

Research Skills Courses 2008

Research Training for healthcare professionals at Sligo General Hospital

The Foundation is organising a programme of seven Research Skills Courses during 2008.

The courses are aimed at all staff and are provided free of charge to attendants. They are generously sponsored by the HSE W Performance & Development Unit and Sanofi Aventis.

Skills Courses Autumn 2008:

September 17 2008:

Abstract Writing & Poster Design

October 8 2008:

Knowledge Management & Endnote

October 29 2008:

Critical Appr, Research Publications

Date TBC:

Qualitative Research Methods

Register by email to ref.sligo@hse.ie

Addressee:



Sanofi Aventis presenting their sponsorship of the Foundation Research Skills Programme 2008. From left: Mette Jensen (REF), Roger Towey (Sanofi Aventis), Dr. John Williams (REF), Catherine Campbell (REF), Niall Hanrahan (Sanofi Aventis)

Performance & Development Unit HSE W



News bites

On the Move

Orla Heffernan and Mette Jensen Kavanagh have moved office to the new Education Training Centre (formerly known as the MET Building) beyond Orthopaedics. Phone extensions remain as previously.

Call for Abstracts for Research Conference 2008

Have you undertaken a research project in this region in the last while? Then here's your chance to present it at the 9th Annual Research Conference on November 28 2008. Deadline for submission of abstracts for the poster exhibition is October 1st 2008. Of the abstracts submitted, four projects will be selected for oral presentation at the conference.

See www.ref-sligo.ie for details.

Student Placements Summer 2008

Catherine Campbell has worked with the Foundation throughout the summer on a student placement scheme. A 4th year student on the Health & Physiology Degree Programme, Catherine has mainly worked with the organising of the Men's Health Events in June 08.

Open Meetings Autumn 2008

Two Foundation Public Meetings are scheduled for autumn 2008:

- "Keeping your Brain Fit" with Prof. Brian Lawlor, Consultant Psychiatrist of Old Age. Time: November 2008, Date TBC
- "Substance Abuse", Dr. Gerry McCarney, Consultant Psychiatrist for Adolescents. Time: October 2008, date TBC

www.ref-sligo.ie
for the latest Foundation News

CONTACT US

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Research & Education

Foundation

Sligo General Hospital

NEWS

Issue 18

Summer 2008

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Men's Health Meetings draw large crowds
- Foundation Board News
- Pfizer Donation 2008
- Lecture on Heart Failure
- Research Skills Courses 2008
- Thanks to salary contributors
- Research Grant Schemes 2008
- News Bites
- Library news

Dr. Richard Thorn steps down as Foundation Chairman

Mr. Gerry McManus new Foundation Chairman

'A privilege' was how Dr Richard Thorn, Director of IT Sligo, described the four years as Chairperson of the Research & Education Foundation.

Speaking at a reception in April 2008 to mark his retirement, Dr Thorn commented on how it had been a privilege to work with such a dedicated group whose wish has been to help improve the experience of people who interact with the health service. Outlining the two main areas of work of the Foundation: Supporting & enhancing research at SGH and fostering a public education ethos, he singled out two highlights: The Annual Research Conference and the Public Meeting Series.



Mayor of Sligo, J McGoldrick; Chairman of Sligo Co Co Seamus Kilgallen; Dr. R Thorn; President of the Chamber of Commerce, Joe McCann; Incoming Foundation Chairman, Gerry McManus.

Dr Thorn thanked the Board of the Foundation for all their work, voluntary time and unstinting contribution to the work of the charity. He also thanked the staff of the Foundation and the management of SGH for their support. He wished the new Chairman, Gerry McManus well in his position, saying that Sligo was very fortunate to

have a businessman with such entrepreneurial acumen, combined with a very highly developed sense of public service. Speaking on behalf of the Board of the Foundation, Dr J Williams, thanked Dr Thorn for the immense amount of voluntary time and dedication he had given to the Foundation.

Human Enhancement - Making Better People..

... or making people better? Event with Dr. S O'Sullivan sparks lively debate



Dr. Siobhan O'Sullivan, Director, Irish Council for Bioethics speaking on Human Enhancement.

Dr. Siobhan O'Sullivan, Director of the Irish Council for Bioethics spoke on Human Enhancement in February 2008.

Should future people be stronger, more intelligent? Advances in biotechnology, neuroscience and computing mean that within the next 30 years, it may become commonplace to alter the genetic make-up of our children, to insert artificial implants into our bodies, or to

Continued on page 3

Editor:

Mette Jensen Kavanagh

Men's Health Meetings draw large crowd

Foundation Public Meeting Programme aims at improving health

The Foundation marked International Men's Health Week 2008 by hosting two evenings of men's health meetings in June. Men from all over the region gathered to have on-the-spot cholesterol tests, lung function & carbon-monoxide tests, BMI check as well as to hear various health talks.

This was the fifth year in succession that the Foundation organised and hosted these free public meetings, which provided an informal opportunity to increase men's knowledge and awareness on various health issues.

The speakers included Prof. Wallace Dinsmore, Consultant in Genitourinary Medicine, Belfast, who gave a talk on Sexually Transmitted Diseases. Ms. Audrey Collery, Physiotherapist in SGH spoke about exercise and sports injuries. Dr. Owen Mulligan, Consultant Psychiatrist in Sligo Mental Health Services gave a talk on Mental Health and Depression.

Mr. Peter Morrison, Consultant Surgeon in SGH spoke about Prostate Health followed by Dr. Samad, Senior Registrar at SGH, who gave a talk on "How To Prevent Heart Attacks". Lisa Deneher, Dietician in SGH spoke about Healthy Eating.



Cholesterol and BP testing at SGH



C Campbell, Foundation with participant



A packed theatre for Men's Health talks

Sponsors Men's Health Meetings:



CPR Saves Lives!

This was the message at a public meeting organised by the Foundation with Mr. Fergal Hickey, Consultant in Emergency Medicine at Sligo General Hospital and Ms. Deirdre Staunton, Resuscitation Training Officer at SGH in May 2008.

Mr. Fergal Hickey gave a talk on the research underpinning the current CPR guidelines as well illustrating the benefit of giving CPR. This was followed by a demonstration of CPR by Deirdre Staunton.

This is the second year in succession this meeting is held at and was also sponsored by Institute of Technology Sligo.



Deirdre Staunton demonstrating CPR

Sponsor of CPR Meeting:



Foundation Board News

Dr. John Barrett New Member
A lecturer at the School of Science at IT Sligo, Dr. John Barrett has joined the Foundation Board in Feb 2008. We welcome John to the Foundation and look forward to working with him.

AGM

The AGM of the Foundation was held in June 2008. Tommie Gorman, Oonagh McDermott, Gordon Barrett and Nash Patil were re-elected to the Board.

Foundation Board July 08

Mr. Gerry McManus (Chairman)
Dr. Seamus Healy (Secretary)
Mr. Martin Caldwell (Treasurer)
Dr. Jeremy Smith
Dr. John Williams
Dr. Carthage Carroll
Ms. Oonagh McDermott
Mr. Gordon Barrett
Ms Sheila Smith
Mr. Tommie Gorman
Mr. Nash Patil
Mr. Michael Shannon
Dr. John Barrett

Thanks to Salary Contributors

The Foundation is hugely appreciative of the many consultants and Foundation Board members who contribute a monthly donation towards the Foundation. Currently, almost 50 SGH staff members have signed up to donating €300 annually through the scheme. If you wish to sign up this scheme, please contact **Mette Jensen Kavanagh** in the ECT building at ext 4204

Research Seed Grant Scheme

The Foundation, in association with Sligo Hospital Oncology Unit Trust (SHOUT) and SGH, is pleased to announce the 2008 Research Seed Grant Scheme.

A total of €20,000 will be made available under this scheme. There are two grant categories this year. Category I: Oncology/Haematology Research, Sponsored by SHOUT. Category II: Other Research, Sponsored by the Foundation & SGH.

The grants are open to any of the health care professions, academic disciplines or other relevant background in the SGH catchment area. The project/PI must have some affiliation with SGH. Deadline for submission is October 9 2008.

More info on www.ref-sligo.ie



Lecture on Heart Failure in the Device Era

An event on Heart Failure, jointly organised by the Foundation, the Medical Dept at SGH and Medtronic Ireland with Dr. Niall Mahon, Consultant Cardiologist, Mater Hospital, took place in March 2008. The meeting was chaired by Consultant Cardiologist Dr. Donal Murray and sponsored by Medtronic Ireland.



Michael Clarke, Senior Technical Consultant, Medtronic Ireland; Dr. Niall Mahon, Consultant Cardiologist, Mater Hospital; Dr. Donal Murray, SGH; David Clarke, Therapy Development Specialist, Medtronic Ireland.

Major donation by Pfizer Healthcare

Dr. Kevin Murphy gives talk on 'Update on Epilepsy'

Dr. Kevin Murphy, Consultant Neurologist delivered a lecture aimed at Healthcare Professionals entitled 'Practical Update on Epilepsy' at SGH in April 2008. At the event, Pfizer Healthcare Ireland continued its longstanding support of the Foundation by donating €15,000 towards the charity in 2008. The Foundation is very grateful for the contribution.



Dr. John Farrell, Pfizer presenting donation to Gerry McManus, Foundation Chairman.

Human Enhancement *Continued from front page*

radically extend our life expectancy. Dr. Siobhan O'Sullivan gave a fascinating talk open to the general public on the future possibilities for human enhancement and the ethical dilemmas these developments pose.

Dr. O'Sullivan presented both sides of the argument for and against human enhancement: A common view

is that we should not be tampering with human nature, while others see considerable scope for improvement of the human race.

The meeting, which was chaired by Mr. Gordon Barrett, Team Leader of the Social Work Dept at SGH, sparked lively interaction and debate.

Library News

New resources
The Library, along with all HSE Libraries in the country, has recently acquired full text access to *JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)* and the other nine *AMA Archives Journals*, including *Archives of General Psychiatry, Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine, Internal Medicine and Surgery*. All the journals can be access via an Athens account. If you do not yet have one, go to www.hselibrary.ie to register. If you have forgotten your access details, please contact the Library.

Other new journals include *Physiotherapy and Foot*, both available at the Science Direct site via your Athens account.

Training

Please contact the Library if you or your department would like some help with accessing the electronic resources available to you. Database training courses will be organised for the Autumn, but training can also be organised for your department.

Please contact Helen Clark by email (helen.clark@hse.ie) or at 071 91 74604 to discuss your training requirements.