

## INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION (1)

### National academic trainees' network meeting

**Wednesday 6 January 2016 Guoman Tower Hotel, London**

#### Summary

The first network meeting of national academic pathology trainees took place on 6 January 2016 in London. There were five presentations, two workshops aimed at academic clinical fellows (ACFs) and two workshops aimed at clinical lecturers (CLs). Twenty eight trainees attended and twenty four completed an evaluation questionnaire, issued at the end of the meeting. The responses are summarised in Table 3 (p. 2). The evaluation was excellent.

#### Evaluation

More males responded than females (Table 1) and most were academic clinical or clinical research fellows, specialist trainees (ST) or ACFs (Table 2).

**Table 1 Gender of respondents**

Gender of respondents	number	percent %
Female	8	33
Male	15	63
Prefer not to say	1	4
Total	24	100

**Table 2 Stage of training of respondents**

Stage of training	number	percent %
Academic Foundation Year 2	1	4
ACF	7	30
CL	6	25
Other (ST1, ST2, Clinical Research Fellow)	9	37
Presenter at meeting	1	4
Total	24	100

Respondents were asked to definitely agree (DA), mostly agree (MA), neither agree nor disagree (N), mostly disagree (MD), definitely disagree (DD) to items. Using methodology employed in the National Student Survey (1), I have calculated the agreement index for each item.

$$\text{Agreement index} = \frac{(\text{DA} + \text{MA})}{\text{Relevant responses}} \times 100\%$$

The University of Leeds deems an agreement index of 85% or more as acceptable.

**Table 3 Respondent satisfaction with questionnaire items**

Item	Number of relevant responses	Agreement index = ((DA+MA)/relevant responses) x100%
<b>Overall</b>		
Generally, <i>Inspiring the Next Generation</i> was well organised	24	100
I am clear what the aims of <i>Inspiring the Next Generation</i> were.	24	100
<b>Presentations</b>		
The presentation by Iris Nagtelgaal at dinner in the <i>Prospect of Whitby</i> was inspiring	19	100
The presentation by Phil Quirke on expectations of an academic trainee was helpful	21	100
The presentation by Simon Herrington on getting papers published was helpful	23	96
The presentation by Phil Quirke on REF and impact was helpful	24	100
The presentation by Suzy Lishman on the Royal College of Pathologists and academic trainees was helpful	22	100
<b>ACF sessions</b>		
The workshop facilitated by Mark Arends and David Dorward was helpful	14	100
I know how to apply for a PhD fellowship application	14	79
The workshop facilitated by Karen Lee was helpful	17	82
I know how to involve students in my research	15	87
<b>CL sessions</b>		
The workshop facilitated by Phil Quirke and Nick West was helpful	11	100
I know how to write a grant application	11	91
The workshop facilitated by Nic Orsi was helpful	8	100
I know how to supervise a PhD student	8	88
<b>Personal vignettes</b>		
The personal vignette presented by Nick West inspired me	21	100
The personal vignette presented by David Dorwood inspired me	20	100
The personal vignette presented by Tim Palmer inspired me	20	100
The personal vignette presented by Abhik Mukherjee inspired me	22	95
<b>Facilities</b>		
The <i>Premier Inn</i> provided good accommodation	18	100
The dinner at the <i>Prospect of Whitby</i> was good	19	95
The conference facilities at the <i>Guoman Tower Hotel</i> were good	22	100
The lunch at the <i>Guoman Tower Hotel</i> was good	21	86
The Pathological Society team was welcoming	21	100
<b>Networking</b>		
I felt that there were good opportunities to network	22	100
I shall use contacts I made at <i>Inspiring the Next Generation</i> to help me in the future	21	100



Professor Iris Nagtelgaal and trainees in the *Prospect of Whitby*

**Respondent comments**

**Overall, did you enjoy *Inspiring the Next Generation*?**

Yes x10. Yes, a worthwhile day. Very good event, please do it regularly. Yes, fantastic programme, ethos, networking. Yes, very helpful sessions and good opportunities for networking. Very good. Yes, very much. Very much so.

**What were the strengths of *Inspiring the Next Generation*?**

Good to hear about the realities of life in research. The social aspect. Good presentations. Good topics, good facilities. Variety. Networking opportunities. Excellent to network with PathSoc Committee members, feel integrated. Good breadth of topics. Excellent session from Professor Herrington. Opportunities for networking. Advice about fellowship applications. Networking, learning how to write grants. Networking opportunities. Good variety of talks. Good networking opportunity. Good to draw on others' experiences. Good debate at end regarding training issues in academic area in relation to RCPATH curriculum. Energising. Networking. Publishing talk from Prof Herrington. Networking. Being interactive. Good talks and useful networking. Good networking opportunities.



**What were the weaknesses of *Inspiring Next Generation*?**

None x3. Slight repetition of topics. Few, may be dinner at a venue with more capacity. I don't know yet if I shall use contacts I made to help me in the future. Nil!

## **What would you like to be included in the next meeting of *Inspiring the Next Generation*?**

Would have been good to hear more about individual research projects and getting them off the ground. Topic specific trainee collaborative presentations. ? Opportunities to form mentorships or collaborative working groups. How to get ethics. How to do multiple projects at once.



Professor Phil Quirke and Dr Suzy Lishman at the Guoman Hotel

Report assembled by Karen Lee  
9 January 2016

### **Reference**

1. Higher Education Funding Council for England. Available from <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/lt/nss/results/2015/>

