



Scottish School of Primary Care



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SSPC One-Day Annual Conference 18 May 2017

SSPC is delighted to announce its next Annual Conference to be held on 18 May 2017 at the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. This will build on the theme of last year's successful conference i.e. research relating to '*new models of delivering primary care*'.

The conference will be based on a traditional format focusing on the theme whereby there will be keynote speakers providing overviews on the Scottish and international perspectives, plus oral and poster presentations.

Applications for presentations are now invited to be submitted by 10th February 2017. The application process and presentation forms can be found on www.sspc.ac.uk/events/conferences/

To reserve a place as a delegate at the SSPC 2017 Annual Conference, please visit www.sspc.ac.uk/events/conferences/. The delegate fees are £140.00 with a discounted 'Early Bird' registration fee of £110.00.

We look forward to seeing you at the conference!



Editorial

Happy New Year



SSPC has had a very busy six months since our last newsletter. Our Annual Conference in September 2016 attracted delegates from across the NHS and academia in Scotland. Our new Advisory Group met for the first time; we are very grateful for their ideas and input.

The detail of our evaluation of new models of care has been agreed with Scottish Government, and we have developed an evaluation framework for the next two years for the work we have been commissioned to carry out by the Scottish Government. We are also working closely with the Scottish Government, NHS Health Scotland and other key stakeholders on a potential strategic 10 year Evaluation Framework for Integrated Primary Care, and will develop this with collaborators across the NHS in Scotland in 2017.

The Scottish Government's Health and Social Care Delivery plan published in December 2016 sets the scene for a major shift in care from hospital to primary and community care, more interdisciplinary working and a system that offers better care, better health and better value. This will be enabled by major investment in health settings outside hospitals. Our view is that these radical changes will need a strategic approach to evaluation and research, and SSPC is keen to contribute to this discussion.

In May, we will host our 2017 Annual Conference, our first that is research and evaluation focused since the restructuring of SSPC.

We look forward to Frank Sullivan, a former SSPC Director, returning from Canada to take up a chair at the University for St Andrews in April 2017.

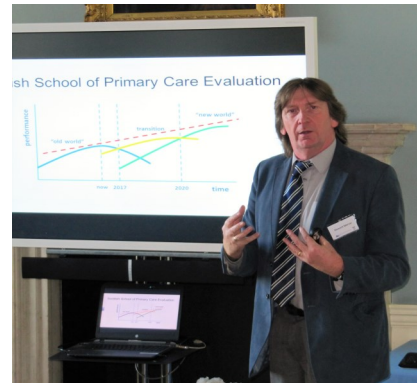
Finally, but by no means least, we are delighted to pay tribute to Professor Graham Watt on the occasion of his retirement at the end of 2016 (see page 4).

We welcome ideas and feedback. Please contact us at info@sspc.ac.uk

Professor Stewart Mercer
SSPC Director

Professor John Gillies
SSPC Deputy Director

Delivering an Integrated Primary Care Vision



In November 2016, SSPC and NHS Health Scotland jointly hosted a meeting with key Scottish Governments civil servants across different health-related policy directorates. This provided an opportunity to discuss different contributions to the primary care and transformation agendas and evaluation plans, this is the first of a proposed series of meetings to which the SSPC is contributing, and the feedback received was extremely positive.

10 Year National Evaluation Framework for Integrated Care

SSPC is currently collaborating with Health Scotland with a view to creating a 'National Collaboratory' to produce a long-term Evaluation Framework for Integrated Health and Social Care. This Collaboratory will potentially include all organisations in Scotland that are involved in evaluation such as SSPC, NHS Health Scotland, NHS Education Scotland, Health Improvement Scotland, NHS National Services Scotland, Analytical Services and more. The publication of Scottish Government's National Health and Social Care Delivery Plan in December strengthens the case for this strategic approach to research and evaluation in these areas.



SSPC Evaluation of Primary Care Transformation Funds Tests of Change

SSPC work on these started earlier this year in Inverclyde, which was chosen by the Scottish Government to test 'New Models of Care' that would inform the new GP contract.

Towards the end of 2016, the Scottish Government and SSPC agreed that further evaluations should focus on all tests of change in 3 Health Board areas and 2 specific tests of change across all Health Board areas.

The member universities undertaking these are:

- NHS Tayside (University of St Andrews, led by Frank Sullivan) ,
- NHS Lanarkshire (University of Glasgow, led by Frances Mair) ,
- NHS Ayrshire (University of Glasgow, led by Kate O'Donnell) , and
- MSK (University of Glasgow, led by Barbara Nicholl)
- Advanced Practitioners (University of Stirling, led by Margaret Maxwell).

Early scoping work carried out by the SSPC suggests that these evaluations will mainly be descriptive as most tests of change are in planning or early implementation stages. However, the Scottish Government and SSPC have agreed to fund work that will underpin longer term evaluations of all of the agreed evaluations relating to:

- Identifying Outcome Measures (led by University of Dundee, Bruce Guthrie).

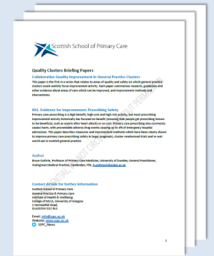
Within its current funding, SSPC has the capacity to undertake one further evaluation. The focus of this will be agreed with the Scottish Government early this year.

It is anticipated that SSPC will produce an interim report on the Inverclyde evaluation by March 2017 and final reports on all evaluations by the end of 2018.

Briefing Papers

SSPC has so far commissioned a series of 11 briefing papers designed to inform the activities of GP Clusters.

These are now available on the SSPC website www.sspc.ac.uk/publications/briefing_papers.



The papers synthesis current evidence in relation to a number of different topics, including 'Managing Multimorbidity', 'Prescribing Safety' and 'Palliative and Anticipatory Care'.

The 12th Paper in this series summarises the evidence on GP Quality Clusters, and will be available on our website in the next month or two.

In addition, the SSPC has undertaken a literature review of the lessons learnt from the Quality Outcome Framework (available at www.sspc.ac.uk/publications)

Please contact us if you suggestions for other topics for Briefing Papers or Literature Reviews by emailing info@sspc.ac.uk

Other Publications

SSPC is collating references to 25 key publications by each of its member universities. These account for more than 100 publications over the last 5 years, demonstrating the breadth and depth of the research carried out by SSPC members These will be available on the SSPC website from February 2017.

RCGP Research Paper on the Year

Applications are open for the RCGP Research of the Year, deadline 15 February 2017, and for the Yvonne Carter award for outstanding young researcher of the year. For details of both see: <http://www.rcgp.org.uk/clinical-and-research/our-programmes/research-facilitation-and-support/awards.aspx>

On the Shoulders of the Giant, Graham Watt

The extent of his influence on many of us was demonstrated recently during a recent afternoon of formal presentations to mark Graham's retirement from the University of Glasgow as the Norie Miller Professor of General Practice and Primary Care.

Lewis Ritchie reflected on Graham's formative years, and attributed Graham's successes to '*choosing his parents wisely*', '*surrounding himself with good people*', being encouraged and being encouraging' and '*doing well and doing good*'. The first of these related to his parents' wisdom in choosing to settle in Aberdeen (*we think Lewis might be a tad biased!*).

Frank Sullivan described Graham's early Professorial years during the 1990s. He likened Graham to the '*unreasonable man*' who refuses to adapt himself to the world, instead persists in raising standards and performances of everyone else.

Jill Morrison illuminated Graham's influence on the medical curriculum. Not only did he teach and lead on undergraduate and postgraduate courses, but he was also Director of the medical student electives programme. One of Graham's legacies is the current, revised graduation declaration for newly qualified doctors.

Carole Hart described Graham's leadership in the MIDSPAN Family Study. His longstanding interest in the health of families illustrates the early and ongoing influence of Dr Julian Tudor Hart with whom he worked in Glyncoirwg initially during the '70s then again during the early and '80s.

Kate O'Donnell elaborated on Graham's research on the inverse care law and health inequalities, reminding us of the origins of the GPs at the Deep End swimming pool analogy. In a 2002 Lancet publication, Graham described "*..Everyone who can be seen has their head above water. Family doctors in affluent areas are standing in the shallow end with their feet on the bottom, whereas those in deprived areas are treading water in the deep end*".

Stewart Mercer entertained with a humorous account of Graham's wisdom and generosity in supporting his research on empathy and multimorbidity, always with a keen eye on the impact on the wider context of deprivation and the inverse care law.

Peter Cawston described Graham's influence on the development and leadership of the flagship Deep End Project, involving the 100 most deprived general practices in Scotland. This is seen as a true collaboration, combining GPs' lived-experiences with academic critique. The backdrop to Peter's presentation was a single slide showing the flags of the original Scotland Deep End group and three new groups in England, Ireland and Australia.

Richard Horton rounded up by charting Graham's Lancet publications according to 3 ages of the body (Science and salt), the mind (Research and reflection) and the spirit (Passion and Palestine), and summarising his work as Chair of the Programme Advisory Panel of the UK Charity, Medical Aid for Palestinians (www.map-uk.org/). He applauded Graham's *unreasonable persistence*, particularly in areas that are not always politically palatable.

In a moving response during which Graham thanked his family (who were there to enjoy the occasion), friends and colleagues (absent and present), and, never stuck for a quote, finished with Beckett's: "*Perhaps my best years are gone. But I wouldn't want them back. Not with the fire in me now*".

Happy retirement Graham, your best years are NOT yet gone!

SSPC Advisory Group

We were heartened by the positive and constructive comments of members at the September 2016 SSPC Advisory Group Meeting. At a time of rapid and radical change in the NHS in Scotland, this engagement as vital to keep us in touch with the complexity of events across Scotland. Discussion focused on our strategic direction in the primary care and integration landscapes. The SSPC Advisory Group suggested meeting at least three times per annum, the next meeting is planned for February 2017.

Scottish Academic Forum

SSPC is also represented on the Scottish Academic Forum.

This longstanding group includes NHS Education for Scotland, the Heads of Academic Departments of Primary Care/General Practice in Scotland, the BMA, and the RCGP Scotland

If there anything you would like to discuss with us, please email info@sspc.ac.uk or contact us on our Twitter account



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