

**Wednesday 27 January 2010**

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

### **In this issue...**

## **Health and Wellbeing at Work - NEC Birmingham – 9/10 March 2010 – volunteers sought!**

The Faculty will be exhibiting at the NEC on 9 and 10 March 2010 at 'Health and wellbeing at work' <http://www.healthatwork2010.co.uk>, run by Sterling Events. There is no charge to register for the exhibition and the presentations.

A number of Faculty members are speaking. Dr Paul Nicholson is formally representing the Faculty, and running a session – *Standards for Occupational Health Services – The drivers, scope and objectives for standards and accreditation* - at 11.15 on Tuesday 9 March.

Nicky Coates and Paul Nicholson will be staffing the Faculty stand and would very much appreciate it if some members could help over the course of those two days. Could you please consider whether you might be able to offer a morning or afternoon on either 9 or 10 March at the NEC? You would be able to visit the rest of the exhibition and also book into some sessions if you wish.

All offers of help gratefully received! Please email:  
[jean.whaley@facocmed.ac.uk](mailto:jean.whaley@facocmed.ac.uk).

## **Faculty Conferences 2010**

Dates for your diary:

- 1) **Annual Scientific Meeting** at the Royal College of Physicians in London on **27 May 2010**. Topics will include: the ethics of testing healthcare practitioners for bloodborne viruses, what occupational physicians need to know about child protection and an update on revalidation.
- 2) **Autumn Conference** at the Canal Court Hotel, Newry, Northern Ireland on **1 October 2010**. The theme of this conference will be *Promoting Positive Mental Health in Healthcare Practitioners*. This is a joint conference with the Faculty of Occupational Medicine of Ireland and will be of relevance to GPs and psychiatrists, as well as occupational physicians.
- 3) **Winter Conference** at the Royal College of Physicians in London on **1 December 2010**. The conference theme will be quality and standards.

Further information will be available on the website shortly.

## New Chief Examiner, Diploma Disability Assessment Medicine (DDAM)

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Sylvia Awbery as the new Chief Examiner for the DDAM examination. Sylvia Awbery will be replacing Dr Moira Henderson, who has been the Chief Examiner since 2003. Moira Henderson has been enormously committed to her role and has been a great asset to the Faculty. We would like to thank her for all her work and wish her all the best in her retirement.

## Vacancy for Regional Specialty Advisor

Dr Christine English has stood down as Regional Specialty Advisor (RSA) for the Northern Region and we wish to thank her for her service to the Faculty in this role. We are therefore now seeking a replacement RSA for this region.

If you are interested in taking on this role or would like further information, please contact David Greening (Training Co-ordinator (Programme Support)) at [davidgreening@facocmed.ac.uk](mailto:davidgreening@facocmed.ac.uk).

**The closing date for applications is 9.00 on Monday 22 February 2010.**

## Faculty Prizes - could you be a winner?

### **LAST CALL FOR ENTRIES - DEADLINE 31 JANUARY 2010**

The Faculty offers **two annual awards** and all members are encouraged to consider whether they might be eligible. For details see <http://www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/prizes.pdf>

**The Wilf Howe Memorial Prize**, which is a cheque for £500 and an engraved memento, is awarded in recognition of an outstanding innovation, initiative or intervention which has delivered a demonstrable health benefit for a defined working population. Previous winning entries have included: *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. Previous winning entries have included: 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.

## Guide to the GMC/PMETB Merger

Information about the merger of the General Medical Council (GMC) and the Postgraduate Medical Education and Training Board (PMETB) can be found at [http://www.pmetb.org.uk/fileadmin/user/Communications/Publications/Merger\\_of\\_PMETB\\_with\\_GMC\\_A\\_guide\\_for\\_doctors\\_20090901.pdf](http://www.pmetb.org.uk/fileadmin/user/Communications/Publications/Merger_of_PMETB_with_GMC_A_guide_for_doctors_20090901.pdf).

## Footnote

You will hopefully have seen the e-newsletter on 13 January which announced the launch of the Occupational Health Service Standards for Accreditation. We shall shortly be sending a copy to all members. The standards are also available online at <http://www.facocmed.ac.uk/library/docs/standardsjan2010.pdf>.

And don't forget, this week is your last chance to enter for the 2010 Faculty prizes - the Wilf Howe Memorial Prize and the Mobbs Travelling Fellowship.

With best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nicky Coates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nicky Coates  
Chief Executive