clinical Audit and Effectiveness Manager) formed the judging panel. Thanks to all the presenters for their hard work and the audience for some probing questions.

FIRST PRIZE: Provision of radiographs and quality of referral letters for GA (re-audit).

Presenters: Lucy Williams and Julie Kelly.

This audit showed that 83% of children had radiographs prior to a general anaesthetic, lower compliance than in the last audit cycle. Only 2% of patients met all the standards for content of referral letters. The judges were impressed by the quality of the presentation and, in particular, the extent of the action plan, which is the most important stage of any audit project. For change following audit to have a lasting impact, often there is a need to think creatively about what measures can be taken - verbal reminders to staff may only be effective in the short term. Amongst the actions here, relevant training has been added to the SHO induction process and to the undergraduate course (thereby improving awareness amongst both current staff and future General Dental Practitioners), while improvements have been made to the referral proforma and this will be sent to local GDPs.

RUNNER-UP: Undergraduate root-treated teeth. Presenter: Elizabeth King

This project aimed to review current practice with regard to restoration of root treated molar teeth on the undergraduate programme, using standards derived from a number of recent papers. The notes for 76 patients treated between 2009 and 2010 were reviewed. 80% received final restorations at BDH, around half of which were carried out within 90 days of endodontic treatment as specified in the standard; 20% were left with temporary restorations. Cuspal coverage was used for 65% of teeth, compared to a target of 90%. It was considered important that the 90 day standard be followed to help ensure patients do not leave without a final restoration, although difficulties arising from the nature of the undergraduate programme were identified. Following the audit, local guidelines based on the literature are being finalised amongst the consultants and will be distributed to staff and students.

Message from John Murphy, new Student President

I was elected President of UBDSS last summer, and, along with the rest of the committee we organise events for all the students, as well as providing a link between the staff and the student body. 'The mad hatters tea party' a few weeks ago was a great success and the whole committee is full of new ideas for the bar and socials in Bristol and beyond! Ollie and Tom are our new bar managers and doing a fine job to have the bar open from 5pm every Tuesday and Friday, ready for post clinic drinks.

In my role, I put forward the views of us all and so I'm always open to any comments or suggestions just send me an email (jm9572).

Finally, whilst I have the opportunity, I'd like to shamelessly plug a talk on the history of the Dental School which takes place on the 16th November by Chris Stephens, a past Professor of Orthodontics here at Bristol. The bar will be open afterwards with a bar tab kindly provided by the Bristol Dental School Alumni Association. It's set to be a fantastic evening and I hope to see you there.



John Murphy
Student President

BDSA Officer successes for Bristol students

Following the success of the British Dental Students Association (BDSA) Conference, which was hosted in Bristol in March 2012, Lee Feinberg was elected as president of the BDSA. In this position he is the Chair of both the BDSA executive committee and the executive board of the British Dental Association (BDA) Student Committee. Paul Davies was also elected as communications officer for both of the committees mentioned above. Both fifth year students were elected by their peers from dental schools throughout the UK at the BDA Student AGM.

In these positions they will help their peers from Manchester and Leeds organise the BDSA sports day and Conference respectively. They also play an important political role as key members of the BDA Student Committee. Well done to them both.



Lee Feinberg
President of the BDSA

Further outstanding student achievements

Rebecca Ng has received the 'Outstanding Contribution to Bristol Life award'. Rebecca received this award in recognition from the University of Bristol Students' for the volunteering work she does with the University including her role as Chair of the Volunteering Executive Committee, her involvement in organising events within the Bristol Community and helping to deliver training for student volunteers. More information about this award can be found at:

<http://www.ubu.org.uk/about/awards/bristolife/>



Rebecca Ng
receiving
the
'Outstanding
Contribution
to Bristol
Life award'

Rebecca was also interviewed by David Clensy (editor of the Bristol Post) about her award. The article link is available at:

<http://www.thisisbristol.co.uk/University-students-engaging-community-projects/story-16225760-detail/story.html>

Staff news

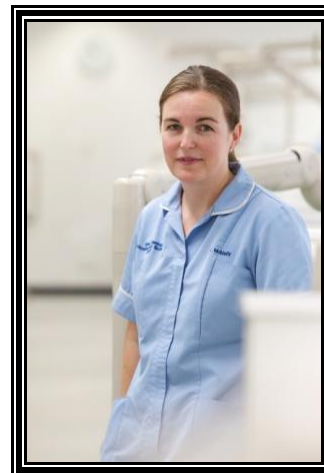
Retirement of Dental Clinical Dean

After more than ten years in the role of Dental Clinical Dean, and nearly twenty years teaching Restorative Dentistry in Bristol, Dr Gordon Gray has decided to retire. Gordon was a much respected figure within the School, by students and staff alike. Although we will miss his full-time presence it is pleasing to know that he may be involved in a part-time capacity in our preparations for the GDC visit next year.

New Clinical Dean

Lisa McNally has taken over the role of the Clinical Dean following the retirement of Gordon Gray. This position will intermesh with her roles as Personal Tutor Lead and Unit Organiser for Primary Care Dentistry Year 2.

"Dr Gray has been an outstanding Clinical Dean and is going to be an extremely hard act to follow; I am going to do my utmost to ensure that the students continue to have the same fantastic level of support that he provided".



Dr Lisa McNally
Clinical Dean and
Lecturer/Honorary SpR
Restorative Dentistry

Picture courtesy of Nick Smith
photography

Disability and Health Representative

Dr Angela Hague has taken over the role of the School Disability and Health Representative following the retirement of Gordon Gray. This position will intermesh with her roles as Pre-Clinical Dental Dean and tutor for the University's Teaching and Learning in Higher Education (TLHE) Programme. Most people in our School will not know that as well as teaching on the staff course, she leads the University's Teaching and Learning Programme for PhD students and Researchers, running study days in Graduate School of Education.

"This has been a great learning experience for me as well as the students! We have some

really talented PhD students at Bristol (as well as staff, of course). This has helped be change the way I think, and I have become more people focused. It may also be worth saying that I do a fair bit of marking for the TLHE, so can help new lecturers who are completing their assignments if they want.”



Dr Angela Hague
Senior Teaching Fellow

In the rearranged Unit structure of the BDS, the Elective and Critical Appraisal Projects Elements that Angela leads will now come under the theme of Personal and Professional Development (PPD).

“I am glad that we chose to include these Elements in the PPD theme, as it feels as if I have a more defined role within the School and the University. My responsibilities take me between Dental Sciences, CCC Anatomy, Cellular and Molecular Medicine, Graduate School of Education and the ESU – from the outside it might seem that these roles are disconnected. I feel I am developing a focus for my activities since I became a Senior Teaching Fellow, and it has been great working with new colleagues as well as getting to know the students. I have always enjoyed the teaching side of University life and helping students develop and learn. Choosing to take on the role as disability and health representative shows how much I have changed – I would have never considered this before.”

Teaching and Learning award

Dr Glenn Wakley, senior lecturer in Anatomy, was co-winner of Bristol University's 2012 e-learning award at this year's Bristol University Teaching and Learning Exhibition for his podcasts on basic anatomy for the dental, veterinary, medical and science students. The award was presented by Professor Nick Lieven, Pro Vice-Chancellor for Education.



Dr Glenn Wakley
Senior Lecturer in the
Centre for Anatomy

Further staff achievements

Congratulations to George Bourne, who at the beginning of May won the British Society of Restorative Dentistry (BSRD) Prize for the best poster at the national conference in Cambridge. George is a Clinical Teacher and Senior House Officer (SHO) in Restorative Dentistry. His poster was a case report of the prosthodontic treatment of a head and neck cancer case. George has done wonderfully as he was up against fierce competition from SpRs and other SHOs from all over the country.

Congratulations also go to two members of staff who recently achieved success in their specialty training exams. Igor Blum, Lecturer in Restorative Dentistry, passed the Intercollegiate Specialty Fellowship Examination and Julie Kelly, Specialty Registrar in Paediatric Dentistry, passed the MPaedDent.

We have also received news that a number of trainees have successfully presented at national meetings. Among these Rachel Cowie won a prize at BESOM in Liverpool as did George Bourne at the BSRD meeting in Cambridge.

Well done to all the above and to any others with successes we have not heard about!

Conclusion

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Newsletter and have found the information provided to be useful. We intend to produce the next edition at the beginning of next term. Please send items you wish to be considered for inclusion to Judy.Caesley@bristol.ac.uk.

David Dymock
Head of Teaching
Faculty Undergraduate Education Director