



# FSRH news

January 2012

## FSRH AWARDED NICE ACCREDITATION

Through its accreditation programme, NICE has formally approved the FSRH process to develop clinical guidelines in SRH. As a result of the decision by the independent NICE Accreditation Advisory Committee, Chaired by Professor David Haslam CBE, new guidelines can now carry the NICE Accreditation Mark and be considered as part of the development of NICE quality standards.

Congratulations are due to the FSRH Clinical Effectiveness Unit based in Glasgow, led by Dr Louise Melvin and the Clinical Effectiveness Committee, Chair Dr Sam Rowlands.

## HAVE YOUR SAY

Dr Anne Connolly, who is a GP and GPwSI in Gynaecology in Bradford and FSRH Council Member has compiled a short questionnaire to seek the views of members on its activities and to ascertain what they would like to see included in future plans. The survey is available until 20<sup>th</sup> January at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZKRZHYQ>. The findings will be presented to Council in February.

## FSRH SERVICE STANDARDS LAUNCHED

Representatives of Royal Colleges and professional bodies joined members of the House of Lords, Faculty Council and the Clinical Standards Committee at the RCP to launch the FSRH Clinical Standards on November 17<sup>th</sup>.

This document, which is a compilation of the FSRH Standards, has been sent to all Directors of Public Health and service leads across the UK. A valuable resource to both commissioners and service providers the standards can be downloaded from [FSRH.org](http://FSRH.org)

Thanks go to the Clinical Standards Committee, Chaired by Dr Asha Kasliwal who is an SRH Consultant in Manchester.

## DIANE ABBOTT OPENS CURRENT CHOICES

The English Shadow Minister for Public Health, Diane Abbott MP, opened the FSRH Current Choices Conference in London in November. In a stimulating address, Diane, who is an MP in Inner London, covered the issue of legislation and access to abortion across the UK. She also highlighted the challenges that lie ahead in relation to the independent counselling debate.

## TRAINING IN MEDICAL EDUCATION

The General Training Committee has established a Working Group to review the Letter of Competence in Medical Education (LoCMed). The Group is led by Dr Liz Nyholm, who is a GP in Birmingham. Working in partnership with the University of Keele, a proposal to develop a new accredited qualification to replace the LoCMed, called the 'Postgraduate Award in Medical Education (Sexual and Reproductive Health)' was approved by Faculty Council in November. The aim of this is to further strengthen the teaching resources of the FSRH and produce sexual and reproductive health teachers of an excellent standard that meet GMC requirements and are accredited by a highly reputable medical education academic department. It is intended that this qualification will be open to doctors and nurses who work in SRH. It is anticipated that completion of the PGA MedEd (SRH) will lead to the award of CATS Points which can contribute to further university qualification.

The PGA, which will be piloted in the first 6 months of 2012 will be introduced at the General Training Programme Directors Conference in February 2012. It is anticipated that the timeline for moving over to the new qualification will be towards the end of 2012. More details will, including entry criteria, be posted on the FSRH website as this project develops.

Dr Liz Stephens, Acting Chair General Training Committee & Associate Specialist in SRH, Liverpool

## FSRH.ORG - MEMBERS' AREA

Using your membership number as the username you can register to access the members only area of the FSRH website, through this you have direct access to **The Journal** and can update your contact details. We will be adding more functionality to this area as the year progresses.

## DFSRH & LOC EVALUATION

Many thanks to all of you who contributed to the independent external review of the Diploma and Letters of Competence (SDI & IUT). The report and its recommendations will go to Council for consideration in February and will subsequently be published on the Faculty website. The Evaluation has been carried out by Professor Ed Peile, Professor Emeritus of Medical Education at Warwick University Medical School.

## INFORMATION ON ELECTION TO COUNCIL

There are ten elected members of Council, who have responsibility as Company Directors. Six of the elected members are Fellows or Members, and four are Diplomates.

When there are vacancies, eligible members can stand for their respective group i.e. Fellows and Members for vacancies in that group and Diplomates for vacancies in their group. To stand for election to Council or to nominate another member for election you must be a current Member, Diplomate or Fellow of the FSRH (and not be in arrears with your subscription).

You do not have had to have been on a committee before standing for Council, but having done so is likely to increase your understanding of how the FSRH works and aid your ability to contribute to Council.

## COMMITTEE VACANCIES

### CLINICAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The clinical standards committee has vacancies for a nurse and a doctor.

### WORKFORCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

There are 2 vacancies on the Workforce Planning Committee. One vacancy is for an Associate member, one for a Fellow/Member or Diplomate.

The committee usually meets 3 times a year at the Faculty offices in London and committee members contribute to the design and interpretation of the annual census. The work also involves following up non-responders to the census and writing a section of the report. The application form is available on the committee section of the website and queries can be directed to James Secker, Committee Secretary ([ht@fsrh.org](mailto:ht@fsrh.org))

### APPLYING TO JOIN A COMMITTEE

Information on the remit, workload and current membership of each committee is available on the committee's page on the FSRH website. The Committee chair or administrator will happily provide you with further information if required.

Most committees meet 4 times a year at the FSRH Offices in London. Teleconference facilities are available and used regularly by some committees, but not all committee work can be undertaken in this way.

To apply to join a committee, please complete the application form which is accessed from any committee page on the website. You can apply to a committee without vacancies, but your application will not be considered until a vacancy becomes available.

## FACULTY CONFERENCES

Visit [FSRH.org](http://FSRH.org) for more details.

### JOINT FSRH & BASHH CONFERENCE

20<sup>th</sup> January 2012  
Royal Society of Medicine  
London

*waiting list only*

### GENERAL TRAINING PROGRAMME DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012  
RIBA  
London

### ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> April 2012  
Royal College of Physicians  
Edinburgh

Book before 9th March 2012 to get reduced registration fee (FSRH members only<sup>§</sup>)

### ASM best poster and best presentation awards -

Deadline for submitting abstracts is 20<sup>th</sup> February 2012.

### DEANERY ADVISORS' MEETING & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

7<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
The Academy of Medical Sciences  
London

### CURRENT CHOICES CONFERENCE

22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012  
Royal College of Physicians  
London

### CRITICAL READING COURSE

March 2012  
London

§ = Current Fellows, Members, Diplomates, and Associate