Greetings once again! This is the third issue of the Taskforce’s monthly e-newsletter. The newsletter features upcoming events, news and updates, workshop results, recent publications and resources. It will be sent out at the beginning of each month to the Taskforce Community of Practice. If you have any information you would like to include, please send it to me at education@fip.org by the 25th of each month.

Sincerely,

Sarah Whitmarsh
Communications Liaison
Pharmacy Education Taskforce

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**News and Updates**

Many people who have seen presentations by members of the Taskforce have asked about the world map sized according to the numbers of pharmacists working in countries. This map has been used to represent the severity of the pharmacy workforce crisis. You can view the map at [http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=217](http://www.worldmapper.org/display.php?selected=217). The map was put together using tools available at Worldmapper ([www.worldmapper.org](http://www.worldmapper.org)).

Reports from the Taskforce’s Country Case Study Workshop and 3rd Global Education Consultation held at the FIP Congress in Basel are now available on the Community of Practice. The Country Case Study Workshop report is available [here](http://www.fip.org/Taskforce/Country Case Study Workshop Report) or under the Library >> Taskforce consultations and events >> Country Case Study Workshop Report. The 3rd Global Education Consultation report is available [here](http://www.fip.org/Taskforce/Global Education Consultation 2008 Report) or under the Library at Taskforce consultations and events >> 2008 Global Education Consultation >> Global Education Consultation 2008 Report. All the presentations given by Taskforce members are available to download from the 2008 Global Education Consultation folder.

**From the Academic and Institutional Capacity Project Team...**

Project Lead Claire Anderson has published an editorial entitled “Academic and Institutional Capacity: A Global Issue” in the recent issue of the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*. In the article, Claire talks about the challenges facing pharmacy education in both developed and developing countries. She also mentions the Pharmacy Education Taskforce Action Plan and the work of the Taskforce. The editorial is available at [http://www.ajpe.org/view.asp?art=aj7205114&pdf=yes](http://www.ajpe.org/view.asp?art=aj7205114&pdf=yes) and is on the COP library under ‘Taskforce publications and articles.’
The Academic and Institutional Capacity Project Team is also working on a web-based course entitled “Learning to Teach,” which will help new academics is aimed at new academics or others who have teaching/mentoring/facilitating roles. It is intended give those who are new to teaching a good start to understanding what is required when they take on these roles.

**From the Quality Assurance Project Team...**

Quality Assurance Project Lead Mike Rouse is speaking at the 6th Pan-American Conference on Pharmaceutical Education. He is speaking on 20th November on “The international experience on accreditation” and on the 21st on “Initiatives on global pharmaceutical education and collaboration among countries: the perspectives of AACP and FIP.” Mike will provide a brief report of his experience at the Pan-American Conference for next month’s newsletter.

**From the Vision and Competency Project Team...**

A commitment towards progressive education and training development and excellence does not necessarily dictate a need to follow any one particular national model for pharmacy education. However, it does imply a need to ensure that practitioner development is mapped onto the required competencies of pharmacists to provide the relevant pharmaceutical service needs in any given country context.

The case for a competency-based approach to workforce development is a multidisciplinary argument and has been adopted by a mix of healthcare professions. The case encompasses the educational spectrum from pre-service education to continuing professional development. We need to develop approaches to learning which explicitly specify outcomes in terms of competencies that can be learned (both didactic and self-directed) and assessed.

In October 2008, an email from Andreia Bruno was sent through the Quality Assurance mailing list (via Mike Rouse) asking for information from the Community of Practice (COP) members and seeking new sources of engagement with the Competency domain. In the next few months, Andreia will be collating this information, mainly in the form of “competency frameworks” – which includes qualification frameworks, benchmarks standards and other equivalent documents for pharmacy. She will then start to codify and analyse the similarities and differences between them. So far, she has retrieved 21 documents and frameworks from 4 different countries (Australia, Canada, United Kingdom and United States) and also 8 documents from other health care professions.

The Community of Practice is growing in size, with new members each week. If you would like to contribute to this project, for example, by sending your country competency framework or documents, or even participating in discussions, please email Andreia at andreia.bruno@pharmacy.ac.uk.

**Resources**


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The Procurement & Supply Management (PSM) Toolbox website (www.psmtoolbox.org) has been updated. Twenty-seven new tools have been added making the total 116 English tools since its launch in December 2007. A separate toolbox was recently developed in French. Click on "Français" on the homepage to enter the French website. This toolbox contains 27 tools as a start. Please contact Clarisse Morris at IDA Solutions (cmorris@idasolutions.org) or Dr. Vincent Habiyambere at WHO/AMDS (habiyamberev@who.int) if you would...
like them to add a certain PSM tool for HIV/AIDS to the database. They are currently looking for new tools to include, especially for the French section.

The website now also contains demo videos, which illustrate how to use the different features of the website (http://www.psmtoolbox.org/demos.php). If you have comments or questions about the PSM Toolbox or if you would like to receive the 2nd version of the PSM Toolbox CD-ROM, please send an e-mail to cmorris@idasolutions.org.

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An article published in the September 2008 issue of The Lancet describes the achievements of 11 Sudanese-Canadian physicians who completed medical training and returned to Southern Sudan to practice. Few internationally educated physicians are prepared to return to a homeland as challenging as Southern Sudan; this goes against the globally entrenched flow of physicians migrating from developing to developed countries. View the article at http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140673608613197/fulltext?rss=yes.

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Contact

If you would like more information about the Pharmacy Education Taskforce, please contact Sarah Whitmarsh, Communications Liaison, at education@fip.org.

Project Team Leads

Project Team Leads are responsible for overseeing and developing activities in each priority domain of work to achieve the Action Plan’s objectives.

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