

## **RCGP AiT Committee 2007/2008 Meeting Summary for Wednesday 28th May 2008**

### **ePortfolio**

The Committee learnt that those nearing the completion of training can now apply for their CCT online.

A new version of the ePortfolio will be released in August 2008. This updated version should show an improved user experience along with continual bug / glitch fixes. An upgrade taking place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2008 should also solve known speed issues that the deaneries and some trainees have been experiencing.

The Committee discussed various ePortfolio functionality and presentation issues including the mail system and the possibility of deleting sections within a trainee's learning log. These areas would be rectified as part of the scheduled updates and the ePortfolio team would look into locking aspects of the learning log to prevent accidental deletion. It was agreed that a list of the changes to ePortfolio functionality will be posted bi-annually.

Foundation skills and flexible training were considered as further areas for review. The chair of the PTB confirmed that VTS trainees will already have the relevant foundation skills required. It is an optional section on the website after all. As a result, the ePortfolio team will look into the implications of removing the foundation skills section within the software.

There were further enquires as to why flexible trainees are asked to complete the same Workplace-Based Assessment minimums as full time trainees and not on a pro rata basis. The chairman, supported by the PTB chair, reminded the Committee that the evidences should be qualitative rather than quantitative. It was noted that this information is on the College website.

### **Fees and Assessments**

The members were informed that once the pass rates are available only the AKT results can be made public knowledge, although the Committee chairman is permitted to approach Mike Berwick and request the results before their public release date.

It was reiterated that the College is running at a loss for the CSA. The Committee discussed the options for recouping the 5% shortfall, with many members intimating that it would not be fair or transparent to subsidise the cost of the CSA. The Committee suggested recommending an increase in assessment costs where they are incurred.

### **Regional Representation**

The Committee discussed that whilst there had been some work regionally, it was still quite limited. This was mainly due to funding and communication issues. Nevertheless, feedback for activities that did take place has been very positive and further discussion and dissemination of event templates, models and funding structures was agreed.

### **Representation on Other Committees**

Dr Mike Smith attended Lord Darzi's trainee engagement event. He reported that an NHS Certificate in management, parallel to the CCT, was being scoped, along with how private sector training may affect the current system.

Dr Irfan Sayed attended the Assessment Committee meeting and informed the group that the College intends to run three diets in the coming year, in October, January / February and May. This is due to substantial amounts of money being spent on unused circuits. Booking will close 8 weeks before the diets begin to minimise expenditure. Dr Sayed also reported that the October exam was initially intended for February starters. The timings of the CSA will be re-evaluated, although this may not be in time for the 2009 diets.

Dr Clare Taylor attended the BMA Committee meeting; Dr Soleman Begg and Dr Irfan Sayed attended the QTMS Committee.

### **Initiatives and Events**

The Committee considered initiatives being scoped to support newly qualified GPs and those entering GP specialty training. Members were informed that the event planned for trainees to “meet the College” was borne out of AiT Committee feedback and would help demonstrate that the College is effectively communicating with new trainees. The PTB chair agreed that it was important to introduce trainees to the professional organisation which will be integral throughout their careers. Although many deaneries run similar sessions it is a legitimate initiative in order to gain a higher and more amicable profile amongst trainees, although it could be amended to highlight the College’s role above and beyond merely facilitating progression to their CCT. Costs would be minimal as the event is run internally by current staff members.

Committee members were asked to submit ideas to the secretariat for newly qualified / new professionals’ initiatives so the College can understand what might be missing in training.

The chairman informed the Committee that there will be three AiT trainee-specific streams running throughout October’s annual conference in addition to the four-hour student and trainee event taking place on the Saturday.

### **November Election**

The Committee debated the positives and negatives of the pilot terms of reference. Much discussion focused upon for how long deanery representatives and their deputies should hold office. The Committee agreed that both the deanery and deputy deanery representative will hold office for one year, after which those who are eligible – as an AiT and still in training – can opt to be re-elected back into the role.

It was decided that the deputy representatives should be democratically elected on a national level. First refusal will be given to those with the second highest count of votes.

The Committee members also discussed and agreed that the two AiT representatives on Council should be elected from within the AiT Committee with one seat being served for the chair of the Committee. Exploratory work on how representatives are selected will be debated after the elections for the 2008/2009 AiT Committee.

### **Terms and Conditions**

It was discussed and agreed that the Committee should report directly to Council.