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<th><strong>Title:</strong></th>
<th>External Affairs</th>
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<td><strong>Status:</strong></td>
<td>For information</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Summary:</strong></td>
<td>A report summarising the external affairs of the Faculty between April 2013 and April 2014</td>
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<td><strong>Action:</strong></td>
<td>None required</td>
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<td><strong>Resource Implications:</strong></td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Charlotte Worker &amp; Gareth Kingston</td>
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<td><strong>Date:</strong></td>
<td>06/05/14</td>
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FGDP(UK) External Affairs

1. Strategic affairs, policy and stakeholder engagement

i. The Faculty has contributed a great deal to the development of proposals and new guidelines by the General Dental Council (GDC) over the past year, in particular with regard to CPD in dentistry and discussions around future plans to introduce a system of continuing assurance (revalidation) for the profession. We have had a key presence at a number of GDC fora, and have engaged in independent discussions with the GDC to highlight concerns and common aims.

ii. Planned and proposed changes across various areas within oral healthcare have continued to present key opportunities for the FGDP(UK) in supporting our members and to use our knowledge and expertise to influence changes to regulation, standards and policy within dentistry. During the past year, this has included the commissioning of general dental care services within the NHS, direct access of patients to dental care professionals, and engaging with NHS England to help identify and implement solutions to the challenges facing NHS dental services as part of a 'call to action'. We have also begun to gather information from Faculty members involved in the pilots of the new dental contract; this will help shape the Faculty’s view on whether the new contract can meet its aims for both the profession and patients. The FGDP(UK) is also a key partner with the Department of Health and the FDS RCS in developing a framework for dentists with enhanced skills.

iii. The Faculty is engaged with various stakeholders on standard setting within non-surgical cosmetic interventions under the auspices of Health Education England. We have also established an independent cosmetic dentistry working group to consider issues raised for primary care dentistry as part of the Keogh report in Spring 2013. We plan to include standards within implant dentistry as an adjunct to this work, which will include an update on our training standards for implant dentistry and discussion with the Medicines and Healthcare Regulatory Agency on the potential for establishing a dental implant registry.

iv. In late 2013, the Faculty established a Directory of Expertise and Interests, which brings together information on individuals who have the skills and experience to represent the Faculty across key clinical and non-clinical topic areas, as well as identify those who are willing to act as spokespeople when and if the need arises. This will facilitate improved media relations and will support all aspects of the Faculty’s work.

v. During the past year, we have set out our views on a broad range of areas via consultation responses, including:
   a. Screening and prevention of dental caries in children
   b. CQC regulation
   c. CPD and continuing assurance
   d. NICE proposals in a broad range of areas
   e. NHS performer concerns
   f. Non-surgical cosmetic interventions (botulinum toxin and dermal fillers)

2. Membership

i. At 24th April 2014, there were 4854 members of the FGDP(UK). This is an increase on the same period last year (4,582). The membership included (last year in brackets):
• 1546 (1609) Full members
• 585 (639) Associate members
• 159 (151) Joint members – with FDS
• 2263 (1799) MJDF members;
• 276 (326) DCP members;
• 25 (58) non-paying e-associate members (dental students)

ii. The FGDP(UK)'s membership categories were reviewed with the Faculty Board opting to extend eligibility for Full membership to all holders of UK dental postgraduate diplomas (and higher qualifications). This new ‘ad eundem’ route was opened on 1st January 2014 and 25 people have become Full members through this route, 14 of whom are new members to the Faculty. Interest in this ‘ad eundem’ route to Full membership continues to grow as more people become aware of it.

iii. A number of membership benefits were introduced including free access to the Standards in Dentistry online material, discounted access to membership of the Royal Society of Medicine, and discounted COSHH software from SUSAN.

3 Divisions

i. The Divisions continue to provide local benefits to their members, from on-going peer support to providing local events. Successful events were held in 2013/14 in a number of Divisions including South Wales, Northern Ireland, West Midlands, Central London, South East Thames, Northern, Yorkshire and Scotland.

ii. The annual Divisional Directors’ Conference was held in October 2013 where a range of issues was discussed. Liz Smith left her post as Divisional Co-ordinator and is to be replaced by Davinia Monteiro.

iii. An online forum has been developed which will help Divisions to communicate with each other and the central Faculty more effectively.

4 Foundation Dentists

i. The Faculty hosted its annual open day for Foundation Dentists at the College on 6 February 2014 and it was attended by 180 FDs from 13 FD training schemes. This event helps to strengthens links with trainees at this early stage of their careers. The event made possible by the generous support of Oasis Dental Care.

5 Publications

i. The Primary Dental Journal goes from strength to strength. Ian Wood (Clinical Editor) and Justine Wallis (Managing Editor) both left the Faculty during the year. Recruitment of their successors is underway, but in the meantime the Faculty is trialling the use of guest editors.

ii. Selection Criteria for Dental Radiography was published in October 2013 to great acclaim. Sales of this book are approaching 2000 copies.

iii. Work on updating Clinical Examination and Record Keeping and Teamwork 7 has begun with anticipated publication dates in 2015.

iv. A new editor for Standards in Dentistry is soon to be appointed and it is expected that they will undertake an update of the hard copy element of the publication as well as the regular online updates.

v. A book on Mentoring in Dentistry is to be published in 2014.