

Bulletin

The first big news of this new year is that on 1 February the UK Voluntary Register for Public Health Specialists officially changed its name to 'UK Public Health Register', and at the recent UKPHR Board meeting in March a new logo was approved, which is reproduced above. This will be phased in on all documentation.

Additionally the register website will be completely redesigned and will contain all up to date documentation on the practitioner project and other issues of interest to potential and existing registrants.

In February the register reached the figure of 300 registrants. The register will have been in operation for five years in June this year, and this figure is as predicted in May 2003. Thanks as always are paid to everyone involved in the register for all the hard work that has been put in to develop all the phases since its inception and to those for all the developmental work before the opening.

March saw the first defined registrant admitted to the register and the register would like to congratulate Malcolm Ward on this achievement.

Further to the last newsletter the register has issued a formal statement on the current position on revalidation and this is available on the website.

Specialist trainee registration, for those who do not hold registration with another regulatory body but who are on the FPH training scheme, is progressing. Jim McEwen met with the Specialist Trainee Committee at the Faculty of Public Health where there was further discussion on the proposal for specialist trainee registration. A paper prepared by Jim McEwen and Jessica Sheringham has been distributed to specialist trainees in all regions and a further meeting will take place at the FPH conference in June.

The practitioner project is moving on with an enormous amount achieved since the start of this year. A practitioner working group meeting was held in January where the work programme and schedule was decided for 2008 and at the Board meeting in March a draft regulatory framework was seen by the Board. This was after a meeting of the Practitioner Committee with the UKPHR Board Advisory Group that same morning. It is envisaged that the regulatory framework will be piloted initially in May and then go to a wider pilot in September once comments have been collated from the initial pilot. The register is also pleased to announce the appointment of a project administrator, Zoe Clark.

The total number on the full register is now 300 with 263 through portfolio assessment, 31 through the Faculty standard training route and also 6 with dual registration. In January this year the register Board accepted, after training, 11 new assessors into the pool. As always, if anyone would like to be considered to be an assessor or would like to be involved in any of the registers projects then please write to Sarah North at the register address: Chadwick Court, 15 Hatfields, London SE1 8DJ.

At the end of the 2007 Lynn Crooks, the Chair of the Registration Panel stepped down from this role. The Board has agreed that the new Chair will be Professor George Morris, with the Vice Chair as Dr Brendan Yates. Both Professor Morris and Dr Yates have been long standing assessors. Jenny Griffiths, an original assessor who stood down from her assessment role has agreed with the Boards approval to take up the post of second Vice Chair of the Registration Panel, with a special responsibility for moderation. The Board and all involved in the register, pay our heartfelt thanks to Lynn Crooks for all the work and support she has given the register and would like to welcome Professor Morris, Dr Yates and Jenny Griffiths into their new roles.

Please note that the fees increased from 1 October 2007. The annual registration fee has increased to £250 and the assessment fee has risen to £130. These fees apply to those applying as a defined specialist as that includes an assessment fee. The fee for those applying for dual registration, and registration through the standard FPH training route is £250. All registrants have an annual retention fee of £250.

Please refer to the register website at www.publichealthregister.org.uk to download a full briefing pack for the defined specialist route to the register and for information about other routes to registration, summary Board minutes and previous Bulletins

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