



Dental Mirror

The Newsletter of the Glasgow Dental School

Issue 9
December 2012

It has been a little while since the last edition of Dental Mirror but, like the phoenix, it has risen from the ashes under the skilful editorship of Will McLean, Mike Broad, Neil Nairn and David Still. There are many good news stories from recent months, some of which you can read about in this issue and many of which feature 'firsts' and 'innovation'.

This year, for the second year in a row, Dentistry in Glasgow has achieved 100% overall student satisfaction in the National Student Survey. Furthermore, the Glasgow BDS Course is sitting at Number 1 in the UK Complete University Guide. Consistency in delivery of teaching excellence does not happen by chance and I would like to thank all staff members for their dedication and skill. This high quality has been exemplified by the University's decision to honour Dr Donald Cameron and Mr Robert

McKerlie with a Teaching Excellence Award in 2012 for "careers distinguished by significant and sustained commitment to excellence", one of only a small number of such awards made annually.

There have also been significant successes in research activity. A first for both Dentistry and for Glasgow Dental School was the award of a prestigious Scottish Senior Clinical Research Fellowship to Dr Shauna Culshaw, a

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Professor Vince Bissell – GDC Visitation

The General Dental Council will be commencing a new round of dental school inspections in November, heralding some fairly radical changes in their processes for the quality assurance of dental education. The GDC recently published its new guidance for dental education and training providers – “Preparing for Practice”. The primary focus of this document is the Learning Outcomes that new entrants to the GDC’s registers will be expected to demonstrate. This highlights the central feature of the new approach; it is based on “outcomes” and not “process”. The GDC will be interested in how education providers assure themselves that their students, at the point of first registration, have attained the outcomes. This is what the GDC sees as its major function in respect of training – ensuring that those who enter its registers are capable of safe and effective patient care. They are less interested in being prescriptive about the learning and teaching processes that bring students to that point, and they see this emphasis as allowing schools the freedom to develop their own, innovative,

approaches to education and training.

Assuring that outcomes are met boils down to “Assessment”, and the quality and scope of assessment will be of central importance in the inspections. The inspection process itself is also likely to differ substantially from that we have experienced previously. In many ways the process should be more transparent, since it will be conducted against published “Standards for Education”. These standards clearly set out what is expected of education providers in four main areas: patient safety; quality assurance; assessment; and equality and diversity. Schools will be required to submit evidence of compliance with the standards in these areas and the actual inspection will be about confirming this evidence. The inspectors themselves have now been appointed and trained.

Glasgow will be inspected in 2013, with the initial visit in March and then a return visit at the time of the final examination. In many ways we are well placed to demonstrate compliance with the standards. We have been operating with an

outcome-based curriculum since 2004 and we have been engaged with a progressive process of rigorous quality assurance of our assessment, featuring blueprinting, standard setting, psychometrics, etc. In addition, for the coming round of inspections, dental schools will be evaluated with respect to the outcomes in “The First Five Years” (TFFY), and Glasgow outcomes map easily onto those in TFFY. Nonetheless, the inspection will be a crucial test of the educational development we have given so much of our energy to over the past few years. All staff will need to be fully engaged with preparation and many will be involved in the visits themselves. Glasgow has a real opportunity to showcase its curriculum and demonstrate that our excellent National Student Survey results are grounded in reality and matched by an excellent product in our new graduates.

Professor Vince Bissell, Director of Dental Education



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member of the Infection & Immunity Research Group, in support of her portfolio of work in periodontal immunology. Within that same group, the award of a Personal Professorship to Gordon Ramage is testament to the quality of his leadership of the Group and his own research into microbial biofilms. The Community Oral Health Group, led by Professor Lorna Macpherson, achieved further grant funding of £1.1 million to continue the evaluation of the Childsmile programme, and at a national level the Dental School is a leading member of the Scottish Oral Health Research Collaboration project, which is focusing on Dental Public Health and Craniofacial Anomalies.

One of the other highlights of 2012 has been the refurbishment of the Teaching Laboratory on Level 8. This room was a traditional biomedical science teaching laboratory which was extremely shabby and designed for the traditional type of laboratory teaching in basic sciences, which no longer forms part of the BDS curriculum. A combination of funds from a variety of sources were identified to allow the complete strip out of the space and development of an exciting multi-media facility at a cost of around £450K. The space supports virtual microscopy teaching on tablet computers and also houses the first 3D projection system in the University. A report of the opening ceremony planned for 6 November

will appear in a future edition of the Dental Mirror.

A number of staff who have provided many years of service to the School have left since the last edition. These include Mr John McCrosson who has retired, Prof Colin Murray who is heading to Dubai and Dr Sunny Khambay who is taking up a post in Hong Kong. We wish these colleagues well in the future. We have also been joined by a number of new staff members since the last edition and are very pleased to welcome them to the School.

Enjoy the read and if you have ideas for future editions, please pass these on to the editorial quartet.



Professor Jeremy Bagg

Elective Study Programme

Broadening Horizons

It is nearly two decades ago that as a dental student I left Cardiff heading for Boston on my Elective. My destination was the laboratory of Bjorn Olsen in the Department of Cell Biology at Harvard Medical School. Little did I know that my time in Bjorn's lab would have such a huge impact upon shaping my future. My elective served as a catalyst to pursue a PhD and establish a passion for research and teaching. Obviously, electives will not have such a profound effect on every individual's life, but the experiences offer a glimpse into something each student may have otherwise never seen.

At Glasgow Dental School our students are required to undertake a period of elective study towards the end of their 4th year. This programme, coordinated by Niall Rogerson, provides an excellent opportunity for further personal and professional development by encouraging students to choose their own subject area and engage with enquiry-led learning. This year with the 2011-2012 cohort the elective assessment process has been changed from a written report to a poster presentation in order to promote the development of communication skills. This enables the content of the poster as well as the quality of the verbal presentation to be assessed. In addition the Elective Committee assessors have the opportunity to ask questions and ascertain what the student has gained from their elective experience. The Elective Committee members felt that this new method of assessment fulfilled these objectives and they had been impressed by the general high standard and also noted some outstanding presentations. BDS5 students delivered their presentations over two Wednesday afternoons in September and the Dental School staff and students who attended regarded this event as both very interesting and enjoyable.



Anna Friel providing a root treatment for a tiger!

The organizations that provide prizes and awards related to the dental elective study programme have been contacted and an announcement naming the prize winners will be made in due course.

There were many great elective projects that varied in their geographic location and subject matter.

Anna and Sheila Friel undertook an observational elective project exploring the world of Veterinary Dentistry on our side of the Atlantic, in North Berwick and Blair Drummond Safari Park, and across "the pond" in America. In the United States, they visited veterinary practices between Massachusetts and California including the hospital facilities at San Diego Zoo and Wild Animal Park. The patients they came across included a cat with stomatitis, a post-orthodontic intervention Rottweiler, a Yorkshire Terrier with a facial palsy and an elephant with ectodermal dysplasia. They were struck by the similarities between the dental and veterinary professions, and the over-riding message of the importance of oral health in systemic health. It certainly sounds a great experience! And what was the highlight for them? - "...assisting in a root hemi-section and composite restoration on a 19 year old Malayan Tiger – unforgettable!"

Carly Ross undertook a very different elective project. Again she headed to the United States, but this time to a laboratory in the Immunology Department at The Forsyth Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. The Forsyth Institute has been a leader in periodontal research for decades. Carly spent eight weeks in the laboratory of Professor Martin Taubman with Dr Maiko Suzuki, looking at the use of antibody therapy to modify bone loss in a periodontal disease model. When asked about the elective period and what she gained from it, Carly said "...I discovered how research is carried out within a laboratory setting and gained valuable lab skills including how to set up experiments and calculate and present the results. I gained experience in reading research papers and

learned how to write a research paper on my project. I enjoyed the experience very much and working with other researchers in the lab was interesting as I learned something new every day."

Michael Paterson stayed closer to home spending time in the Southern General and Yorkhill Hospitals and the Orthodontic Department at Glasgow Dental Hospital. His elective study related to secondary alveolar bone grafting outcomes for cleft lip and palate patients and their care within the CLEFTSiS network. Michael said of his elective, "I found my elective a highly interesting and educational experience. My time observing the treatment of patients with cleft lip and palate has given me an idea of how effective and life changing the comprehensive multidisciplinary treatment of cleft lip and palate can be".

The preceding are just a few of the many elective projects presented. The time is fast approaching that the next group of students will be planning their electives. The format of the elective assessment was a success and we will all have the opportunity to be involved in the presentations next year. Niall Rogerson, Director of the Dental Electives Committee said "The committee was



Carly Ross

grateful for those that attended this year and that it was hoped that more colleagues and friends could be in attendance next year". Remember that at the Poster Presentations next year, all are welcome on 4th and 11th September 2013.



Will McLean, Senior Clinical Teacher

Neil Nairn receives the "Arturo Beretta" award

The second 3D Bologna international symposium and workshop was hosted by the University of Bologna, Italy in April of this year.

The aim of the symposium was to build an international framework involving maxillofacial, ENT and plastic surgeons, radiologists, orthodontists, implantologists and science experts, such as engineers and mathematicians to develop new technologies in the area of 3D, virtual reality and augmented reality and discuss their impact on the various professions.

Neil submitted an e-poster entitled "Digital replacement of distorted dentition acquired by Cone Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT): A pilot study", based on work carried out during his MSc by research thesis, undertaken in the BACS research group.

Neil was competing against international entrants from Italy, Holland and Germany. He was shortlisted and asked to present his poster at the symposium where he was awarded the "Arturo Beretta" award for best poster and presentation.



Neil after receiving his award

Dental School Pantomime, The Lining King

"The show did go on". After many hours of scripting and rehearsing students and staff delivered an entertaining performance on Saturday 1st December at Glasgow University's Student Union (who have just been awarded the Number 1 Student Union in the UK for the second year running). The Debating

Chamber is well equipped to accommodate such an event with 350 folk in the audience and about 60 participants – nothing could go wrong! The money raised this year will go towards two very worthy charities; The Spinal Unit – Southern General. The Queen Elizabeth National Spinal

Injuries Unit at the Southern General Hospital, Glasgow, is responsible for the management of all patients in Scotland who have a traumatic injury to the spinal cord. It offers acute surgical management and both in-patient and out-patient rehabilitation for young people and adults with a spinal injury. Teenage Cancer Trust. This is the only UK charity dedicated to

Glasgow Dental Student Society (GDSS)

It is fantastic to welcome back the Dental Mirror to the dental school and I am very pleased to pass on congratulations on behalf of the Glasgow Dental Student Society (GDSS).

My name is Anna Friel (BDS 5) and I am privileged to be this year's GDSS President.

The GDSS is a student run society with a 15-strong-person-committee comprising of mainly 5th year dental students and a good measure of 4th and 3rd years to keep them in check!

We aim to provide support for our members in social, sporting and educational matters and ensure that every student has the best possible time at Glasgow Dental School. It's a great challenge!

This year is very special as it is our 50th birthday! We have lots of fantastic ideas to celebrate, including a very unique annual ball in January 2013 with a few twists and we would love for a greater staff presence. Keep your eyes peeled for further updates! We have also designed a new emblem to commemorate our birthday and sought the fantastic abilities of Shad Jaff (BDS5) to do so. Again keep an eye out for it.

We have already started the year with some very successful events, in particular our intradental field day (aka baby field day). The day was spent welcoming our new first years, playing sports and dancing the night away! It was fantastic to welcome a staff football team and we tried to show them how it was done...however, they came in 2nd and so it may have been the other way around! Mr. Broad deserved a medal for great refereeing despite the chants from several student teams to try and distract him. It was a fantastic day which everyone enjoyed and warmed us up for the big field day!

2012 was very special as we hosted the interdental field day, a day of sports and fun with a healthy dose of competition from our guests Dundee and Newcastle universities. The day began in the incredible Toryglen Football Centre and continued along Sauchiehall St. Glasgow Dental students did us proud by winning the

improving the quality of life and chances of survival for the six young people aged between 13 and 24 diagnosed with cancer every day. Their aim, to allow them to be treated together, by experts in teenage cancer, in an environment tailored for them.

The "Lining King" was a resounding success, with this evening of joviality raising in the region of £2000. Thanks to everyone involved in the production who gave their time freely and especially to the audience without whom raising such a fantastic amount of money would not have been possible.



Mike Broad



Shad and Jennie pictured with the Field Day Cup.

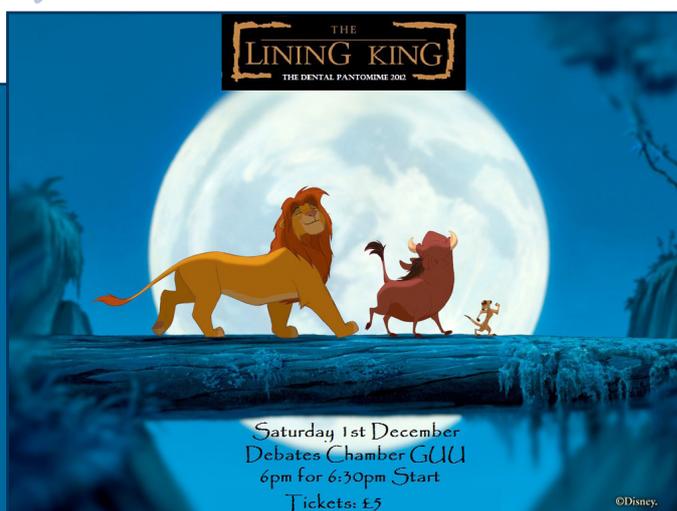
majority of the events on the day. Links with Dundee have been strengthened with students from Glasgow paying a visit to Dundee for their first night out of the year and Dundee students taking a spin down to Glasgow. Next stop Newcastle!

The 2012 annual student/staff Pantomime took place on the 1st of December. The theatrical extravaganza named the Lining King was a resounding success and was widely described as truly unforgettable! Broadway has seen nothing like it, move over Lord Webber, Jo McGill (BDS5) is in town!

As you can see we've been a very busy bunch and have been enjoying every minute of it! We have lots of plans for 2013 and would urge as many staff and students to join us and participate in our events (please see dates for your diary for future events). If you have any ideas or want to get in touch with us, feel free to send an email to gdss@hotmail.co.uk.



Anna Friel, GDSS Student President



Saturday 1st December
Debates Chamber GUU
6pm for 6:30pm Start
Tickets: £5

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Moving to MMIs

Update by Dr Christine Goodall

Glasgow Dental School has for many years interviewed prospective students using a traditional interview system with two assessors who have asked questions relating to the attributes we look for in a student and that are listed in our person specification. While this system has served us well for many years we felt the time was right for a change. Many of our fellow schools were moving away from traditional interviewing and looking towards systems that were more objective and, importantly, fairer in terms of giving everyone the same experience and hence the same chance of gaining a place.

Multiple Mini Interviews

–a bit like the OSCE stations we are all familiar with in exams-were first developed at McMaster University in Canada. In a typical MMI circuit there will be between 8-10 stations and the same assessor sees all of the students in that circuit thus removing much of the inter-assessor variability seen in the more traditional interview. They have been shown to remove both gender

and age bias and may also positively impact on widening participation. The MMI stations are designed in such a way that they allow the students to demonstrate aspects of their personality or levels of skill that can be marked objectively. Importantly, they show a strong correlation to professional examination results and

professional lives. Assessors also rate the MMIs well and tend to use the full range of measurement, which they are more reluctant to do in a traditional interview situation because of the impact of a low mark.

MMIs were used for the first time in Glasgow Dental School in 2011. 230 candidates went through the MMI



A vibrant lecture theatre full of students!

circuits over an intensive 2 day period which ran very smoothly. The MMIs were highly rated by our candidates and the staff who took part and the same process will be followed this coming year. We have developed several MMI scenarios that form the basis of our question bank and have a few more in development but are always looking for more ideas. As with the traditional interview

future performance in OSCEs. The literature shows that candidates rate them highly because they perceive that they allow them to demonstrate their personal characteristics, there are several stations so if one goes badly they can cross-compensate and they feel that they reflect situations they may come across in their

the MMIs we use in Glasgow test attributes within our person specification-however, if you think we are going to print any examples you will be sorely disappointed as they are top secret and heavily guarded-we know that prospective candidates can also get their hands on the Dental Mirror!

Laura Short awarded with a prize at British Orthodontic Conference (BOC)



Laura completed her specialist training in Orthodontics in June 2012 and has completed her Doctorate in Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent Orthodontics) in August 2012.

Her doctorate thesis "Validation of Accuracy of a Computer Modelled Forensic Facial Reconstruction Technique Using CT Data From Live Subjects" has recently won 3rd prize at the University Teaching Group session at the British Orthodontic Conference held in Bournemouth in September 2012.

Please look on the Dental School web site for further congratulations to Donald Cameron, Robert McKerlie, Imran Shafi and Shauna Culshaw.

Laura receiving her research award from the President of the British Orthodontic Society, Bournemouth 2012.

Outreach Update – BDS 5 Programme

When the extended adult restorative care outreach programme, a major component of the BDS 5 curriculum since 2008-09, was described in earlier editions of Dental Mirror, the programme was in its infancy.

It is now a firmly established and positively evaluated feature of the fifth year timetable, which has been modified year on year as new capital projects have reached fruition.

Andrew Forgie, who oversees the programme nationally at NHS (Education) Scotland level, expresses his pleasure at how comfortably the programme has integrated into the undergraduate curricula at Glasgow, Dundee and more recently Aberdeen Dental Schools.

Building on early success leaves little room for complacency however; established standards have to be maintained through rigorous quality assurance mechanisms, especially relevant in view of next year's GDC inspection. It is important that we can reassure their representatives of the value of Outreach in the student journey from undergraduate to vocational trainee. Being

able to demonstrate the common protocols we have in place for the 9 sites which Glasgow dental students now attend, together with the mechanisms in place for ensuring consistency of teaching and assessment across NHS Board boundaries, should assist this process.

All sites are also soon to be enrolled in an exciting educational project led by Alison Cairns, BDS5 Deputy Course Co-ordinator, in Peer Observation of Teaching, piloted to date among Paediatric tutors. The pilot evaluated very positively and evidence suggests that it will help to drive up teaching standards in a non-threatening way in the familiarity of the participant's own working environment.

Outreach remains something of an annual logistical challenge for the BDS 5 co-ordination / administration team, especially as new centres have evolved and student numbers fluctuate. Frank Bonner, Jennifer Ramage and Cailin Blackwood all deserve a special mention for their efforts behind the scenes in this respect.

During academic year 2012-13, 99 final year students have been timetabled in the following daily commute centres:

Greenock Health Centre (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) – 4

Royal Alexandra Hospital Dental Centre (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) – 8

Buchanan Centre, Coatbridge (NHS Lanarkshire) – 10

North West Kilmarnock Area Centre (NHS Ayrshire and Arran) – 4

Langlees Dental Centre (NHS Forth Valley) – 4

Carronshore Outreach Clinic (NHS Forth Valley) – 4

Their residential placements make up a shorter component of the sixteen week outreach total in BDS 5, spent at:

Dumfries Dental Centre (NHS Dumfries and Galloway) – 6

Campbeltown Dental Centre (NHS Highland – Argyll and Bute CHP) – 4

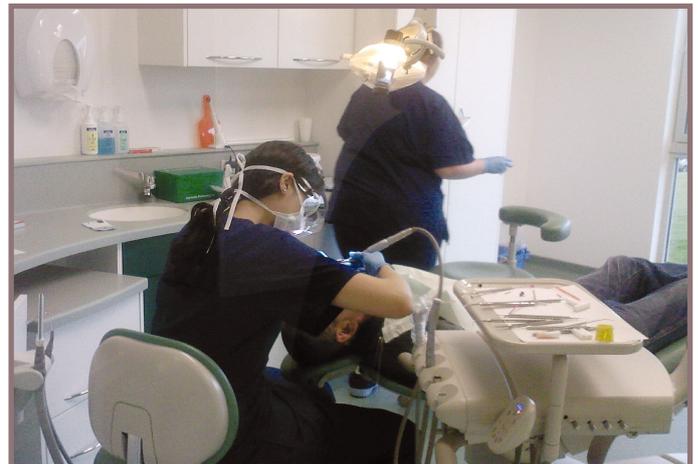
Broxden Dental Centre, Perth (NHS Tayside) – 5/6

New developments for 2013-14 are likely to include placements at the new Vale Centre for Health and Care at Balloch and in refurbished dental premises in Orchard House, Forth Valley.

It is appropriate to record our appreciation to the host NHS Boards, tutors and support staff on whose support we rely for the ongoing success of this model of partnership working.



*David Watson,
BDS 5 Course Co-ordinator/
Outreach Teaching Lead*



Some dates / events for your diary

Friday 21st December 2012

Staff night out.

Saturday 19th January 2013

Student/Alumni Annual Ball, in Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow. Formal dress.

Saturday 26th January 2013

TGSA Annual Burn's Supper, Trade Hall then Corinthian

2nd and 3rd February 2013

Undergraduate Admissions MMI selection weekend.

21st and 22nd March 2013

General Dental Council visitation.

7th and 8th June 2013

Final Year Student & Staff Graduation Ball, Crieff Hydro.

Editorial comment

It's good to see the return of the Dental Mirror and its new editorial team. We have been given assurances that there will be three "Dental Mirror" publications each calendar year. We welcome your input and topical material to share with a very wide readership, from the BDS1 new starts, all 90 of you, to the ever expanding number of alumni and staff who have worked and passed through the doors of 378 Sauchiehall Street. In the next edition we aim to concentrate on Alumni matters – so please do share with us your reflections. The Dental Mirror can also be found on the University of Glasgow Dental School web-site -

www.glasgow.ac.uk/schools/dental

so feel free to click on that and read our online Dental Mirror. We can be contacted at the following email addresses;

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