Important reminder - submit your CPD summary form for audit by Wednesday 10 May

President's update

What a difference a month makes; a General Election has been called and all the uncertainty that brings. I do want to bring you some certainty around some of our key activities that I have reported on previously but not all members seem to be aware of. Therefore please feel free to pass on this message around iCEPPS and MPE accreditation.

iCEPSS is progressing with UKAS and a Tactical Advisory Committee (TAC), Chaired by Dr Peter Jarritt, a former President of IPEM, is being formed, including key stakeholders and IPEM members. The TAC meetings are planned to be held initially every six months, with the first one scheduled to take place towards the end of May, so I'm delighted that progress has been made on this already. The full process for iCEPSS will need to be developed, tested and rolled out so it will take time but the process has started and we will keep you informed of progress as it develops.

MPE accreditation is a key concern for many members but although members may not see much activity, IPEM is actively engaging with relevant government bodies and other professional bodies to develop a realistic approach for November and beyond. I can understand why there continues to be anxiety around this in the absence of a firm plan but discussions are still under way and it would be inappropriate to report detail until it is confirmed. Please bear with us.

Professor Peter Wells

It is with great regret that we have heard of the death of the first President of IPEM, Professor Peter Wells, earlier this week. Our thoughts are with his family, friends and colleagues at this time.

How IPEM is working for you

IPEM gains seat on new National Imaging Optimisation Delivery Board

IPEM President Professor David Brettle has accepted an invitation to join the newly created National Imaging Optimisation Delivery Board. This follows the publication last year of Lord Carter’s report on variations in operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals. One of the 15 recommendations in his report to address these variations encompassed the delivery of diagnostic imaging services. The new Board will have a specific remit of developing and coordinating
work streams in this area, with the aim of implementing the relevant recommendations of Lord Carter’s report as quickly and effectively as possible.

Professor Brettle has now been invited to join the Board by Professor Erika Denton, National Advisor in Diagnostic Imaging Services for the Operational Productivity Directorate of NHS Improvement. This means that IPEM will be at the very heart of this important piece of work in delivering improved diagnostic imaging services.

Revised Code of Conduct
The Professional Conduct Committee, under its new lay Chair John Unsworth, has reviewed the IPEM members’ Code of Professional and Ethical Conduct and the Disciplinary Procedure, and updated both documents. Their proposed changes were approved by the Trustee Board at its April meeting, and the revised documents are now available to members to view on the website. Please read them carefully, as all members are required to abide by the Code as a condition of membership. More information here.

IPEM CPD Audit – deadline is Wednesday 10 May
Just a reminder to anyone who has not yet submitted their Summary of CPD Activity form in response to the request sent in March and the reminder sent in April. The deadline of Wednesday 10 May is fast approaching. Please be aware that non-response may result in loss of registration status with the Science Council and the Register of Clinical Technologists and removal from the IPEM CPD Scheme. Click here for more information and to download the form for completion and return.

Changes to the clinical technologist training scheme
Since the clinical technologist training scheme began in 2002, almost 400 trainees have successfully completed it. During the last year, the Clinical Technologist Education and Training Panel have rolled out an updated scheme, which is aligned with the requirements of the now PSA-accredited Register of Clinical Technologists.

IPEM has for a number of years subsidised the running costs of the training scheme, recognising there is a need for alternative routes into the profession outside of the national programme. There has, however, been difficulty in collecting fees for the scheme, particularly where trainees are embedded within a training consortium. As a response to this, from Monday 1 May all applications for the scheme will be subject to a single fee of £620 to cover a maximum training period of 24 months. Any trainees requiring an extension to this training period will need to re-apply to the scheme and an additional rolling six month pro-rata fee will be payable.

Consultation work
Last year members contributed to two major inquiries launched by the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee on ‘Science in emergencies’, and the House of Lords Select Committee on the Long-term sustainability of the NHS (IPEM’s response to this is here).

Both committees published their findings this month and IPEM was specifically quoted in the Science and Technology Committee report, which was looking at responses to chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear incidents.

Members also contributed to a joint response with the RCR, SCoR and BIR to a Health and Safety Executive consultation on changes to the Ionising Radiation Regulations 1999.

There was also member input into the Department of Health’s Health Technical Memorandum 06-01.

Your input is invaluable in helping the Institute to continue to influence policy at the highest level.
Opportunities with IPEM

A wide range of development opportunities are on offer within IPEM, which could potentially be of real benefit to help you further your career aspirations and also to contribute to the work of the Institute. Current vacancies include for the President Elect, serving on the Membership or Communications Committee, joining the Trainee Network Panel, becoming a Regional Chair and even being Editor in Chief of Scope. You can find out about all the various vacancies and how to apply here. The closing date for all vacancies is Tuesday 30 May.

Workforce Intelligence Unit

Our new Workforce Intelligence Administrator, Adam Hyett, is now in post. He has immediately got to work on the distribution list for the clinical engineering survey, which is now live, and should have been sent directly to either the Head of Clinical or Medical Engineering, or an identified contact in each organisation. If you are concerned your department has not received anything, please contact Jemimah@ipem.ac.uk.

And finally...

We would like to wish Jacqueline Fowler, who has been Chief Executive of the British Institute of Radiology for the past eight years, all the best on her retirement. IPEM has a Memorandum of Understanding with BIR and we look forward to working just as closely with Jacqui’s replacement, Simon Thompson, in the future.

For more information, see www.ipem.ac.uk or telephone 01904 610821 or email office@ipem.ac.uk

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