



FRIDAY 25 JANUARY 2013

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

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Vacancies for Board members, Officers and other key appointments

Faculty members are reminded that the closing date for receipt of nominations for the following vacancies is **Friday 15 February 2013**. Follow the links for information on how to make a nomination or apply.

There are four [Board vacancies](#) (two for universally elected members, one for the elected member for Wales and one for the elected member from affiliating Diplomates) as well as the following [Officer and key appointment vacancies](#):

Academic Dean
Director Training
Deputy Chief Examiner Research Methods
Faculty lead to work with medical schools
CESR evaluators.

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Government response to Sickness Absence Review: Faculty and Society joint statement

The Faculty and Society of Occupational Medicine jointly welcomed the Government's response to the Frost/Black Report into Sickness Absence last week.

A [press release](#) outlined the key areas that should be addressed within the Health and Work Assessment and Advisory Service, including ease of access and the need to employ those with expertise in the work/health interface.

The Faculty Board will be further considering the implications of this response.

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Dr Steve Boorman awarded a CBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours List

The Faculty would like to congratulate Dr Steve Boorman on being appointed CBE in the New Year's Honours List. Steve has been Chief Examiner for the Diploma in Occupational Medicine since 2000 and also authored the influential Boorman Review into the provision of Health and Wellbeing services across the NHS in 2009. He was honoured for his work in revolutionising occupational health services in both the NHS and Royal Mail.

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Fitness for Work Conference - Tuesday 5 March 2013

The programme for the conference to launch 'Fitness for Work: the Medical Aspects' 5th Edition has now been finalised. As well as the keynote address delivered by Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, the Faculty is pleased to confirm that Professor Jeff Aronson from the University of Oxford will present on medication.

Other presentations include a recent review of the firefighter normal pension age in the context of the ageing workforce by Dr Tony Williams; Professor Neil Greenberg discussing mental health in the workplace; and Dr Ian Banks, President of the European Men's Health Forum, on health promotion in the workplace.

To register your place at this conference, please complete the [booking form](#) and return it to the Faculty or contact Patrick Cullen on 020 3116 6910.

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Changes to the regulations for the award of Membership

The GMC has introduced two new requirements on all Colleges and Faculties: 1) to limit the number of examination attempts leading to CCT to a maximum of 6, and 2) to introduce a time limit regarding the eligibility of qualifications taken outwith specialist training reckonable towards a CCT, to a maximum of 7 years before enrolment. The Faculty is implementing these changes with immediate effect in respect of specialist training. The amended [regulations](#) and guidance are available on the website.

The Faculty is at the same time limiting the number of attempts to 6 across all of its non-specialist postgraduate examinations.

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Extended CPD year to 31 March 2013

Members are reminded that, with the advent of revalidation, the Faculty's CPD year has changed to bring it in line with the cycle being used for revalidation. This means that the current CPD cycle will run until 31 March 2013 and that recommended credits for the extended year have been adjusted pro-rata to 62.5

to reflect the 15 month cycle. The deadline for submissions is **30 June 2013**.

More information about this, and the impending change to a CPD online diary, can be found on the [CPD section](#) of the website.

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British Association for the Study of Headache

The British Association for the Study of Headache is a registered charity of healthcare professionals that seeks to reduce the burden of headache in the UK. They wish to widen the circulation of their newsletter to all those who have an interest in headache and not just their own membership.

The newsletter is published three times a year and contains educational material, research updates and headache-related news. It is edited by Dr Brendan Davies (consultant neurologist) and Dr David Kernick (General Practitioner with a special interest in headache). If you would like to receive this publication by e mail which is free and non-sponsored, please send your contact details to pastwood@migrainetrust.org. The Association will not send you any other material or release your details to third parties.

If you would like further information please contact david.kernick@nhs.net.

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Invitation for occupational physicians to take part in BOHRF-funded study on bipolar disorder

Study title: Pilot of an e-learning programme to support retention and return to work for individuals with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder

Cardiff University is inviting experienced occupational health professionals/line managers to review an e-learning programme that has been developed as part of a 16-month study funded by the British Occupational Health Research Foundation. A series of focus groups were conducted with individuals with bipolar disorder, line managers and occupational health professionals. Based on the results of these focus groups an e-learning programme has been developed. The aim of the programme is to support the retention and return to work for individuals with a diagnosis of bipolar disorder by improving communication between employees, line managers and occupational health professionals.

What will happen to me if I take part?

If you do decide to take part you will be sent a link to the e-learning programme pilot. You will be asked to complete a short questionnaire before you view the e-learning programme, and again afterwards. The whole process will take no longer than 30 minutes.

If you would like to take part in the pilot study or would like further information please email Joanna Allen at allenj5@cf.ac.uk.

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Nicky Coates

Nicky Coates
Chief Executive

