Health challenges of climate change

A study to develop training for medical students in how to respond to the health effects of climate change and led by Centre for Education Development researcher Dr Sarah Walpole has been reported in The Lancet.

The study was carried out by the Sustainable Healthcare Education network, a national network of researchers co-led by Dr Walpole.

The World Health Organisation estimate that 3.7 million people died due to air pollution in 2012. Flooding, heatwaves, colder temperature in winter and new infections such as dengue fever are among other challenges that will place increasing strain on healthcare systems.

The NHS is the largest public sector emitter of carbon, and its Carbon Reduction Strategy sets stringent goals for an 80 per cent reduction in carbon emissions by 2050.

The report in The Lancet highlights a key achievement of the Sustainable Healthcare Education network – a national consensus on environmental issues that must be addressed in medical school curricula.

The consensus document was created following a call from the General Medical Council for a national consultation on priorities for environmental issues in medical education.

The recent HYMS curriculum review highlighted the need to address environmental issues. A new ‘Healthy Planet’ optional module has just run for the first time at HYMS and the school is now considering how best to incorporate the consensus into core medical student teaching.

Embryo development

New research has shown that pre-pregnancy body weight affects the early development of human embryos.

The research, carried out by Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research’s Miss Christine Leary, Prof Henry Leese and Dr Roger Sturmey, indicates that the embryos of women who are overweight or obese at the time they conceive display distinct differences in early development compared to embryos from women of a healthy weight.

The results of the study, published in the journal Human Reproduction, provide strong evidence for a direct link between what mothers eat and the ability of their fertilised eggs to divide and grow. The researchers claim this could potentially have long-term health implications for any children born from these embryos.

Excellent report for ‘Lucy’

The ‘Lucy project’, an ‘Introduction to Medicine’ activity organised by HYMS students and aimed at students in Years 7 and 8, has been chosen by the Medical School Council as a case study displaying good practice.

The case study is highlighted in A Journey to Medicine: Outreach Guidance, published by the Medical Schools Council’s Selecting for Excellence project with support from the Office for Fair Access (OFFA). Offering advice on outreach and fair access activity at medical schools, the guide reveals the core concepts necessary to build valuable outreach programmes so prospective students can get an insight into medicine. The HYMS ‘Emergency Room’ experience is highlighted as a successful outreach activity.
Prize winning HYMS students were congratulated on their achievements at an annual ceremony at the University of York.

The ceremony was attended by the chancellor of the university, Greg Dyke, the vice chancellor, other staff from the universities of Hull and York, representatives from the local NHS, HYMS undergraduate and postgraduate students and their guests.

Representatives from two award-winning teams in the HYMS Clinical Tutors of Excellence Awards were also present – Dr David Hickson from Belgrave Surgery, Scarborough and Dr Hassan Al-Moasseb from the Paediatrics Teaching Team, Grimsby. Dr Hickson gave a short talk highlighting the positive impact that working with students in a ‘teaching hospital’ had on both staff and patients.

Three new HYMS ‘Women in Science’ prizes were awarded for outstanding contributions to science by a female undergraduate student, a female postgraduate student and a female member of staff. The winners were:

- Olivia Smith (undergraduate) for her various publications, specifically ‘Mind Maps for Medical Students’
- Dr Shirley Sze (postgraduate) for her research project, ‘Effect of novel TRPC channel blocker CKX1 in the prevention of restenosis using smooth muscle cell and arterial organ culture mode’
- Research Fellow Dr Trish Green (member of staff) for her contribution as co-investigator on a successful bid for the ESRC Seminar Series, entitled ‘On encountering corpses: political, socio-economic and cultural aspects of contemporary encounters with dead bodies’ and other various publications.

The Dean of HYMS, Professor Trevor Sheldon, congratulated all the prize winners, giving particular mention to Olivia Smith (pictured above) and commending her extensive list of publications (including her ‘Mind Maps’ book) as unusually impressive for a Year 4 student.

The prize winners were:

- Sajeel Ahmed
- Elizabeth Anderson
- Danielle Archer
- Daniel Cave
- Laura Cunliffe
- Grace Duffy
- Nora Grandal
- Samuel Gribben
- Katherine Haldor
- Jessica Haslam
- Ann Hutchinson
- Catarina Jackson
- Nicholas James
- Joshua Jones
- Ann MacCafferty
- Pouya Mafi
- Swati Patel
- Sarah Pearson
- Edward Richfield
- Saranya Thurairatnam
- Joseph Vernon
- Bethany Whitaker
- Benjamin Wilson
- James Wilson
- Samuel Wood
- Helen Woodward
- Lawrence Wright
- Davide Zanichelli

Follow the link for details of their awards.
Grant for Amy

Dr Amy Gadoud has been awarded an Academy of Clinical Sciences starter grant for clinical lecturers of £30,000 in support of her project “Recognition of the need for a palliative approach to care for patients with heart failure, COPD or dementia compared to those with cancer using Clinical Practice research Datalink.”

Polycystic ovary guidelines

Dr Thozhukat Sathyapalan, Reader in Diabetes and Endocrinology in the Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research is co-author of new revised guidelines on the long-term health consequences of Polycystic Ovary Syndrome published by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists.

Hiba’s Eric Clow award

Congratulations to Year 2 student Hiba Khan who has won an Eric Clow Award for her essay on “The Power of Narrative Based Medicine”. The award was presented at the Royal College of General Practitioners Humberside Annual Dinner.

Student successes

Congratulations to the following students who have given conference presentations recently:

Year 5 student Alan Gopal (pictured right) attended the Association for Simulated Practice in Healthcare (ASPiH; aspih.org.uk) Annual Conference at the East Midlands Conference Centre, Nottingham to present his work on inter-professional human factors education and simulation-based medical education for undergraduates.

Both projects were conducted with the support and guidance of Dr Makani Purva, Director of Postgraduate Medical Education at HEY NHS Trust, Hull Institute of Learning and Simulation and were well received as a presentation and poster with publication of both abstracts: “Undergraduate Human Factors in Healthcare Questionnaire: assessing necessity and demand for human factor exposure of undergraduate healthcare professionals in Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire” and “A Pilot of a Simulation Scenario Scripting Workshop for Medical Students: exposing students to teaching and learning using simulation-based medical education”. Alan was able to establish student ASPIH (sASPIH), a special interest group of ASPIH dedicated to the national recruitment, retention and development of students with interests in simulation and/or patient safety to ASPIH and was voted co-chair of the newly formed student branch immediately after the conference. Aside from briefly presenting the innovative business-platform model of sASPIH and plan of implementation to the entire conference at the second day opening, he co-chaired the student branch workshop and has had the abstract for the business-platform model of sASPIH published in the newly launched BMJ Simulation and Technology-enhanced Learning journal.

If you would like more information about sASPIH, including how to get involved, please contact Alan at alan.gopal@hyms.ac.uk.

Year 3 student Rasan Burhan (pictured left) has presented a poster on angle closure glaucoma and temporal arteritis at the British Undergraduate Ophthalmology Society (BUOS) Annual Conference held at the Royal Society of Medicine in London.

Rasan’s poster was based on a case report he prepared whilst on placement in the Ophthalmology department at York Hospital and the report is to be published in the BUOS journal.

Staff news

Welcome to ...

Dr Liz Anderson, who has joined the Centre for Education Development as Interim Programme Director for the PGCME.

Prof Antal Rot and Dr Ian Hitchcock who have joined the Centre for Immunology and Infection.

Research Fellow Carla Reigada who has joined the SEDA research group in the Centre for Health and Population Sciences.

Pauline Trujillo, temporary receptionist in York.

Goodbye to ...

Jay Exley, MB BS Phase III Elective and Simulated Patient Coordinator.

Gill Pulpher, York Receptionist, who leaves HYMS for a new role in the post room.

Congratulations to ...

Joanna Micklethwaite, Head of Assessment, on the birth of daughter Poppy Katherine.

Sarah Mussared, Finance Assistant, on the birth of daughter Dorothy Elaine.

Staff awards

Congratulations to Sarah Brown, Julia Fletcher, Jackie Houlton, Val Parker, Janet Tasker, Marjan Van der Woude and Nadine Webster who have all been recognised for their individual contribution during 2014.

The gift that keeps giving

If you’re still searching for the ideal seasonal gift, why not take a look at the HYMS ‘Worth a Look’ website which collects together a range of resources from the medical humanities that might be of interest to students and staff. It aims to reflect the broadest set of interest and insights and might help you to find that perfect book or film you’re looking for. You could even post your own suggestions!
**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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**December**

18

**INSPIRE careers event**
Pavilion Hotel, York
fabiola.martin@hyms.ac.uk

21

Lecture
**Victorian and early 20th century literature in context of medical humanities**
Dr Jane Thomas
Meeting Room 1
Dearne Building
University of Hull

**January**

7

York Talks (Session 4)
**Poverty and neglect – fighting a deadly disease**
Prof Paul Kaye
Berrick Saul building
University of York

28

**Dual Diagnosis network meeting**
Kings Manor;
Exhibition Square, York

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**Research publications**

**Recent publications by HYMS staff include:**


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**Students: Be INSPIREd!**

INSPIRE is a five-year, UK-wide initiative to engage medical undergraduates with research.

Funded by the Academy of Medical Science and the Wellcome Trust, universities have designed a range of activities with input from local students, which have been delivered since 2013. At HYMS these activities have been organised jointly by the Student Research Society and HYMS INSPIRE lead, Dr Fabiola Martin. They included a series of lectures and an upcoming careers fair on 18 December. Watch out for more news on the HYMS Student Home pages. A number of bursaries are also available to fund students who would like to get involved with a research project over the holidays. If you’re interested in research, then don’t miss this opportunity. Follow the links below for more information about: • HYMS INSPIRE careers fair and research projects • The INSPIRE programme or email fabiola.martin@hyms.ac.uk

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**Allam lecture 2015**

THE 2015 Allam Lecture will take place on Friday 17 April in the Allam Lecture Theatre at the University of Hull. The Lecturer is confirmed as Prof Keith Harding CBE, Dean of Clinical Innovation, Head of Wound Healing Research Unit, Cardiff University. Follow the link to find out about the Wound Healing Research Unit.

**Recruitment success**

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Centre for Cardiovascular and Metabolic Research Clinical Trials Manager Caroline Wright and her team, who are top recruiters in the UK for two clinical studies. The Lavolta I and Lavolta II studies (Roche) evaluate the use of the drug lebrikizumab in adult patients with severe uncontrolled asthma. The Rainier study (Gilead) evaluates the safety and efficacy of the drug simtuzumab in patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis.

**Research publications**

**Recent publications by HYMS staff include:**


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Season’s greetings to all HYMS colleagues, students and associates