HEA Fellowship

The Higher Education Academy professional recognition scheme confers status of Associate Fellow, Fellow, Senior Fellow or Principal Fellow and is awarded to those staff who have met the appropriate standards in teaching and supporting learning in Higher Education under the UK Professional Standards Framework.

It is pleasing to note that the following staff within the School of Health Sciences have recently been awarded Fellowship status:

- Cathy Fletcher (Nursing), Senior Fellow of Higher Education Academy
- Cath Gordon (Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy), Senior Fellow of Higher Education Academy
- Ian Pierce-Hayes (Nursing), Fellow of Higher Education Academy
- Chris Kitteringham (Physiotherapy), Fellow of Higher Education Academy

Conferences Attended

- Anna O’Connor (Orthoptics) Invited speaker at the British and Irish Orthoptic Society Northern region clinical meeting – 2nd March 2016. Talk entitled – Assessing VA. What’s the “best” test?
- David Newsham (Orthoptics) represented British & Irish Orthoptic Society on the International Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Council (IPOSC) held at the American Academy of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) April 2016

Scholarly Articles Published

Vanessa Sluming (School)

doi:10.4172/jpay.1000113

Bethan Collins (Occupational Therapy)


Dave Mercer (Nursing)


Pete Bridge (Medical Imaging and Radiotherapy)


Laurence Tidbury (Orthoptics)


David Newsham (Orthoptics)


Teaching Prizes and Awards

- Dave Mercer (Nursing) awarded the Making a Difference Award - for the positive difference an individual makes to MOWLL. Moving on With Life and Learning. 17th Annual Awards (20th Nov, 2015) Devonshire House Hotel, Liverpool.
- Maria Tiffin and Kathryn Jarvis (Occupational Therapy) have been nominated for the Guild of Students Teacher of the Year award.

Other items of note
- Vanessa Sluming (School) awarded Research Support Fees £56,000 (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, to support project costs for 1 PhD student for 3 years)
- Vanessa Sluming (School) invited to review Programme Grant application to BBSRC
- Vanessa Sluming (School) invited to review PLoS Neuroscience submission
- Emily Grant and Amanda Deaves (Physiotherapy) attended a Higher Education Academy study day in Sheffield, titled Putting the Social in Social Sciences 12th Feb
- Jo Sharp (Physiotherapy) attended a University of Liverpool Student Experience Symposium – 10 March, 2016.
- Jo Sharp (Physiotherapy) attended a University of Liverpool Gender Awareness training session – 13 April 2016.
- Jo Sharp (Physiotherapy), Jan Vicary and Karen Fagan (School) attended a Seminar: Enhancing the Student Experience at Manchester Metropolitan University – 27 April 2016.
- Jan Vicary (School) attended the Association of University Administrators Conference in Leeds – 21-23 March 2016.
- Jan Vicary (School) attended The University of Liverpool Unconscious Bias Training for Staff – 20 April 2016.
- Bethan Collins (Occupational Therapy) acted as guest editor of the World Federation of Occupational Therapists Bulletin on Occupational Therapy Education and wrote the guest editorial.
- Dave Mercer (Nursing) invited by the Health Science Faculty, University of Ottawa, to furnish evidence to the Selection Committee of the Ordre des infirmières et infirmiers du Québec supporting the nomination of Professor Dave Holmes to receive the Insigne du Mérite de l’OIIQ Award. This is a prestigious award in Canada.
- Helen Orton (School) secured £7000 bespoke training on vision screening updates for Liverpool Community Health staff.

**CPD activity in the School**

Forthcoming CPD activities:

15th June
12th May (pm)

Older People’s Mental Health – the 3Ds and so much more
Foundations of clinical appraisal of images of appendicular skeleton for emergency nurse practitioners and physiotherapists

Wednesday 15th June or 13th July or 21st September (4.30 – 7.30)

Mindfulness Based Interventions – Enhancing Wellbeing: Introductory Workshops

4 part-programme:

Wed 26th Oct, 2nd, 16th and 23rd November

(4.30-7.30)

22nd June (pm)

Extended clinical appraisal of images of appendicular skeleton

30th June (pm)

Refresher course: clinical evaluation of images of appendicular skeleton
Saturday 16th July (9.30-13.30)  Preparing to study for continuing professional development – what does it mean to read, think and write critically?

Wednesday 4th May  Imaging in Primary Care Master Class  - funded by HENW
9.00-4.30  The one-day non-accredited course will include: utilisation of diagnostic imaging in community settings and its impact on patient management; increased awareness of history taking and the need to extract relevant information to inform onward referral for imaging modalities and the significance of imaging reports and requesting privileges and IRMER.

Tuesday 17th May  Minor Ailments Master Class
9.00-4.30  The one-day non-accredited course will include: minor ailments and the NHS landscape and medicines optimisation; history taking; diagnosis and useful tools to aid diagnosis; typical and common minor ailments seen in primary care (ENT, respiratory, skin, pain, gastro-intestinal and childhood ailments); management; self-care and patient education and empowerment and when to refer.

This interactive master class is designed for practitioners who are competent in taking a history and a physical examination but who wish to develop further their knowledge to critically assess, treat and manage patients who present with minor ailments in the primary health care setting.

Course Leaders
Nicola Shaw is a Practice Clinical Support Pharmacist and Vicky Walker works as a Minor Ailments Independent Pharmacist Prescriber

THE CHANGING STUDENT CULTURE
A two-part series

Relevant to any healthcare and medical professional involved in the training/mentoring/assessment of students in the clinical environment.

Wednesday 22nd June  
Communication boundaries
Date to be confirmed  
Supporting transgender transition

For further information of any of these events, please contact the School CPD Lead, Helen Orton (h.p.orton@liverpool.ac.uk)
Staff News

Cath Williams (MIRT) on Thursday 24th March presented at a lunchtime Educational Development/CLL seminar. She was asked to select one piece of evidence used in her application for Senior Fellow of the HEA for dissemination; it was called “Select Me! Navigating the Job Market” Synopsis. This session outlined a triple workshop approach used to equip students with the knowledge, skills and experience to gain employment after university. It has been devised with support from the university Employability and Educational Opportunities Department; partners in the health sector and university lecturers. Interactive workshops allow students to explore the job market; prepare a full job application and take part in a job interview using the speed dating format. Feedback from students and potential employers has been extremely positive with anecdotal evidence of increased selection of our students for interview and job offers. The session went very well and there was interest from other faculties in transferring the model to their own programmes.

Julie Hanna (Occupational Therapy) has been supported this year by the Constance Owens Trust to further her Doctorate studies. Constance Owens was a pioneer of occupational therapy and opened the Liverpool School of OT in 1947. The Trust was established in 1985 and uses its income today to support post graduate research. Julie is a late starter in the field of research having spent 25 years working in the NHS. She gained her MRes in 2010 from the School of Health Sciences here at Liverpool. She is now studying for her Doctorate as a post graduate student in the Department of Sociology. She is exploring the role of the dance artist in facilitating wellbeing. This is a reflexive, ethnographic study. The £850 grant is for a lap top computer.

Michaela Higginson (Occupational Therapy) has successfully applied for 2 awards to support the research that she is undertaking as part of doing a Doctorate in Education at University of Liverpool.

The awards are:

- The Constance Owens Award, £1,000, awarded March 2016
- The Constance Owens (Liverpool) Award, £1,000, awarded February 2016

The title of the thesis study that these awards will support is “an exploration of first class (Hons) early career occupational therapists and their current and potential contribution to research capacity development in the UK occupational therapy practice environment”.

The two awards will support dissemination of the research findings and attendance at research learning and development events.

As a winner of The Constance Owens (Liverpool) Award, Michaela has been invited to attend the Celebration of Excellence in Occupational Therapy: 2016 Awards event in July 2016. This event is also being held to celebrate Her Royal Highness, The Princess Royal’s, 30 years as Patron of the College of Occupational Therapists, and includes the awards ceremony to recognise the winners of the College of Occupational Therapists annual awards for 2016.
Student News

Health Sciences

University of Liverpool Health Science Netball Tournament raised £240 for the Alzheimer's Society and had 8 teams competing; Physio 3 won the winners bracket and Occupational Therapy won the losers bracket. Nurses 1 and 2 made both finals. Well done everyone.

Diagnostic Radiography

Student Article accepted for publication in the Imaging and Therapy Practice Journal

Zarah Naeem, a diagnostic student who qualified in July 2015 has edited her dissertation with the help of her supervisor, to produce a journal article. The title is ‘The role of computed tomography and conventional radiography in the diagnosis of fractures and dislocations at the cervico-thoracic junction (CTJ) in adult trauma patients’. It has been accepted in the radiography profession’s Imaging and Therapy Practice journal which is sent to the approx 27,000 radiographers in the UK. Zarah worked tirelessly on this piece of work and the review panel have deemed it ‘perfect for publication’.

Colette Bennion (Lecturer, Medical Imaging) her supervisor said; “Having worked closely with Zarah on this work it was very reassuring to see her gain the recognition from the journal and have her work published. She is very pleased with the outcome and looks forward to sharing her findings with other clinical colleagues.”

Radiotherapy

Lyndale Cancer Support Centre Inspires Radiotherapy students to volunteer

For many years students from the BSc Radiotherapy and the PGDip Radiotherapy programmes have visited the Lyndale Cancer Support Centre in Huyton. This centre provides a cancer support service to individuals and families affected by cancer within Knowsley and surrounding areas. The students spend time away from the clinical and academic environments talking and listening to service users. Sharing stories and the lived experience of radiotherapy service users helps our students to begin to develop their understanding of the
impact of a cancer diagnosis and how every cancer journey is truly unique. The educational impact of the Lyndale visit was so profound for two second year students that they volunteered to work at the Centre every week. Melissa Young (front right) and Molly Jones (front left), seen above with some service users have built up close relationships with the Lyndale users. As well as developing their understanding and communication skills, they really do enjoy their time at the centre.

For further information: www.lyndalecancersupport.co.uk, Telephone 0151 4893538, Email: support@lyndalecancersupport.co.uk.

---

**Occupational Therapy**

**My journey since graduating from Liverpool University by Jennifer Wright (graduate 2014)**

Volunteering was always something that I wanted to do, and after graduating I now felt that I had a valuable skill to share, and that I wanted to share it with those who may not otherwise have access to it.

I did my final practice placement in a school for children with physical disabilities and managed to secure a role as a locum OT there for a year after graduating in July 2014. During this time I was planning my volunteer experience as well. I would highly recommend working before going to volunteer as it gave me the opportunity to gain valuable experience in assessment and treatment of many different conditions, as well as learning from and receiving supervision from clinical specialist OTs.

After researching online, I decided to volunteer for three months with a UK charity called Friends of Roshni. Roshni is a school and therapy centre for children and adults with neurological disabilities in Gwalior, India.

The biggest challenge at the beginning of the trip was adjusting to the Indian culture, and in particular the language- I wish I’d tried to learn a bit more Hindi before I left the UK! Having said that, I received such a warm welcome from the organization and all of the staff went out of their way to make sure that I was settling in well and had everything I needed.

I mainly worked with the Early Intervention Group, which was attended by children with Cerebral Palsy and their mothers. I realized early on that a major need in all areas was education, and I carried out training with both parents and staff on areas such as postural management, positioning and handling, and feeding.

The lack of readily available resources was a challenge which enabled me to be more creative in my approach, for example I made pommels and cushions for managing postures in wheelchairs and worked with a carpenter to have supportive seating made for the children with Cerebral Palsy. Working in India was a truly unique experience, it challenged me to become more flexible and adaptable- every day there could be something new happening or a
last-minute trip planned or a religious festival! Highlights of my experience include taking part in the Great Delhi Run to raise money for ROSHNI, attending the Anjali National children’s festival, and of course getting to see the Taj Mahal!

Whilst I was in India, I was looking forward to the next step in my career. I am always looking to push myself both academically and professionally, and therefore I want to undertake a Masters in Occupational Therapy.

I have applied for two Occupational Therapy Post Professional Masters courses in America, at the University of Southern California and at Tufts University in Boston. I chose these two universities as they are both ranked in the top universities in the US for OT, and they are renowned for their research and clinical excellence.

On my return from India I have been lucky to be able to go back to working in the same school as before on a temporary contract until the end of June. I have also found out that I have been accepted on to both of the Masters programmes to which I have applied.

So, there’s a bit of insight in to my journey since graduating OT. It sounds like a cliché, but since graduating I have learnt that I really can achieve things if I set my mind on them and put the effort in. And this have given me the confidence and motivation to keep going and to continue to challenge myself.

---

**Physiotherapy**

In early 2016 I invited Karen Middleton, Chief Executive of the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP), to speak at our University. As the 2nd year CSP representative, I have had the opportunity to hear Karen's inspiring and informative talks at CSP events, and I wanted my fellow physiotherapy students to have the same opportunity. Karen kindly accepted my invitation and on 2nd February 2016 she came and delivered a talk about “How to use influence in the profession”. She discussed her top tips for influencing people and said that we shouldn't be afraid to use influence, or see 'politics' as a dirty word. She also spoke about how we should not be afraid to speak up about the incredibly important role physiotherapists play in modern healthcare, and that if we don't speak up we risk being overlooked in a competitive world of healthcare funding.

Having Karen visit our university was a rare opportunity, so to take full advantage of her influence and charisma, I also invited medical students to the talk, so that they could hear from her how physiotherapy can play a major role in reducing some of the biggest pressures on the NHS. She spoke to them about topics such as self-referral to physiotherapy, and the dramatic effect it has on cutting GP appointments; and the emerging role of physiotherapists as independent prescribers. The medical students showed great interest in learning more about our profession and had plenty of questions to ask, with Karen and physiotherapy students both being very willing to answer them.
I was delighted to also arrange for one of the University of Liverpool's physiotherapy lecturers, Dr Mark Pinnington, to speak to physiotherapy and medical students about his field of expertise, lower back pain. Dr Pinnington’s talk, "The enigma of lower back pain", educated students on the natural history of lower back pain and the evidence behind many common treatment options.

The talks were very well attended and students enjoyed the opportunity to hear one of the most influential members of our profession speak to them with so much interest and respect.

Matthew Dennies

2nd year Physiotherapy Student

Year representative for the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy

---

Nursing

**Elective Placement, February 2016 - Rebekah Mc William**

In February this year, I was the first nursing student from Liverpool University to visit Uppsala, Sweden as a 4 week elective placement. Staying in student halls, and carrying out a placement at the Ekeby Health Centre; the experience of living in Uppsala was both informative and beautiful in equal measure.

Upon my arrival I was greeted by Pranee Lundberg, the International Co-ordinator for Nursing elective placements at Uppsala University. Pranee kindly orientated me to the area that I would be living and working in, offering advice and tips on how various things worked differently. Some information I was most grateful for was the forewarning of the 'Flogsta Scream'; a tradition in which, at 22:00 every night, students would lean from their windows in my accommodation block and shout as loud as they could. This custom was used to facilitate the alleviation of tensions for the students after an evening’s work.

My placement at Ekeby Health Centre was supervised by my mentor, Hans Hannson. I observed the presentation of many of the same conditions that I had seen previously during my primary care placement in Liverpool: urinary tract infections, upper respiratory tract infections. However, a key difference was the overt focus on the treatment of both body and mind. In the main, patients were required to pay for these extra services, providing a key ‘business’ for this semi-privatised centre. Alongside this, the health centre provided nursing and medical staff to elderly care homes in the area. I had chance to visit two of these homes; one shadowing a Dr, and one assisting a nurse in basic care such as dressing changes and ear syringing.

A further difference noted was that, whilst staff wore clinical uniforms, the colour or style of uniform did not determine the role of the staff member. Indeed, staff could, and did, wear different styles and colours of uniform according to their daily preference (and according to the availability of prepared uniforms). When asked for the reasons behind this, Hans reported that this had been a joint decision of the staff team when they opened the health centre. The
belief stood that this fostered better team working through a reduction in hierarchical barriers. When asked how staff or patients knew ‘who was who’, the response was “we introduce ourselves….” Interesting concept! Excellent team working was surely evident during my placement, and this may well have been due to the lack of obvious differences between healthcare professionals.

I thoroughly enjoyed my elective placement, and found it incredibly valuable to be so immersed in a different culture during my time spent there. Through the people I met and friendships I formed I was able to make the most of being in such a beautiful country as Sweden; visiting the nearby capital of Stockholm, as well as visiting the countryside homes of some the friends made in my accommodation. Braving the below freezing temperatures to take in such a spectacular country was undoubtedly worthwhile, and an experience I would definitely recommend to other students.

**Cathedral sleepout for homelessness issue**

Student Quality Ambassadors took part in the Liverpool cathedral sleepout. They slept on the floor in the cathedral to raise awareness of the homelessness issue in Liverpool and raised money for the charity Whitechapel centre. They have raised £300. Well done!
Karen Middleton @KMiddletonCSP 02/02/2016
@LiverpoolUni to meet @thecspstudents & med students 2 talk about Physiotherapy & the difference it makes to the public, PTs & the tax payer