

Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES)

The College of Medical and Dental Sciences PRES actions update April 2012

I am very pleased that we can provide a further update to our College responses to the PRES results. Colleges have been working very hard to address the issues raised in the last PRES which our previous 'You said, we did' pamphlets addressed.

Further developments have now taken place in the Colleges, and I hope that you will find it useful to know what they are.



Professor Brian Ford Lloyd, Director of the University Graduate School

The College of Medical and Dental Sciences was very keen to address the results regarding satisfaction with supervision and with support from POD/CLAD appointed Kate Exley, an external facilitator, to run a series of supervisor training courses.

Since the training course was established in December 2011, the College has had over 80 supervisors attend the course and feedback has been very good and the course well received. Once the majority of supervisors have attended, the desire would be to run 2 sessions annually, one to capture new supervisors and a second to act as a refresher.

The College has carried out a scoping exercise with the current PGRs to try to establish what the cohort currently requires in terms of career opportunities/employability and professional

development needs. Unfortunately, the scoping exercise did not elicit sufficient responses to inform our strategy in this area. The issue will again be raised with our PGR rep group at our meeting in March. It is noted that MDS received the highest mark overall (58%) in response to the question 'I have received careers support and development opportunities'. Where MDS performed less well was in the responses to the questions about 'I am encouraged to think/reflect on career opportunities and professional development needs'. Career development of a PGR is addressed in the supervisor

training course and it will be interesting to see if MDS results in the next PRES exercise increase in this area.

**Professor John Gordon,
PGR Lead
College of Medical
and Dental Sciences**

March– May	PRES survey takes place	June	PRES results compiled	July	PRES results discussed at UEB and special meeting of the Graduate School Management Board (GSMB) Findings sent to Colleges, the Guild and Corporate Service teams that support PGRs	Oct	PGR PRES report circulated	Oct– Dec	Actions discussed and implemented	March 2012	Colleges and Corporate Services report back to GSMB regarding PRES actions
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