

Universities' Report to STHFT Board of Directors

15th July 2015

University of Sheffield

1. Response to the Tooke Review

In order to take the next step in this process, I mentioned in my April report that we are seeking to merge 4 Medical School departments – Cardiovascular Sciences, Infection and Immunity, Oncology and Human Metabolism – into two larger departments that can more easily promote the work in key areas of strength which otherwise overlap between different departments. We are now completing the phase of formal consultation. The merger has been approved by Senate and Council. Heads of Department will be appointed by the end of July. The new departments will start in September and their names will be determined after they have started.

2. Faculty Director of Engagement and Development

The University of Sheffield has continued to work with the Trust regarding ongoing training and placements across its pre-and post-registration portfolio. However, with the new appointment of the Director of Engagement and Development, more strategic discussions have begun to take place with the Chief Nurse and other colleagues so that the University remains responsive to the long term needs of the Sheffield community and the Trust can make the most of the expertise available within the University across all Faculties.

Key developments underway are the Physicians Associate programme, Advancing Clinical Practice roles, the new Genomics training and an increasing number of joint posts / honorary contracts across the two organisations. However, there is still potential for a more explicit strategic approach to dementia, stroke, rehabilitation and end of life care, including greater training of Assistant / Associate Practitioners and skill sharing between nursing, therapy and medical roles. Some exploration of training clinicians in assessing both physical and mental health needs and in having different conversations that enable 'patient activation' would also utilise the knowledge emerging from research areas within the University. There may also be more potential to support scientist training outside of the nationally commissioned programmes. These themes and others will be explored further in ongoing meetings and in a strategic discussion being planned for the autumn between the University and all partners delivering health care across South Yorkshire.

3. Genomic Medicine Centre (GMC)

There was strong representation from the University at the recent Y&H GMC meeting held at the end of June, with presentations on neurodegenerative disease and renal disease. We have liaised closely with Dr Andrew Jack, Interim Director, who now has both a list of our interests in rare diseases for the 100,000 Genome Project and a direct link with Professor Winston Hide regarding genomics data analysis. A Y&H bid will be submitted in the next few months.

4. Other news

It is expected that further interviews for the new Faculty Pro Vice Chancellor will be held later this year. My term has been extended to the end of March 2016. We have appointed Professor Chris Deery (Professor of Paediatric Dentistry) as Dean of the School of Clinical Dentistry from August 2015. Professor Jon Nicholl (Dean of SchARR) has been awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Professor A. Weetman

Sheffield Hallam University

Advanced Wellness Research Centre (AWRC)

In May, the AWRC announced Toshiba as its first commercial partner, signing a deal worth approximately £1.5million. Our engineers and researchers will work in collaboration with Toshiba to design new products and services that will contribute to innovation in health care.

Institute for Health and Wellbeing Research

Working with CLAHRC, there are now ten match funded projects. Jo Cooke will be joining SHU in October on a part-time secondment to help with research capacity building particularly in nursing and midwifery.

The SHU Wellness project has received a third year of funding to extend further across Yorkshire and the Humber NHS Trusts. Sports Industry researchers are engaging with over 300 schools in England to promote physical activity through the School Games Mark award. Comic Relief and Spirit of 2012 funding have enabled projects to be completed demonstrating the societal impact of sport.

Allied Health Professions

MSc Radiotherapy and Oncology, MSc Radiotherapy Planning, MSc Diagnostic Imaging and MSc Occupational Therapy have all been re-accredited by the Health and Care Professions Council with each programme achieving at least four commendations. The Operating Department Practice course will become a degree level programme from September 2015.

The Department held a very successful conference on active ageing with Dame Esther Rantzen as the keynote speaker. Suzanne Rastrick who is the Chief Health Professions officer at the Department of health will be visiting the Faculty on July 7 and she will have the opportunity to meet with local clinicians at the event. Recruitment for September 2015 is proceeding to plan with all courses expected to be full.

Nursing and Midwifery

Recruitment for September 2015 is also buoyant with high calibre candidates who are likely to exceed entry tariff requirements. Final year students are applying for first posts with many gaining posts within local provider organisations.

Advanced Prescribing for Pharmacists has been validated by the Health and Care Professions Council and the General Pharmaceutical Council and will commence in September 2015. Sheffield Hallam is developing a Physician Associate course that will commence in January 2016 involving multi-disciplinary staff from across the Faculty co-ordinated by the Centre for Medical Leadership. A Sheffield Hallam midwifery student won the 'Student Midwife of the Year Award' in the Nursing Times annual awards 2015.

Professor K Bryan.