



NEWSLETTER: SUMMER 2008

Promoting Research and Developing the Scientific Basis for Physiotherapy Practice.

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MANCHESTER MEETING 24TH APRIL 9TH 2008

On a lovely April day, the PRS held its 27th scientific meeting since 1994 hosted by the University of Salford and organised by PRS's current chair of, Dr. Louise Connell, and president, Dr. Sarah Tyson. The venue was pretty impressive, nestled between the Cathedral and Harvey Nichols; temptation on one side, virtue on the other!

The day kicked off with two very well known physiotherapy researchers both using ultrasound imaging as their investigative tool. Professor Maria Stokes delivered a comprehensive critical overview of the use of Rehabilitative Ultrasound Imaging (RUSI) with practical tips for training and purchasing. Ruth Jones' presentation focussed on work from her PhD to understand pelvic floor muscle dysfunction by measuring displacement and velocity of structures. The developing methods hold great potential for application for other muscle dysfunction.

After this stimulating start there was a short break for coffee and biscuits before the rest of the morning got underway with free papers on a range of subjects – a new treatment for back pain based on sensory discrimination, understanding anterior knee pain, fatigue in patients with cancer and finally quality of life in Cystic Fibrosis.

The annual general meeting was held over lunchtime, the main outcome of this was the election of 4 new committee members:

Dr. John Dixon from University of Teesside, Dr. Sue Hunter from Keele University, Nicky Snowdon from Sheffield Hallam and Anita Watson from University of Salford.

After a much needed energy boost over lunch including cream cakes (these should always be included in future PRS meetings) the meeting resumed with two further keynotes. There is always a danger that after all that food, attention wavers from the presentations, but this danger was seen off by two stimulating talks broadly based on neurology. The first, from Dr. Helen Dawes (Oxford Brookes University), provided real insight on the issues around prescribing aerobic exercise in neurological conditions including interesting new data from exercise testing in people with MS. This was followed by Dr. Sarah Tyson (University of Salford) who challenged the use of outcome measures in clinical practice before presenting her recent work attempting to provide a clearer structure to outcome measures in neurological physiotherapy.

The day was completed by five more free papers covering posture, fatigue, outcome measures and finally clinical governance. As usual there was a really high standard of presentation throughout the day on a diversity of subjects. Any physiotherapist coming to this meeting would have found something of interest, clinical or research. The journal *Physiotherapy Research International* continues to support PRS by publishing the two best abstracts from the meeting.

I hope that this wets the appetite for next year, after all Glasgow has a reputation for fine quality cream cakes, just look out for our new sponsor—Greggs!



ATTENTION CLINICIANS:

Want to come to the PRS meeting but worried about study leave??

Look on our website and you'll find access to a document with the KSF dimensions and how attendance at the meeting relates to them. You can put it straight in your CPD folder after you've been.





PRS09
Glasgow Caledonian University
MEASURING MOBILITY



The next meeting of the PRS is being hosted by Glasgow Caledonian University by our New Chair Dr Andy Kerr Friday **on the 7th of May 2009. The theme of the conference will be measuring mobility**
 Confirmed Key note speakers are:

- *Professor Malcolm Granat: Physical Activity Monitoring*
- *Professor Lynn Rochester: Measurement of Mobility in Parkinson's Disease*
- *Dr. Dawn Skelton: Outcome Measures in Falls Prevention*

There will also be a pre-conference afternoon/evening hosted by the West of Scotland Regional Hub: National Physiotherapy Network. This event will be aimed at promoting clinical research, giving opportunities to novice researchers and local clinicians to present their ideas for future or early research. Support and collaboration are the objectives. Further details will appear on the NPRN website <http://www.healthqwest.org/wsnatphysnet/> and the PRS website <http://www.prs-uk.org/>

COMMITTEE NEWS

As mentioned earlier we have successfully recruited new committee members to replace those outgoing. The new committee and roles have now been updated and are:

Hon. President: Dr. Sarah Tyson, University of Salford

Chair: Dr. Andy Kerr, Glasgow Caledonian University

Publicity Officer: Frances Arnall, Stockport OAS

Treasurer: Dr. Diane Liddle, University of Ulster

Abstract secretary: Dr. Stephanie Enright, Cardiff University

Minutes secretary: Dr. John Dixon, University of Teesside

Ordinary members: Dr. Sue Hunter from Keele University, Nicky Snowdon from Sheffield Hallam and Anita Watson from University of Salford.

RESEARCH NEWS-FUNDING DEVELOPMENTS

The Health Technology Assessment (HTA) which has a history of funding Physiotherapy Research is set to expand its treasure chest (15million currently to a possible 60Million) for funding NHS based research. This does mean that they need more panel members to help in the process of judging which studies should be funded. If you are interested in this opportunity or want to know more about the HTA's funding strategy further details are available from the website <http://www.nchta.org/>

PRS funding: Remember that the PRS provides pump prime funding (up to £500) for research as well as up to £100 to members presenting an abstract at a PRS conference. To find out more please look at the relevant documents on our website <http://www.prs-uk.org/>

The membership list

Finally we have a couple of requests from the Society secretariat, Mrs Patricia Dziunka. Regarding the membership list. Could all members email the Secretariat pdziunka@yahoo.co.uk if they ARE a CSP member for our database and ensure we have an email address and update any contact detail changes. And of course a gentle reminder to members who have not yet paid their 2008 membership fee and that a standing order will help reduce administration costs.