



Council minutes from the Education Committee meeting held on Wednesday 1st March 2023 – Virtual meeting.

9am Start of meeting

Agenda Items

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting 7th December 2022**
No issues
- 2. Matters arising from Education meeting 5th October 2022**
No matters arising
- 3. GDC update**

Discussion on Non GDC registration

Discussion panel webinar was held on 24th February 2023 regarding the non GDC/DT entry to MSc/STP.

Summary of main points and outcomes:

The webinar generated a lively discussion with around 30 members in attendance. Overview of the situation, which was followed by an open panel discussion. It was established that we must reach a consensus on how to best support students and trainers who may be entering into training without a DT background.

Concerns were raised regarding how smaller units could support someone without DT. Potentially some of the larger units might be more able to provide the extra training required, and the prospect of placing non-DT applicants in these units was discussed.

New entry qualifications which are science based were discussed.

Feeder course/apprenticeship style training was discussed. Other levels and training pathways will be considered in the future.

Possibility for some kind of practical/aptitude testing prior to appointment was discussed as a method of ensuring a certain level of manual dexterity/practical competence.

Actions:

- Questionnaire to be distributed by Lead Trainers to IMPT membership asking for input on non-DT entry to the STP/MSc.
- Questionnaire to be distributed by Lead Trainers to establish which aspects of DT (if any) are being carried out in units currently.
- Time will be set aside at the AGM in Coventry for further discussion.
- Information on required DT skills and competencies will be fed back to NSHCS, and discussions are to be had with DT training providers regarding possibilities for 'top up' training for those students who may come into the profession without previous DT qualification or experience.

Questionnaire Discussion

Version 2 of the questionnaire was discussed at length as this was the preferred version to take forward.

Question 2 is to be adjusted to eliminate any bias, and to prompt full and honest answers. Question 3 will be yes/no have an additional text box for comments.

Question to be added (no 7) "Currently how are you employed?"

A free text box for comments will be added to every question.

To begin with, the questionnaire feedback will be for the IMPT, but the information will be of value to the NSHCS, HEI's etc. This needs to be clear on the form so that participants are aware that the information they provide will be anonymised and shared.

Ultimately the objective is to retain the full support of trainers and potential training units.

4. Coaching and Mentoring

There is a proposal to put to council requesting that the IMPT funds accredited training for a Coaching scheme to be rolled out across the IMPT. The document is currently being reviewed and should be ready for the committee to consider before presenting to council at the June meeting.

5. Lead Trainers Update

The shortlisting window for the 2023 intake has been confirmed as 13th to the 27th March. Post shortlisting, successful candidates will be able to select units they wish to interview for. Further details will be provided to the interviewers with this process normally being undertaken in May, with offers only being sent when we have been able to hit the target of 7 potential candidates, to that end the NSHCS have confirmed the following caveat to ensure no offers are given prior to the intake being confirmed as viable:

‘As you may be aware, we are trying to complete the interviews across England, Wales and Scotland for Reconstructive Science by the middle of May, 2022. As we have a minimum cohort size to recruit - to ensure viability of the programme, any offers for successful applicants are likely to take a little longer than the norm. We aim to have all interviews and offers to successful applicants before the end of May.’

The national picture for this year is 11 potential posts (10 England 1 Wales) which while a boon for this year may mean an uphill struggle getting the 7 required for the 2024 intake. Currently we have 3 potential units who have provisionally agreed to host in 2024 and I will revisit this in June and look to find the final 4. We are still working on getting more consortiums / commitment to the ‘1 a year’ approach on training, with the National Trainers meetings improving communication and involvement with STP training.

The IACC CBD's for 2023 have been submitted – thank you to all who supported this process and the Lead trainers will be looking at creating three more for the NSHCS over the coming weeks to bolster the numbers available for those taking their final assessment this year (TBC – August). This will be reviewed nearer the time but will potentially only need one panel drawn from the trainers.

The Non-GDC entry meeting on 24/02/23 was well attended considering its short notice, and had potential problems and solutions raised, the value of the questionnaire reiterated, and the importance of listening to the membership's views highlighted (the course cannot run without the support of the training units just as much as it cannot run without enough trainees).

With the SWC stepping down as lead trainers this year the "next" Lead Trainers need to be discussed, hopefully with a handover period in place so that we can have a smooth transition, we believe the action should be taken forwards by the Education Committee Lead or Chairman (as it was previously).

6. CPD Update

Additional member supporting and observing how the webinars are run and will be supporting Lead CPD in Deputy CPD role.

We are now running webinars on varying times and days to facilitate higher attendance.

Attendance at the webinar sessions in 2023 has been:

January 2023	Attended, 23.
24 th February 2023	Attended 23. Certificates to be issued.
27 th February 2023	Attended 46

- All webinars to be advertised on IMPT website, Instagram, linked in and upcoming IMPT newsletter.
- Sessions full booked until May 2023.
Sessions after summer provisionally booked.
- Sessions of summer July/August/September hopefully final year STP will fill in.
- Feedback from participants has shown a preference for sessions at lunchtimes so the next 4 webinars will be at lunchtimes and tend to be falling on Mondays.
- Good feedback from presenters to do pre-recorded sessions.
Going to try pre-recording of technique and provide feedback on next session.
- Communications being sent to IASPE, not sure who contact is for IAA. Please advise.
- To request upcoming IMPT Webinar Series 2023 be advertised on social platforms; Instagram and Linked in more in advance.

Plan is to implement IMPT webinar presentations as part of STP training as discussed in October Education Committee meeting.

- Discussed in October Education Committee meeting
- IMPT Congress Liverpool Feedback report on Google drive.

Suggestion re IMPT funding to support guest lectures/teaching for STP competencies. Education committee support this and it will be presented to council at full meeting.

7. Advertisement of STP training

Engaging with DT training units to raise awareness and representation.

8. Update on DiSSG

Vice chair of HCS Forum in Grampian has been having discussions with colleagues about funding cuts for Clinical Scientist Training programmes in Scotland. Rob Farley has advised that what's actually happening is that there is a pot of money and depending on the amount of trainees in the system on a year to year basis, they

have to adjust funding accordingly – for example, if some students have extended training periods.

The DiSSG (Diagnostics in Scotland Strategic Group) have already submitted an SBAR to the Scottish government at the tail end of last year – and now other areas (Lothian, Glasgow and Grampian for example) are writing their own SBAR's for consideration. We are substantially underfunded in Scotland compared to other nations.

Historically, we (Reconstructive scientists/MfPs) have been largely missed in terms of opportunities to feed into the executive groups like other healthcare scientists do. Contacted HCS advisor for Scottish Government who was keen to establish links with us.

A productive meeting, and have now established a Scottish Service Leads group to meet quarterly, and feed into the Medical Physics and Clinical Engineering Board (MPCEEB) – this is the executive group that links into the DiSSG – Diagnostics in Scotland Strategic Group – or what is soon to be known as the DSN – Diagnostics Strategy Network..

This is a positive step for us as we now will be in the loop and can engage with work of the MPCEEB and ensure that any issues associated with Reconstructive Science are escalated.

9. Award Documents Update
Not discussed

10. Materialise 3D Licence for STP students

Proposal regarding IMPT funding for Materialise competency licences for each STP student. This would need to be put to council. Full costs required so this can be suggested to full council.

11. Research Plan
Not discussed

12. AOB