

Vice-Principal Health's Report to Senate

1. **Development of the Malta MB BS Programme and UK medical student numbers**

The MB BS course based in Malta is due to commence in September 2017. Work is underway on ensuring that staff are in post to commence delivery on time. The GMC will visit in March 2017. SMD conducted a successful pre GMC visit in January 2017.

Interest has been significant with over 4,000 enquiries for 45 places. 44 applications have currently been received. However, we will continue to work hard to meet the recruitment target with focussed publicity and scholarships. Offers will be confirmed after the outcome of the GMC visit.

2. **Education**

The Physician Associates course commenced its first cohort of students in January 2017 less than 12 months after work began on the development. This represents a great achievement and there is good support from the NHS for the course.

SMD awaits a decision on the expansion of MB BS numbers, however there is a potential new medical school development in Essex (Anglia Ruskin University) which may impact on our placements in this area.

3. **Research funding.**

The Faculty was pleased to be awarded £12.2million for the Bart's Cancer Institute from CRUK as well as £1.4million from a MRC Foundation Award. The Faculty has submitted a bid for £5.5million to the MRC GCRF: Growing Research Capacity fund. The project, involving colleagues from across QMUL aims to establish sustainable partnerships between the UK, Zimbabwe, Malawi and Bangladesh to enable interdisciplinary research aimed at improving child growth and development. If successful, it will enable capacity development through the delivery of a research programme bridging biomedicine, public health, economics, geography and social sciences.

4. **Estates Update**

The Faculty continues to grow research and teaching creating demand for additional space. SMD is ensuring that space is used as efficiently and effectively as possible. The space demands are particularly acute at the Charterhouse Square site. There are a number of projects that will increase or better utilise the available space but capacity remains a considerable pressure limiting expansion at Charterhouse Square.

5. **Life Sciences Initiative (LSI)**

We are engaged extensively with the LSI, meeting with interested potential commercial partners. The LSI with colleagues from SMD hosted a visit from Sir Jeremy Heywood (Cabinet Secretary) in January 2017 and we recently attended a Ministerial reception regarding the Life Sciences Strategy. We welcomed the recent Joint Statement of Intent from QMUL and the Trust.

6. **Key Recruits**

Professor Tim Warner has been appointed as Director of the Blizzard Institute, succeeding Professor Graham Hitman.

7. Athena Swan update

The School's Athena Swan self-assessment team met on 19/01/2017 and is working towards the renewal of the Silver award for Medicine in November 2017 and submission of a Silver application from Dentistry.

8. New Year's Honours for SMD staff

The School was delighted that three SMD staff were included in the New Year's Honours List. They are:

- Professor Jack Cuzick (Wolfson Institute) receiving a CBE for services to cancer prevention and screening;
- Professor Kam Bhui (Wolfson Institute) receiving a CBE in recognition of services to mental health research and care
- Sarah Murray (Institute of Dentistry) receiving an MBE for services to oral health.