Health Professions Council Education and Training Committee 12 June 2007

Reports from Education and Training Committee Representatives at External Meetings

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The Committee has agreed that representatives of the Committee should formally report back from meetings at which they have represented the Committee by completing a standard form outlining the meeting attended and the key decisions taken.

Feedback forms, which are attached, have been received from the following members:

- (i) Christine Farrell (two meetings)
- (ii) Pam Sabine
- (iii) Diane Waller

Decision

The Committee is requested to note the document. No decision is required.

Background information

Minute 5.6.1 of the Education and Training Committee meeting 23 June 2004.

Resource implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Background papers

None.

Appendices

Copies of feedback forms.

Date of paper

31 May 2007.

Name of Council Member	Christine Farrell			
Title of Conference/Meeting	Lecture to OT students (3 rd year). Brunel University			
Date of Conference	3.5.07			
Approximate number of people at the conference/meeting	150			
A formal lecture about the HPC. Issues covered included practicalities of registration, fees, standards (proficiency & CPD), the HPC and professional bodies, and the White Paper.				
Several questions were asked by students afterwards. Questions about registration from abroad, employment difficulties and registration, content of the website including the difficulty of reading some of the material (e.g. the CPD leaflet) due to white print on a dark background). I gave this student a printed version of this leaflet.				
Key Decisions Taken				

Please complete as much of the above as you can and return by post to Sabrina Donaldson, Council and Committee Secretariat, Health Professions Council, Park House, 184 Kennington Park Road, London, SE11 4BU, or alternatively by e-mail to sabrina.donaldson@hpc-uk.org.

July 2004

Name of Council Member	Christine Farrell
Title of Conference/Meeting	Involving service users in the accreditation of education providers
Date of Conference	20 April 2007
Approximate number of people at the conference/meeting	40 approx

Issues of Relevance to HPC.

Relevant to HPC's own Education & Training and PPI strategies.

Two papers were presented, followed by small group discussions.

The first paper (mine) set out the international context for innovations in user involvement in health care education programmes. The second paper presented findings from a pilot study by the GCSC about involving users in the approval of a social work degree. This presentation was a useful description of a UK initiative - probably the first example of a project to involve users in regulatory accreditation. Their full report will soon be sent to the people present at the seminar, soon. The GCSC (Graham Ixer) are currently planning a second project to involve users in their course approvals monitoring. However, an important difference exists between the GSCC and other regulators in that their structure and funding mechanisms are different. This meant that they had government money to carry out the project. Other regulators would be using registrant fees to pay for user involvement in accreditation.

The small group discussions that followed enabled people to share some questions and concerns about PPI in regulation. In my group, some time was spent on the need to clarify who could be called a user (representativeness is an old chestnut in PPI), and the potential outcomes of collaboration between regulators, users and HEI's. Themes that emerged from other groups at the feedback stage were: the high cost of involving users in accreditation;

the need for evidence about the impact and outcomes of PPI in accreditation; and the need for further discussion about methods of involvement.

The seminar ended on a positive note with people agreeing that working together means learning together: a good motto for regulators, users and HEI's.

Key Decisions Taken			
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Name of Council Member	Miss Pam Sabine	
Title of Conference/Meeting	Conference – Institute of Chiropodists and Podiatrists	
Date of Conference	19 th and 20 th May 2007.	
Approximate number of people at the conference/meeting Issues of Relevance to HPC	200	
The Institute has invited the HPC President to take part in a Q&A session, just prior to the AGM and I attended in place of Dr Anna van der Gaag. I attended the Annual Dinner/Dance on the first night and was able to meet several of the Institute's members and speak to them individually about some of their concerns, such as the implications of the recent White Paper. The following morning, the Q&A session lasted approximately 35 minutes and I was asked to explain the HPC's stance on Foot Health Practitioners (FHP's), conduct, Yellow Pages advertising, and the role of the registrant Council members. It was obvious that the main issue for the Institute members at the moment is that of unregistered practitioners – FHP's – who are able to carry on working in exactly the same way as they have always done. They believe that these people should be stopped from practising Chiropody/Podiatry in order to protect the public properly. I was also asked whether the HPC had any current plans to regulate FHP's as a separate profession.		
Key Decisions Taken N/A		
Pam Sabine		

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Name of Council Member	Diane Waller
Title of Conference/Meeting	Strategy Group to develop NOS for Psychotherapists and Counsellors
Date of Conference	11th April 2007
Approximate number of people at the conference/meeting	12
Skills for Health, with strategy group mon email. This is important as the NOS are linked	for Health consultation on draft NOS for ir response to it. Project will be continued by seeting infrequently and a lot of work done I to the parallel work going on prior to the which DW is participating on behalf of HPC Regulation of Psychotherapists and
Reference group currently being establi	shed, we have been asked for names.
Key Decisions Taken	