

C onsortium for the A ccreditation of S onographic E ducation

NEWS
December
2012

This newsletter aims to provide up to date information regarding CASE activities & requirements regarding validation, annual programme monitoring & other relevant issues.

In this edition of the Newsletter: -

Report from the Chair

Modernising Scientific Careers

APMR Reminder

CASE Training Day

List of Accreditors

Report from the Chair

It is clear that over the past 18 months CASE has had to evolve and adapt in order to meet the requirements of a new face of ultrasound education. This new face is one of flexibility and innovation and it is clear from a number of recent programme accreditations that HEI's are becoming more creative. It is refreshing to see the way that universities have taken the concept of education; squeezed it and shaken it and come out with products that we feel are successfully meeting the demands of the ultrasound practitioner / student.

A number of innovative approaches are being used including focused courses, novel assessments of clinical competence, creative methods for formative and summative assessment and techniques for disseminating knowledge and promoting learning. I would like to highlight a couple of approaches that are fast becoming common to all ultrasound programmes.

The concept of catering education for the student in the form of Negotiated Imaging is a relatively new notion and allows students to gain experience and competence in areas of ultrasound that often sit outside the mainstream. Realisation of this concept is a challenging one for educationalists and Programme accreditors, however if the negotiated journey is successful the outcome is favourable for all involved and is an excellent example of ensuring smaller areas of ultrasound practice and education can still be delivered in a challenging economic climate.

The concept of blended learning is not 'new' but it is being used in novel ways to create balanced teaching and learning packages. Technology is ever evolving and the 'student community' are becoming much more resourceful. These technologies are being used to deliver important resources, as a method of formative assessment and a tool for interactive discussions and image sharing. It is important that we don't become dependent on these tools as a replacement to standard education and the most successful programmes are those that use the blended approach in a sensible manner, always supporting the technology with face-to-face contact.

On behalf of CASE, I would like to commend all those HEI's that have had to do a bit of squeezing and shaking.

Dr David Oxborough
Chair of CASE



Modernising Scientific Careers

Modernising Scientific Careers (MSC) is the programme through which the Health Service is now training people in all of the healthcare science disciplines.

There are four levels of training either currently active or being developed.

1. The first level of training is at assistant and associate level
2. Practitioner level gives training at the undergraduate level
3. Scientist level trains at a postgraduate entry level
4. Higher Specialist Training will take trainees to a consultant practitioner level.

The Scientist Training Programme (STP) is grouped into broad subject areas, one of which is the Cardiovascular, Respiratory and Sleep programme (CVRS). STP Trainees are enrolled onto a three year programme of study and workplace experience that will result in two awards that together form the completion award of the programme. There is the award of an MSc from a university and an award from the National School of Healthcare Science (NSHCS) of successful completion of the practice based training.

The whole programme is currently overseen for the DH by the NSHCS in the West Midlands. The universities running the academic MSc part of the training have successfully bid for, and been commissioned by the West Midlands SHA to run the programmes using a syllabus developed by the DH MSC team in collaboration with the relevant professional bodies.

All curricula were approved by the Education and Training Working Group of Health Education England. Training is therefore undertaken within a tripartite structure of the NSHCS, the provider university and the trainee's workplace. The Academy for Healthcare Science has the role of quality assurance. Graduates of the programme will be eligible to apply to the Academy for Healthcare Science for a Certificate of Attainment which will give them eligibility to apply to the HCPC for registration as a Clinical Scientist.

The training programmes are designed to give the trainees a much wider range of training experience within the workplace than previous training for these disciplines has done, in order to provide a workforce that is better able to work in a multidisciplinary environment and to take on leadership roles within the scientific health service of the future.

The CVRS programme includes vascular ultrasound and echocardiography. The MSc courses are currently accredited by the DH MSC team with specialist input from the professional bodies. It isn't yet clear how accreditation of courses will be carried out in the future, but clearly specialist input will be needed. The role, if any, of CASE in accrediting these courses is likely to be very limited. The Academy and NSHCS will be looking directly to the professional bodies to validate the training and to input to the Objective Structured Final Assessment of the trainees practice based training. CASE may have an accrediting role if the universities providing these programmes wish to open the courses to other candidates and want CASE Accreditation for them.

For further information see the following websites:

<http://www.academyforhealthcarescience.co.uk/>

<http://www.nshcs.org.uk/>

<http://www.nhscareers.nhs.uk/explore-by-career/healthcare-science/modernising-scientific-careers/>

APMR Reminder

Important notice for all HEI ultrasound programme leaders

CASE Annual Programme Monitoring and Review (APMR)

The letter you received from CASE in October requesting payment of the annual fee also reminded you that APMR data related to your 2011/2012 postgraduate ultrasound programme is now required. The link to the online form was also given: https://fs17.formsite.com/CASEatIPEM/form4/secure_index.html.

For those of you who have not already done so, please begin completing the form now. The deadline was 30th November 2012 and has now passed. **CASE can withdraw accreditation if it considers an Institution is not complying with APMR. If you are unable to complete your return for a legitimate reason, you must notify the CASE Coordinator (01904 610821 or email case@ipem.ac.uk) immediately.**

Please do not include details of your focused ultrasound courses. They are not subject to annual monitoring.

CASE Training Day

The 7th of December saw the annual CASE Accreditors Training day held at IPEM offices in York.

The programme is focused around some of the novel innovations that are becoming common in ultrasound education. It is the accreditor's job to evaluate constructively the integrated programme with all of its facets and therefore it is vital that our accreditors are fully informed of progress and development.

Gill Harrison of City University, London and Jane Arezina of the University of Leeds both delivered the sessions in this year's programme with topics ranging from Negotiated Imaging and Professional Study Modules to a mock accreditation. Both of these experienced speakers brought a wealth of knowledge with regards to the novel and traditional aspects of an ultrasound programme.

It is important to note that there is a requirement for accreditors acting on behalf of CASE to regularly attend the training day. If you were invited and unable to attend, please make it a priority to make yourself available for next year's session.

Dr David Oxborough

Chair of CASE

CASE Accreditors

The following are currently CASE Accreditors. Their input into the accreditation process is very much appreciated:

Dr	Alison	Charig	Portsmouth
Ms	Jan	Forster	Leeds
Mrs	Julie	Walton	Liverpool
Mrs	Pauline	Bacon	Canterbury
Ms	Jan	Dodgeon	Salford
Mrs	Rosalind	Lea	Crewe
Mrs	Pamela	Parker	Hull
Mrs	Heather	Venables	Derby
Mrs	Elizabeth	Chapman	Dunfermline
Ms	Sue	Tennant	Sheffield
Mrs	Gill	Dolbear	Canterbury
Ms	Vivien	Gibbs	Bristol
Mrs	Sue	Halsen-Brown	Portsmouth
Ms	Wendy	Williams	Penarth
Mr	Andrew	Fairhead	Aberdeen
Miss	Gill	Harrison	London
Mrs	Frith	Noble	
Dr	David	Oxborough	Leeds
Mrs	Jean	Wilson	Leeds
Miss	Jane	Anderson	Southampton
Mr	Peter	Cantin	Plymouth
Dr	Valda	Gazzard	Truro
Mrs	Abigail	Thrush	London
Ms	Theresa	Fail	Winchester
Mr	Gerry	Johnson	Manchester
Dr	Adam	Lovick	West Bromwich
Dr	Crispian	Oates	Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Mr	Ben	Freedman	London
Mrs	Annemarie	Bevan	Pontypridd
Mr	Gareth	Bolton	Lancaster

Competition – Design the CASE Logo

You may well be aware that the CASE website is starting to look a little tired. We have identified its development as a priority and are in the process of creating a resource that will be useful to professional bodies, universities, accreditors and practitioners. We anticipate that it will be ready to go live within the next couple of months.

In the meantime we would like to tap into the creative talents within the ultrasound community by requesting you to design the new CASE logo. The winning entry will be used on all CASE documentation and we will be requesting a short biography from the successful artist that will be embedded within the website.

Please send your artistic endeavours to Sally Hawking at CASE, sally@ipem.ac.uk.

BEST OF LUCK.....

Dr. David Oxborough
CASE Chair

And Finally.....

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone from CASE

