



The University of Birmingham, College of Medical and Dental Sciences

Implemented Activities

Development of a Research Methodology pathway:

- The introduction of a new 'Distinction in Research' for final year MBChB students.
- Students' research portfolios are reviewed by a panel of senior academics, and selected students invited for a viva voce examination.

Networking/Mentoring Dinners:

- Two events held in November of 2013 and 2014.

Research Skills Development Events:

- Two annual events were held where students had the opportunity to present their research with prizes awarded.

Intercalation Promotion:

- Achieved through students keeping an online blog throughout the academic year.

Patient and Public Involvement:

- BAMSoc organised a PPI event in October 2014, which provided an introduction to PPI.

Impacts

Financial:

- The funding provided through the INSPIRE grant has enabled the School to undertake activities and initiatives that would otherwise have been challenging in a climate of difficult finances. Receiving the grant helped with achieving matched funding from the Medical School.

Relationship Development:

- Developing and delivering the INSPIRE application has increased the involvement of undergraduate students in the work of the Clinical Academic Training team which has been a valuable experience for both groups. This collaboration has greatly increased the knowledge and understanding on both sides and has proved a good basis to also work on other projects, outside of the INSPIRE remit. The result of which has been to improve communications and optimise research opportunities for students.

Improving Outcomes:

- The investment in promoting clinical academic careers to Birmingham students, has improved success in progression to Academic Foundation training in 2014 with 30 of 53 applicants being offered a post.

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.

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