



MONDAY 23 JANUARY 2012

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

In this issue...

Government and policy developments

The Faculty is actively engaged in considering the content and implications of the Sickness Absence Review, the publication of which in late November prompted us to hold a debate, encompassing occupational health professionals, employers and unions. The report of this is available to members at:

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/fom-oh-debate2011.pdf.

We shall be contributing to the ongoing discussion with Government about the Review in partnership with the Society, and the President would welcome the views of members, as part of that.

We also continue to work with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges to seek changes in the Health and Social Care Bill, highlighting to Government ongoing concerns, particularly with regard to the threat to integrated patient care, the importance of the Secretary of State's responsibility to provide health care for all and the need to maintain education and training as part of a comprehensive health service.

Faculty Board vacancies

Members: your opportunity to help shape the future of the Faculty

Nominations are being sought for five elected posts on the Faculty Board. The remit for each post is set out in the following calling notices below, each of which has a link to the relevant application form:

THREE universally elected members:

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/fomboarduem2012.pdf

Marjorie Greasley, Ioana Kennedy and Philip McIlroy complete their first three-year term at the Annual General Meeting in May 2012. Whilst all are eligible for re-election, Philip McIlroy has indicated that he will not be seeking re-election and writes:

"I am not seeking re-election and wish to encourage others to stand for the Board and benefit from the opportunity that I have had. Are you nearing the completion of your training or a new Member of the Faculty? Several years ago, with a conviction that those at the start of their careers have something to bring to the Faculty, I put myself forward for election to the Board. This has been a great experience, an opportunity to work with colleagues who have diverse roles, to learn about the range and complexity of issues facing

Occupational Medicine and the Faculty, and contribute to the ongoing debates."

ONE constituency elected member for Scotland:

www.facoccmmed.ac.uk/library/docs/fomboardsco2012.pdf

Steven Ryder completes his first three-term at the Annual General Meeting in May 2012 and whilst eligible for re-election, has indicated that he will not be seeking re-election. Steven Ryder writes:

"As I am likely to retire from practice during the next three years I decided not to put my name forward for a second period of tenure as the Representative for Scotland on the Faculty Board. I have found this to be a wonderful experience and will greatly regret not participating in future. I wholeheartedly recommend standing for election as a superb opportunity for a member to become involved and influence future development of our speciality at the highest level. This also means sitting on the Committee of the Scottish Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and SIGN Council. I have really enjoyed Faculty Board Meetings and away days which have allowed me to network with senior colleagues. I would strongly encourage members to put their names forward for election and I would be happy to discuss the role with any of you by telephone. My number is 01463 706146 and my email address is steven.ryder@nhs.net."

and

ONE constituency elected member of the Specialty Registrars:

www.facoccmmed.ac.uk/library/docs/fomboardstr2012.pdf

As mentioned in the Trainee Newsletter in December, Hazem Gallagher-Alagha's term on the Board in this role will be completed at the Annual General Meeting in May 2012. Hazem does not anticipate standing again, as he is due to complete his training in the latter part of the year. Hazem, who was formerly a Deputy to Clare Piper, the previous trainee representative on the Board, has been passionate about improving communication between the Faculty and trainees, since he started his training in 2008. He is happy to discuss the role, in confidence, with any trainee who might be interested in standing for election. His number is 07775 672363 and his email address is hazemalagha@hotmail.com.

The deadline for receipt of nominations is Thursday 23 February 2012.

Please think of putting your name forward and involving yourself in the running of the Faculty.

Key appointments and committee members

Applications are being sought for the following roles within the Faculty. Further details can be found by following the relevant links:

Chief Examiner Part 2 MFOM - deadline 17 February 2012

www.facoccmmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobcepart2mfom2012.pdf

Chief Examiner HAVS - deadline 17 February 2012

www.facoccmmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobcehavs2012.pdf

Member of POHMS Sub-Committee - deadline 14 February 2012

www.facoccmmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobpohmssubc2012.pdf

Regional Specialty Advisers and their Deputies - deadline 14 February 2012

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobrsas2012.pdf

WBA assessors - deadline 14 February 2012

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobwbaass2012.pdf

CESR evaluators - deadline 17 February 2012

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/jobscsreval2012.pdf

In addition, the role of Director of Assessment will fall vacant in October 2012, when Dil Sen completes six years in this role. This vacancy is being flagged up now, ahead of formal applications being sought, so that Fellows have plenty of time to consider their suitability and availability for the role which is outlined below.

The Director of Assessment oversees all the Faculty's educational assessments, the main ones being examinations and dissertations. He/she is a member of the Executive Committee and, as such, has responsibilities for the wider Faculty activities, as well as his/her own area of assessment. All Chief Examiners report to the Director of Assessment. He/she liaises closely with the relevant Faculty staff, who carry out the work on a day-to-day basis, and is expected to attend 8 Executive Committee meetings, 3 Assessment Subcommittee meetings and a Strategy meeting each year, as well as some ad hoc events.

2011 CPD returns

The 2011 CPD cycle has ended and the 31 March 2012 deadline for submission of 2011 CPD returns is rapidly approaching. Returns received after (including those posted on) 31 March 2012 will incur a £60 late fee.

- The CPD Return submission should consist of pages CPD1 and CPD6.
- CPD Returns can be submitted by post to the address above or by email to: CPD@facocmed.ac.uk.
- For more information, please refer to our website:
www.facocmed.ac.uk/cpd/cpdfom.jsp

The whole CPD Return and evidence of having completed the applicable learning activities should be kept until your first revalidation cycle is complete. It is essential to keep good records of your CPD activities even after CPD Returns have been submitted. Good evidence of CPD activities would consist of proof of attendance and a copy of the course outline or programme, or similar, that demonstrates the value and relevance of the CPD activity. It is worth remembering good evidence will become increasingly important as revalidation draws nearer.

Faculty Prizes - could you be a winner?

Deadline: 29 February 2012

The Faculty offers two annual awards and all members are encouraged to consider whether they might be eligible. Details are available via the member login (Username: workplace; Password: health) at: www.facocmed.ac.uk/login.jsp?rtn=/members/index.jsp.

The Wilf Howe Memorial Prize, which is an engraved memento and a cheque for £500, is awarded in recognition of an outstanding innovation, initiative or intervention which has delivered a demonstrable health benefit for a defined working population. For further information and an application form see:

www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/whapp2012.doc

Previous winning entries have included: initiatives to improve the occupational health of construction workers building the London 2012 Olympic Park and athletes' village; a cross sectional study of the rates of ill health retirement in four public sector (fire, police, teaching and ambulance services) and two private (Rover and Post Office) employers; the assessment and validation of acclimatisation to a hot-dry climate in British Armed Forces personnel; implementing and evaluating a successful condom promotion intervention project for brothel-based sex workers in Singapore; and identifying and addressing occupational-related skin problems on a chemical industrial site.

The Mobbs Travelling Fellowship offers an opportunity for doctors to travel to a centre of excellence to study a particular aspect of occupational medicine or to travel to a scientific meeting for which they have had a paper or poster accepted. For further information and an application form see: www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/mobapp2012.doc

Previous winning entries have included: attending a Cochrane Occupational Safety and Health course at the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health; a visit to Australia to study the Workers' Compensation System; abstracts accepted for the ICOH conference; and a study trip to Hong Kong hospitals affected by the SARS outbreak.

Details of previous winning entries of the Wilf Howe and Mobbs Travelling Fellowships can be found on the website via the member login at:

www.facocmed.ac.uk/login.jsp?rtn=/members/index.jsp

The Mobbs Fellowships have now also been extended to medical students and junior doctors, to fund occupational health electives.

Footnote

This newsletter puts forward many possible ways in which you could get involved with the Faculty, and I hope you will give these opportunities some thought. The Faculty relies completely on the expertise and commitment of its members. But, it is a two-way process and you will see, from the personal notes written by some members who are standing down, that taking on a formal Faculty role can be very interesting and enjoyable.

Finally, don't forget to consider whether you might be eligible for either the Wilf Howe Memorial Prize or the Mobbs Travelling Fellowships. Every year, new people come forward and are successful, so please do think about whether it could be you in 2012.

With best wishes

Nicky Coates

Nicky Coates
Chief Executive

