

Introduction

Welcome to the Spring/Summer 2010 edition of Health Briefing which has a focus on the main events of **HEalth Factor 10**. This is an annual event which this year had the theme of Healthy Communities. So thanks to all of you who contributed or joined us during the event and we look forward to welcoming you again at Health Factor 11. It has been a very busy time for students and staff in the Faculty. We are therefore particularly pleased to be able to share some very positive news with you. The Faculty achieved an excellent result in the Guardian newspaper subject league tables published this month. Nursing and paramedical subjects, Sports Sciences and Social Work all made significant movement up the table this year with Nursing and Paramedical Subjects moving into 3rd position. The Guardian league table is based on excellence in teaching and student satisfaction ratings. It is very encouraging therefore to have achieved these results, which is down to the hard work and commitment of all staff in the Faculty and of course our students and the many partners who support students both during placements and through contributions in the Faculty.

Hilary Jones
Dean – Faculty of Health

Health Factor 2010

8th Annual Conference on Clinical Biomechanics

This successful annual conference, now in its eighth year, was held on Friday 16 April 2010 and well attended - despite the volcanic dust cloud! The delegates included a range of health professions including orthopaedic surgeons, podiatrists, physiotherapists and sport scientists debating the current issues and presenting a wide variety of papers on topics as diverse as barefoot running, upper body mechanics of the golf swing and the multi-segment foot model. There was also a range of poster presentations. The main purpose of the conference, one of a kind in Europe, is to disseminate the latest research and to create a link between academic research, clinical practice and application of new technologies and techniques in the industry.



Hilary Jones, Nachi Chockalingam, James Richards, Nigel Thomas, Teeranlall Ramgopal

Main speakers at the conference included Simon Bartold, a Visiting Fellow at Staffordshire University and international research consultant at ASICS.

Other international experts such as Professor James Richards, University of Central Lancashire, and Dr Adam Shortland, Guys & St Thomas Foundation Hospital Trust, London, also presented an overview of their latest research which provided directions for new researchers. For more information contact Professor Nachi Chockalingam; n.chockalingam@staffs.ac.uk

PhD Thesis Presentation

On Monday 26 April 2010, Dr Jill McDonald, Programme Area Manager for Social Work and Advice Studies, did a lunchtime presentation about the subject of her recent PhD thesis - *Beyond Professional Boundaries: The reflective practitioner, identity and emotional labour in social work*. This was an excellent opportunity for people with different backgrounds, sport and exercise, management, health care and social work to exchange experiences and debate the similarities and differences in practice. j.p.mcdonald@staffs.ac.uk

Lifting the fog: Bringing clarity to public health

A very enjoyable and informative inaugural lecture from Professor Tony Stewart entitled 'Lifting the fog: Bringing clarity to public health' was held on Wednesday 21 April 2010 in the Ashley Building, Stoke. A large number of Tony's family, friends and colleagues attended, including Professor Richard Parish (Chief Executive of the Royal Society for Public Health) and Dr Selwyn Hodge (Chair of the Royal Society). Our new honorary Chair in Public Health, Professor Jammi Rao, also came, as did some of Tony's family from Poland (who he has only recently discovered).



"It was a very special and memorable occasion for me!"
Tony Stewart



There was also a presentation to Elizabeth Teale, a student from the Masters in Public Health, who won the prize for the best dissertation and for academic achievement. antony.stewart@staffs.ac.uk

Nigel Thomas, Tony Stewart, Paul Richards, Elizabeth Teale, Hilary Jones

Integrating Research and Practice in the NHS

Our second inaugural lecture – 'Integrating Research and Practice in the NHS' – was delivered by Professor Eleanor Bradley. The lecture, which was held in the Ruxton Technology Centre at Beaconside on Tuesday 4 May 2010, was very well received and was attended by staff from across the University, colleagues from the NHS as well as friends and family of Eleanor. Eleanor's appointment as Professor in Healthcare Research and Evaluation is a joint appointment with South Staffordshire and Shropshire NHS Foundation Trust and has been a very good appointment for both partners strengthening further the relationship between the two organisations. e.j.bradley@staffs.ac.uk



International Conference on Ageing and HIV

On Wednesday 28 April the Faculty of Health in conjunction with the Terence Higgins Trust, Europe's largest HIV Charity, hosted a one day conference on Ageing and HIV. The aim of the conference was to raise awareness of ageing with HIV in the United Kingdom (UK), to learn from the innovative Research on Older Adults with HIV (ROAH) project and to identify areas for development within policy practice and research within the UK. Delegates from around the UK with a health and social background attended as well as service users.

The keynote address given by Stephen Karpiak and Mark Brennan from ACRIA (AIDS Community Research Initiative of America) who carried out the ground breaking cohort study ROAH, provided evidence of the issues affecting the ageing HIV population in New York. The remainder of the day then focused on the United Kingdom looking at the prevalence of HIV amongst the ageing population, the affect of HIV on the ageing body and some initial results from '50+ the needs of people living with HIV over 50 in the UK' research project. Maurice Greenham then gave a personal perspective of ageing with HIV in the UK. The day ended with an open forum in which areas for development were identified as well as calls for making this an annual event. c.j.rowe@staffs.ac.uk

Organic Garden Open Day

We were blessed with sunshine on Friday 16 April 2010 (on and off) for the open day at the Staffordshire University Community Organic Garden. This is located on Leek Road between the REP Theatre and the Crime Scene House. The garden, which is run by Dave Allman and a team of volunteers, is open Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5.00 – 7.00 pm and on Sundays between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm. Staff and students are welcome to volunteer to do some work on the allotment - so if you want to get out in the fresh air this summer and do some gardening or to find out more please contact Dave on d.b.allman@staffs.ac.uk



Basil Ashford Memorial Lecture



Linda Thompson, Nigel Thomas, Alan Wiley, Jamie Barker, Mark Thornewill (Director of Sport Across Staffordshire)

On 22 April 2010, Alan Wiley (Premier League referee) presented at the annual Basil Ashford Memorial lecture. Alan's talk was based on his life as a professional football referee and was therefore a fascinating insight into the challenges, and requirements of a top flight official. In essence, Alan discussed his motives for refereeing, the challenges he regularly faces (including assessment, training, the media), the future of refereeing and his own aspirations. Alan's talk was extremely well received by a large audience comprising students (both undergraduate and post-graduate), fellow academics from Staffordshire University (including those from Sport and Exercise) and surrounding universities, university partners, and guests. j.b.barker@staffs.ac.uk

Walking in the Footsteps of Children and Young People

A packed Ruxton Film Theatre enjoyed a range of presentations and workshops on Tuesday 27 April by young people who have been in care, and a group of young carers. The conference was organised by Lee Parady-McLaughlin, Senior Lecturer, and Professor Bernard Moss as part of their Research Informed Teaching project.

A keynote address by an international leading authority, David Crimmins, set the scene and from then on it was the voices of children and young people who held centre stage. They spoke movingly about their experiences to their audience of social work practitioners, students and young people's organisations, with the aim of helping them achieve best practice in their work with children and young people.



The whole event was filmed and a DVD will be produced as an education/training aid. The event was hailed as a great success and a model of good partnership working between the University and key agencies in the field. b.r.moss@staffs.ac.uk
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Lee Parady-McLaughlin, Leanne Lowe (Representative of Children and Young People in Care), Dr David Crimmins (Key Note Speaker), Bernard Moss, Jason Mathews (Young Person's Consultant for Children in Care)

People

Peter Simcock



I joined the Faculty of Health as Senior Lecturer in Social Work in January 2010. Prior to this, I worked in social work posts in both the voluntary and statutory sector. After graduating from Hull University with a Law degree, I worked in Liverpool for a Community Law Centre, a Youth Centre and a charity working with Deafblind people. I returned to Hull University to complete an MA/Diploma in Social Work and then worked for Age Concern, Hull, as a community welfare officer. I then moved to the West Midlands working for Wolverhampton City Council in various social work roles. During this time, I completed the PQSW here at Staffordshire University. I am particularly interested in community care and social care law, sensory loss and acquired disability, cultural and linguistic models of deafness, and bereavement theory.

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Susan Jackson

I have recently joined the Faculty of Health as a Lecturer in Sexual Health and Midwifery, based at Blackheath Lane. I have arrived here direct from Midwifery and Contraception and Sexual Health clinical practice in North Staffordshire, where I have worked in many different clinical guises since 1980. A twelve month seconded Lecturer Practitioner role within Keele University confirmed my desire to be working within higher education, and began my journey here. s.jackson@staffs.ac.uk



Helen Ashwood



I joined the Faculty of Health as a Nurse Lecturer (Dignity) on 29 March 2010. This is an exciting new post that I look forward to developing within the University and our partnership Trusts and the wider communities. I completed my nurse training in Worcester in 1986 and continued to work there within various specialities until I returned to Stafford, where I was born, in 2003. On returning to Stafford I worked within Emergency Care as both a Senior Staff Nurse and Educational Facilitator; following this I took up my last post as Clinical Placement Facilitator at Stafford Hospital. As a CPF I was linked to the University and this has helped me with settling in to my new role. h.ashwood@staffs.ac.uk

New Honoraries

We are pleased to welcome the following to our small group of honorary and visiting staff within the Faculty:

Dr Harsh Duggal, Honorary Professor in Communicable Disease Control

Dr Jammi Rao, Honorary Professor in Public Health

Dr Anthony Redmond, Visiting Professor in Clinical Biomechanics

Dr Richard Wilson, Honorary Professor in Health Informatics

We look forward to working with all of you and exploring new opportunities together,

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Health Briefing is produced 3 - 4 times per year. If you have any items you would like included, or have any feedback, please contact Barbara Brown b.j.brown@staffs.ac.uk

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An electronic version of this document is available on www.staffs.ac.uk/faculties/health/partnerships/healthbrief