



Medical Alumni Association

Supporting our medical students & junior staff

Winter 2019 Newsletter

CCMAA Conference

The next CCMAA conference is planned for the 18th April 2020 and will be on the theme of Prevention. We have two College Fellows to provide keynote speeches - Prof Margaret Stanley OBE on the HPV story and Prof Dame Theresa Marteau to talk about her work on 'changing minds about changing behaviour'. They will be supported by two contributions from Dr Judith Allanson (m.1980) on using brain injury as an example of the different types of prevention and hearing about how NHS England is developing their prevention policies from Dr John Barber (m.2003).

In the second part of the afternoon we will hold a debate on "Experiencing gender discrimination in clinical practice and research" This session will be introduced and Chaired by Dr Julia Chisholm (m.1980), Consultant in Paediatric and TYA oncology at the Royal Marsden Hospital. A Panel of the speakers, including the CMS President, Isabelle Zou (m.2017), will support Julia but we will be looking for audience participation.

The planning of the conference has been undertaken in recognition of the 40th anniversary in 2019 of the admission of women to Christ's College. Hence the invitation to two prominent female speakers to give the keynotes and to have the debate focused on gender and gender discrimination in medicine. The full programme is here below and we encourage alumni to put the date in your diary.

In order to encourage Christ's medical students to attend the conference we have made the date the weekend before the summer term starts so sadly there is no College accommodation available but we will have the Conference dinner in Hall as usual.

Medical student electives

We had a joint meeting with the Christ's College Medical Society on the 18th October 2019 on the topic of medical student electives. Some final year medical students gave some short presentations on their electives. This provided a range of interesting and varied experiences from Australia and Vanuatu, to Berlin. Professor Stephen Bown (m. 1962) gave a presentation on his travel award scheme for Christ's students wanting to visit LMICs and focus on some of the public health challenges in resource poor populations including access to contraception and family planning. The Stephen Bown award, which offers a £300 supplement to the College elective grant, is another opportunity alongside the Tim Heymann Travel prize, which is awarded each year via a competitive process with a monetary value of £300 and something to note on the CV! The prizewinners will be invited to give a short presentation on their electives at the conference.

We hope to continue with these joint meetings, which provide feedback and shared learning for students to plan their elective and also access local resources such as the Cambridge Global Health Partnership (CGHP) team who support students plan their electives to be ethical and safe. See the Cambridge Ethical Electives resource at <http://cghp@act4addenbrookes.org.uk>.

Alumni meetings planned

Another initiative the CCMAA is supporting with the CMS students is to host an evening meeting where 2-3 CCM Alumni make short presentations (10-15mins) on their careers and what they have learned from the experience and the choices they made. This would lead into a general discussion with contemporary students. We are looking for CCMAA volunteers to undertake this so please contact Isabel or myself if interested.

Information sharing

We also want to share information about CCM Alumni who have been recognised in some way for their work. We may not get to know about such events so please don't be shy. One such example is Professor Mike Morgan (m.1969) who was awarded the 2019 British Thoracic Society (BTS) medal at the recent BTS conference.

Support the work of the CCMAA

The CCMAA encourages alumni to volunteer to contribute to our work and increase our interaction with current students at Christ's and help young doctors to advance their careers. We keep a CCMAA fund, which needs to be replenished through regular donations. These can be made via the Christ's College Alumni website at <http://www.alumni@christs.cam.ac.uk> If Alumni would like to engage more actively in joining the Committee please contact me or our Secretary Isabel Huang Doran.

Finally, it was with great sadness that we heard of the premature death in a road traffic crash of Dr Mike Timmons (m.1967) who was a successful plastic surgeon, a speaker at our CCMAA conferences and strong supporter of our work. We sent our condolences to his family.

Dr Tony Jewell
President