



A Cardiff University led Consortium

Implemented Activities

Conventional national meetings that engage students with medical research are already in existence, however, a big challenge remaining is to link this activity into a cohesive national forum. Students can travel to present their work but are often limited by their location and the time/financial pressures imposed on them. As such, they tend to only attract the motivated few and preach to the already converted.

A consortium of Medical Schools made up of Cardiff, Bristol, Exeter and Plymouth, and led by Cardiff Medical School, therefore sought to address this challenge by developing a webinar format National Student Medical Research Virtual Conference (NSMR-VC).

After submission of the proposal, Cardiff was selected to host of the 2015 National Student Association for Medical Research (NSAMR). Meetings were held between the NSMR-VC group and NSAMR and it was decided to combine the two events into a single whole day event planned for Saturday March 7th 2015. This event combined a face-to-face meeting held in Cardiff and a very successful interactive webinar event using the GoToWebinar platform that linked together 14 medical schools in real-time, in addition to a live plenary presentation from California.

It was not possible to accurately define the number of participants over the day, but the final number was estimated to be around 400 students. This was less than originally projected, but three-four times the number that usually participate in the face-to-face NSAMR meeting. 9 students conducted oral presentations, 12 students conducted e-poster presentations and 3 plenary presentations took place.

INSPIRE is coordinated by the Academy of Medical Sciences and supported by the Wellcome Trust. INSPIRE activities are designed and delivered locally by individual medical schools.

Supported by
wellcometrust