 HYMS wins international accolade

The Hull York Medical School has won a major international award recognising its excellence in medical education in its 10th anniversary year.

Presented at the Association for Medical Education in Europe (AMEE) international conference in Prague, the award was for social responsibility and accountability.

HYMS was the only UK medical school – and just one of eight international medical schools – to be recognised for its excellence in the awards which were presented in three categories – assessment of students; student engagement in the curriculum and in the medical school; and social responsibility and accountability as a mission of the medical school.

The awards – the first to be made under AMEE's new ASPIRE initiative – were presented in front of over 3,000 people attending the conference and watched by participants from 26 countries online.

The ASPIRE programme acknowledges the importance of teaching alongside research as a mission of the medical school. Submissions were reviewed by teams of leading international authorities in each category.

Dr David Pearson, Deputy Dean (Education) at HYMS, who received the award in Prague, said:

“We were thrilled to receive an AMEE Aspire to Excellence award in the category of social accountability, especially during our 10th anniversary year. The award was made on the basis of our commitment to help develop excellent healthcare in our region, through high quality education, support for service and locally relevant research initiatives.

“The ASPIRE panel commented particularly on the balance of our educational programmes, with a high proportion of clinical placements in community and primary care settings (at 33 percent, ahead of any other UK school)

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New biomedical sciences degree

HYMS and the University of York are launching a new undergraduate degree in Biomedical Sciences focusing on the science underpinning medicine.

Offered jointly by HYMS and the Department of Biology, with contributions from the Departments of Health Sciences and Psychology, the new degree will prepare students for a career in biomedical research and other careers related to the fight against disease.

The broad curriculum in health-related science and research will include neuroscience, cancer biology, immunology and infection, population health, and cognitive psychology.
Paul wins prestigious international award

Chair of Anatomy Professor Paul O’Higgins has won a prestigious international award for excellence in morphometric methods and applications.

Prof O’Higgins (pictured right), who is also head of the HYMS Centre for Anatomical and Human Sciences, is the 2013 recipient of the Rohlf Medal which recognises the excellence of his work in the development of geometric morphometric methods and software tools that have wide application in the biological and biomedical sciences, including evolutionary biology, population biology, physical anthropology, imaging and medicine.

The award is in recognition that Prof O’Higgins has expanded the boundaries of paleoanthropology through his long-standing interest in the quantification of biological form to understand animal function and evolution.

He has been an innovator in methods that merge cutting-edge technologies of imaging and biomechanics with statistical methods of shape analysis and is currently exploring the use of computed tomography and bioimaging to investigate the effects of stress on the shape of anatomical structures. His empirical research explores links between variation in skeletal structure, evolutionary history, function, and development. Prof O’Higgins has also devoted considerable effort to developing software that makes these approaches accessible to other investigators in the field. Throughout his career, he has trained numerous scholars in quantitative morphology, including the latest morphometric approaches.

HYMS wins international accolade

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and our early successes with HYMS alumni now taking up substantive medical jobs in our local health care economy.”

Dr Pearson added:

“It was particularly pleasing to win an award in such prestigious company – other award winners in our category were the Northern Ontario School of Medicine, Canada, and the Southern Illinois School in the United States, both of which have well established and impressive community outreach programmes.”

Other ASPIRE award winners included the International Medical School, Malaysia, and Aga Khan, Pakistan.

Barry’s Australian lecture tour

Honorary Clinical Professor Barry Wright travelled to Australia this summer for a three week lecture tour.

Professor Wright (pictured below), who is a Consultant Child and Family Psychiatrist, travelled to Perth, Brisbane, Canberra and Melbourne with the lecture tour which involved a series of lectures and workshops with child and adolescent mental health professionals across the country, finishing with a workshop and then a keynote speech at the ANZCED 2013 Conference in Melbourne where he discussed child mental health issues in deaf children, and also autism in deaf children.

He also held workshops on the innovative research programme around deaf child mental health being carried out through HYMS and the Leeds and York Partnership Foundation NHS Trust.

Reflections on the past and looking to the future

“Reflecting on the past and looking to the future” was the title of the 8th HYMS Education Conference which took place at Bishop Burton College.

Professor Judy McKimm, Dean of Medical Education at the University of Swansea, gave the keynote speech reflecting on the vision of medical education for the next ten years. She said it was hard to predict how medical education would change and discussed moves towards patient-led care and patient management. There were major changes in admissions and selection, curriculum, assessment and feedback and the use of technologies. “No doubt technology will enable more than we can dream of,” she said.

“Change is the only constant. That’s what we’ve got to cope with over the next 10 years. We’ve got to embrace change because it won’t go away.”

Promoting clinical reasoning

A workshop entitled “Professional Delivery of Clinical Reasoning in Medicine” was recently run by Dr Janine Henderson (Phase II Academic Lead, Associate Dean for Admissions) and Dr Anna Hammond (Phase I Academic Lead, Director of Communication Skills Teaching) at the Fifth International Clinical Skills Conference in Prato.

It built upon the recent work they have been doing developing tutors’ skills in teaching clinical reasoning. The workshop gave delegates the opportunity to consider the specific challenges for students in developing clinical reasoning skills in contemporary systems-based curricula and to share best practice with others and was attended by international delegates from Australia, US, UK and Israel. The session received excellent feedback – some comments included “excellent session with a mixture of styles and techniques”, “involving and interesting”, “very useful” and “really enjoyed it thank you”.

Anna and Janine also gave two brief oral presentations – “Developing students’ meta-cognitive skills” and “Optimising student experience: an innovative and integrated tutor support and development programme”.
Pioneering £7m research facility opens
The expertise of research scientists from HYMS and the University of York's departments of Chemistry, Psychology and Biology will be combined in a pioneering £7m research facility which has opened at the university.

The new Centre for Hyperpolarisation in Magnetic Resonance (CHyM) is developing technology which could increase the sensitivity of hospital Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scans by up to 200,000 times.

The new purpose-built facility on York Science Park was opened by Sir William Castell, Chairman of the Wellcome Trust. Sir William gave a public lecture on how our understanding of the human body has been transformed through the application of engineering.

HYMS@TEN update

**HYMS 10th Anniversary Ball** took place in September. Guests enjoyed a drinks reception, a delicious four course meal, and dancing to live music within the wonderful setting of the National Railway Museum. The charity raffle raised £1255 for the hospices and the HYMS student fund. Congratulations and thanks to Caroline Carfrae and Abby Brooks for organising this fantastic event.

Thank you to Sarah Mussared, who has been indefatigable in collecting bottles for resale in aid of the HYMS Charities. The sale has raised over £50 to add to the fund.

And finally, congratulations to Roxana Freeman, who successfully completed her gruelling 10 x 10k challenge in September, with a final race in Pickering. Roxana battled with hip and leg pain during the latter stages of the challenge, which makes her effort all the more impressive, single-handedly raising a total of £605 towards the HYMS@TEN charities. Bravo Roxana, and thank you!

Volunteers are needed for a fundraising bag-pack at Tesco in Dringhouses, York, on Saturday 12 October. If you can help, contact joanne.richmond@hyms.ac.uk

**Student successes**

**Congratulations to the following students who have had research accepted for presentation at conferences:**

**Melody Redman** (Year 5) presented a poster on “The use of probiotics in people with cancer: a systematic review” at the European Cancer Congress 2013 at Amsterdam RAI. “It was interesting to note what the common questions, challenges, and discussion points were, for example around causes of heterogeneity in the results,” said Melody, who was recommended to take business cards with a QR code so discussions could be continued after the event. “I found these cards invaluable and would definitely recommend others consider using them!”

**Laura Au** (Year 4) gave a poster presentation entitled ‘Role of GPR103 in human adrenal steroidogenesis’ at the 3rd International Academic and Research Conference at the University of Manchester.

**Yoga study success**

ALISON Trewhela has won an Outstanding Contribution to Complementary Medicine award for her work on Yoga for Healthy Lower Backs. The award was presented by the Institute for Complementary and Natural Medicine at a ceremony in London. It included nominations from anywhere within the medical or complementary medicine sector or general public. Since 2005, Alison has worked tirelessly and passionately to raise the profile and credibility of yoga as a treatment modality through research. Alison was the lead yoga consultant on the management team for the largest and most significant yoga trial to date – the successful 2011 University of York and Hull York Medical School trial on chronic low back pain, funded by Arthritis Research UK.

**Staff news**

**Welcome to ...**

Laura Sadofsky, previously of PGMI, who joins HYMS as Lecturer in Pharmacology.

**Tom Senier**, Admissions Assistant with special responsibility for Overseas Students.

**Ros Taylor**, who takes up the post of Chair of the Fitness to Practise Committee for a period of three years.

**Margaret Ward**, who takes over from Sue Hubbard as Education Manager.

**Welcome back to ...**

HYMS alumnus **Dr Chris Ives** who returns as a Year 2 PBL tutor.

**Kirsty Whitehead**, Library Assistant, who returned from maternity leave recently.

**Goodbye to ...**

**Prof John Cleland**, Foundation Chair in Cardiology, who has taken up a Chair at Imperial College, London.

**Jo Cross**, Widening Participation Manager, who retired in August.

**Sue Hubbard**, Education Manager, who retired in September.

**Joelle Maurice**, Admissions Assistant, who has joined the Student Recruitment and Admissions team at the University of York.

**Congratulations to ...**

**Dr Colin Jones**, Phase III Academic Lead, who has been appointed as Jean McKendree’s successor as Associate Dean for Assessment, starting in summer 2014.

**Dr Bill Laughey**, who takes up the role of Clinical Director of the HYMS PGCME Programme.

**Dr Mark Williamson**, who takes up the role of Academic Lead for Primary Care Education.

and finally, special congratulations to Sarah Mussared, Finance Assistant, on her recent engagement.
**Calendar of events**

For full details of all these events, plus many more lectures, seminars, conferences and social events, visit www.hyms.ac.uk/about-us/news-centre/forthcoming-events.

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**Access to healthcare**
UNA Macleod, Professor of Primary Care Medicine, is a co-author of a new guide for commissioners on commissioning for socially excluded groups, looking specifically at the homeless, Gypsies and Travellers and sex workers.

**Curriculum review news**
FOLLOW the link to view Curriculum Review reports, including key findings and recommendations, learning, teaching and assessment strategy and proposed new curriculum structure.

**Alumni launch careers**
A DOZEN newly-qualified students have launched their careers at Grimsby's Diana, Princess of Wales Hospital. They are featured in a newspaper article in the Grimsby Telegraph.

**Donald's letter in BMJ**
RESEARCHER Donald Nicholson has published a letter in the BMJ, arguing that leaflet-based information is not enough to empower patients in discussions about their care.

**Alumni news**
GRADUATE Dr Adam Jakes presented research on ‘The demographic profile of patients presenting to cough clinics’, carried out whilst at HYMS, at the recent American Thoracic Society International Conference in Philadelphia, USA.

**Research publications**
RECENT publications by HYMS staff include:


**Boland E, Johnson M, Boland J.** Artificial hydration in the terminally ill patient. British Journal of Hospital Medicine, July 2013, Vol 74, No 7.


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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.**