

BRUNEL PARTNERS ACADEMIC CENTRE FOR HEALTH SCIENCES DIRECTORS REPORT

Paper Title:	BPACHS Quarterly report Jan-Mar 23
Paper Summary:	Directors report on progress for Jan-Mar 23

Progress over last period

This status report updates on activities across the partnership with the following progress made:

Strategy and Governance

I. Governance

Following the decision in the last quarter of the NHS Trusts to seek an altered funding structure for the partnership, discussions have been taking place within the university to determine how funding might be maintained, enabling the partnership to build on existing strengths and expand in influence across the NHS and the University.

These discussions remain in place, and a solution is being developed, which if finally agreed, will enable BPACHS to flourish going forwards.

II. Recruitment

- a. Both Innovation directors now in post and working to develop innovation opportunities.

Workstream - Education and Employability

I. Workforce Development

- a. JR continues to input into the NWL ICS Academy Steering group, helping to shape the direction of the Academy and ensure that partners are able to benefit from the academy developments.
- b. Cardiac Physiology – Still progressing, currently working up details of a secondment for RBHT clinical lead to help Brunel to develop the programme.
- c. Preventative Cardiology – Positive discussions have taken place between Prof Olwyn Westwood and Dr Mahmoud Babir from RBHT around potential development of a Preventative Cardiology programme at Brunel.
- d. The first CPD session on Trauma Informed Approaches took place on 31st March. Attendees found the session beneficial with future sessions being considered.
- e. 2023 MBA students have now started, with RBHT having one staff member on the course.
- f. Link created between Design School and HHCP to create educational posters for public and Primary care regarding falls prevention

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Workstream – Research

- I. Provide NHS staff with access to university-based people who can support research, development and change in practice**
 - a. CK attended a Research and Audit afternoon at RNOH in February with representation from Brunel’s pre reg MSc student physio who did a fantastic platform presentation.
 - b. 10 joint student staff projects confirmed with RNOH
 - c. PhD scholarship with the spinal unit at RNOH as clinical partners.
 - d. RK had a productive and interesting meeting with the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) about the internship and has been invited to join a working party.
 - e. Research survey completed at THH
 - f. BPACHS collaboration mentioned in THH R&D annual report with CK supporting development of renewed R&D strategy.
 - g. Joint promotional event held for International Clinical Trials Day in May, which showcased research activity in the trust and collaborative projects with THH.
 - h. Brunel Biomedical Sciences staff and THH collaborated in submitting a grant abstract proposal to the £50 million Wellcome Leap programme focusing on in utero measurement and modelling during gestational development.
 - i. Respiratory Sciences Staff collaborated with THH to apply for competitive funding for approx. £2.5 million UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) digital health hub based at Brunel. The emphasis of the bid is on developing a digital health technology hub via UX and Prototyping, AI, Health Economics, Design and Business Development support. The hub would focus on neuro rehabilitation, respiratory rehabilitation and health and well-being.
 - j. Links created between clinical teams at West Hertfordshire Hospitals NHS Trust and life Sciences academics in three study areas.
 - k. Links created between NWL provider trusts and computer sciences department in regard to student projects concerning work experience opportunities
 - l. Connections made between CNWL and computer Sciences department to create final year student projects

- II. Enable staff to access to training and development opportunities**
 - a. Victoria Stewart secondment extended into 2023 for 1 day per week, to help with evaluation of THH research survey.
 - b. Hannah Barbour PhD scholarship completed including presenting papers / posters at international conferences & undertaking teaching in the University. The title of Hannah’s

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thesis is “The Elusive Sense – Vestibular Dysfunction and Falls Risk in Older Adults”. Hannah was supervised by Prof Christina Victor from the Department of Health Sciences at Brunel and Dr Will Young from University of Exeter.

- c. Facilitated access to building space and equipment at Brunel for weekend study day for physiotherapy MSK staff from CNWL in March
- d. Pilot Research Internship programme with 13 participants from two London Trusts going well and interest growing from other Trusts in joining next year. The aim is to roll this out to a wider audience in future with free participation for partner trusts.
- e. Presentation to NWL Lunch and Learn AHP event led by Vicky Stewart from THH in collaboration with CK highlighting the benefits of collaboration between Trusts and HEIs. The presentation was well received and there are to be further discussions about spread of this good practice across NWL
- f. Collaborative student/staff project planning underway with THH – assisted by the secondment between VS and Brunel/BPACHS
- g. Harefield projects that received additional funding making good progress. Harefield staff member has been to spend time at Brunel to work with his academic supervisor to access data analysis systems. One project used the funds to purchase additional consumables which permitted them to make more detailed measurements of respiratory function as well as aid recruitment by purchasing vouchers for participants.

Workstream –Innovation

- a. Two PhD design students working with Hillingdon Health and Care Partners to support increased spread and availability of training in falls and frailty educational programmes
- b. Launch of call for challenges for 2023/24 Design for Health Programme
- c. Work initiated to develop BPACHS Innovation plan for 2023-25
- d. Development of simulation scenarios with academics from Brunel Medical School and London Critical Care Network
- e. ORTUS project with Brompton & Harefield reviewed and found to have delivered clinically significant results for patients awaiting Cardiac Surgery.