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MINUTES of the second meeting of the Education and Training Committee held on Wednesday 22 May 2002 at the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, 2 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX

Present :

Prof. D. Waller (Chairing)
Prof. N. Brook
Mrs. S. Chaudhry
Ms H. Davis
Mr. P. Frowen
Prof. J. Harper
Prof. R. Klem
Mr. C. Lea
Ms C. Lloyd
Ms G. Pearson
Mr. G. Sutehall
Dr. A. Van Der Gaag

Also in Attendance

Mr. M. Seale – Chief Executive, HPC
Dr. P. Burley – Secretary, HPC
Ms C. Gooch – Newchurch
Ms R. Mead – Department of Health (DoH)
Ms P. le Rolland – Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)
Ms J. Gosby – Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC)
Ms R. Bacon – HPC

ITEM 1 02/59 MEMBERSHIP AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 2.1 Ms C. Lloyd was welcomed to her first meeting.
- 2.2 Apologies were received from :- Dr. G. Beastall, Mr. M. Collins, Ms C. Farrell, Prof. A. Hazell, Prof. J. Lucas, and Miss E. Thornton. The Committee wished Mr. Collins a speedy recovery from his broken elbow.
- 2.3 It was noted that Mr. L. Hughes had resigned from the Council and this left the Committee with neither a Prosthetist & Orthotist nor a Northern Irish member, both of which it was required to have under the HPO. It was agreed that if the new P & O member was not Northern Irish, then the Chairman should draw up a short-list of appropriate NI appointees for the Committee to consider.

ITEM 2 02/60 APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

On the recommendation of the Chairman,

It was

RESOLVED (1)

that the agenda be approved.

ITEM 3 02/61 MINUTES

It was agreed that the minutes of the first meeting of the Health Professions Council's Education and Training Committee held on 1 May 2002 be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chairman subject to the amendment that Ms Sandy Goulding's name be shown correctly.

ITEM 4 02/62 MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The Committee received the Secretary's report and an up-date that he would be reporting to UUK's Health Committee on 24 May 2002 on where HPC was in relation to the consultation exercise.
- 4.2.1 The Secretary reported that he had held a preliminary meeting with DoH's new QA officers for England on 15 May 2002.
- 4.2.2 The four QA officers were now in post :- Ruth Howkins, Linda Burke, Jane Marr, and Judy Hall. They were located in various English Regional Offices. They clarified that there was no correlation from HCP's perspective between where they were located and the work they did. Judy Hall (a Physiotherapist) would work on the AHPs and Scientific professions while Ruth Howkins would have an oversight of all their work. They confirmed that they were the eventual and total manifestation of both the "Partners Council" and the Education and Training Unit / Division described in various DoH documents from 1999 onwards (starting with the nursing strategy paper "Making a Difference").

- 4.2.3 Their role was not so much to develop new policy as to facilitate and co-ordinate existing initiatives and ensure consistency across England. They did not have exact opposite numbers in the other UK countries, but they would be looking into who exactly had the QA brief outside England and how it was discharged.
- 4.2.4 On the NHSU, they conceded that the picture was not yet clear. Their understanding of the DoH's "Next Steps . . ." paper was that NHSU will be developing material to support existing pre-registration curricula and modules but would not be trying to re-write existing approved curricula or deliver any provision in HEIs itself (see also the notes of the Educationalists Forum on this topic).
- 4.2.5 The Committee (and the Forum by extension in due course) looked forward to working with them.
- 4.3 On the Pre-Registration Education and Training Working Groups (PRETWG) it was noted that not all the ex-CPSM Board educationalists had carried across to the HPC. It was agreed that the Groups concerned should consider their position and make recommendations as desired.
- 4.4 The Committee noted that NHSU could be a useful resource and should be welcomed. It was hoped that Scotland could also benefit.
- 4.5 There was concern that DoH was initiating a range of not always co-ordinated initiatives, however welcome each one might be in isolation.

ITEM 5 02/63 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE REGISTRATION COMMITTEE ON 5 APRIL, 8 MAY 2002

- 5.1 The Committee received and endorsed the minutes (noting that some decisions on 5 April had been set aside on 8 May 2002) and the information and clarifications in them.
- 5.2 The Secretary explained that as a non-statutory Committee dealing with matters the HPO reserved to ETC, the Registration Committee could advise Council, but Council must receive any recommendations only via ETC. These relationships had been established under the Shadow Council on 10 December 2001 and would last until the end of the first transitional period.
- 5.3 The Chairman of the Registration Committee, Prof. R. Klem, drew attention to the advice received from the solicitor (Mr. J. Bracken) on the implications of the divisions of the Register as in minute 4.9 and 4.10 of the minutes of 8 May 2002. The Committee formally endorsed this advice.
- 5.4 Further advice would be received from Mr. Bracken – particularly on grandparenting – which this Committee would need to work to in due course. The Executive should forward legal advice also direct to Newchurch.
- 5.5 The arrangements for a joint Designated Authority with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy still needed to be confirmed.

5.6 The assessors for non-UK applicants were an interim arrangement for the first transitional period to maintain the status quo.

5.7 It was noted that there would not be another meeting of ETC before the Registration parts of the consultation paper would have to be finalised. The Committee authorised the Chairman to take action on this part of the consultation paper.

ITEM 6 02/64 REPORTS OF JOINT ADVISORY BODIES AND COURSE (RE-)APPROVALS AS NEEDED

6.1 The Committee received the notes of the various joint advisory bodies.

6.2 The Secretary reported that meetings of the Pre-Registration Education and Training Groups were being set up as needed where there had been no previous joint body.

6.3 The Committee authorised the Chairman to take any necessary action on minor, urgent, and routine re-approvals under Section 5 of the Professions Supplementary to Medicine Act, 1960, to progress routine urgent business and to work with the Executive now to devise machinery to handle education and training (re-)approvals, noting that approvals of new courses would always have to come to the Committee, Council, and Privy Council for the duration of the first transitional period. Full course documentation would not normally be circulated to the Committee, but would be available for inspection.

ITEM 7 02/65 HPC'S CONSULTATION PAPER AND PROJECT PLAN

7.1 Mr. Seale reported that the project plan was still on schedule for the publication of the consultation paper on 1 July 2002. The meetings, format, timetable, and structure of the consultation exercise had now been finalised. These would all be published in due course. A minimum of three Council members would be asked to attend each consultation event. It was hoped to finalise these arrangements at the Council meeting on 13 June 2002.

7.2 Ms Gosby was invited to report on the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) consultation events. She commented that the events had been generally positive and successful, but there would always be a problem around correlating consultation with other activities. NMC had taken a policy decision to try to deal with any queries raised immediately after the consultation event concerned and this had been onerous, although worthwhile, and had distracted from longer term priorities.

7.3 While registrants could receive a mailing from HPC, potential grandparents, of course, could not be mailed direct. Arrangements were in hand to publicise the grandparenting requirement to potential registrants by other channels.

7.4 Ms Gooch presented the outcome of the most recent circulation of the draft consultation paper (version 4, tabled). Three sections had been added in from the previously uniquely Registration Committee area.

7.5 Rule making would be a common section for all Committees / functions at HPC.

- 7.6 It was also clarified that the eventual design and format of the document would make it much more accessible in its final version.
- 7.7 In discussion on 1.3 it was agreed to clarify the category of " persons who provide services . . ." in more detail. " Common core " should be replaced by " common framework " throughout. In 1.19 workforce development confederations should be replaced by " education commissioners ". " New " should be deleted in front of develop and " continue [to develop] " be added. The timescale also should be reviewed. 1.20 should read " standards " adopted by the Boards at CPSM . . . " (and elsewhere). In 1.37 (and elsewhere) reference to courses, institutions, and qualifications needed to be aligned to the HPO. References to time-scales should reflect a commitment to develop the work without specifying a number of calendar years (except for CPD, where it should be set at three years for consultation purposes, noting that the first compliance with CPD then occurred some years after the starting date for the scheme). (See minute 02/76 7.2 of the Educationalists Forum for further discussion of this last topic).
- 7.8 Prof. Harper raised a number of issues on format, lay-out, headings, cross-references etc. in the document. Mr. Seale confirmed that the design needs of the whole document had been recognised and were being addressed elsewhere while the individual Committees addressed policy options. The Committee expressed confidence in the overall management of the exercise and the way different parts were being given individual attention and then being brought together.
- 7.9 It was agreed that members should comment by Monday 27 May 2002 direct to Newchurch, preferably by e-mail (Christine.gooch@Newchurch.co.uk) or fax 0208 977 8198.
- 7.10 The Committee welcomed and endorsed the consultation strategy and document.

ITEM 8 02/66 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 9 02/67 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next ordinary meeting of the Committee would be at
10.30 on Wednesday 3 July 2002 in Park House.

ITEM 10 02/68 MEETING IN PRIVATE

It was

RESOLVED (2)

that the remainder of the meeting shall be held in private because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest, by reason of the confidential nature of the business transacted.

CHAIRMAN



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NOTES of the first meeting of the Health Professions Council's Education and Training Committee Educationalists Forum held on Wednesday 22 May 2002 at the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, 2 White Hart Yard, London SE1 1NX

Present :

ETC Members

Prof. D. Waller (Chairing)
Prof. N. Brook (President, HPC)
Mrs. S. Chaudhry
Ms H. Davis
Mr. P. Frowen
Prof. J. Harper
Prof. R. Klem
Mr. C. Lea
Ms C. Lloyd
Ms G. Pearson
Mr. G. Sutehall
Dr. A. Van Der Gaag

Forum Members

Dr. D. Pollard	-	Council of Validating Universities
Prof. D. Baxter	-	UK Council for Graduate Education
Ms E. Jagusiewicz	-	Universities UK
Dr. P. Dangerfield	-	UK Inter-professional Group <u>and</u> Interprofessional Education Seminar Organisation
Ms P. le Rolland	-	Quality Assurance Agency (QAA)
Ms R. Mead	-	Department of Health (DoH)
Mr. R. Price	-	chair, Radiographers JVC
Mrs C. Wells)	co-chairs, OT JVC
Ms R. Heames)	
Dr. G. Powell	-	chair SLT JVC

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- | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|
| Dr. M.Sills | - | Learning and Teaching Support Network for Health and Scientific Practice |
| Prof. D. Watson | - | former educationalist member of the Orthoptists Board |
| Prof. S. Frost | - | educationalist appointed to assist with Chiropody education and training |
| Mr. P. Turner | - | former educationalist member of the OT Board |
| Ms J. Gosby | - | Nursing and Midwifery Council |
| Dr. S. Gosling | - | Allied Health Professions Forum |
| Ms R. Reyes | - | secretary of OT JVC |
| Mrs. S. Stirling | - | " SLT JVC |
| Mrs. M. Embleton | - | " Radiography JVC |
| Mrs. G. Stephenson | - | representative from the Orthoptists Pre-Registration Education and Training Working Group |

Also in Attendance

- Mr. M. Seale – Chief Executive, HPC
 Dr. P. Burley – Secretary, HPC

ITEM 1 02/70 MEMBERSHIP, WELCOME, AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- 1.1 The Chairman reported on the Forum's membership to date. It was still an incomplete body because it had not been possible to convene the Pre-Registration Education and Training Working Groups (PRETWG) in time to allow them all to elect chairs and representatives to the Forum. Other outside bodies might also be invited to contribute in the future.
- 1.2 Prof. S. Frost, Prof. D. Baxter and Mr. R. Price were welcomed to their first meeting.
- 1.3 Apologies for Absence were received from :-

ETC Members :

Dr. G. Beastall, Mr. M. Collins, Ms C. Farrell, Prof. A. Hazell, Prof. J. Lucas, and Miss E. Thornton.

Forum Members

Prof. J. Campbell	- former educationalist member of the AsTs Board
Mrs. R. Simpson) Health & Care Professions Education Forum
Mr. P. Shenton)
Prof. D. Rogers	- former educationalist member of the MLT Board
Prof. H. Barr and) Centre for the Advancement of Inter-professional
Mrs. B. Clague) Education <u>and</u> Learning for Partnership Network
Ms S. Sexton	- representative from the P&O PRETWG
Miss M. Curr	- Chair, Physiotherapists JVC
Ms P. Ambrose	- Standing Conference of Principals
Mr. D. Ashcroft	- secretary, Chiropodists JQAC
Ms J. Brayton	- secretary, Physiotherapists JVC
Prof. M. Watkins	- former educationalist member of the Paramedics Board
Mr. S. Baird	- Co-Chair Chiropodists JQAC
Prof. A. de Looy	- former educationalist member of the Dietitians Board.

(Several apologies had been necessitated by the co-incidence of the meeting with the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists annual conference)

Others

The HPC secretaries for other Committees
DoH Quality Assurance Officers.

ITEM 2 02/71 CHAIRMAN'S, PRESIDENT'S AND SECRETARY'S REPORT AND MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS ON 13 FEBRUARY, 15 MARCH, AND 1 MAY 2002 FOR INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Forum noted the minutes of previous (Shadow and Substantive) ETC meetings.
- 2.2 Mr. M. Seale, Chief Executive HPC on behalf of the Chairman and President, announced the HPC consultation exercise, its timetable, documentation, and format. He urged all present to respond and to share their expertise with HPC. All registrants would receive a mini-prospectus for the consultation.

ITEM 3 02/72 PRESENTATION BY THE QUALITY ASSURANCE AGENCY ON ITS CURRENT WORK

Ms. P le Rolland presented QAA's programmes generally and then focused in on the health-funded courses in England (OHPs attached). She described the "prototype reviews", the importance of practitioner reviewers, the measuring of performance against external reference points, the generally positive experience in terms of ethos and relationships but some very real logistical problems, and the development of review web-sites on which to share information. The prototypes were confidential in detail but the experience in general would be shared. DoH was determined that there would be a roll-out of subject review in 2003 - 6. QAA would develop further

Subject Benchmarking in the health professions. Foundation degrees would be funded by Funding Councils and would have to enjoy different QA from DoH-funded degree courses. In the (non-DoH-funded) generality of new QA it was proposed to use audit and discipline trails. Disciplines would be based on the Joint Academic Coding System and be broader than "subjects". Cycles would be for six years, but the six years in England could be broken into two periods of three years. She included reference to developments elsewhere in the UK (as set out in circulated papers). She predicted that the roles of professional and statutory regulatory bodies would increase in importance. QA would reflect the tension elsewhere between common framework and inter-professional developments as against uni-professional provision.

**ITEM 4 02/73 BENCHMARKING HEALTHCARE PROGRAMMES,
LETTER FROM DoH**

- 4.1 The Secretary introduced this letter and the background to it (from the meeting on 13 February 2002). It was noted that HPC's and QAA's work on Standards of Proficiency might have established a (UK-wide) framework with which some of DoH's intentions might be aligned or in which they might be progressed.
- 4.2 It was agreed to make these comments to DoH and also to query the exact meaning of the "emerging health professions framework", and to seek clarification of whether there was still felt to be a problem of some stakeholders still not taking ownership of Subject Benchmarks.

**ITEM 5 02/74 UP-DATE ON THE DoH/QAA PROTOTYPE REVIEWS IN
ENGLAND**

- 5.1 The Forum received Prof. J. Lucas's paper and an oral report from Ms P. le Rolland (see item 3 above).
- 5.2 QAA clarified that the reduction of sampling of student work had been balanced by sampling other sources of information.

**ITEM 6 02/75 EVALUATION OF THE ENGLISH NATIONAL BOARD AND
QAA COLLABORATION ON THE PREVIOUS ROUND OF
NURSING SUBJECT REVIEWS IN ENGLAND (BY PROF.
ROSEMARY POPE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY**

This was not ready and was held over to a future meeting. In the meantime members were advised that an evaluation of the report could be found on the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) web-site (www.nmc-uk.org) under "ENB Publications".

ITEM 7 02/76 ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FORUM (AHPF) ITEMS :

7.1 Value Statement on Pre-registration Education and Training (re-)approval Processes

- 7.1.1 The Forum noted this paper, introduced by Dr. S. Gosling, and asked that it be fed into HPC's consultation process.
- 7.1.2 Dr. Gosling explained the development of the paper from an informal meeting in January 2002 and that several professional bodies had already signed up to it. Its messages included moving to more streamlined cross-professional working. Appendix II raised proposals for specific projects.
- 7.1.3 It was clarified that DoH QA officers were engaged in equivalent work and were in liaison with the initiative. It was noted that LTSN might also be able to take an interest in these projects, and would look at the paper. HPC had not yet developed a policy on continuing the CPSM's Charitable Trust's support for such work.
- 7.1.4 Members asked for clarification of the status and remit of AHPF. [A statement from AHPF is appended to these notes].

7.2 Up-date on the AHPF Competence Project

- 7.2.1 Dr. S. Gosling introduced this paper for the Forum's information. It was clarified that this project explored some of the practical approaches to the CPD requirements in the HPO. It would be designed to help AHPF member bodies' members to comply with HPC's CPD in due course.
- 7.2.2 Prof. D. Watson asked for clarification between advanced levels of practice, CPD, and competence. Prof. N. Brook explained that HPC's remit was around competence for (clinical) practice. Dr. Gosling added this was linked to individuals' scope of practice.
- 7.2.3 The project would develop frameworks and examples of approaches to competence and would also define its own terms.
- 7.2.4 It needed to be understood that while competence operated at threshold levels, those thresholds were themselves in a state of continuous change and development.

ITEM 8 02/77 NHS PLAN, NEXT STEPS, ETC.

- 8.1 The Forum received this paper and the Secretary's Executive Summary.
- 8.2 The Secretary introduced this item and explained that it was a statement of intent not a consultation. At the meeting with DoH QA officers on 15 May 2002 they had clarified that the NHS [University] (NHSU) would be providing curriculum support rather than seeking to deliver pre-registration education and training in its own right.
- 8.3 Mr. P. Turner confirmed that the Council of Nursing Deans had also elicited clarification that NHSU would not be moving into delivering pre-registration education and training.

- 8.4 Prof. J. Harper reported that the new Board had been set up in Scotland (as reported at earlier meetings) and was also meeting on 22 May 2002 for the first time.

ITEM 9 02/78 REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION OF TOPICS FOR THE INTER-PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SEMINAR ORGANISATION'S (IPESO) MEETING IN SEPTEMBER 2002

- 9.1 Dr. P. Dangerfield explained that the IPESO would be holding a seminar on 2 September 2002 at the College of Occupational Therapists and asked for topics for the event which might co-incide with HPC's consultation.
- 9.2 It was agreed to commend to IPESO that they look at the tension between common framework and inter-professional education developments as against properly uni-professional provision.

ITEM 10 02/79 TOUR DE TABLE OF RELEVANT ISSUES AND INITIATIVES

- 10.1 Ms J. Gosby reported that the Learning for Partnership Network would be holding a seminar on 11 June 2002 on Codes of Conduct. Mr. A. Yule (Chairman of HPC's Conduct and Competence Working Party) had been alerted to this.
- 10.2 Prof. D. Baxter reported that the UK Council for Graduate Education (UKCGE) had established a working group on research training in the health professions. UKCGE was looking at the most appropriate models to use and would be issuing a consultation paper soon. The Forum noted the joint DoH / Higher Education Funding Council press release of 16 May 2002 announcing new framework for health related research. No figures had been announced, and they would have to await settlement in the government's comprehensive spending review. The initiative applied to England and Wales, but not to Scotland or Northern Ireland. [Press release appended].
- 10.3.1 Dr. M. Sills drew attention to LTSN's Festival of Learning in Bristol 19 – 20 September 2002. [The programme is appended to these notes]. Prof. R. Cryer, Chief Executive of the NHSU would be a key-note speaker (see item 8 above).
- 10.3.2 LTSN's Occasional Paper No. 1 on Interprofessional Education (IPE) was now available and members were welcome to request copies. Paper 2 on the evidence base for IPE was in preparation.
- 10.3.3 Contributions to the next newsletter were invited – copy date 23 September 2002.
- 10.3.4 LTSN's next phase of work would look at striking balances and the interactions between current policies such as widening access and promoting IPE.

ITEM 11 02/80 ANY OTHER BUSINESS : DoH / HEFCE Statement of Strategic Intent on Health and Social Services

This tabled statement was received and welcomed.

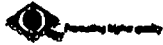
ITEM 12 02/81 DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING OF THE FORUM

The Forum would meet next at 12 noon 16 October 2002 at the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists.

CHAIRMAN



Promoting Higher Quality



QAA Update

- Goals and Pressures
- Academic Infrastructure
- Prototypes in England
- Reviews and Audits in England
- Audit and enhancement in Scotland
- Engagements in Wales
- Future QA



2

Goals and Pressures

- Robust qa arrangements
- Streamlined qa arrangements - opportunities
- Avoid unnecessary cost and burden
- Institutional and Organisational responsibilities, with external scrutiny
- Partnership and collaboration with others
- Enhancement
- Transparency



3

QAA

- FHEQs
- Subject benchmark statements
- Code of practice
- Programme specifications
- Review and audit
- Quality and standards
- Developmental, Responsive, SED -driven



4

DH/QAA Prototypes

- 6 institutions
- Benchmark statements and framework phase 1 - eleven subjects
- Subjects: Health Visiting, Midwifery, Nursing, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Podiatry Radiography
- Not addressed in prototypes: Dietetics, Orthoptics, Prosthetics & Orthotics, Speech & Language Therapy
- Pre and post-reg
- Practice and theory - however and wherever



5

QAA and Health Care Education

- HEFCE, SHEFC, HEFCW/Health Board, DFHETE, DoH - funding bodies for review and audit
- Prototypes, and roll-out for 2003-6?
- Subject benchmarks
- Health professions framework Phase 2
- Foundation degrees ?evaluation



6

New Process QAA (England)

- Audit and discipline trails, 6 yearly cycle
- Developmental engagements to 2005/6
- Subject review where required (criteria) to 2005
- Subject review where requested and funded
- Students and student surveys



7

New Process -elsewhere

- Wales engagements for 2002, new QA group this week for qa arrangements 2003/4 academic year
- Scotland 5 reviews during 2002/3, new process of enhancements 2003/4 onwards? Students vital to the process.
- Northern Ireland - ??English new process



8

Future QA

- Country specific approaches
- ? International/European perspectives
- Influence of PSRBs/Funding Bodies
- LTSN and subject centres
- Subjects/disciplines/common core frameworks.
- Interprofessional learning



9



Promoting Higher Quality



ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS FORUM

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. Title of the Organisation: The Allied Health Professions Forum (AHPF)

2. Objectives

The AHPF exists to foster collaboration and encourage liaison between the following bodies:

Ambulance Service Association (ASA)

Art Therapies Advisory Group (ATAG)

representing:

The British Association of Art Therapists (BAAT)

The British Association of Dramatherapists (BADTh)

The Association of Professional Music Therapists (APMT)

Association of Clinical Scientists (ACS)

The British Dietetic Association (BDA)

British Association of Prosthetists and Orthotists (BAPO)

British Orthoptic Society (BOS)

British Association/College of Occupational Therapists (COT)

Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP)

Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS)

Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists (RCSLT)

Society and College of Radiographers (SCoR)

The Society of Chiropractors and Podiatrists (SCP)

3. Membership

3.1 Membership is open to any professional association whose members are currently or prospectively registrants with the Council for Professions Supplementary to Medicine (CPSM), the Health Professions Council, or who are state registered.

3.2 Admission to membership shall be by a majority decision from which not more than two member organisations dissent.

4. Functions

4.1 Ultimate authority rests with the Council of each member organisation as separate and 'sovereign' bodies. Any actions or decisions of the AHPF will be authorised only by virtue of the Minutes of the AHPF meetings. The AHPF Secretariat exists only to execute the decisions of the Group and is not empowered to take independent action or exercise discretion beyond the limits set out in any given Minute.

4.2 In order to aid clarity, agreements should ideally be reached on the basis of agreed texts - papers or resolutions - formally adopted by the AHPF.

4.3 Any decision to act should be contingent on agreement at or near consensus. Where more than two member organisations (whether or not present at the meeting) dissent from a stated view, the name and authority of the AHPF may not be applied.

4.4 The freedom of any member organisation to dissent from a proposed line of action is absolute, even in the event of agreement by the majority of other AHPF members. This freedom also extends to retrospective reconsideration of prior agreements. That is, the Council of a member organisation has a right, on mature consideration, either to become party to an AHPF agreement or withdraw from one.

4.5 Any sub group set up by the AHPF is accountable to the Forum and must report back regularly

5. Voting

Each member organisation shall have one vote.

6. Chairmanship

6.1 The Chairman will be elected from among the Chairmen/Presidents of member organisations and will hold office for one year, even if he/she ceases to hold the chair of his/her member organisation during that period.

6.2 The organisation providing the Chairman of AHPF will be entitled to send an additional elected officer to meetings chaired by their representative.

7. Servicing

The Forum will be serviced by an officer, initially provided by the COT, at a cost to be determined by the Forum on an annual basis.

Revised version approved AHPF 3 99-00, 30 June 2000 (Item 2.1.2.)

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News and events



16 May 2002

Press release

Fund and award schemes to boost capacity of high quality research related to nursing and professions allied to medicine

Embargoed until 1500 hours on Thursday 16 May 2002

The HEFCE and the Department of Health have agreed to establish a fund to increase the amount of high quality research related to nursing and allied health professions, Sir Howard Newby, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England, announced today (16 May).

Speaking at a meeting of the Council of Deans and Heads of UK Faculties for Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting in York, Sir Howard also announced two new award schemes at doctoral and post-doctoral levels for future research leaders.

Sir Howard said the announcements were based on the recommendations of a task group, chaired by Professor Janet Finch, Vice-Chancellor of Keele University, which looked at how high-quality research relevant to nurses and professions allied to medicine could be better supported.

The report, which was based on independent research, found that research in this area was significantly underfunded in comparison with other comparable professions such as teaching, and that the available funding was skewed towards short-term projects.

Sir Howard said he was struck by the eagerness of the nursing and allied health professional community to engage with the task of supporting evidence based practise in the professions and creating new knowledge. The task group's report presented a clear case for nursing research and a plan for investment to realise its potential.

Sir Howard said that HEFCE and the DH had accepted the report's key recommendation that a fund should be established to support the development of research capacity in nursing and allied health professions.

'I can announce today that we will be establishing a strategic funding committee with a broad remit to examine what we should fund, how we should fund it and how much support it will require. The committee will have an ongoing remit to advise the HEFCE and DH and will be asked to report publicly on progress towards a mature and dynamic research base.'

'I am also delighted to announce that Professor Janet Finch has agreed to chair the committee. Together with her we will be looking to identify other members in the very near future.'

Sir Howard said that while the amount of funding HEFCE could contribute would depend on the outcome of this summer's Spending Review, it was important to maintain the momentum that had built up following the publication of the Task Group's report last November (Note 1). 'We think it is important to start now.'

Director of Research, Analysis and Information at the Department of Health, Professor Sir John Pattison said:

"We are delighted to be working in partnership with HEFCE on this exciting new initiative, both to address the needs of nurses and allied health professionals as well as develop new research.

"Nurses and allied health professionals are already key to the delivery of patient care in the NHS. This fund will give them the chance to develop not only their own roles but new practices that will benefit everybody who uses and works in the health service."

Sir Howard also announced the creation of two new award schemes to enable individuals to develop their research skills in order to maximise their contribution to health care research.

Researcher Development Awards are intended to identify individuals of outstanding potential early in their research careers and 'fast track' them by supporting them in a research training environment with a training programme, which reflects individual talents and needs. These are doctoral awards for three or four years.

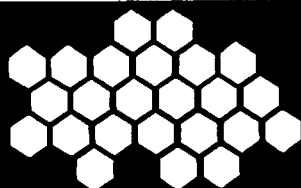
Post Doctoral Awards are intended for individuals who as yet do not have sufficient experience as independent researchers to apply for a Career Scientist Award but who have already obtained their doctoral degree. These post doctoral awards are for three or four years.

Ends

Notes to Editors

1. The report 'Research in nursing and allied health professions: Report of the Task Group 3 to HEFCE and the Department of Health' (HEFCE 01/63) is available from HEFCE publications (tel 0117 931 7035) and on the HEFCE web site www.hefce.ac.uk, under 'Publications'.
2. Applications forms and guidance notes for the National Nursing and Allied Health Professional awards are available on the Department of Health web site at www.doh.gov.uk/research. For further information on the awards, contact Mrs Allison Pighills on 0113 233 6668/7.
3. Allied health professionals comprise a wide range of staff including: physiotherapists, occupational therapists, arts therapist, chiropodists, speech language therapists, dieticians, laboratory staff, radiographers and paramedics.

Centre for Health Sciences & Practice



**Festival of Learning, Redwood Lodge Hotel,
Bristol
19th-20th September**

'Festivals of Learning' are an innovative concept developed by LTSN Health Sciences and Practice, and being delivered across the UK during 2002/3. The Festivals blend elements of established event formats - high profile keynote presentations, workshops, special interest groups – to provide a unique celebration of diverse approaches to education and training in the Health Sciences.

The aim of the Festivals, both individually and together, is to enhance the quality of learning, teaching and assessment in Health Sciences and Practice, both in work settings and in higher education. Where appropriate, the Festivals will also explore how national and regional issues and priorities relate to each other.

Core themes of the 'Festivals of Learning' are:

- Interprofessional education
- The application of educational research to Health Sciences & Practice learning and teaching
- Education in placement and work settings
- Flexible learning, including e-learning; theory, policy and practice

Parallel sessions will include:

- Showcase of mini-projects and other research
- Learning and teaching case studies: what worked and what didn't!
- Product exhibition stands and poster displays
- Optional workshops – e.g. problem-based learning, innovations in assessment, developing reflective practice, etc.
- Special Interest Group meetings
- Personal well-being sessions - informal opportunities to relax and revitalise

**For the provisional programme and booking form for this event please visit :
www.health.ltsn.ac.uk**

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