

Health Professions Council – 9 February 2012

Reports from Council representatives at external meetings

Executive Summary and Recommendations

Introduction

The attached feedback forms have been received from Penny Renwick and Arun Midha, reporting back from meetings at which they represented the HPC.

Decision

The Council is requested to note the documents.

Background information

None

Resource implications

None

Financial implications

The cost for attendance at conferences/meetings has been incorporated into the Council annual budget.

Background papers

None

Appendices

Copies of feedback forms

Date of paper

30 January 2012

Name of Council Member	Penny Renwick
Title of event	SOCAP Annual Conference
Date of event	24 – 27.11.11
Approximate attendance at event	500+

Issues of Relevance to HPC

Annual Conference for the Society of Chiropodists and Podiatrists. Much of the conference was devoted to clinical CPD.

Changes to the NHS and the introduction of Any Qualified Provider were also discussed.

My presentation on The Health Professions Council: Current Debates and their Impact on Podiatrists was not well attended. I regarded this as positive – ie members of SOCAP are currently broadly content with the HPC and did not feel the need to prioritise attendance.

The podiatric surgeons are keen to formally know the outcome of the consultation on annotation

The HPC stand was busy.

Name of Council Member	Arun Midha
Title of event	Meetings with Deans/Heads of Schools Higher Education Institutions in Wales.
Date of event	January 2012
Approximate attendance at event	One to one

Issues of Relevance to HPC

Modernising Scientific Careers - meetings with lead Deans in Wales and how this might affect educational provision.

Key Decisions Taken

The Chief Executive had asked me to meet with the Deans/Heads of Schools of Institutions that are leading programmes in Wales that may be affected by the developing Modernising Scientific Careers agenda given that I sit as the HPC representative on MSC Wales. In addition, the opportunity was taken to discuss wider issues relating to courses linked to other professions currently (and in the case of Social Workers in the future). I have met Professor Melanie Jasper (Swansea University); Professor Patricia Price (Cardiff University); Professor Donna Mead (University of Glamorgan) and Professor Adrian Peters (Cardiff Metropolitan University). I have yet to meet providers in Mid and North Wales. The meetings followed the recent MSC road show organised by the Academy of Healthcare Sciences in Wales during December.

Summary of key points arising from meetings regarding MSC:

A concern over direction of travel in terms of voluntary regulation away from the existing statutory regulatory model.

A concern over implications for any fitness to practice issues and how these might be handled effectively under the voluntary regulation model.

All were keen to continue with ensuring that HPC accredited their courses thereby ensuring that graduates would be able to register with the HPC post qualification. All indeed were highly complementary about HPC.

A potential lack of clarity about the Academy's role in this area and its approach.

Appreciation of how HPC approaches and carries out its accreditation processes for the variety of courses that come under the Council's umbrella.

The suggestion that I might be invited to the Wales' deans meetings in future.

All raised the prospect of the significant reconfiguration agenda of Higher Education Institutions in Wales where there are to be mergers of Institutions and the need to ensure that HPC is on board with this.

In addition, Cardiff Metropolitan University as the major provider of Social work training in Wales raised issues relating to the implications of the post August position and regulation. The need to ensure the continuation of opportunity to practice cross border was discussed.