

CONFERENCE REPORT

BSOMP

The 2018 conference of the British Society for Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology (BSOMP) was hosted by the University of Sheffield from 25 to 27 April 2018 and was attended by 98 national and international delegates.

The event began on 25 April with a trainee teaching session led by Sharon White (Dundee) on the topic of exophytic lesions of the oral cavity.

This was followed by a Festschrift for Paul Speight to mark his retirement as Professor of Oral Pathology, and – for eight years – Dean at Sheffield.

The four guest speakers were Professors David Moles (Peninsula), John Marshall (Bart's), Paul Brocklehurst (Bangor) and Richard Jordan (San Francisco), three of whom were Professor Speight's PhD students. The day culminated in a dinner at the Cutlers' Hall.

The next day began with 11 oral presentations encompassing original clinical and laboratory research covering topics ranging from mutational analysis of ossifying fibromas to the use of work-based assessments in histopathology.

The coffee and lunch breaks provided an opportunity to view the 22 posters on display, with Max Robinson (Newcastle) and Adam Jones (Cardiff) judging the winners of the prizes.

After lunch, Khin Thway (Royal Marsden) gave a keynote lecture on molecular diagnostics of head and neck cancer, and then sat on the panel for the slide seminar on salivary gland tumours and tumour-like lesions which followed, where she was accompanied by Bill Barrett (QVH, East Grinstead) and chairman Ali Khurram (Sheffield).

The conference dinner was held that evening at Weston Park Museum. Delegates were able to wander among the exhibits during the drinks reception, and after dinner, Professor Speight donned his flat cap and tested the gathering with a Yorkshire-themed pub quiz.

Prizes were then presented to the four winners: Manas Dave (Dental Core Trainee



Hannah Crane receives her Clinical Prize from Bill Barrett

Prize), Lisette Martin (Research Prize), Hannah Crane (Clinical Prize) and Polly-Anna Bury (Undergraduate Essay Prize).

The evening ended with outgoing President Paula Farthing handing over the chain of office to new incumbent Bill Barrett.

The final day of the conference began with a keynote lecture given by Dan Lambert (Sheffield) on his group's research into cancer associated fibroblasts, the 'noisy neighbours' of the tumour environment.

After this, Keith Hunter (Sheffield) chaired a symposium on the molecular pathology projects currently underway in the UK.

There were talks on the 100,000 genomes project by Terry Jones (Liverpool), Head and Neck 5000 by Miranda Pring (Bristol), Pathology Quality Assurance in Clinical Trials by Max Robinson and the CM-Path initiative by Phil Sloan (also Newcastle).

The conference finished with the review session of the National Head and Neck EQA, chaired by Gill Hall (Guy's).

Next year's conference will be in Dublin.

By Dr Bill Barrett,
Queen Victoria Hospital

CPD changes imminent for dental care professionals

Dental care professionals (DCPs) are being reminded that they have to be ready for changes to the continuing professional development (CPD) cycle starting in late August.

The MDDUS (Medical and Dental Defence Union of Scotland) has issued a reminder of the changes that focus on quality of CPD rather than quantity.

Under the new five-year enhanced continuing professional development (ECPD) cycle guidance¹ from the General Dental Council (GDC), DCPs will be required to complete a personal development plan.

Dental nurses and dental technicians will also need to complete a minimum of 50 hours verifiable CPD, while dental therapists, dental hygienists, orthodontic therapists, clinical dental technicians will need to complete a minimum of 75 hours.

All DCPs will be moved on to the ECPD scheme and must submit their CPD statement for 2017 to the GDC by 28 August 2018.

MDDUS dental adviser Stephen Henderson said: 'DCPs should be aware of these important and significant changes in dental regulation. We welcome this move as the first step in a long-term reform programme that aims to focus on the quality of CPD rather than quantity. This will help keep identify and keep relevant skills up to date and therefore help improve patient safety.'

'Registrants will identify their CPD needs using a personal development plan (PDP). This can be informed in a variety of ways such as employee appraisal, work with colleagues or via patient feedback, complaints, audit and significant event analysis.

'The registrant would then carry out CPD that best suits their development needs followed by a period of reflection to evaluate its impact. This reflection should be captured and documented in the event that the GDC asks for a copy of the PDP.

'MDDUS would advise all practices to check that everyone within the team is fully registered ahead of the deadline.'

1. General Dental Council. Enhanced CPD Guidance (30 May 2018). Available at <https://www.gdc-uk.org/professionals/cpd/enhanced-cpd> (accessed on 13 August 2018).