

FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER 2015

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

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Call for Contributors

As you may have read in the last newsletter, the Faculty recently hired a new full time Communications Assistant in Leigh Harrison. Now that Leigh has had a few weeks to settle into the role he would like to reach out directly to members.

His short term aim is to begin populating the Faculty website with more regular blog posts, and he would like to involve members in this as much as possible. As we all know, OH is a wonderfully varied field of medicine, one which offers a multitude of rewards, challenges and working environments that are entirely unique to the specialty. There is an issue however, and that is one of understanding. While we who are intimately involved with OH know all about the benefits it brings to both those it serves and those who practice it, there still remains a criminal lack of understanding among employers, employees and even medical students as to what OH is and the role OH professionals play. It is this very situation that Leigh seeks to redress, but he cannot do so alone!

His initial plan is to create a series of diverse and exciting pieces to highlight the dizzying variety of the specialty. He would love to hear from members young and old; veterans of the field and trainees; those employed in the NHS, private sector or armed forces; self-employed practitioners, CMOs, GPs—anyone and everyone, essentially! There is a richness and diversity of experience within OH that is almost unparalleled, and Leigh would like to explore and extol the virtues built right into the specialty. He is looking for anything you are willing to share with

him: the curious twists your career has taken, a particularly satisfying consultation, an interesting conference visit, a sabbatical abroad, research you were involved in, and all the anecdotes you'd normally leave for a particularly spirited dinner party. The work we do within OH is exciting and varied; it's about time we let people know.

We are sticking with the written word in the short term, but plans are already in motion to produce video content in the near future. If you are in any way interested in contributing, whether that be now or in the future, or learning more, please contact Leigh directly at Leigh.Harrison@fom.ac.uk or on 020 3116 6907 and he will be happy to discuss any plans or questions.

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Collaborations with Macmillan Cancer Support

The Faculty is working alongside Macmillan Cancer Support in what will hopefully be the first of many joint initiatives. To kick things off, we are inviting all those affiliated with the Faculty to take part in a very short survey. It aims to assess the needs of OH professionals with regard to the knowledge and information needed to best assist cancer patients in returning to work.

Almost 750,000 people of working age are living with cancer, with this number estimated to rise to 1.7 million people by 2030 due to earlier diagnosis, improved treatment and an ageing workforce. According to Macmillan's own research, 82% of people affected by cancer think it is important to continue to work, and the charity is acutely aware of the significant role OH services play in supporting workers in all fields. To this end, the purpose of the survey is to identify any information and assistance that OH professionals may require when supporting someone affected by cancer.

This survey is the first step in a consultation process that could see Macmillan and the Faculty improve learning aids for employers, OH professionals and cancer sufferers themselves, and we are excited to be a part of such an initiative. The survey is a fantastic way of broadcasting the professional views of those working at the forefront of OH, and we would deeply appreciate it if you could find just 5–10 minutes to fill it out.

Here is a link to the survey in question:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MacmillanOH>

Further to this, we would love to hear from those interested in working with Macmillan on future publications developed jointly with the Faculty. The charity is keen to collaborate with individuals from within the Faculty to research and develop new learning support materials. Again, this is a great opportunity for voices from within OH to be heard and directly influence positive change on a national level, and the Faculty is extremely proud to be right there leading the charge. For more information please contact our Communications Assistant [Leigh Harrison](#).

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NHS Education Scotland National Training Programme Director vacancy - deadline 9 Nov

The National Training Programme Director (TPD) for Occupational Medicine will be

responsible for managing specialty training programmes for doctors holding the following appointments: specialty registrar (StR); and locum appointments for training (LATs).

The National TPD should be a Consultant and is accountable to the Postgraduate Dean or appropriate Associate Dean. They may also combine the role with that of an educational and/or clinical supervisor.

The post is available until 31 July 2018 in the first instance.

If you are interested in this vacancy and would like further information, please refer to the [Job Information Pack](#) which includes a copy of the Job Description, Person Specification and Conditions of Service.

Please apply [online](#). The deadline for applications is **9 November at 11:59pm**.

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Northern Ireland Judicial Appointments Commission vacancy – deadline 23 November

NIJAC is currently inviting applications for the office of fee paid Adjudicator (Medical Member) of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Appeals Panel, Northern Ireland.

The purpose of the office is to hear and consider appeals against decisions about compensation made by Compensation Services Northern Ireland. To be eligible for appointment candidates must be a fully registered medical practitioner with the GMC. Remuneration will be provided on a per half day basis, paying £134.50 for a half day and £269.00 for a whole day.

Applications are being accepted until noon on **Monday 23 November**. For more information please see the [full ad](#) on the Faculty website.

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Obituary – Dr Brian Phillips

It is with great sadness that the Faculty reports the death of Brian Phillips AFOM. During an illustrious career spanning more than fifty years, Brian, who also held the Diploma of the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, worked for the likes of BMI, Glaxo and the London Fire Brigade. He retired in early 2006 after a lifetime devoted to healthcare, and will doubtlessly be missed by loved ones, friends and colleagues alike. Our thoughts extend to his family during this difficult time.

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New Staff and Updated Contacts List

The Faculty is happy to announce that our four new members of staff are all settling in fantastically. Executive Secretary & Office Manager **Sophia Greaves**, Examinations & Training Manager **Rachel Richardson**, Examinations & Training Co-ordinator **Alex Edwards** and Communications Assistant **Leigh Harrison** are all raring to go and looking to the future. Please join me in officially welcoming each of them to the Faculty.

The Faculty website [contacts page](#) has been updated in recognition of our new colleagues, and now also includes more detailed information about each member of staff. We would also ask you to use the new departmental email addresses where applicable, as this assists us in directing queries to the person most equipped to offer you tailored assistance. More information can be found via the link above.

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Event and Vacancy Reminders

[SEQOHS Clinical Lead vacancy](#) – [deadline for applications 6 November](#).

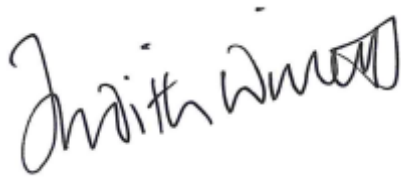
[Health for Health Professionals Advanced training skills: Updates on mental disorders](#) – **11 November, Cardiff**.

[Professional Briefing Day: Personality Disorders](#) – **24 November, London**.

[Winter Conference 2015: 'Risky Business'](#) – **15 December, London**.

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With best wishes



Judith Willetts
Chief Executive

