Service of thanksgiving

“Forever Remembered by Tomorrow’s Doctors” is the inscription on a specially commissioned bench which was unveiled after a HYMS Service of Thanksgiving for the relatives and friends of all those who have donated their bodies to the medical school for teaching and research purposes during the last 10 years.

Held at the University of Hull, it was attended by some 170 relatives, students and members of HYMS staff.

Civil celebrant Alastair Devine welcomed everyone and introduced first and second year students, Elizabeth Dale and Jack Sherlock, who lit candles to remember those who had donated their bodies.

The Dean, Professor Trevor Sheldon, spoke about how indebted the medical school is to those who bequeath their bodies.

“It is 10 years ago that we took in our first medical students and since then over 700 of our students have qualified and are now practising medicine, many of them in this region,” he said.

“As we celebrate our 10th anniversary, it is an appropriate time to formally acknowledge the altruism of those who bequeathed their bodies to us; to remember them and to recognise publicly the effect that their gift has had on people they never knew.

“Giving of oneself, literally, without return is the greatest act of selflessness. It is the ultimate contribution to humanity and we are humbled by it.”

Professor Sheldon added: “Your loved ones have become part of our team of educators; through their gift they became teachers, helping to give students an understanding of the human body and developing the technical skills of future surgeons.”

Chair of Anatomy Professor Paul O’Higgins explained in his address that many medical students no longer had the privilege of working with actual human tissue, instead using artificial models.

“We are proud and privileged to be able to carry on this tradition in HYMS, and we do so because of the generosity of ordinary people who want to make a contribution and make a difference,” he said, explaining how, through the gift of the donors, research had been carried out into how the skull and bones of the face work together and grow after an operation for a common condition such as cleft lip and palate.

Readings were given by Liz Scott, a HYMS third year student, and Dr Peter Bazira, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Anatomy.

(continued on page 2 ...)
Some 220 local GPs and advanced nurse practitioners attended a GP update course, hosted by HYMS, at the University of Hull. The RCGP-accredited event was the first of its kind to be held in Humberside and was supported by four local Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) – Hull, East Riding of Yorkshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire.

The full-day course, which was fully booked with 50 people on the waiting list, was held in the Allam Lecture Theatre.

One delegate said afterwards: “Thanks for a very enjoyable day. I am so glad I was there. It was refreshing, engaging and relevant.”

The GP Update Course was designed to be relevant to clinical practice and help GPs meet the requirements for revalidation. Using a lecture-based format, with plenty of time for interaction, the GP presenters discussed the results of the most important new evidence and guidance needed to stay up-to-date.

The course was designed for established GPs and trainers, GP ST1, 2 and 3, GPs returning from maternity leave or a career break, practice nurses and nurse practitioners.

HYMS Lead for Primary Care Short Courses Dr Kevin Anderson said: “We are collating the feedback but all indications so far have been very positive. We are hopeful that we will be able to stage a regular GP Update Course in the region in addition to other short courses we run, with the next one likely to be in York.”

Dr David Pearson, Deputy Dean (Education), said: “This was a great event which was very professional, well organised and successful. I look forward to other such events in the future.”

HYMS is also developing other educational events in partnership with CCGs in our area, some as part of their protected time for learning, and an event on the subject of “Maintaining effectiveness, preventing burnout” took place at Beverley Racecourse with East Riding CCG on 2 April.

Doctor in the House

Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research PhD student Lee Partington attended Parliament to present his research to a range of politicians and a panel of expert judges, as part of SET for Britain.

SET (Science, Engineering and Technology) for Britain is a poster competition for early years researchers and Lee's poster on research about managing personal health of patients with diabetic and pre-diabetic conditions was shortlisted from hundreds of applicants to appear in Parliament.

Lee said: “I wanted to take part in SET for Britain to engage with a wider community about my research and show the difference that we in Hull are trying to make within biomedical engineering, illustrating how important and beneficial research into the sciences is in the UK.”

Research publications

RECENT publications by HYMS staff include:


Medical education publications


Oliver wins Patrick Magee Medal

Congratulations to Oliver Brown (Year 3) who has won the Patrick Magee Medal for his presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Cardiothoracic Surgeons of Great Britain and Ireland, held at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

Oliver’s poster presentation, “Coffee reduces death risk after acute myocardial infarction: a meta-analysis”, was one of six finalists selected from some 50 posters submitted by medical students from all over the UK, and his subsequent oral presentation was awarded first place. Oliver’s supporting research was conducted in his spare time and supervised by Dr Kenneth Wong, Consultant Cardiologist and Senior Clinical Lecturer in Cardiology, with statistical analysis assistance from Senior Lecturer in Medical Statistics Dr Victoria Allgar. It involved a meta-analysis and systematic search of literature databases to identify all the papers published looking at the topic and combining their results to find the overall effect, leading Oliver to conclude that coffee consumption did indeed reduce mortality after acute myocardial infarction.

The meeting attracted some 1000 delegates with many nationally and internationally renowned speakers including keynote speakers Professor John Elefteriades, William WL Glenn Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Chief of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Yale University, USA, and Professor David Adams, Professor and Chair of Cardiac Surgery at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai Medical Center, USA. Oliver is currently discussing the possibility of undertaking his elective at Yale with Professor Elefteriades.

Poster presentation at UK Kidney Week

Year 4 student Samantha Owen has had research accepted for presentation at the UK Kidney Week 2014 conference later this month.

Samantha will present a poster entitled “Anaemia in hemodialysis patients: an audit of hemoglobin targets and erythropoiesis-stimulating agents use” at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow.

Ayesha’s poster prize

Year 5 student Ayesha Karimi (pictured below) was awarded first prize for Best Poster on Original Research at the 2nd National Conference for Foundation Doctors 2013 at John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, for her research entitled, “Infective Keratitis in the Gangetic Plains”.

The project was co-authored by Ayesha and her sister, Dr Mariam Karimi. Ayesha said: “My sister and I planned the project before we went on elective. My sister, who graduated from Cambridge University and is now a Foundation Year 1 doctor at New Cross Hospital in Wolverhampton, collected half of the data during her elective in 2012 and I collected the rest in my elective between August and September 2013. We decided to look into Infective Keratitis as it is the fourth leading cause of blindness worldwide and is particularly high in India.”

The incidence of Infective Keratitis is particularly high in developing countries with an agricultural industry and the project was a retrospective cohort study looking through patient case-notes at Indira Gandhi Eye Hospital & Research Centre, Lucknow, Northern India, to review risk factors, causative organisms, the association between the stage of the disease at presentation and visual outcomes and to ascertain the effect of steroid eye drops on visual outcome.

“The results of our study were unexpected,” said Ayesha, who is hoping to pursue a career in Ophthalmology, “and we are now looking to assess outcomes if symptom- alleviating steroids were replaced with anti-fungal therapy in the pharmacies in such areas.”

Clinical teaching awards

HYMS has launched a new series of awards aimed at encouraging and rewarding excellence in teaching and student support.

The HYMS Clinical Teaching Excellence Awards will recognise and raise the profile of commitment and excellence in clinical education, and are targeted towards non-University employed staff currently teaching and supporting students on the MB BS programme in a range of NHS settings.

The Excellence awards are student-led with nominations coming from the student body. Nominations open at the end of March with awards being made in early June. The range of awards includes the Clinical Teacher of Excellence Award, the Administrative Support Excellence Award, and the Team Excellence Award.

The awards will complement those that are already available to staff who are employed by the University of Hull or the University of York.

For further information contact Charles Sanders, Clinical Education Staff Development Facilitator, email: charles.sanders@hyms.ac.uk

Valiant effort!

Commissions to Beverley’s Director of Public Health, Dr Tim Allison, who was runner up in his semi-final round of Mastermind.

Dr Allison’s specialist subject for the semi-final was the Black Death.
**Hull health hub news**

DETAILED designs for the University of Hull’s planned Health Hub are to be drawn up. When completed, the Health Hub will provide new accommodation and facilities for several health-related faculties and departments at the University, including HYMS.

**Amy’s podcast**

DR Amy Gadoud, National Institute for Health Research Clinical Lecturer in Palliative Medicine and part of the Supportive Care, Early Diagnosis and Advanced Disease (SEDA) research group, presented the research findings from her PhD at the recent Academy of Medical Sciences Spring meeting for Clinician Scientists in Training. Her research explores palliative care for patients with heart failure. Amy was interviewed by Quentin Cooper and a podcast of the interview is available by clicking on the link.

**SEDA sport relief run**

A TEAM from the Supportive Care, Early Diagnosis and Advanced Disease (SEDA) research group have taken part in a fund-raising run for the charity Sport Relief.

**Diabetes research**

DR Allison Green, Senior Lecturer and type 1 diabetes researcher in the Centre for Immunology and Infection, was invited by diabetes-specialty nurses Jeannette Burson-Thomas and Anne Foster to talk to children and young adults with type 1 diabetes about her research. Some 100 children, young adults and their families met at Scunthorpe General Hospital to listen to Allison describe the complexity of the immune response to insulin producing beta cells, the trials and tribulations of designing novel therapies for the condition and how her team’s research is revealing new approaches that can abrogate diabetes progression as well as prevent islet graft rejection in transplant recipients.

**Learning landscape changes**

THE eLearning team are implementing the second stage of “Changing the Learning Landscape” programme, run by the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education. The aim of the programme, in line with the curriculum review, is to work closely with all those involved in teaching and learning to “put technology enhanced learning at the cornerstone of the HYMS curriculum”. Follow the link to find out more about the programme.

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**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

For details of student events and societies, visit the MedSoc website www.hymsmedsoc.co.uk

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**April**

8

- Seminar
  - The willingness to pay for a QALY and type of disorder: a decision maker approach
  - Prof Mikael Svensson
  - ARRC Auditorium, University of York

11

- Inaugural Allam Lecture
  - The glory and threat of science and medicine
  - Prof Sir Magdi Yacoub
  - Allam Lecture Theatre, University of Hull

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**May**

6

- Seminar
  - A mixed method study of palliative care in heart failure
  - Dr Amy Gadoud
  - Meeting Room 5, Hull University Union

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**Inaugural Allam Lecture**

Sir Magdi Yacoub, Professor of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Imperial College London, will give the Inaugural Allam Lecture, “The glory and threat of science and medicine”, on Friday 11 April at the University of Hull.

Sir Magdi, who is also Founder and Director of Research at the Harefield Heart Science Centre, overseeing scientists and students in the areas of tissue engineering, myocardial regeneration, stem cell biology, end stage heart failure and transplant immunology, will begin his talk at 5.30pm in the new Allam Lecture Theatre at the University of Hull Business School. The lecture is open to the public.

The talk concludes a full-day conference organised by the HYMS Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research.

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- Seminar
  - Integrating in vivo, in vitro and in silico approaches...
  - Dr Bernard Corfe
  - Derwent LT3, Business School, University of Hull

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8

- Seminar
  - The EQ-5D: Is it fit for purpose in oncology trials?
  - Dr Adam Smith
  - Room A/E/W/104, Alcuin College, University of York

11

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If you have any contributions for this internal bulletin, please send them to val.parker@hyms.ac.uk