



Leeds Intra-School Committee



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Leeds BMA

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PLUS...

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Vol I April 2008

What is the Leeds BMA-ISC?

The Intra-School Committee represents *your* voice in the BMA nationally. We discuss issues of importance to our future careers at the national level and keep you informed of changes via the ISC website and our new notice board in the APL.

Who is Involved?

MSC Rep: Alex Griffiths

Chair: Henna Anwar

Secretary: Sasha Ali

Treasurer: Vanessa Van-de-Velde

Publicity: Rah Chowdhury & Elan Tsarfati

Year Reps: 2 from each year – see the website and notice board for your year representatives.

What impact will the Leeds BMA-ISC have?

A substantial one! We send a delegation to every BMA-ISC National meeting where we voice Concerns raised by Leeds students. From this meeting, BMA policy is formed.

GPs at Tesco?

Rochdale PCT have financed Britans first supermarket GP. The pilot scheme, being trialed in Manchester, will give shoppers the opportunity to see a doctor up to 9.30pm on weekdays - outside the traditional opening hours of most surgeries. The hope is that the scheme will eventually be rolled out nationwide.

The issue of GP opening hours has generated considerable controversy of late. It was only last month that GPs reluctantly agreed to open for up to three hours extra per week, after the government stated that they would push legislation through to force surgeries to stay open longer if no agreement was reached.

ISC Note: The Leeds BMA ISC will monitor such issues and voice your opinions at our national conference.

F1's lose Accommodation, Suffer Pay cuts

Foundation Year 1 doctors will no longer be provided with free accommodation during their placements. Changes to The Medical Act made in August of last year mean that hospitals are no longer legally required to provide F1s with onsite accommodation free of charge.

This is a fresh blow to newly qualified doctors. Traditionally, doctors have received a basic salary plus a 'banding supplement' based on the number and intensity of hours worked. For F1s, this has meant a total salary of approximately £30,000 per year. However, as trusts move towards EWTD* compliance, banding for many jobs has been removed, leaving just the basic salary of £20,671.

ISC Note: The BMA is lobbying to reinstate free accommodation or to have an increase in salary equivalent to accommodation. We will keep you informed of any developments.

*EWTD = European Work Time Directives

Visit us at... <http://bma.leedsmedics.org.uk>

MTAS

There was a new on-line application service called “Medical Training Application Service”. It was designed to help ease the process of applying for the positions of FY1 and ST (these are the two steps in the process where you will have to compete with others for jobs). After many newspaper articles, rallies and resignations the national system was modified and looks as though we might return to a locally based system where you apply to individual deaneries.

ISC NOTE: The Leeds BMA-ISC will keep you informed about changes to the application system. We also plan to bring in experts to discuss these changes at forums where you can learn of new changes and ask questions yourself. Please check our website and the notice board for updates.

The Tooke Report

The Tooke Report was an independent enquiry into Modernising Medical Careers after significant concerns were voiced by many bodies including the BMA. Tooke’s basic views were that there should be a re-evaluation of the current training system (this may mean a re-shuffle in the current system) and also the implementation of a new national body to help ease new policies into practice without problems such as MTAS, this would be known as the NHS:MEE. There has been increased discussion between the BMA and the government, and to date nothing has been implemented. However, we are working towards having a programme and application system that works in the best interests of newly qualified doctors.

ISC NOTE: The Leeds BMA-ISC endeavour to summarise key government reports. If there is ever something you are not clear about, please bring it to the attention of your year representative or one of the council (listed opposite) and we will clarify it for you.

Advocating in Support of non-EU (International) Students

In April 2006, it was decided that non-EEA medical students, both existing and future, would be unable to apply for specialist training posts. Many international students enrolled at British universities were of the understanding that they would be able to complete their postgraduate training in the U.K. These students, on average, pay £100,000 in fees and welcome the support of the BMA to ensure that international students are offered the training they came here for.

ISC NOTE: BMA lobbied successfully to ensure that all UK-trained doctors have equal footing throughout their training. This means that UK trained, non-EU students can apply to F1 and F2 posts! If you are a non-EU medical student, please contact your BMA-ISC year representative with any questions or concerns about this recent change.

Contact Us

The Leeds BMA-ISC is here to answer your questions about your future careers. Please contact us through our website

<http://bma.leedsmedics.org.uk>



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