



FACULTY NEWSLETTER WINTER 2011

On the turn of the year, this winter's edition of the newsletter reflects the new; a new Faculty website, a new trainees' section and a review of the work of the 'Raising Awareness' working party in attracting physicians to a career in pharmaceutical medicine. This topic has already attracted a number of posts on our (relatively new) Linked In group (90 members strong and growing day-by-day), and it's good to see communication taking place on this forum and on the Educational Supervisor forum, recently established by Sharon McCullough.

Meanwhile special interest networks are springing into life. The aim of these is to engage as much of the Faculty membership as possible in our responses to consultations and to give members the opportunity to connect with each other and work on other projects related to their chosen fields. Some of the networks are still a little short on members - please go to page 5 to see if there are any that you could join.

Certainly some of my Christmas break will be spent updating my CPD records and reflecting on the multisource feedback from one of the revalidation pilots. It's been an interesting experience, not least gathering a large group of colleagues to provide feedback and briefing them to locate the review e-mails in their SPAM files, and I look forward to bringing the wider experience from the pilots to you all in one of next year's newsletters.

And on that note, I will close for 2011 and wish you all a good break and a healthy, happy New Year.

Dr Liz Clark, Editor

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

*Advancing the science and practice of
pharmaceutical medicine
for the benefit of the public*

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine website. At the top, there is a search bar and the text 'THE FACULTY OF PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINE of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom'. Below this is a navigation menu with links: Home, About Us, Training & Exams, Revalidation & CPD, News & Events, Publications, and Contact Us. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Welcome to the new Faculty website' (dated 23rd November 2011), 'About the Faculty', 'About Pharmaceutical Medicine', 'Your Faculty...' (with sub-sections for Trainees, Revalidation, and Membership), 'Latest News' (including the latest newsletter and a Royal Medical Benevolent Fund appeal), and 'Upcoming Events' (listing the Faculty Annual Meeting, DCHP examinations, and the National Trainees' Meeting).

Contents...

- p2 Feature article:
The new Faculty website
- p4 Faculty news
- p6 Faculty Board summary
- p7 President's Words
- p8 Trainee Times



Feature article:

Completion of Phase 1 of the new Faculty website

The first phase of development of the Faculty's new website is now complete and the site went live at ~5.30pm on the 23rd Nov 2011, shortly after being presented to the Faculty AGM.

www.fpm.org.uk

In late 2009 the Faculty undertook a wide-ranging survey of our membership. Some of the main themes to emerge were around a desire for the Faculty to work to enhance the reputation of pharmaceutical physicians and raise the global profile of pharmaceutical medicine, and also to boost interactions and engagement between the Faculty and its members and partners. These days, one of the primary methods of engagement for any organisation is through its website and it was decided that the Faculty website needed a fundamental overhaul in terms of design, structure and content to meet our members' expectations. Four website development agencies were asked to tender for the contract and *Premier IT* were selected to lead the project.

It is hoped that the new website will provide a more user-friendly interface for Faculty members and non-members alike to interact with the activities of the Faculty. The new website represents the first phase of an over-arching digital strategy which, over the next few years, will see the Faculty employ new methods of organising its activities and provide tools and forums for our members to engage with the Faculty and each other.

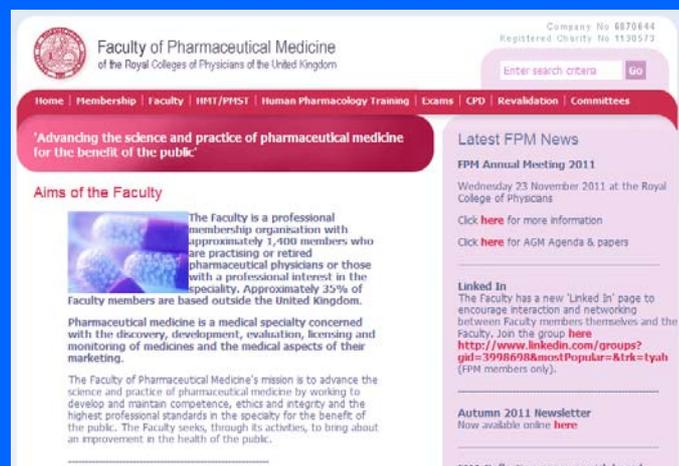
Why create a new website for the Faculty?

1. To encourage and diversify interactions between...
 - The Faculty and its members
 - Faculty members themselves
 - The Faculty and partners, including:
 - Partner organisations
 - Doctors of other specialties
 - Medical students
 - Patients, trial volunteers and the general public
 - The press and the political world
2. To enable easier organisation of Faculty activities

3. Make the website the 'go to' place for information on pharmaceutical medicine
4. To present a more accessible and professional face to non-members
5. Boost the status of pharmaceutical medicine amongst both medical and non-medical members of the public

The old website...

The old website was outdated in design, cluttered with content and not very appealing to either members of the Faculty or non-members.



What does 'Phase 1' mean? What are the key differences?

The first phase of the new website design and overarching digital strategy has resulted in a new, more user-friendly website with an updated and professional look and feel. It is hoped that the new site is more welcoming and interesting looking, with more easily accessible information for members and non-members alike. The site has a link to the Faculty's new Linked-in group and this represents the first step in the Faculty's engagement with social networking techniques. The Linked In group now has 90 members and continues to grow. The website also gives us the opportunity to make much more use of media such as videos and podcasts, and over the coming months we will consider how we can produce more materials in these formats. The blogs page for members will also shortly be set up.

The new website homepage...



THE FACULTY OF PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINE

of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom

Search Go

Home About Us Training & Exams Revalidation & CPD News & Events Publications Contact Us

You are here: Home



The Faculty's Mission Statement is 'Advancing the science and practice of pharmaceutical medicine for the benefit of the public'. Find out how we do this.

Welcome to the new Faculty website

The new website was launched on the 23rd November 2011

About the Faculty

Find out more information about what the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine does.

About Pharmaceutical Medicine

Find out about the medical speciality and careers in the field of Pharmaceutical Medicine

Your Faculty...

Trainees Revalidation Membership



Please [click here](#) for more information about Pharmaceutical Medicine Specialty Training, the Trainees' Sub-committee and meetings and events organised for Trainees.

Latest News

 The latest Faculty Newsletter - Autumn 2011 edition 'Emerging Markets in Drug Discovery' is [available online now](#)

 Royal Medical Benevolent Fund launch their **175th Anniversary Appeal**.

 **Linked In**
The Faculty has a new 'Linked In' page to encourage networking between Faculty members. Join the group [here](#)

Upcoming Events

23 NOV Faculty Annual Meeting comprises the AGM, awards ceremony, keynote lecture by Prof Sir Rory Collins and Annual Dinner

1 MAR **2 MAR** D/CHP examinations 2012 RCP London

21 MAY National Trainees' Meeting 2012
The next National Trainees' Meeting is on 21st May 2012. Further information to follow.

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Subpages...



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Search Go

Home About Us Training & Exams Revalidation & CPD **News & Events** Publications Contact Us

You are here: [News & Events](#) > News and Events



Faculty News



Faculty Events



External News



External Events

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THE FACULTY OF PHARMACEUTICAL MEDICINE

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Search Go

Home **About Us** Training & Exams Revalidation & CPD News & Events Publications Contact Us

You are here: [About Us](#) > [About the Faculty](#) > History & Structure

About the Faculty

- Aims of the Faculty
- History & Structure**
- Membership categories
- Fellowship Elections
- Fee Information
- Committees
- External Representation
- Officers and Staff
- Vacancies
- Links

About Pharmaceutical Medicine

History and Structure of the Faculty

History

In 1976, following a rapid growth in the 1950s, 60s and 70s of the use of pharmaceuticals in clinical medicine and the evolution and growth of the role of medical advisors in the pharmaceutical industry, the Royal Colleges of Physicians of Edinburgh, Glasgow and London established the first Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine to be gained by examination and a two year training course for 'pharmaceutical physicians'.

The rapid evolution of the pharmaceutical specialist, and the developing interface between pharmaceutical medicine and other medical disciplines, led to the idea of creating a Faculty within the three Royal Colleges of Physicians, so that criteria would be established resulting in specialist accreditation, thus saving public expectation that new medicines are developed, approved and monitored to the highest standards.

The Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine was established in 1989 as a Faculty of the three Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom jointly, and appointed the first officers and Board Members of the Faculty. At the time of its inauguration, the Faculty comprised 450 members.

Please [click here](#) for a more in-depth article on the Faculty's history.

Structure

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the governance and strategy of the Faculty. The Board is supported by its operational committees, their sub-committees and working groups and a small staff team. This structure is shown below.

Faculty Committee Structure



```
graph TD;
    Board[Board of Trustees] --- Coord[Coordination Committee];
    Board --- Int[International Committee];
    Board --- Adv[Advocacy Committee];
    Board --- Sub[Board Sub-Committees and Working Parties];
    subgraph SubCommittees;
        App[Appointments Committee];
        Fell[Fellowship & Awards Committee];
        Res[Resourcing Working Party];
    end;
    Coord --- SubCommittees;
```

What *could* happen in Phase 2?

With Phase 1 of the digital strategy now complete, we are already looking forward to the next steps that over the coming months and years will improve users' experience of the website and associated functionality. Below are some of the functions that the new website could allow us to develop.

- Highly interactive member areas; including Committee and Special Interest Network mini forums.
- More videos, podcasts, webcasts etc
- Increased use of social media
- Online payment of membership, exam and event fees
- E-learning materials

How can I get involved?

We would very much appreciate comments on the new design and functionality and ideas for the future development of the website (Phase 2 and beyond) from all Faculty members.

Please get in touch with us:

- Ben Cottam – Policy and Communications Coordinator
020 7831 7662 ext 25 - b.cottam@fpm.org.uk

If you experience any technical problems with the website then please let us know (Ben Cottam - 020 7831 7662 - b.cottam@fpm.org.uk)

Faculty news

Raising Awareness Working Party – Special Interest Networks – Farewell from the Newsletter to Jit Solanki

Raising Awareness of Pharmaceutical Medicine

How did you become aware of pharmaceutical medicine as a career option? Responses from the members of the “Raising Awareness Working Party” of the Faculty, headed by Dr Jane Zuckerman, Vice-President of the Faculty, suggested that it had been a rather hit and miss affair, and a recent thread on the Faculty’s Linked In group has confirmed this. As the extent of structured postgraduate medical education increases, it has become increasingly evident that presenting pharmaceutical medicine as a career option in the latter years of undergraduate education and early years after qualification alongside other specialties is necessary to continue recruitment into the speciality.

Tasked with this mandate, the group has initiated a wider consultation with a view to gaining more insight from students, junior doctors and pharmaceutical physicians into effective strategies and activities, together with putting plans in place to provide a structure with which to handle enquiries from those considering pharmaceutical medicine as a career.

Although it’s early days, the following ideas have already been raised:

- Student elective and elective internships, particularly as the economic climate limits the extent of travel for many
- Presence at career fairs
- Sponsorship of prizes for an essay / research contribution of relevance to pharma. This was considered particularly valuable if the essay could be published
- Provide career talks in late medical education and Foundation years, when these may be a compulsory part of training
- Offer taster weeks during Foundation training alongside other specialties
- Offer a four month foundation year 2 placement – similar placements in disciplines such as public health appear to be popular
- Provide the opportunity for those who are interested to find out more about the Industry by talking to Industry physicians

Professor Steve Killick (Hull York Medical School) has kindly shared his experience of two programmes of interest, prompting consideration of how the Faculty could support those willing to host such schemes. These included a three week 'Student-selected Component' in pharmaceutical medicine for 4th year students, and an MSc undertaken by 4th and 5th year students.

Communication with students and Foundation level physicians is clearly key, and experience to date with articles on the above programmes and from pharmaceutical physicians more generally in the BMJ all appear to have generated interest around the time of publication, and are frequently cited in threads relating to pharmaceutical medicine as a career on websites such as Doctors.net. Making links to such articles available on the Faculty website will further increase their reach.

Whilst generating interest is key, meeting that interest is equally important in promoting pharmaceutical medicine as a career. A number of members of the working party, and correspondents on Linked In cited the value to being able to talk with pharmaceutical physicians in making a decision on their career choice, so the Faculty plans to establish a database of members who are willing to provide such advice on a one to one footing, the Faculty website being the main portal for such traffic.

We are also looking to develop a panel of advocates who would be prepared to speak at careers fairs and meetings, so if you are interested in contributing to any of these initiatives, or have relevant experience and ideas to share, please get in touch via Ben Cottam at the Faculty (b.cottam@fpm.org.uk).

As our plans develop, you can expect to hear more about our activities, so watch this space!

Liz Clark



Special Interest Networks

The Faculty's new Special Interest Networks have now been established to provide input into consultations & other projects in the following areas:

- DH and Government
- Education and Training
- Ethical Issues
- Industry and commercial issues
- Regulation
- Patient issues
- EU and Global policy
- Pharmacovigilance
- Clinical Pharmacology
- Oncology
- Infectious diseases/vaccines
- Gynaecology and Paediatrics
- Psychiatry and Dementia
- Central Nervous System
- Rheumatology
- Gastroenterology

We still require more members to join the following groups in order for us to formally establish them:

- Heart disease/stroke
- Medical Devices
- Respiratory
- Biosimilars
- Orphan diseases
- Diabetes

If you have knowledge and experience in these areas and would like to join the appropriate network then please get in touch with us at b.cottam@fpm.org.uk

Jit Solanki steps down as newsletter editor

Dr Jit Solanki is putting down his editorial pen as 2011 comes to an end. Jit has edited and worked on the Faculty newsletter for the best part of a decade; first through the Communications and more recently the Advocacy Committee. The Faculty and its membership owe Jit a special thanks for his efforts over the years and especially for ensuring that the newsletter always contained something topical and of interest. Jit always had his eye on the clock and with humour almost always obtained contributions on time. With the new rules of governance, Jit has stepped down from Advocacy but will certainly continue to be active in the Faculty. I am sure that he will keep an eye on our activities and I for one hope that he continues to contribute to the newsletter.

Keith Bragman, Chair, FPM Advocacy Committee

Faculty Board summary

Board of Trustees Meeting Summary – 19th October 2011

New FPM Office

This was the first Board meeting in the new FPM meeting room following the office relocation in August 2011.

Diploma & Certificate in Human Pharmacology

The Board was joined by Sir Gordon Duff and Dr John Posner to discuss the Faculty's Human Pharmacology programmes. It was agreed that the Faculty fee for the Diploma would be reduced to £2500 (2 year fee) with immediate effect. Sir Gordon also agreed to follow up on a number of ideas to help develop the programme further.

Pilot Diploma in Pharmaceutical Medicine Export Project

It was noted that three candidates had sat the examination in South Africa. It was agreed that the Chief Executive would organise a report to review how the project had gone including collecting feedback from those involved in the various stages of the process. The final report would be prepared for review by the Board in January 2012 which would be after the results had been released. A decision regarding next steps would then be made.

Membership without Examination

Upon the recommendation of the Education Committee, it was agreed that this membership category would be discontinued for new applicants.

Revalidation

It was noted that Revalidation would be introduced in the UK on the basis of organisational readiness. The Board concurred with advice from the Faculty's Revalidation Subcommittee that, as a designated body, the Faculty was unlikely to be amongst the first organisations achieving a positive state of readiness. One important factor in this would relate to the progress of legislation to enable pharmaceutical companies also to become designated bodies and that the timetable and details of this arrangement were not yet known. The Faculty would encourage pharmaceutical physicians to continue preparing

themselves for Revalidation through undertaking and recording CPD and participation in annual medical appraisal.

It was noted that the Professional Standards Committee had recently undertaken a discussion about CPD and that the committee had reported that it was also important to promote CPD in its own right to members of the profession. The committee planned to review how this could be best achieved and how this could link to a digital strategy.

It was noted that the GMC had recently released two new consultations relating to revalidation; one concerning CPD and revalidation and the other concerning the revalidation regulations.

Prescribing Without Evidence Symposium

It was noted that this meeting, held jointly with the British Pharmacological Society on 27 September, had been very successful. Although the number of delegates had not been as many as had been originally hoped, a number of recommendations would be followed up with the BPS.

Annual Meeting 2012

The provisional date for the Annual Meeting in 2012 was 28 November 2012 and there were early plans being considered for a Faculty symposium on 'Adherence' to be held on the following day, 29 November 2012.

Future Meetings

The next Co-ordination Committee is on 12 January 2012 and the next Board Meeting is on 25 January 2012.



President's update



Dr Richard Tiner
President of the Faculty

As another year comes to an end, I believe we should be looking forward to 2012 and beyond. I try and make at least one New Year resolution which usually lasts a few weeks before I slip back into old habits. Perhaps this year I might encourage you all to consider a resolution relating to the Faculty. Outlined in this Newsletter are a number of areas in which members can assist.

The Advocacy Committee have done an excellent job in getting Phase 1 of the website up and running but now wish to move on to Phase 2 so please send your thoughts and ideas to Ben Cottam.

Another area where you might consider volunteering is in joining a panel of advocates for promoting Pharmaceutical Medicine as a career or by joining one of the Special Interest Networks that are short of numbers. The latter of these is important as the Faculty tries to become more involved in responding to consultations and playing a greater part in the activities of the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges. Also there are likely to be opportunities to join some of the Faculty's main committees or working groups so do please keep an eye on the website for future announcements. Any organization is only as strong as its membership – a hackneyed term but very true.

I can report that next year's AGM and Annual symposium will be on consecutive days at the end of November (28th and 29th). Please reserve these two days in your diaries now as I hope that the event will be as successful as those of 2011.

I would like to add my thanks to Jit Solanki as he demits from editorship of the Newsletter. I believe that Jit has enabled the Newsletter to evolve to become an important mouthpiece for the Faculty and if members only have time to read that on a regular basis, they certainly have access to a considerable amount of information. Early in 2012, the Faculty will report on its activities in 2011

Finally, may I offer you all Seasons Greetings and a Happy and Prosperous 2012.

Contact the Faculty...

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Email: fpm@fpm.org.uk
Website: www.fpm.org.uk
Company number: 6870644
Charity number: 1130573

If you have recently moved or are planning to move, please notify the Faculty by phone, post or email of all changes of address.

This newsletter is published by the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine of the Royal Colleges of Physicians of the United Kingdom. Opinions expressed in articles do not necessarily represent those of the Faculty or its parent Colleges or their policies.

Upcoming Faculty events...

January 2012

25th – Faculty Board meeting
26th – President attending RCP Council
31st – CHP Revision day

March 2012

1st – D/CHP examination
2nd – DHP examination

Trainee Times



Welcome to the first issue of the Faculty's newsletter with an area dedicated to trainees and trainee issues. This page is hosted by the Trainee Subcommittee who have the remit of advising the Education and Specialty Advisory Committees on trainee matters, representing the Faculty on external groups and facilitating communication between trainees and between the Faculty and trainees.

The content of the page will be driven by trainees and it is hoped that trainees will get involved, either by writing articles to include or by sending suggestions of topics that could be covered. Please email items of interest to be included in the next edition to the following address traineesubcommittee@fpm.org.uk

Trainee Sub-Committee teleconference - PMST evidence: 23rd January 2012, 5 pm

All PMST participants are invited to an informal 1 hour teleconference and web presentation to discuss evidence collection. The agenda will cover:

- What evidence to collect
- How to maximise your reflective commentary
- How to organise evidence

Please save the date! Send any questions or comments prior to the meeting to traineesubcommittee@fpm.org.uk

The National Trainees Meeting 2012

The 4th National Trainees meeting will be taking place on the 21st of May 2012 in London. The meeting will be a mixture of workshops (topics include diploma exam preparation, the structure and content of the ARCP and career options), talks from invited speakers and an open floor session. There will also be a workshop concerning the role of the Educational Supervisor, covering not only the expectations from the trainee point of view but also some guidance on how to become an ES. The meeting is an excellent opportunity to network with other trainees, share experiences and highlight training issues to the trainee subcommittee and Faculty members. The full agenda and registration details will be available early spring 2012.