

Annual Report of the Education Committee April 2012- March 2013

Introduction

1. The Education Committee has a 'general duty of promoting high standards of education and training in osteopathy and keeping provision made for that training under review'. It also has a key role to give advice to the Council about educational matters. (See Section 11 of the Osteopaths Act 1993).

Summary of Activities since April 2012

2. The Education Committee met four times during the period under review – in June 2012, September 2012, November 2012 and February 2013. This report summarises the work of the Committee and includes decisions taken and actions recommended and progress on work overseen by the Committee. Full minutes of all the meetings have already been reported to the Council.

Guidance on Osteopathic Pre-registration Education

3. In November 2012, the Education Committee noted that the first meeting of the Guidance on Osteopathic Pre-registration Education Working Group took place on 8 November 2012. The first meeting of the group was very constructive and examined the guidance in place at other regulators as well as the QAA. The group agreed to develop a draft document drawing on the common themes of the guidance from other regulators and to identify gaps and key issues for discussion in osteopathy.
4. The next meeting will take place in May 2013.

Student Fitness to Practise

5. In June 2012, the Committee received a report about the work of the Council's fitness to practise committees from the 1 January 2010 to 31 May 2012 to enable these findings to be fed into the work of the Committee.
6. In June, September and November 2012 and February 2013, the Committee received an update about the implementation of the student fitness to practise guidance through the Professionalism in Osteopathy Research Group pilot. The aim of the work was to provide:
 - A customised e-learning / assessing / measuring programme for OEIs to use for individual / progress / longitudinal / comparative teaching and monitoring of professionalism.
 - A customised elearning / assessing / measuring programme for osteopaths to use for individual monitoring of professionalism.

Annex to 3

- Customised scenarios for registered osteopaths to explore how the values learned at undergraduate level endure in registered osteopaths.
- Papers sufficient for submitting for publication on, for example, the learning curve of osteopathic students for submission to publications.
- A report evaluating the costs and benefits of the process for stakeholders to feed into thinking and development in this area.

7. Throughout the course of the year, the Committee noted the following milestones:

Date	Activity
January 2012 to May 2012	Project commences and first draft inventories developed using consensus methods.
1 June 2012 to 4 September 2012	Pilot tools developed. First phase data collection – 16 respondents (1 OEI)
August 2012	Presentation of initial development work to the Association of Medical Education in Europe.
11 September to 20 December 2012	Tools confirmed. Second phase data collection – 101 respondents (5 OEIs)
January 2013	First joint article ready for submission to academic journal
14 January to 31 March 2013	Tools confirmed. Third phase data collection – 74 respondents (4 OEIs) Aggregate data analysis of second phase data collection being undertaken.

Preparedness to Practise

8. In February 2013, the Education Committee noted the preliminary analysis of the dissemination and implications of the preparedness to practise research report. In particular, the Committee noted that the research was informing a variety of different work streams including:

- CPD Discussion Document Analysis
- Publication of availability of access to suite of research journals accessible through the **o** zone.
- Changes in practice at the Osteopathic Educational Institutions to support the preparedness of graduates.
- The Guidance on Osteopathic Pre-registration Education
- Seminar work with the OEIs to disseminate findings
- Different forms of assessment in use throughout the Osteopathic Educational Institutions

Quality Assurance

Current Quality Assurance process

9. In November 2012, the Education Committee considered and agreed to some minor changes to the quality assurance process following feedback from the reviews that had taken place earlier in 2012. These included allowing any member of the team being able to observe teaching rather than this being restricted only to osteopaths with educational experience.

Quality Assurance Review

10. During the 2012 – 2013 year, the Education Committee commenced the scoping of major changes to the new Quality Assurance process including matters such as accrediting providers rather than courses and a review of the current funding arrangements. The Committee considered two drafts of a Discussion paper which looked at issues including:
 - Propositions to underpin a revised Quality Assurance process.
 - The underpinning framework of a quality assurance process: a compliance based and a more punitive based quality assurance process.
 - Thematic quality assurance.
 - The link between quality assurance and outcomes rather than process.
 - Using a wider range of data shared with other organisations to inform quality assurance and quality management.
 - The arguments for approval of qualifications and approval of institutions
 - The arguments around charging institutions for quality assurance.
11. In November 2012, the Education Committee agreed to a round of engagement meetings to develop the issues in the draft Discussion Document and to share and shape views with other stakeholders. As part of this work, the Professional Standards Manager also observed a quality assurance visit at one of the Osteopathic Educational Institutions to inform thinking.

Streamlining the process for gaining Privy Council approval

12. As a result of lengthy delays to obtain Privy Council approval for RQs, the Committee noted the steps taken with the Department of Health to streamline the RQ process. This has reduced the time taken to award RQs from over 12 months to around one month.

Annual Reports

13. The 2011- 2012 Annual Reports were considered at the March 2012 Education Committee meeting, the 2012 – 2013 Annual Reports will be considered at the

Education Committee on 14 May 2013 and so fall out of the scope of time period for this report.

Recognised qualifications

14. During the course of the year, the Education Committee advised Council that the following qualifications should be recognised or renewed based on Visitors Reports prepared by the QAA:
- New Master of Science (pre-registration) at the British School of Osteopathy from 1 May 2012 to 30 April 2017.
 - Renewal of Master of Osteopathy (MOst) and Bachelor of Osteopathy (BOst) at the British School of Osteopathy from 1 October 2013 to 30 April 2017.
 - Renewal of Master of Osteopathy (MOst) and Bachelor of Osteopathy (BOst) at the College of Osteopaths from 1 May 2012 to 30 April 2017.
 - Renewal of the Master of Osteopathy (MOst) at Leeds Metropolitan University from 1 August 2013 until 31 July 2018.
15. During the course of the year, as part of our active approach to advising the Council about the recognition of qualifications and ensuring standards, the Committee considered in relation to most OEIs the following:

Activity	June 2012 Education Committee	September 2012 Education Committee	November 2012 Education Committee	February 2013 Education Committee
Agreement to RQ specifications	One OEI	None	Two OEIs	One OEI
Consideration of reports and evidence submitted in relation to general and specific conditions	Seven OEIs	Five OEIs	Three OEIs	One OEI
Cessation of courses update	None	None	One OEI	One OEI

Osteopathic Practice Standards (OPS)

16. In June and September 2012, the Committee received updates on the implementation of the Osteopathic Practice Standards which included the following:

- a. All OEIs were on track mapping their curricula and learning outcomes against the Osteopathic Practice Standards by the implementation date of September 2012.
 - b. The revised guidance for the registration assessments was agreed by a small sub-group of the Committee on 11 August 2012 allowing assessors to be trained in the revised and recalibrated assessments for their implementation in September 2012.
 - c. Training for assessors took place on 19 September 2012 and the evaluation noted by the Committee was successful as most feedback was positive with few suggestions for improvement.
 - d. Supplementary materials and resources had been developed and were accessible to registrants on the website to support osteopaths to understand and comply with the Osteopathic Practice Standards.
 - e. The programme of regional conferences, attended by almost 800 osteopaths, which focussed on the dissemination of the adverse events research in relation to Theme 1 of the Osteopathic Practice Standards – communication and patient partnership from both a patient and an osteopath perspective.
 - f. A programme of meetings exploring options for implementation with key organisations and groups including: the Foundation for Paediatric Osteopathy, Institute of Classical Osteopathy, Osteopathic Pelvic, Respiratory and Abdominal Association, Osteopathic Sports Care Association, The Perrin Clinic,, Rollin E Becker Institute, Society for Osteopaths in Animal Practice, Sutherland Cranial College, Sutherland Society resulting in a greater dissemination of the link between CPD and the Osteopathic Practice Standards with CPD providers and members of special interest societies.
 - g. The launch of a pack materials for the OPS including:
 - Specific tailored letters to osteopaths, osteopathic educational institutions and postgraduate providers and special interest organisations to remind them of the content of the standards and the date of implementation.
 - OPS Pocket Guide listing all 37 standards and a QR code link to access the full guidance direct on the website.
 - A poster for OEIs to display for students, staff and patients about the new standards coming into force.
 - Revised patient and public leaflets.
17. In November 2012, the Education Committee noted an initial outline plan for the evaluation of the effectiveness of the Osteopathic Practice Standards.

Registration Assessor recruitment and appraisal

18. In September 2012, the Education Committee agreed to recruit to increase the diversity and numbers of assessors within the return to practice reviewer and registration assessor pools. The Committee also agreed that an appraisal system should be based on self-reflection.

CHRE / PSA

19. In September 2012, the Education Committee noted the findings of the 2012 Performance review and noted the ways in which the issues to be followed up had been addressed in the 2011-2012 Work programme of the Committee. The Committee also reviewed the report for notable practice highlighted in the work of other regulators and noted how this might be incorporated into the work of the Committee over the forthcoming year.

Continuing Professional Development, Osteopathic Education and Research

20. In September 2012, the Education Committee agreed to publish a statement clarifying the relationship between holding an educational roles, osteopathic practice and continuing professional development. The statement confirmed that educational, research and development activities can form an important part of continuing professional development for osteopaths.

Continuing fitness to practise: Revalidation and CPD

21. The Education Committee, sitting as the Revalidation Standards and Assessment Group, also considered regular updates about the progress of the revalidation pilot and the ongoing responses to the CPD Discussion Document. These included:
- The appointment of the revalidation assessor pool
 - The process for moderation of Revalidation folders
 - Revalidation communications
 - Feedback on the Revalidation Pilot
 - Feedback on CPD
 - The final evaluation and impact assessment of the pilot
 - The findings from the analysis of the CPD Discussion Document consultation
 - The CHRE / PSA report, *An approach to assuring continuing fitness to practise based on right touch regulation principles*

Research into the effectiveness of regulation

22. In September 2012, the Committee agreed to recommend that Council considers commissioning research about the effectiveness of osteopathic regulation.

Engagement

23. During 2012-13, the Education Committee held four meetings with the OEIs. These meetings enabled the Education Committee to listen to the views of the OEIs and to keep the OEIs informed about developments. .

24. A wide range of topics were discussed including:

- Regional Conferences
- OPS implementation
- Quality assurance
- Guidance for osteopathic pre-registration education
- Revalidation / continuing professional development review
- Preparedness to practise research
- Public and patient involvement
- Law Commission Consultation
- Student fitness to practise
- Health Education England and associated developments
- Development of the profession debate
- IELTS test
- GOsC Draft Corporate Plan
- Statement about Education, Research and CPD.
- GOsC draft Obtaining Consent Guidance
- Review of partnership working between GOsC and the OEIs including
 - Development of the profession meetings
 - Updating the Graduate Career Advisory Service Literature in partnership with BOA, COEI and the GOsC
 - Consultation Response to the NHS Bursary Scheme Call for Evidence

25. During the period of this Report, the Chair of the Committee has also attended the following:

- Meeting with Adrian Barnes – Chair of COEI on 10 April 2012 and 17 October 2012.
- Meetings of the GOsC/OEI Working Group, as Chair, on 15 May 2012, 12 September 2012, 14 November 2012 and 29 January 2013.
- A GOsC Focus Group facilitated by KPMG as part of the evaluation and impact assessment of the pilot.

Membership

26. During the period April 2012 to March 2013 the Education Committee membership comprised:

Name	Member details	Dates of membership	Meetings attended
Professor Ian Hughes (Chair)	Council lay member	All year	4 of 4
Dr Jorge Esteves	Council registrant member	All year	4 of 4
Dr Jane Fox	External lay member	All year	4 of 4
Professor Bernadette Griffin	External lay member	All year	4 of 4
Jonathan Hearsey	Co-opted Council registrant member	April 2012 to November 2012	2 of 3
Rob McCoy	External registrant member	All year	3 of 4
Brian McKenna	Council registrant member	All year	4 of 4
Liam Stapleton	External lay member	All year	4 of 4
Julie Stone	Council lay member	All year	2 of 4

27. The Committee thanked Mr Jonathan Hearsey for his service to the Education Committee following his resignation from the Committee in November 2012.

28. The Committee thanked Professor Ian Hughes for the enormous commitment and service to the Committee throughout his tenure as Chair ahead of the expiry of his term as Council member and Chair of the Education Committee.

29. The Committee welcomed observers during the year including Ms Geraldine Campbell (Council member), Ms Kim Lavelly (Council member) and Professor Colin Coulson-Thomas (Council member designate).