

PSI Council Bulletin January-February 2008

COUNCIL MEETING

- The next Council meeting will take place on the 26th February 2008 at the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, 123 St Stephens Green, Dublin 2. The proposed schedule for the day is:

- **10:15** Council Members will meet in the Front Hall, the entrance of which is directly on the Green (opposite the Luas).
- **10:30** Welcome to College/Address by Michael Horgan, Registrar
- **10:40** Photo in the Front Hall for Council Members and Office Holders of the College
- **10:45** Council Meeting (including coffee and breakfast)
- **12:45** Lunch with the staff and class representatives of the School of Pharmacy
- **13:40** Travel to the Mansion House
- **14:00** Presentation to the Lord Mayor
- **15:00** Unveiling of a brass plaque in the School of Pharmacy

In the evening there will be a consultative forum as part of the roll out of the Pharmacy Act 2007 in the Cheyne Lecture Theatre, RCSI.

- **20:00** Introduction by Dr. Paul Gallagher
- **20:03** Welcome to Council by Prof John Kelly
- **20:05** Response by Brendan Hayes
- **20:10** Lecture: "The Regulator and the Education Provider-Partnership at Work" by Professor Geraldine Mc Carrick, Vice-Dean RCSI
- **21:00** Q & A
- **21:15** Dinner for Council, Officers of RCSI which will be hosted by RCSI in the Colles Room, RCSI

Please note it is planned to hold the Council meeting in UCC in May and in TCD in December.

- The Annual Report will be presented to Council at the meeting on 26th February in RCSI. This is in line with our statutory requirement to have it with the Minister before the 31st of March.
- The President has committed to the establishment of two special Committees of Council. The Archive Committee will examine the current documentation and items of historical importance held by the PSI. The Registrar has nominated Carol Keogh to assist the Committee. It is proposed that a second Committee be established to consider the procedures and processes necessary for the selection/election process of pharmacists onto Council as provided for in the Pharmacy Act 2007. Marita Kinsella and Jan Ní Fhlanagáin from the Legal Affairs Unit will assist the Committee in its deliberations.
- The accreditation report relating to the Bachelor of Pharmacy programme in the UCC School of Pharmacy will be considered by Council at the February meeting and covering the period 2007-2011. The formal accreditation report relating to the Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) programme in TCD's School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences will be considered by Council at the May meeting, also covering the period 2007-2011. The Bachelor of Science (Pharmacy) programme in the School of Pharmacy, RCSI is already accredited by Council for the period of 2006-2010.

MEETINGS AND DEPUTATIONS

- The Registrar and senior staff of the PSI had a meeting with the Competition Authority on 17th January to discuss standards and the Code of Conduct which was very productive. The PSI will liaise with the Competition Authority and keep them updated on the progress being made on the development of a Code of Conduct. This is in accordance with the Pharmacy Act 2007.
- The Registrar met with the Patient Safety Commission regarding the submission made by the PSI. This will be followed by further meetings in the coming weeks.
- As a direct result of our new statutory responsibilities as laid out in the Pharmacy Act 2007 we are currently reviewing our external memberships of various organisations. The Statutes of the PGEU make clear the representative role of the PGEU "Article 4 - The purpose of the Association is to serve and promote the common interests of community pharmacists at European level" the PSI has officially resigned from the PGEU due to this statutory incompatibility.
- Healthcare Professionals Crossing Borders – Round Table Event in the European Parliament on 22 January 2008: The PSI Registrar was invited to speak to MEPs from the European Parliament Committees dealing with the Internal Market and Consumer Protection and the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety in the European Parliament at a round table event in Brussels on 22 January 2008. The event was hosted by Arlene McCarthy, MEP and facilitated by the Healthcare Professionals Crossing Borders initiative on the topic of 'The role of professional

healthcare regulation in safe and high quality healthcare in Europe.’ The other speakers included Markos Kyprianou. The aim of the event was to highlight the need to ensure patient safety in the internal market in the context of the free movement of health professionals and service providers.

- The PSI will be increasing its involvement with the Healthcare Professionals Crossing Borders (HPCB) agenda and Lorraine Horgan, Education and Registration Officer and Marita Kinsella, Head of Legal Affairs have been nominated by the PSI to represent the PSI as part of this forum. The forum will deal particularly with key concerns around EU registration and patient safety.
- The Registrar and Marita Kinsella, Head of Legal Affairs will represent the PSI at the First World Health Professions Conference on Regulation on 17th and 18th May 2008 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- The President will represent the PSI at the 68th International Congress of FIP on 29th August-4th September in Basel, Switzerland.
- The Department of Health and Children has indicated that it wishes to formally engage with the PSI with regard to planning the future of the pre-registration pharmacist training programme and pharmacy education in general and, as a result, has not yet issued formal approval at this juncture for the proposed pre-registration fee. An early meeting on this issue is anticipated with the Department and it has been provided with copies of correspondence on this matter from the PSI dating back to June 2006. The PSI delegation at the meeting with Department officials will be the Registrar, Lorraine Horgan, Education and Registration Officer and Dr. Paul Gallagher, Chair of the Professional Development and Learning Committee.
- The Registrar and President will be paying courtesy calls to senior political figures in the Oireachtas in the coming weeks to brief them on the implementation of the legislation and also on Pharmacy Ireland 2020. This pro-active approach is in line with the commitment given by the Minister and the Department of Health and Children. The President, Vice-President and Registrar will meet with the Minister on Monday 11th of February at 12:00 pm.
- The PSI will have regular meetings with the Department of Health and Children to discuss on an ongoing basis the implications of the implementation of the legislation and the implementation of the Service Plan 2008.
- The PSI Inspectors, Damhnait Gaughan and John Hislop will meet on a routine basis through 2008 with the IMB Executive on any matters that Council members may wish to raise. All matters should be directed to John Hislop at john.hislop@pharmaceuticalsociety.ie.

- A meeting has been scheduled with the Department of Agriculture and also with the Veterinary Council to discuss matters of interest. All matters should be directed to Damhnait Gaughan at damhnait.gaughan@pharmaceuticalsociety.ie.
- The Registrar, President and Vice-President met with a delegation from the IPU led by Seamus Feely, Secretary General of the IPU on Tuesday 29th January to discuss fees, Section 18, Pharmacy Week and Pharmacy Ireland 2020. The PSI clarified that an independent review had been performed by PriceWaterhouseCoopers to determine the level of fees and it is the decision of the Minister to approve them. The PSI also clarified that the Department of Health and Children would be setting the standards in relation to Section 18 and that the IPU should consult with the Department on this matter.
- The PSI is currently seeking a meeting with the pharmaceutical assistants representative organisation to discuss matters of mutual interest, including implementation of the Pharmacy Act 2007.
- An informal meeting took place on the 15th January with various stakeholders to discuss the practicalities of a possible Pharmacy Week. The Council will be briefed on this and on Pharmacy Ireland 2020 at the February Council meeting.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

- The Department of Health and Children has agreed the fees proposed for pharmacists and others in the Service plan 2008. It has indicated that the fees for pharmacies and non-EU registrants will be approved when the relevant sections of the Pharmacy Act 2007 have been commenced by the Minister and the Oireachtas.
- Fees will be collected by credit card, cheque and/or bank draft. The PSI will be moving towards an electronic system of collecting all fees in the near future. The fee collection process for pharmacists and later on in the year pharmacies will be used to update and improve the quality of the information retained on our database. Emma Pierce, Education and Registration Executive has been given responsibility for the database and she will be assisted by Susan Payne, Education and Registration Executive on matters relating to pharmacies.
- The Accountants, Anne Brady McQuillan DFK completed the audit in respect of the 2007 accounts.

STATISTICS

- **Education Statistics:**
 - 125 Pre-Registration Students undertook their pre-registration training during the 2006-2007 training period.
 - 144 Pre-Registration Students started their pre-registration training in 2007 as part of the 2007-2008 training period.

- In 2007, 5 tutor courses were held in Dublin and 1 was held in Cork. Overall 92 Pharmacists completed the course in 2007.

▪ **Registration Statistics:**

- In 2007 the total number of pharmacy openings notified to the PSI was 57.
- In 2007 the total number of transfer of ownerships notified to the PSI was 30.
- Total number of pharmacists registered under the National Route in 2007 was 114.
- Total number of pharmacists registered under the EU Route in 2007 was 306.

- As of 31st January 2008:

1635 Pharmacies are registered with the PSI.

Of these, 1574 are community pharmacies and 61 are hospital pharmacies.

4528 Pharmacists are registered with the PSI.

▪ **Complaints:**

From the 1st to the 31st January 2008:

3 complaint files have been set up.

Next Council meeting: Tuesday, 26th February, location RCSI.