

TAB 07/08 Report to CMGS AGM 3/4/08

Communication

- An updated **remit for the TAB** has been drafted by TAB membership ratified by CMGS Exec for amendment or ratification is now posted on the CMGS website.
- Members have also agree to take on **designated roles** to forward aspects of training and act as contact point for enquiries. These are also on the website.

Chair	Maggie Williams
Accreditation and Deputy Chair	David Bourne
Secretary	Linda Meredith
Technologist Training	Andrew Wallace Sarah Warburton Marcus Allen
Registration/ACS and professional standards	Gareth Cross
Pre- registration Scientist training	Linda Meredith and Sarah Warburton
Workforce Planning	Steve Abbs
NOS and professional standards	Gareth Cross
Higher Scientific training MRCPATH	Jenny Bell David Cockburn Sarah Warburton
Modernising Healthcare Science	David Baty Maggie Williams
	Sarah Warburton
Training Resources	Sarah Warburton
Website	David Cockburn

- The TAB would also like to thank 2007/08 retiring members Anneke Seller and Lucy Jenkins for their hard work and support. Anneke has served on the TAB for many years and her considerable work has been very much appreciated. We welcome new member Dr Steve Abbs.
- The TAB recognises the need to improve communication with CMGS membership and Exec. TAB agendas are now posted on CMGS website prior to meetings and feedback reports provided to CMGS Exec. Please feedback to us on how we can improve and what you would like us to do.
- The TAB recognises the need to improve communication with cytogenetics (ACC ETC) and biochemical genetics. We have progressed during 07/08 with a number of combined training initiatives, and both the ECT and TAB are now linked with Sarah Warburton and Gavin Cuthbert National Pre-Registration Training Officer in Clinical Cytogenetics sitting on both committees. George Gray (Biochemical Genetics) also attended a TAB meeting in 2007.
- In addition Jennie Bell joined the committee to provide a trainee link with the Royal College of Pathologists.

Trainers and Training Centres

- David Cockburn and Lindsey Sutherland resigned from **Regional Trainer posts** in September 08 to continue in full time laboratory service posts. The TAB would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their considerable work over the last 3 years. In addition to local network support they have contributed to website development, the organisation of many training days and courses and development of competency documentation, and will be greatly missed.
- In progressing these posts to advert it became apparent that all WP National Training posts required matching and banded under A4C. This was undertaken with the support of HR at Birmingham Women's Hospital with interviews for the regional trainer posts on 24/01/08. Appointed candidates will start in post in April 08.
- A national meeting of laboratory training officers was held on 10th October and 3 major issues were discussed and implemented.
- Two Training for Trainers courses held in 07/08 with 16 attendees at each. Feedback was excellent and all appreciated the input from Debbie Browne, the course facilitator.
- All of the laboratories which are currently involved in the training of supernumerary Clinical Scientist trainees are accredited by the TAB. This list is now available on the CMGS website. The Northern Ireland Regional Genetics Laboratory in Belfast has no funding for supernumerary trainees and has decided not to apply for re-accreditation. The laboratory has therefore been removed from the list of accredited labs.

Pre-registration Training.

- 22 new clinical scientist trainees started with clinical molecular genetics in October 2007
- A 2 day course for new trainee scientists was held in Birmingham on 5th and 6th November attended by 18 trainees with good feedback.
- 29 trainees have been awarded the Certificate of Attainment
- 83 assessments undertaken, and the TAB would like to thank Sarah Warburton for her considerable work in this area and for providing such a timely assessment documentation process.
- Work is ongoing regarding educational CD's and Rob Elles attended the Dec TAB meeting to review and discuss the bioinformatics training initiative at NGRL Manchester.
- The TAB has also facilitated basic and advanced risk calculation workshops held at Nowgen in Manchester, registration workshops in different locations around the country and training days on Triplet Repeat Disorders, Cancer, and Imprinting.

Post registration Training

- **FRCPath Part 1.**
 - There are 8 attendees for the Northern Course and 17 for Southern course 07/08
 - It is recognised that it is increasingly difficult to find facilitators for 2 annual courses so from Autumn 2008 it is proposed to hold one course centrally in Birmingham.
 - A joint ACC/CMGS MRCpath part 2 day course organised by Sian Morgan and Jennie Bell was held in Birmingham on 22nd November with in excess of 60 attendees. Feedback was very positive with a higher number of attendees preparing for Part 2 examination in 07/08. It is planned to hold a similar Part 2 on a regular basis.
 - The RCPATH are actively developing a cross discipline case based e-learning initiative to support HST training across all clinical sciences. Sarah Warburton (Molecular), Gordon Lowther (Cyto) and George Gray (Biochemical) are representing the genetics disciplines in this initiative. Support from members of the profession will be required to develop areas of this programme. Please contact Sarah Warburton if interested.
 - Bioinformatics – a joint molecular cytogenetics two day course run at Nowgen in March and further courses to be arranged. It is proposed to run one or more workshops on Auditing and its purpose.
- **Genetic Technologist Training**
 - It is recognised that support is needed to the development and structure of training and career for technical staff. It is also recognised that we are in a state of flux pending Modernising Healthcare Science developments. A joint draft National training programme for molecular genetics technologists is under development by the ETC and the TAB and will be launched in 2008. This will provide an interim framework of support for local delivery.
 - A meeting for technologists covering registration and latest advances in technology – well attended and with a good deal of participation
 - 16 Molecular Genetic technologists have achieved VRC voluntary registration since the register opened 2 years ago. This is considerably lower than would be expected from workforce data. The TAB requests that the CMGS membership adds its support wherever possible to promoting and supporting voluntary registration of GT staff in CMGS laboratories.

Dates for 2007/8 TAB meetings

04/06/08 03/09/08 03/12/08

**Maggie Williams on behalf of the CMGS TAB.
TAB Chair 20/03/08**