

“Editorial”

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Message from Head of School

Dear students and staff,

The academic year 2013-14 has been characterised by feverish staff activity for a number of important reviews. This follows on from the success of gaining a silver Athena Swan award as reported in the last newsletter.

First, in late November, both staff and students met a panel of reviewers for a University of Bristol [School Review](#). The process, which included participation of external reviewers, involved review of:

- learning, teaching and assessment
- research & entrepreneurship, engagement
- academic staff management
- the student experience
- planning, resource management and administration
- clinical work/provision of clinical service

The report was extremely complimentary regarding the School. The review report notes:

“Overall the panel was extremely impressed by the commitment to and enthusiasm for teaching within the School.”

With regard to the student experience the report provided the following summary paragraph:

“Overall the panel found a very positive picture of the student experience within the School. Students evinced a sense of belonging and engagement with their programmes which was inspiring and reflected the commitment of staff and the quality of support offered. Both academic and support staff exhibited a genuine sense of being responsible and caring for students’ education and well-being. The School performs very well nationally in the NSS, with high overall satisfaction scores - 92% in 2013 and 98% in 2012 – recognised by the panel as a considerable achievement. The School collects student feedback by a variety of means and puts a lot of care and work into listening to its students.”

We are delighted the review panel noted the desire amongst staff to provide an excellent education for students within a supportive environment, and that student feedback is valued and acted upon.

Second, we submitted our research to the Research Excellence Framework (REF) in the same week of School Review. It is unknown as to how the School will fare but the research income has more than trebled since the last review and the numbers of research students increased significantly. We had to submit three impact cases to describe the relevance of our research as well as providing narrative on our research strategy. The outcomes will be known in December this year, just before Christmas.

Third, and something you should already be aware of, later this month the General Dental Council (GDC) are carrying out an inspection visit of the Bristol BDS programme for the first time since 2003. All UK Dental schools are being inspected, and we are amongst the last to be visited within the current cycle. The visit is very important for a number of reasons. Principally, the School must retain its ‘sufficiency’ to graduate dental students who can register with the GDC. To do this we must demonstrate that we meet the GDC’s [Standards for Education](#), and as part of these standards,

dental schools must ensure that all students meet the [learning outcomes](#) required for registration and also fulfil requirements of [Standards for the Dental Team](#) and [Student Fitness to Practise](#) guidance. A report from the visit will be published on the GDC website and will be an indication to the outside world of the quality of the BDS programme delivered in Bristol. Preparation for the visit has been ongoing for some time, with staff working together to compile over 500 pages of submitted work with thousands of supporting documents as evidence for our ability to meet the expected standards. We have provided students from all years of the programme with an oral presentation describing the importance of, and preparation for, the visit as approximately 1/3 of dental students will be required to meet with the inspection panel (Powerpoint presentation available on Blackboard – see Course information). Further details of the visit are outlined within this newsletter and I would urge you to read this important information, particularly if you have been selected by the GDC to meet with the inspection panel.

Finally, there will be a period of change for the leadership of the School. The University is undergoing a review of education and research across the two Faculties which deliver the three professional programmes (medicine, veterinary sciences and dentistry) and medical sciences degrees. I have been appointed as interim Dean for the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry during this period. I am pleased to inform you that Sarah Bain has been appointed to the role of interim Head of School whilst I am undertaking the Faculty role. It is important that Sarah is supported in the School; this was decided by the School Executive and demonstrates our culture of inclusive staff development.

I hope you are able to enjoy the Easter break after the long term we have just experienced.

Best wishes,



Jonathan Sandy

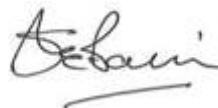
Message from interim Head of School

As incoming interim Head of School I look forward to working with you, so that we build upon our position as one of the leading Dental Schools in the country.

The School has undergone a significant number of reviews and a re-structuring over the last 12-24 months and it is my intention to ensure the main recommendations and outcomes of those activities are successfully implemented and embraced by all staff and students. There is no doubt that staff are a key strength of the Dental Hospital and School, and I am acutely aware of the difficulties and pressures that we are all currently working under. I believe it is therefore important that staff and students feel able to contact me whilst I take on this position, alongside my current role as Director of DCP Training. I can be contacted via either University or NHS email, my office which remains room 209 Chapter House or on internal extension 24411.

Moving forward, we need to think about the appointment of a substantive Head of School. To that end the Ordinance 10 process will begin early in the Autumn term. The post of Head of School is open to University or NHS employees and I hope a number of you will think about putting yourself forward for this pivotal role. I will be in contact shortly with regard to this process.

Best wishes,



Sarah Bain



Sarah Bain
Interim Head of School of
Oral and Dental Sciences
from May, 2014

General Dental Council visit

The General Dental Council (GDC) is responsible for the quality assurance of dental education. The GDC inspection visit of the Bristol BDS programme has been confirmed for 29th and 30th April, 2014 and subsequently for BDS Finals in late May/early June.

The GDC have selected 30 students from each of Years 3-5, and 15 students from Years 1 and 2 to meet with them. Please note the time for meetings within the overall visit timetable below. Meetings will either be in the Chapter House Lecture Theatre or the Boardroom, Level 3 of the Chapter House.

DAY 1 – Tuesday 29th April 2014

08:45 Inspectors arrive – orientation of documentation in the inspectors' meeting room and private inspectors meeting
10:15 Meeting with School Leads
11:00 Tour of Pre/Clinical Facilities
11:45 Meeting with students in Year 5
12:45 Inspectors Meeting and Lunch
13:45 Meeting with staff involved with ensuring patient safety (Standard 1)
14:45 Inspectors Meeting
15:00 Meeting with staff involved in quality evaluation and review of the programme (Standard 2)
15:45 Inspectors meeting
16:00 Meeting with students in Year 3
16:45 Inspectors meeting
17:30 Inspectors depart

DAY 2 – Wednesday 30th April 2014

08:45 Inspectors arrive – private meeting
09:15 Meeting with Leads
09:45 Inspectors meeting
10:00 Meeting with students in Year 4
10:45 Meeting with staff involved with student assessment (Standard 3)
11:45 Inspectors meeting
12:00 Meeting with students in Years 1 and 2
12:45 Lunch and Inspectors meeting
13:45 Meeting with other staff including outreach / off-site staff involved in delivery and assessment
14:45 Meeting with staff involved with equality and diversity (Standard 4)
15:45 Meeting with School Leads
16:00 Inspectors depart

Staff-student pre-visit sessions

Please note that those students who have been selected to meet with the GDC inspection panel should attend a session from 17.30-19.00 with staff the evening before the GDC meetings as follows:

- Monday 28th April: Year 3 and 5 students
- Tuesday 29th April: Year 1, 2 and 4 students

These staff-student sessions will be held in the Chapter House Lecture Theatre. Pizza and refreshments will be available. The sessions are for staff to answer any questions students might have about the visits and to provide students with any information that may be useful.

The inspectors are currently reviewing the documentation we have submitted. This consists of:

- A pre-inspection questionnaire: basic information about the BDS programme, student numbers, etc.
- Annex 1: Our self evaluation, with links to how we meet the 29 requirements outlined within [Standards for Education](#).
- Annex 2: Our mapping of the BDS programme, and all assessments within it, to learning outcomes within [Preparing for Practice](#).

Possible questions you might be asked

Staff have been considering some of the questions the panel may ask, including those that students may be required to answer. Obviously these will be tailored for the year you are in and so pre-clinical students should not panic too much about some of the more clinically-related questions within the lists below. However, ALL students should be aware of Fitness to Practise procedures, the structure of the BDS programme, and various aspects of assessments (see Rules, policies and Procedures handbook, Curriculum handbook, and the Assessment handbook).

Standard 1: Patient safety

- What would you do if you observed a fellow student operating in a manner which could impact upon patient safety?
- If you wanted to raise a concern or complaint (e.g. against a member of staff) how would you proceed? Where can the staff concern form be accessed? What would you do with one that you had completed?
- Are patient notes always available on the clinic when you are seeing a patient? If they are not available and treatment cannot be

- carried out – are you aware of a process that should be followed?
- How are patients made aware that they are being treated by students? Is there a formal process? Were you informed about this during an induction?
 - Are there any patient information leaflets available to make patients aware that they are being treated by students in different departments?
 - How were you taught the principles of consent and how were you assessed?
 - Were you confident about the principles of consent before treating patients?
 - Have you ever found yourself in difficulty without timely help from one of the supervisors being available? If so, what did you do?
 - What is the needlestick policy? Where is this policy logged or stored? When are students made aware of the policy? Is the same method of reporting a needle stick incident used at SBCH and BDH?
 - If you fracture a tuberosity whilst extracting a tooth - what process will be followed to document this event? How would feedback be provided?
 - When and how do you interact with DCP students and staff?
 - Have you read the GDC "[Standards for the Dental Team](#)"? (Hint: see posters in BDH)
 - Do you understand Fitness to Practise policies and procedures? What do they entail?

Standard 2: Quality evaluation and review

- Do you understand the structure of the programme and why it was restructured in 2012-13? (Hint: see Curriculum handbook and poster in BDH)
- What is your experience like at the University, BDH, outreach (e.g. South Bristol, Human Disease block release)?
- Do you understand how the programme is evaluated and quality assured?
- What are your opportunities to engage in development and quality evaluation of the programme? (Hint: student consultation on programme restructure, unit feedback, staff-student liaison committees, student reps. at Dental Education Committee and Annual Programme review)
- Is your feedback acted upon?
- How often do you meet, or communicate with your personal tutor?

- Do you feel well supported by your personal tutor?
- If you had a personal problem which was affecting your academic work who would you speak to?

Standard 3: Student assessment

- Do you know the standards expected of you to pass assessments and to progress within the programme?
- Do you understand what is expected of you in the different assessment types you undertake (e.g. eAssessments, OSCEs)?
- Are formative assessments helpful?
- When do you provide reflection, and how is this done?
- Is peer assessment used?
- Do you understand the mechanisms determining progress relating to clinical assessments?
- What happens if you are struggling academically?
- Do you know and understand Extenuating circumstances policies and procedures?
- Are you able to explain the School's assessment criteria?
- Have you ever received a compliment from a patient? How did you log this?
- Have you ever received a complaint from a patient? How was this dealt with? (probably best not to ask this unless anonymised)
- Has a patient given you verbal and/or written compliments but you were unaware that you should log this?
- What remedial teaching support is provided if you fail the first attempt at an assessment?
- Are you aware of assessments or competencies that must be achieved before treating patients?
- As a student is the assessment strategy of the school clear to you?
- As a student – are you aware of how grades are awarded and what their significance is in relation to progression?
- Where can students access the intended learning outcomes for units within the programme?
- Do students know the standards expected of them to pass assessments and to progress within the programme?
- What is the GDC document "Preparing for Practise" about?

Standard 4: Equality and diversity

- Are student disabilities considered appropriately?
- What support is provided if you have a disability?
- What teaching and training do you obtain on Equality and Diversity?
- Are Equality and Diversity policies the same at UoB/BDH and at outreach (e.g. SBCH)?
- How would you make a complaint if you felt there was an Equality and Diversity issue that needed to be addressed?

The GDC inspection panel

The inspection panel consists of five individuals. These are a Lay person (who chairs the panel), two academic dental professionals, a dentist with significant General Dental Practice (GDP) experience, and a member of the GDC Quality Assurance team.

Katie Carter – Lay Chair of the Panel

Katie has worked in further and higher education since the late 1980s. From 1997 to 2005, she was Chief Executive of the UK healthcare regulator that set standards for and quality-assured GP training. She was also the first Director of Quality for the Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board.

Since 2006, Katie has been self-employed and has worked for four postgraduate medical deaneries, two medical royal colleges, NHS Education for Scotland and the Legal Complaints Service. Since 2007 she has adjudicated on student complaints for the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education. Katie is a member of the General Medical Council's Registration Panel and Quality Assurance Team.



Paul Howlett



Shiv Pabary



Paul Wright

Paul Howlett

Paul qualified from Newcastle Dental School in 2001 and completed his General Professional Training at Newcastle Dental Hospital and in general practice in Sunderland. He obtained his MFDS from the Royal College of Surgeons in

Edinburgh during this time. Following GPT, he remained in practice in Sunderland for a further five years and successfully completed a Diploma in Conscious Sedation in Dentistry in 2005. In 2008, he moved to Queensway Dental Clinic in Billingham to further develop his skills in both standard and alternative conscious sedation techniques and general dentistry.

Paul was awarded a Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Professional Practice with distinction in 2011. He is an active member of the Teesside Sedation Network Group which works to develop sedation guidance and best practice within the Teesside area.

Shiv Pabary

Shiv Pabary is a general dental practitioner practicing in Newcastle upon Tyne. He qualified in 1985 from Newcastle Dental School and, after vocational training, worked as an associate for two years. He became a principal in 1988 and now works between three NHS practices. He is also a part-time Dental Adviser to two primary care trusts.

Shiv has held a part-time teaching post at Newcastle Dental Hospital in the Conservation Department since 1993. He obtained his Membership of the Faculty of General Dental Practitioners in 1992 and was appointed a lay magistrate (JP) in 1995. He completed a law degree (LLB Hons) in 1996 and is a past local adviser for Dental Protection. He has been a member of the British Dental Association's General Dental Practice Committee since 1996 and sits on the education and remuneration sub-committees. He was also a member of the Standing Dental Advisory Committee from 1998-2002. Shiv has been a Vocational Trainer for eight years and has been a postgraduate dental tutor since 1995 and is currently the Tutor in Clinical Governance for the Northern Deanery and Chairman of the Oral Health Improvement Group in Newcastle.

Paul Wright

Paul Wright qualified in dentistry from The London Hospital Medical College Dental School in 1969, was appointed as lecturer 1972, senior lecturer in 1980, honorary consultant in 1982 and professor of prosthetic dentistry in 2000, all in the same school, of which he was recently dean of dentistry (1999/07). He worked part-time in general dental practice between 1970 and 2001. His research interests have always been firmly based in removable prosthodontics with a strong bias to clinical research. A

continual thread of interest in masticatory function has led to biomaterial research with a defined interest in using soft lining materials and implant-stabilised prostheses for improving function. He has been president of the British Society for the Study of Prosthetic Dentistry (2000/01), the European Prosthodontic Association (2005/06), the British Society of Gerodontology (2007/08) and founding editor (1992/03) of the European Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry. He has been a member of the team visiting BDS programmes and the final BDS examinations nationally since 2000 and is currently chair of the team inspecting the BDS programmes at UCLAN, Aberdeen and Peninsula Dental Schools. He is currently chair of the Specialist Dental Education Board.

Peter Butler

Peter is a member of GDC staff with expertise in dental education and quality assurance.

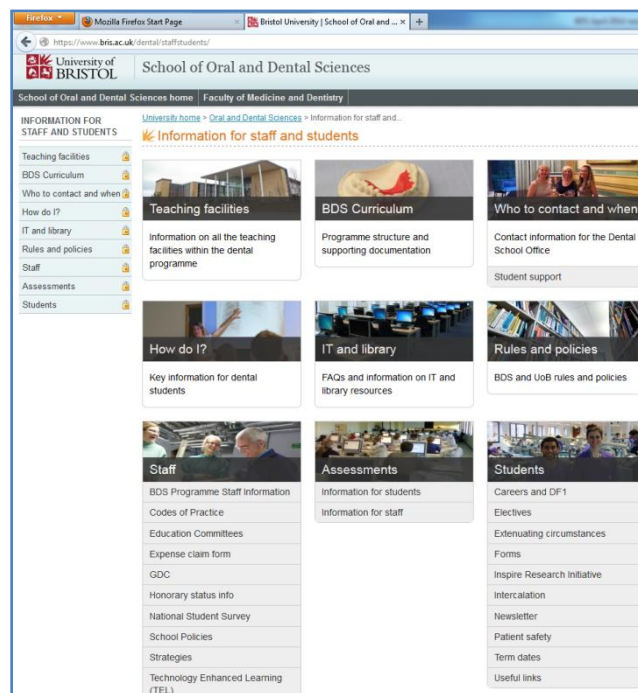
‘One-stop-shop’ BDS information website for students and staff

A website has been developed which contains a vast amount of easily accessible general information about the BDS programme (specific unit information is available within Blackboard).

The website can be accessed from a tab on the School website and directly from:

<https://www.bris.ac.uk/dental/staffstudents/>

You will have to sign in using your University of Bristol login and password. You will then have access to a whole variety of useful documents as shown in the screenshot on the upper right of this page.



Teaching facilities: Basic information about facilities at the BDH, our community-based teaching clinics, and in Medical Sciences.

BDS curriculum: Important generic handbooks – Curriculum, Pre-clinical and Clinical, and Rules, Policies and Procedures handbooks.

Who to contact and when: Important staff contacts and student support information.

How do I? Important information for dental students.

IT and library: A wealth of information and important links.

Rules and policies: Specific BDS handbook, plagiarism, University regulations, and GDC standards for the dental team.

Staff: Important forms and information including honorary status applications, expense claims, Education committees and Codes of Practice, useful GDC documents, NSS, School policies, Strategies, and TEL.

Assessments: Information for both students (e.g. assessment handbook) and staff (assessment strategy, matrix and Code of Practice).

Students: Information about DF1, electives, extenuating circumstances, access to student and staff concern forms, research and intercalation opportunities, patient safety, and other useful links.

Please browse this website especially if you have been selected to meet the GDC inspection panel. There is a lot of useful information, all of which was previously available to you but not in such a readily accessible location.

News from Units

The Statistics Team

There are now three members of the Statistics Team within the School, all based in the Biomedical Research Unit in Nutrition, Diet and Lifestyle: Dr Sam Leary is a part-time (50% FTE) Senior Lecturer in Statistics, Dr Andrew Wills is a part-time (40% FTE) Lecturer in Applied Statistics, and Dr Chris Penfold is a full-time Research Associate in Statistics.



Dr Sam Leary



Dr Andrew Wills



Dr Chris Penfold

Teaching: For the BDS students the team lead a Research Methods course as part of the Unit of Personal and Professional Development in the 2nd year, and also provide sessions on data entry and analysis for Elective projects in the 4th year. Most students should then be in a position to complete their own analyses for their projects, but if more advanced statistical methods are needed as agreed between supervisors and students, support can be provided on an individual basis. Sam also runs Research Methods courses for postgraduates (MSc in Dental Implantology and DDS in Orthodontics) and staff (BRU Nutrition Unit).

Research: The team members have wide ranging research interests, but most of their research support work falls into the following categories: Sam works with members of the Lifecourse Epidemiology and Oral Health Research Group and also within the BRU theme of Sedentary Behaviour, Andrew works within the Cleft Research programmes, and Chris works on the Head and Neck Clinical Cohort, and also within the BRU themes of Perioperative Nutrition, Prostate Cancer, and Childhood Disorders.

Consultancy: There is a set of e-lectures covering basic study design and statistics which are available to all staff and students within the School; please ask Chris Mills if you would like access to these. If you require help with preparing research proposals for submission to

peer-reviewed, national funding competitions for applied health or social care research please contact the Research Design Service (rds@uhbristol.nhs.uk). If you still need statistical guidance, and your work does not fall into any of the categories outlined in the section on Research above, please contact Sam who will allocate appropriate support.

Dr Sam Leary
(s.d.leary@bristol.ac.uk)

South Bristol Community Hospital

Two years have flown by and we now welcome the arrival of our third cohort of final year students. In order to maximise access to care for patients and clinical experience for students, triage, assessment and urgent care policies have been developed and this has already seen a considerable increase in student patient contact.

The refurbishment at BDH has given the unit the opportunity to host Year 5 IV sedation clinical experience; additionally Year 3 groups will now gain insight ahead of their didactic conscious sedation course. The main hospital sedation teaching team, led by Dr Robb and the clinical teachers and nursing staff here have worked hard to enable a smooth transition and are looking forward to working together from May.



Patrick Greer tutors Jonathan Jones, Samantha Braddock, Alison Lee, Roslyn Smith and Richard Hague on use of the intra-oral camera

More structured integration of the Therapy and Hygiene School students with the dental students after the summer will be led by the new Clinical Lead, Mrs Alison Lee, Karen Duncan and the DCP School tutors. A "Practice Project" is likely to be included in the SB rotation.

The DCP team led by Zara Plumley have had notable success, Katie Harris, Katie Pippin and Lucy Rogers completed the Foundation Sedation Course and Carly Gerrish has been awarded teaching Certification, "Preparing to Teach in the lifelong Learning Sector" and is undertaking the Oral Health Promotion post qualification. The patient Waiting Area now benefits from the enhanced OHP displays prepared as an element of coursework. Congratulations are also due to Julie Mallinson who has achieved FHEA.

We need feedback as we strive to deliver more opportunities beyond the tutorial programme to enhance both learning and patient experience. Chris Mills is working with us to make sure everyone can feedback more easily on their learning experience by using blackboard.

Alison Lee, Clinical Lead for South Bristol
(alison.lee@bristol.ac.uk)

Library news

Students recently indicated a desire to have access within the Dental School to key textbooks housed in the Medical Sciences library.

The books requested were:

- Paediatric Dentistry, Richard Welbury
- Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine: The Basis of Diagnosis and Treatment, Crispian Scully
- Introduction to Dental Materials, Van Noort
- Essentials of Dental Radiography and Radiology, Whaites
- Removable Partial Dentures, Nicholas Jepson
- Complete Dentures - from Planning to Problem Solving, P Finbarr Allen
- An Introduction to Orthodontics, Laura Mitchell

Analysis of demand for the multiple copies of these books available in the medical school library indicated that these were issued regularly and it would not be possible to release copies for issue within the dental school. However, a bid for University funding for an additional copy of each book was successful and the new copies are now available from the dispensary on the Adult Dental Health clinic. Hand in your NHS swipe card to the nurse there and get it back when you return the book. We hope

these books will be looked after carefully by students. UBDSS have agreed to underwrite any losses, and we hope this will be a model for future student and staff collaborations to assist student learning.

With regard to issuing these core textbooks from the dispensary UBDSS president Ashwynn Dhar reports:

"Its implementation appears to have been successful and is being utilised as envisaged. Students seem grateful to have them around as it maximises efficiency when a patient doesn't turn up. They're found to be of particular benefit near exam times!"

Special thanks to Emma Place, Subject librarian, who has been instrumental in analysing issue data for these books, submitting the bid for further copies, and purchasing and providing the books when the bid was approved.

National Student Survey

As of 11th April 83% of Year 5 BDS students had completed the National Student Survey (NSS). Just a gentle reminder to those students who have not yet completed it that the NSS will close at the end of April. There is therefore only limited time remaining to submit your scores and comments. The survey can be accessed from:

http://www.thestudentsurvey.com/the_nss.html

Research opportunities - INSPIRE

For students wishing to gain experience in research opportunities such as taster days, bursaries for summer research projects, and elective prizes are available within the INSPIRE initiative. Please note that although it might appear as though this initiative has been set up for medical students dental students are strongly encouraged to apply for all these opportunities. Further information from:

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/medical-school/staffstudents/student/inspire/>

MRes Intercalation opportunity

Programme overview

From 2014-15 the Faculties of Medicine & Dentistry and Medical & Veterinary Sciences are offering a new MRes degree programme aimed at providing students with a foundation and

practical training in biomedical research. Taught units will provide training in research methods, project management, and data and statistical analyses. Transferable skills training in verbal and written communication will also be emphasised. An extended research project in biomedical research will form the core of the programme; students will have the opportunity to pursue research projects in either research-intensive Faculty. Applications are welcome from medical, dental and veterinary students interested in pursuing an intercalation option after completing three years of study.

About the programme

The unique feature of this intercalation option is the opportunity to spend approximately 9 months undertaking a 120 credit point research project embedded within one of the University's internationally recognised biomedical research groups. A wide variety of projects will be available, so it should be possible to identify a project that matches your research interests. An additional 60 credit points of taught units are included, which will further help to prepare you for academic research.

What is different about the programme?

The 9-month project will give you a true taste of what it is like to work in cutting edge biomedical research and to explore whether a research/clinical academic career is of interest to you. It is anticipated students will present at a conference and that most will have the opportunity to publish the results of their research.

How to apply

The course is open to all undergraduate medical, dental and veterinary students who are interested in pursuing a research intensive intercalation option. It is only possible to register on the programme after completing three years of the clinical programme. Preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate an interest in research.

Please contact Dr Fiona Holmes for further information. (F.E.Holmes@bristol.ac.uk)

Faculty Hardship Fund

The hardship fund was established to assist students in the Faculty who secured funding to support their studies but through a change in circumstances beyond their control, now find themselves in significant and/or long term financial difficulties.

If you feel that you may be eligible to apply to the Faculty Hardship Fund, you will find further information and an application form here:

<http://www.bris.ac.uk/medical-school/staffstudents/student/forms>

You will need some evidence of financial hardship to support your application. If you would like to discuss your circumstances, or to see whether you may be eligible, please contact Emma Teakle at emma.teakle@bristol.ac.uk

Mental Health and Wellbeing Survey

Professional Students Research: Update Message from PhD student, Elisa Lewis, following on from the November newsletter:

Thank you to all of you who participated in my research looking at the mental health and wellbeing of professional students. Most published research has focused upon professional practitioners, with few studies involving students aiming for healthcare careers. Your input will help address this omission and allow us to find out what it's like to be a dentistry student. I was pleased to see that a Bristol Dentistry student won one of the £50 prizes for participating!

I surveyed students studying Veterinary Medicine, Medicine, Dentistry, Pharmacy and Law. My analysis is ongoing, but I wanted to share with you some preliminary findings:

- Wellbeing was significantly poorer amongst professional students compared to the general population.
- Psychological distress was significantly higher amongst professional students compared to the general population. There were also significant differences by population, with law students experiencing the highest levels of distress.
- In terms of attitudes to mental health, dentistry students were accepting of other people's mental health problems with 94% agreeing that "*Anyone can suffer from mental health problems*". However almost 70% of dentistry students also agreed with the statement "*If I were suffering from mental health problems I wouldn't want people knowing about it*".
- Looking at personality, dentistry students had the lowest scores for neuroticism and the highest for conscientiousness.

- Almost ¼ of dentistry students are currently experiencing depression and 40% report low self-esteem.

The above findings suggest that mental health problems are common among professional students. There are numerous reasons for this; university is a time of transition in a person's life and this could trigger mental health problems. Undertaking a professional degree also involves long working hours, which can limit opportunities for other activities. The finding that students are reluctant to disclose their own mental health problems may reflect stigma surrounding mental illness. Not seeking help can perpetuate problems, so if you are experiencing distress do contact Bristol University's Counselling Service: www.bristol.ac.uk/student-counselling.

Thanks again for your help with this research. If you have any queries or would like to find out more about my research you can email me at elewis@rvc.ac.uk

Student news

Student success in national competitions

Tom Hennebry (Year 4) has been awarded the Frank Ashley Undergraduate Award by the British Society of Periodontology for the Elective Project Proposal "*Factors associated with success and failure of root-surface debridement therapy*". There were a number of applicants, and it was a very competitive process, so well done to Tom, who is to be invited to present his findings to the British Society of Periodontology society at one of their future meetings.

Congratulations also to Amelia Voss (Year 5) who won the Dentsply-sponsored RCSEd Dental Clinical Skills Competition 2013-14 and participated in the Final in Edinburgh on 6th March 2014.



**Amelia Voss
Bristol finalist**

Although she did not win the national competition by all accounts Amelia was an absolute credit to the School and we congratulate her on her success.

Staff news

We are delighted to welcome Alison Lee, Patricia Neville, Sveta Sargant and Emily Schoner to the School in their respective positions of Clinical lead for Community-based Dental Teaching, Lecturer in Social Science, Student Administration Manager, and Year 1&2 coordinator. Please find below some biographical information and personal aspirations for each of these roles.

Alison Lee

Newly appointed as Clinical Lead for Community Based Dental Teaching, Alison Lee is on the GDC Specialist Register in Special Care Dentistry.

After qualifying from, and house officer experience in, Edinburgh she trained in Newcastle and Cambridgeshire prior to achieving FDS RCS Ed and moving on to six invaluable years in full time general dental practice.



**Alison Lee
Clinical Lead for
Community Based
Dental Teaching**

Moving to London allowed an opportunity to develop her clinical practice in specialist centres, undertaking the MSc in Sedation and Special Care Dentistry at Guys while developing and delivering local and regional Special Care and surgical dentistry services in North West London under sedation and general anaesthesia. She continues to pursue her research objectives and is an expert member of a Research Ethics Committee in London.

Alison has a developed interest in the governance aspects of patient care during dental education; her clinical and clinical teaching activity at SBCH will focus on sedation and special care patient groups. Having taking up post in March she looks forward to

developing the Community Based learning experience for dental, therapy and hygiene students in the new academic year.

Patricia Neville

Patricia Neville joined the School of Oral and Dental Sciences in January 2014 as Lecturer in Social Science. Since completing her PhD in 2004 she has worked in a variety of universities in Ireland, including the University of Limerick, Griffith College Cork and University College Cork. In 2011 she was a Visiting Scholar with the Department of Gender Studies, Queens University, Canada.



**Patricia Neville
Lecturer in Social
Science**

As a sociologist, Patricia is particularly interested in how our conceptualisations of health and well being are shaped by social, cultural and economic factors. In addition, she also has research interests in gender, media and community research.

Sveta Sargant

Sveta joined the School of Oral & Dental Sciences in December 2013 as Student Administration Manager and is responsible for managing the Undergraduate Team of Administrators, delivering the administrative services in the School and ensuring consistently high quality assistance to all School staff and students.



**Sveta Sargant
Student Administration
Manager**

Sveta is also the main point of contact for submission of extenuating circumstances for students.

In June 2001 Sveta graduated with BA (Hons) Japanese-Russian Economic Relationship from Vladivostok State University, Russia and moved to Japan for two years to improve her knowledge of Japanese in Niigata University, Japan. She spent several years working in one of the language schools in Bristol as Operations Manager before joining Bristol University in March 2013.

Emily Schoner

Originally from South Wales, Emily moved to Bristol eighteen months ago having previously worked in College administration. She is a Graduate in Archaeology and Ancient History from Cardiff University.

As Year 1 and 2 Coordinator, Emily supports the Personal Professional Development 1 and 2, Oral Biology [2], Dental Biomaterials, Dental Skills [2] and Primary Care Dentistry [2] units at Bristol Dental School. Her role is student focused and she has varied duties supporting unit leads, coordinating lectures and exams and project managing activities such as the OSCE assessment.



**Emily Schoner
Year 1 & 2 BDS
coordinator**

Employed at the University of Bristol since October 2012, Emily started her role in the School of Oral and Dental Sciences in October 2013.

Conclusion

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Newsletter and have found the information provided to be useful. There will be another edition next term. We particularly would welcome further student news. Please send items you wish to be considered for inclusion to me at the following email address:

D.Dymock@bristol.ac.uk.

David Dymock
Head of Teaching
Faculty Undergraduate Education Director