

“Editorial”

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Message from Head of School

Dear students and staff,

Shortly before the festive break I attended a lively Christmas dinner for students and staff at Zero Degrees. This event was organised by students; in particular my thanks go to Alexandra Jeffreys. The evening emphasised again the good relationship that exists between students and staff in the Dental School, and the camaraderie between students in different years of the programme. I hope these harmonious and positive relationships continue in the coming year.

Our final year BDS students have the opportunity from 4th February to complete the National Student Survey (NSS). Results of the survey from our 2012 graduates were very encouraging, reflecting well on the efforts of staff throughout the School. NSS results are increasingly important, with widespread media coverage and it is reassuring, for the future health of the School in the competitive environment now existing in Higher Education, to know that students are satisfied with the education they receive here.

Dentistry has followed Medicine into a national recruitment process for Dental Foundation

training (DF1). Our final year BDS students have been through the recruitment process again and were recently informed of their results. Overall it looks like Bristol students performed well. Congratulations to those of you who have been offered a place, and for those of you who are not in this position I remind you that further places will become available. The important thing is not to be disheartened but to focus fully on your academic work, ensure you pass the Gateway to Finals and perform to the best of your ability in Finals themselves. We will endeavor to support you as best we can.

The School has many challenges ahead in the coming year – transition to the new BDS programme restructure with associated administrator support, a University review of the School, and further preparation for the Research Excellence Framework exercise.

There is important information within this BDS programme newsletter for both students and staff. Please take the time to read the information provided – we hope you will find it both informative and entertaining.

Best wishes to everyone for a successful 2013.

Best wishes,



The Bristol Dental School Centenary Celebrations

Recently, 320 graduates attended a meeting at the Bristol Dental School to celebrate the centenary of the Bristol BDS Degree. This summary of its history was part of the lecture programme. A fuller account of the history of the dental school is contained in “A history of the University of Bristol Dental School and its site” by Chris Stephens published by the Bristol Dental Alumni Association.

The origins of the Bristol Dental School can be found in three different institutions, the Bristol

General Hospital, the Bristol Infirmary (later the Royal Infirmary), and the old University College which was eventually to become the University of Bristol in 1909.

The Bristol General Hospital was the first to establish a post specific to dentistry when in 1874 Thomas Cooke Parson became its first surgeon dentist. In 1880 the General also became the first to establish a Special Department of Dental Surgery, with the Royal Infirmary still expecting dental procedures to be part of the duties of the general surgeon. In 1888, however, William Robert Ackland was appointed dental surgeon to a new Infirmary dental department, a post he was to hold until 1922.

Needless to say conditions in those days were still very primitive. Munro Smith, himself an assistant surgeon and then surgeon from 1889-1907, says in his history of the Bristol Royal Infirmary:

“The advantage of having a properly equipped department with expert dentists, and the many accessories necessary for tooth extraction, etc, was at once apparent, and the shrieks associated with this branch of surgery became confined to certain days”.

Although it was possible to qualify in dentistry from 1860 onwards it was not until 1921 that the unqualified practice of dentistry was finally prohibited.

which opened its modest doors in October 1876 located in two houses in Park Street. The following year the College became affiliated to the Bristol Medical School which had been set up in 1830 by Bristol doctors and surgeons. While there was no dental course at this time (it did not appear in the College Calendar until 1894/5) dental lectures given by Cook Parson, still a surgeon dentist at the General Hospital began at the College in 1877/8. Practical training for students at this time could be obtained either through an apprenticeship to a local dentist or through medical and dental training at one of the two hospitals. Many of those taking the latter route qualified in both dentistry and medicine.



A student leads a tour of the School



An original Dental Alumni tie!



Bristol dental alumni listen to presentations given as part of the Centenary celebrations

By 1870 there was already a movement in Bristol to establish a college of science and literature in the region, and in June 1874 a meeting took place in the Victoria Rooms to promote just such a thing. This led to the establishment of Bristol's University College

In July 1878 the first Dentists Act decreed that no person could call themselves a dentist or dental practitioner unless they were registered with the General Medical Council. Those who were qualified were permitted to call themselves “surgeon dentists”. The early Dental Registers however show that comparatively few who practised dentistry had a professional qualification and were grandfathered into the dental register with the words “in practice before 22 July 1878”

In 1909 the University College became the University of Bristol and the new degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery was established. The first student to qualify with this degree was George Fawn in 1912 who saw service in the Royal Medical Corps in the First World War. After returning to Bristol he became the Dental Consultant at the Royal Infirmary and a member of the University's dental teaching staff.

In 1921 dental education became one of full time study in an approved hospital but Bristol still did not have a dental school and by this time

crowding in the dental departments of the Infirmary and General Hospital had become acute and was causing concern to the General Medical Council.

In 1935 the University's eyes fell on Nos. 15-18 Lower Maudlin Street - the shop of Messrs. Cole and Pottow. After the General Medical Council's Dental Board had expressed their approval the site was purchased and the University's Dental Hospital and School was formally opened on April 10, 1940. Thereafter no dental out-patients were treated at the Infirmary or General Hospital and brought to an end an unsatisfactory situation where students were continually on the move between lecture rooms and laboratories of the University and clinical instruction in one or other of the Hospitals.

Since that time the dental student intake has risen from 12 in 1940 to 79 today to meet the country's need for highly trained dentists. To accommodate this increase several new buildings have appeared on the existing site. There is also now an outreach department in the newly opened South Bristol Hospital at Hengrove which provides students with the opportunity of treating patients in a general practice setting.

Bristol's dental school has an outstanding reputation in dental education and research, where the focus is on biomaterials, clinical trials, immunity, oral health and nutrition. All these research groups are strongly supported by external funding. In teaching the National Students Survey of 2012 ranked the Bristol Dental School 4th out of the 15 UK dental schools.

'You said, we did'

Students are frequently asked for feedback on teaching provided within the BDS programme. Staff review the data and comments obtained and, where appropriate, respond with a view to improving the overall educational experience for students. Recent examples are outlined below.

Primary Care Dentistry year 3: Basic Oral Surgery

Following student feedback regarding the teaching on the use of dental elevators we have filmed a short video about the use of elevators

for dental extractions. This video is available on Blackboard under Primary Care Dentistry>>Basic Oral Surgery>> E-learning and resources. We request that all Year 3 students watch the video so that they are familiar with the instruments prior to using them to treat patients. Take a look. We are keen to receive your thoughts and feedback.

Dr Carla Fleming
Clinical Lecturer in Oral Surgery

News from Units

"Phantom Extractions" by Tamara Khayatt, Honorary Clinical Lecturer in Oral Surgery

Ask any of the current final year students and for most there will be a slow intake of breath, a shake of the head and a reply, "It was harder in our day" or "we never got to do that".

In the not so distant past, dental students in oral surgery were "thrown in at the deep end". Clearly this is a situation beloved of a few adrenaline-junkies, but not so comfortable for the majority of diligent individuals and their patients. "The deep end" meant carrying out your first extraction on a live patient without having practised before and often without the comfort of a final year student-mentor.

In 2011, oral surgery purchased five Frasco exodontia phantom-heads at a cost of around £10K and developed a programme to improve year 3 (Y3) students' introduction to Oral Surgery. The aim was to improve students' knowledge and skills and ultimately confidence, in preparation for their first "live" dental extractions.

The phantom heads strap into the dental chairs in the oral surgery clinical area. They allow students to learn correct operator and patient positioning, forceps selection and to practise the movements required to extract teeth with forceps all within the environment they will be working within. We are thankful for the cooperation of the clinical skills lab team who carefully reset the teeth within the jaws after each use to allow the next student the benefit of the closest possible simulation.

In addition, the introductory programme has been formalised to include revision on LA, case

presentation, department protocols and documentation including WHO checklist, department layout and cross infection control, emergency management and the safe use of non-disposable LA syringes for each student.

In 2012, staff wished to know how effective our efforts had been. We are always keen to improve the learning experiences of our students. To this end, all Y3 students were asked to complete an evaluation questionnaire after they had performed their first dental extraction on a patient. They were asked a series of questions regarding how well prepared they felt they were in certain areas and invited to give free comments.

84% of students responded and nearly half of these gave their own comments. Overall feedback was very positive with regard to the value of the programme, the staff delivering it and the helpfulness and comfort of Y3 students being paired with a Y5 mentor, first to observe and then to perform their first extraction. Issues regarding consistency in teaching amongst staff, the desire for even more preparation prior to first extraction and the wish for more information on instrumentation, particularly elevators, were highlighted. Comments regarding confidence were variable. These ranged from, "Felt rushed into patients", through "Was good to be paired with Y5-gave good teaching/confidence" up to "Starting on extractions ASAP is good".

This feedback has been disseminated and discussed at a recent oral surgery staff away-afternoon. In response, we are implementing a number of improvements. The teaching programme is to be timetabled in a more structured way and student-logbooks will be modified to improve teaching consistency. More effort will be made by supervisory-staff to facilitate mentoring and to ensure that all Y3 students observe their Y5 mentor performing an extraction before doing one themselves. Staff broadly agreed that further training on the use of elevators should be provided, but at a later stage. We believe it is important that students grasp the fundamentals of the use of forceps before learning the subtler art of elevation and luxation. The feedback has even stimulated the production of our own film about the use of these instruments, which should be available to all students soon.

The oral surgery team thank the current Y4 for their helpful comments and hope they approve of our improvements. We also look forward to the incoming Y3 reaping the rewards from next term.

Any student or staff wishing to give comment or desiring the complete version of feedback is welcome to contact me on: tamara.khayatt@uhbristol.nhs.uk



**Oral Surgery
Phantom
Heads**

News from clinics and labs

Clinical waste

UH Bristol's waste policy is undergoing change, in particular the introduction of an offensive waste stream. This additional waste grouping will involve the introduction of yellow bags with a black stripe (tiger bags), which are already common place in General Practice. These bags are used for disposal of non-infectious but offensive hygiene waste. The non-infectious status of the patient dictates the classification of the resultant waste from medical and dental procedures.

Examples of such offensive waste include:

- Gowns, gloves, tissues, and other items from dental care which may be contaminated with bodily fluids.
- Hygiene waste and sanitary protection items such as nappies and incontinence pads.

Plaster casts and laboratory waste cannot be classified as offensive waste but are subject to other forms of disposal as identified in the Trust's waste policy.

Cost Savings

This waste can be sent to landfill, offering significant cost savings over incineration or other alternative technology treatments that are required for clinical waste. Currently offensive waste disposal costs £100 per tonne less than that for clinical waste.

Recommendations:

- Current Department of Health national guidelines (07-01: Safe Management of Healthcare Waste) recommend yellow with black stripe colour-coded bags for offensive waste. Bags used to transport offensive waste for disposal must meet the requirements of the Carriage Regulations (UN Compliant)
- Department of Health Decontamination Health Technical Memorandum 01-05: Decontamination in primary care dental practices - Appendix 1 – Waste disposal



Tiger Bags
Yellow and black tiger-
stripe bags
(for disposal of
offensive/hygiene
waste from dental care
suitable for landfill)

Library news

The online guides to searching databases, such as PubMed, Medline on Ovid SP and Web of Science, were recently updated by Medical Librarians. These databases can support research and evidence-based medicine, as they index key scientific and academic publications for Medicine and Dentistry.

The Library has purchased three new eBooks from BDS reading lists recently:

- Ingle's Endodontics 6. / John I. Ingle et al (eds). 6th edition, 2008.
- Orthodontics & paediatric dentistry / Declan Millett, Richard. 2nd edition, 2010.
- Clinical problem solving in dentistry / Edward W. Odell (ed). 3rd ed, 2010.

A full list of new books and eBooks for clinical dentistry can be found on the Web. Please use the Book Suggestion Form if there are books you would like the Library to buy (and let us know if we need more copies of high-demand books), or email the Subject Librarian:

emma.place@bristol.ac.uk

Dental Clinical Audit and Effectiveness Study Day 2013 Wednesday 26th June, 9am to 5pm

Staff and final year students are invited to attend the Dental Clinical Audit and Effectiveness Study Day in June. The aim of the day is to highlight the potential for improving clinical practice through Clinical Audit and Effectiveness. A range of speakers will talk about resources for evidence-based practice and for audit standards, describe audit within the wider context of the Trust and the nation as a whole, and demonstrate links between Audit, Effectiveness and aspects of Clinical Governance. The afternoon session will consist of the annual Dental Audit Oscars, an opportunity for staff (and some selected students) to present audit projects to a multi-disciplinary audience. There will be a drinks reception at 5pm, when the winners of the Audit Oscars will be announced!

For more information, or for a registration form, contact Jonathan.Penny@uhbristol.nhs.uk (ext. 24745)

Bristol Dental Alumni Association

For many students graduation may be just a distant dream. But the dream comes true more quickly than you think and before you know it you will have graduated and become proud alumni of the University of Bristol. Before you graduate and leave us we will invite you to join our Bristol Dental Alumni Association (BDAA). Our current membership is about 800, with graduates from the '50s to 2012. The annual subscription is only £10.

An important aim of the BDAA is to encourage continued contact between alumni and the Dental School. We do this by promoting reunions - seven year-group reunions were held last year - by publishing an annual booklet (containing reports of reunions and of students' electives, news of alumni and much more) and by posting details of forthcoming reunions and other news on our website (www.bristoldentalalumni.co.uk).

Another important aim is to support worthy causes in the School. In recent years the main beneficiary has been the dental library, and in future will include the CAL centre. We also give

some help to students for their electives and to the UBDSS for the Final Year Dinner and various other events.

The Clinical Dean has always been a member of our committee and we thank Gordon Gray for all his support over the last 10 years, not least in leading most of the reunion tours of the School. We look forward to his successor, Lisa McNally, joining us, but since he is not leaving Bristol we have co-opted him back on to our committee. Other committee members still at BDH are Susan Hooper, Nikki Atack, Tamara Khayatt, Lee Feinberg and John Murphy.

I hope you are having a happy and successful time in Bristol and that when you graduate you will want to keep in touch and join our BDAA, and with your modest annual subscriptions contribute to the continued success of the School.

Dr Reg Andlaw
Chairman, Bristol Dental Alumni Association

South Bristol Community Hospital

Profiles of the nursing staff at South Bristol Community Hospital

Zara Plumley is the team lead and is from a community dentistry background. Her additional qualifications are in: special needs; radiography; oral health; sedation and fluoride application.

Victoria Parslow is the infection control lead and she came from the oral surgery department at BDH. Her additional qualification is in sedation.

Carly Gerrish also came from the oral surgery department at BDH and is qualified to undertake dental radiography.

Lucy Rogers and **Katie Pipper** both came from ADH Clinic at BDH.

Sue Rex and **Caroline Short** joined SBCH from the community service.

Anne Edwards from the community is trained in oral health and fluoride application.

With the advent of the new term in December, the Year 3 students have now joined us as nursing support for the final year. The Skype link for the 8am and 9am lectures is being utilised on a regular basis. Two way conversations are possible, so sleeping through an early morning lecture is not an option for our students as the lecturer may ask a question!

National Student Survey

Final year students will have the opportunity to complete the National Student Survey from next Monday, 4th February. Results from 2012 can be seen in full within the new Unistats website (<http://unistats.direct.gov.uk/>).

Bristol was one of two Dental Schools in the UK for which 100% of responding students indicated overall satisfaction with the course. Information about graduate salary, employment prospects, balance of teaching methods and assessment types can be viewed and compared with data from other courses via this site.



Summary information from 2012 NSS results

Student news

At the end of a long first term, it was decided that we would have a student and staff clinical Christmas meal held at Zero Degrees.



Dr Waylen (2nd from right) keeps order at 'the rowdy table in the corner' (blurred to protect identities!)

We were kindly sponsored by Wesleyan and Dental Protection which helped provide drinks for the night and overall it was a big success with Jos and her beautiful reindeer ears as well

as Prof Sandy, Dr Waylen and Dr Dymock all joining in with the fun and games.

It was an enjoyable evening that enabled students in years 3, 4 & 5 to join together with staff ending the year in high spirits before the Christmas break and hopefully this becomes a more regular event with an even bigger turnout next year!



Phew, the responsibility of drawing that raffle was overwhelming! Thank goodness we didn't mess it up!

The next event coming up is the Dental Ball which will give everyone another chance to celebrate especially for the 5th years who will begin their last term as dental undergraduate students!

Wishing them the very best of luck.

Alexandra Jeffreys
Bristol Dental School, Vice President

Staff news

Staff at Bristol Dental School host British Association of Teachers of Conservative Dentistry (BATCD) meeting

The Restorative Staff at Bristol Dental School hosted a highly successful British Association of Teachers of Conservative Dentistry meeting at the Royal College of Surgeons in London on Thursday, 15 November 2012. Numbers attending exceeded all expectation and we welcomed delegates from Restorative and other Specialties from all Dental Schools in the UK and Ireland. The meeting focused on Improving Assessment.

Key speakers were Dr Suzanne Chamberlain who works for The Assessment and Qualification Alliance and is a Consultant to the GMC and the GDC on Assessment; Professor Val Wass, Head of the School of Medicine at Keele University and Chair of the Medical School Council Assessment Alliance; Professor Callum Youngson, Head of the School of Dentistry at Liverpool University and Dr Jon Bennett, Associate Director of Undergraduate Dental Studies at The Peninsula Dental School. All the speakers were very well received.



Miss Susan Hooper (Chair of BATCD 2012) and Professor Dominic O'Sullivan at the BATCD meeting

Dr Chamberlain covered "Improving assessment quality; good item writing practices" and "How to analyse the performance of your assessments: the dos and don'ts of psychometric analysis"; Professor Wass spoke about "National question banks: a way forward?" Prof Youngson updated the meeting on "Dental school assessment collaboration" and Dr Bennett reported on "Progress testing at the Peninsula Dental School".



Mrs Penny Gage from Septodont UK (key sponsor) with delegates at BATCD meeting

Bristol Dental School plan to lead further discussions and host a National Meeting on Assessment in 2013.

Appointment of new School Manager School of Oral & Dental Sciences

We would also like to welcome James Tubman into the role as the new School Manager for the School of Oral & Dental Sciences. You may already know James through his previous role in the NHS as the Performance & Operations Manager for Bristol Dental Hospital and Head & Neck Services. He is a graduate from the NHS Graduate Management Training Scheme and has worked in diverse organisations throughout his training. These include Gloucestershire Hospitals NHSFT, 2gether NHSFT (Mental Health), and a secondment to John Lewis. He has an MSc in Management and a BA(Hons.) in Politics & International Relations. He is currently completing an MSc in Health & Public Leadership as part of ongoing CPD from the NHS Graduate Scheme.



James Tubman
School Manager

Staff Announcements

We are pleased to announce the appointment of a new consultant in Oral Medicine, Konrad Staines who is joining us in April 2013. He is currently a consultant in Oral Medicine at Newcastle Dental Hospital & School. His appointment will allow us to provide both an increased Oral medicine clinical service and improved exposure of dental students to Oral medicine patients. We welcome him to the School.

Further staff achievements

Congratulations to senior staff member Paul King who recently completing the Bank of America Chicago Marathon in October this year, in a time of 3 hrs 15 mins. Paul is on course to complete the 5 'World Majors' (Berlin, Boston, Chicago, London and New York) with just New York to go.



“Running is part of my life and as well as keeping you fit and healthy it is a great way to clear the mind and occasionally switch off from the daily rigours of professional life”.

Conclusion

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Newsletter and have found the information provided to be useful. We intend to produce the next edition at the beginning of next term. Please send items you wish to be considered for inclusion to myself (D.Dymock@bristol.ac.uk) or to Judy Caesley (Judy.Caesley@bristol.ac.uk).

David Dymock
Head of Teaching
Faculty Undergraduate Education Director