Patient involvement in medical education was the subject of a talk given by Prof John Spencer at the 7th HYMS Educational Conference held at Bishop Burton College.

Prof Spencer, Professor of Primary Care and Clinical Education at the University of Newcastle Medical School, outlined how important it was to see things through patients’ eyes and the ways in which patients can become involved in medical education.

He praised the early clinical experience students are offered at HYMS and some new initiatives Newcastle Medical School has introduced such as having carer input in teaching about dementia and working with refugees.

“Outside the ivory tower there is a world of people we depend on for our job,” he said.

His talk was followed by four workshops facilitated by Joanna Micklethwaite, Paul Scott, Colin Jones, Alison Pettigrew and Steven Oliver from HYMS and Rachel Lindley and Sarah Smithson from Manchester Medical School.

Poster presentations preceded lunch before Dr Liz Anderson, Discipline Lead, Medicine and Dentistry, HEA, spoke about “What can the HEA do for us to support staff in delivering excellence in healthcare education?”

There were further afternoon workshops, delivered by those mentioned above plus Liz Anderson and Andy Kardasz, before Drs David Pearson and Steven Oliver spoke about the launch of a curriculum review in 2013.

The Dean of HYMS, Prof Tony Kendrick, rounded off the day by thanking all who attended.

Yoga helps back pain

Specialised group yoga classes could provide a cost-effective way of treating patients with chronic or recurrent low back pain, according to the UK’s largest ever study of the benefits of yoga.

Led by the University of York and Hull York Medical School, and funded by Arthritis Research UK, the study provides an evaluation of a specially-developed 12-week group yoga intervention programme compared to conventional general practitioner care alone.

The results, published in Spine, show that the yoga intervention programme – ‘Yoga for Healthy Lower Backs’ – is likely to be cost effective for both the UK National Health Service and wider society.

Congratulations to Professor Khalid Naseem who has been awarded £195,005 by the British Heart Foundation.

The funding is to enable Professor Naseem to employ a postdoctoral research assistant to work on a project entitled ‘Thrombosin-1 modulates haemostasis and thrombosis through the regulation of the cAMP signalling cascade’.
Curriculum Review

HYMS is embarking on an MB BS Curriculum Review. Dr David Pearson, Deputy Dean (Education), and Dr Steven Oliver, Academic Lead for the HYMS MB BS Curriculum Review, introduced it at the recent HYMS Education Conference at Bishop Burton.

Whilst recognising the strengths of HYMS and the high quality of its graduates, David said the tenth anniversary of HYMS presented an ideal opportunity to review and refresh the undergraduate curriculum. He was keen that the school continued to justify its claim to provide a modern, forward-looking and innovative curriculum within an excellent learning environment. Maintaining the achievements of the school’s first decade meant ‘not resting on our laurels’ and continuing to question what we do and how we can do it better.

Steven set out what he saw as key principles for the review, in particular that it should be inclusive, with the opportunity for everyone with a stake in the school to contribute. He said it was also important to focus on areas where there was evidence that change could lead to really significant improvements in HYMS students’ capabilities, their readiness for work as a doctor and their overall learning experience.

He wanted the review, which is expected to last for two years and be implemented in the academic year 2014-15, to be a creative and enjoyable experience for students and staff. Steven said: “I found the work of setting up the HYMS curriculum from scratch exciting and I want reviewing the curriculum to be a reinvigorating process for everyone involved.”

In the coming weeks the review will get underway with the recruitment of a full-time project officer, and the first priority will be to start to open the discussion with HYMS students and alumni about their experience and insights into the curriculum. A very important aspect of it will be keeping people posted on progress and allowing them the broadest range of opportunities to comment and contribute. There will be a regular column in the HYMS sheet and also updates on the HYMS website to keep everyone in touch, so ‘watch this space’.

Santander award for Dr Fabiola Martin

Centre for Immunology and Infection researcher and senior clinical lecturer Dr Fabiola Martin was awarded a Santander International Connections Award for a visit to Brazil to further international research into the neglected retroviral disease Human T lymphotropic virus type 1 (HTLV-I).

HTLV-I is mostly known to cause HTLV-I associated myelopathy and adult T cell leukaemia/lymphoma.

Dr Martin visited two large HTLV treatment centres at Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Fiocruz, in Rio de Janeiro and at the Bahian School of Medicine and Public Health in Salvador, which are recruitment sites for the multicentre international double blind placebo controlled clinical trial of oral prednisolone for patients with slow progressing HTLV-I-associated myelopathy.

Together with Prof Martin Bland in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of York and Dr Graham P Taylor, Director of National Centre for Human Retroviral Diseases at Imperial College London, an application has been submitted to the prestigious MRC DPFS/DCS scheme for the funding of this trial.

Following Dr Martin’s lectures at Fiocruz in Rio de Janeiro and at Bahian School of Medicine and Public Health in Salvador, she has been invited back to give a lecture on the pathogenesis of HTLV-I-associated myelopathy at the Brazilian national HTLV symposium in Rio de Janeiro in September 2013. As part of this trip a day of HTLV-I-associated myelopathy workshops will be organised by Dr Martin and Prof Bernardo Galvao-Castro at Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Fiocruz in Salvador.

‘Healthy Hearts’ wins award

A project set up and run by HYMS students has won a Silver Award in Health Promotion from the British Heart Foundation (BHF).

Members of the HYMS-based Muslim Medic Service ran the ‘Healthy Hearts Project’ to raise awareness of heart disease and its prevention in the South Asian community in Hull.

The project, which was for women only, took place at the Berkley Road Mosque in Hull and included a presentation, exercise demonstration and free blood pressure and BMI checks. It will be used by the BHF in a future case study.

The project was supported by the organisation Hearty Lives Hull, a partnership between the BHF, NHS Hull, and Hull City Council. Participating students Umber Malik (Year 3), Samaya Ayaz, Hasan Ali Khan and Hamzah Hussain (Year 4), and Waqass Farid, Nayab Shah, and Syeda Bisma Fatima (Year 5) particularly appreciated the involvement of Hearty Lives Hull representative Victoria Sharpley who attended their training sessions and helped with resources and advice.

Follow the link to see more pictures on the Muslim Medic Service Facebook site.
Professor Miriam Johnson

CONGRATULATIONS to Professor Miriam Johnson who was recently appointed Professor of Palliative Medicine at HYMS and the University of Hull. Miriam’s research interests include the palliation of breathlessness, equitable palliative care service provision irrespective of diagnosis and the management of venous thromboembolism in people with advanced disease. She is currently working on a variety of funded projects: equity of palliative care in advanced cancer; oxygen in heart failure; non-pharmacological interventions for refractory breathlessness; palliative care needs assessment; place of care and death in haematological cancer.

International editorial

PROFESSOR Paul O'Higgins, Head of the Centre for Anatomical and Human Sciences, has been appointed to the International Editorial Board of a new journal launched by Oxford University Press. The journal, *Evolution, Medicine and Public Health*, will publish its first papers in late 2012.

A shot in the heart

HYMS Foundation Chair in Cardiology Professor John Cleland is quoted in an article in *Metro* about whether injecting oxygen into our blood could keep us alive.

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**Student achievements**

**Congratulations to students who have had successes in recent weeks:**

**Thomas Taynton** (Year 5) has received an ‘Elective grant’ of £2,250 from the Society for General Microbiology (SGM) to support his elective at the Harvard Medical School, USA. Thomas will be working with Professor Stambach, whose research aims to identify targets for vaccine development against *Chlamydia trachomatis*, and will be examining T-cell responses to infection with a particular focus on integrin expression. This success builds on research experience gained in the Centre for Immunology and Infection, during intercalation and a summer studentship, which led to a poster presentation at the SGM conference where Thomas first met Professor Stambach.

**Hannah Wilson** (Year 4) gave an oral presentation with question and answer session at the recent Association of Coloproctology of Great Britain and Ireland annual conference in Dublin. Hannah’s research on the retrospective application of a risk stratified surveillance model for patients who have undergone potentially curative resection of colorectal cancer was conducted over a period of 12 months with the York colorectal department. “I look forward to continuing with research around this subject,” said Hannah, “and I am grateful to HYMS for supporting my involvement in the research and attendance of the conference, and to York colorectal department for all the opportunities and experiences they have given me”.

Class of 2012 graduate **Oliver Browne** presented a poster at the annual British Renal Association Conference at the Sage, Gateshead this summer. The poster looked into the determinants of patient outcome through a low clearance clinic – a clinic which prepares patients with deteriorating renal function for dialysis, transplantation or conservative management using a multidisciplinary approach – following research which he had completed during his elective period. Click on the link to see Oliver’s conference report.

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**Staff news**

**Welcome to ...**

**Dr Jason Boland**, Senior Lecturer in Palliative Medicine.

**Dr Jo Coad** and **Dr Beth Hughes**, FY2 doctors, based in Hull.

**Sadie Drew-Brown**, Widening Participation and Admissions Assistant, based in York.

**Caroline Dobson-Davies**, e-Learning Enhancement Officer, based in York.

**Mr Charles Sanders**, Clinical Education Staff Development Facilitator, based in Hull.

**Dr Sarah Walpole**, Academic Clinical Fellow, based in York.

**Goodbye to ...**

**Caroline Fairhurst**, Admissions Assistant.

**Thomas Hammond**, temporary Phase II SSC Assistant, who has joined the University of Hull International Office.

**Linda Jones**, Student Liaison Officer at Scunthorpe.

and best wishes for a happy retirement to ...

**Professor Steve Leveson**, Professor of Clinical Surgery.

**Joyce Tate**, Support Services Manager.

**New roles for ...**

**Dr Andy Brown**, who becomes Academic Lead for the Learning Environment, and **Professor Sunil Bhandari**, who takes up the role of Chair of the MB BS Programme Board.

**Dr Janine Henderson**, who swaps her Director of PBL role for that of Phase II lead, whilst **Dr John Lewis** becomes overall Director of PBL.

**Dr Steven Oliver**, takes on the role of Academic Lead MB BS Curriculum Review and **Dr David Hepburn**, becomes Procedural Skills Lead.

**Gill Pulpher**, who resumes her role as Receptionist at York, replacing **Lauren Mathews** who takes up the role of Support Assistant (Phase I).
### Calendar of events

For full details of all these events, plus many more lectures, seminars, conferences and social events, visit [www.hyms.ac.uk/events](http://www.hyms.ac.uk/events).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>September</strong></td>
<td><strong>29</strong>&lt;br&gt;MedSoc Barbecue&lt;br&gt;Loxley Building and lawn, University of Hull</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>October</strong></td>
<td><strong>13</strong>&lt;br&gt;Open Day including ‘Studying Medicine’ talk&lt;br&gt;Hull Campus&lt;br&gt;University of Hull</td>
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<td><strong>10</strong>&lt;br&gt;Seminar&lt;br&gt;Clinical trials in testicular cancer&lt;br&gt;Dr Rhian Gabe&lt;br&gt;ARRC Auditorium&lt;br&gt;University of York</td>
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<td><strong>15</strong>&lt;br&gt;Seminar&lt;br&gt;Regulation of cancer signalling pathways&lt;br&gt;Dr Robin Ketteler&lt;br&gt;Biology Lecture Theatre K018&lt;br&gt;University of York</td>
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<td><strong>21</strong>&lt;br&gt;HYMS Prizegiving Ceremony&lt;br&gt;Ron Cooke Hub&lt;br&gt;University of York</td>
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### Research publications

**RECENT publications by staff in the HYMS area include:**


**Surgical prize for alumna.** Congratulations to alumna Dr Jenny Banks (formerly Cwilewicz) who was this year’s top graduate of the University of Edinburgh's MSc programme, the Edinburgh Surgical Sciences Qualification (ESSQ). Jenny, who graduated in 2008 and was a HYMS founding student, was presented with the Lister Surgical Sciences Medal at a recent Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh ceremony. HYMS Professor Steve Leveson was Jenny’s research supervisor for the ESSQ.

### HYMS@TEN

HYMS is celebrating its tenth anniversary next year and has organised a number of events to celebrate its success locally, nationally and internationally.

The main event will be a HYMS@TEN Gala Day on Saturday 8 June 2013 at Bishop Burton College to which all HYMS staff, students and their families will be invited, but there will be other events throughout the year.

The anniversary will be used as a catalyst for change and refreshment and will include the launch of a community engagement policy.

Money will also be raised for charity. HYMS will identify a small number of regional charities to be the focus of its fundraising activities during the tenth anniversary year.

Follow the link for further details of events and how to get involved.

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Stories with the mouse symbol have more information in the news section of the HYMS website, where you will also find breaking news, updates and images. [www.hyms.ac.uk/news](http://www.hyms.ac.uk/news)