



Summer Bulletin 2011

Chair's Report ~ Summer 2011



I hope you are all enjoying the sunshine as we enjoy the summer months and are managing to have a well earned rest and holiday! So it is the time of year for our summer ISPO UK bulletin...

Work continues in earnest by myself and the committee for the ISPO UK society and its members.

In early July I attended the All Parliamentary Limb Loss Group at the House of Commons. One of the key items for discussion was a report given by Dr. Andrew Murrison on the prosthetic services for military personnel who have lost limbs while serving. He was unable to fully report on the content of the report at the meeting but informed the group that there were 12 main recommendations and that the report was now with David Cameron. He reflected that he had personally gained a huge insight in to prosthetic services by compiling the report and the key areas he identified were the importance of the relationship between prosthetist and amputee, patient choice and that amputees should be able to remain with their prosthetist and the significance of socket comfort. Dr. Murrison was aware of the view that there may be the potential of developing a two tier service but reassured the group that his recommendations will avoid that as far as possible. The lack of nationally agreed guidelines had become apparent and he felt that developing national guidelines may help reduce the geographic variation of service in the UK. Dr. Murrison agreed to present his recommendations to the group at a future meeting and finished by suggesting the possibility of a "Centre of National Excellence" for prosthetic provision which would be appropriately located and resourced and provide a focus for research.

Other items discussed were the changes to the Disability Living Allowance and John Reid (Limbless Association Chair) fed back numerous concerns from users. Questions were raised regarding the new system and the clinical assessment process i.e. who will carry out the assessments and when will these be done. There may be general practitioners contracted to carry out these assessments who have very limited experience with amputees and their needs. Also the current passport system for certain groups of people e.g. quadrilateral amputees, those with spinal cord injury has been stopped. The issue was raised that the DLA is provided to help people participate in life but that at present there are not sufficient therapists to assist people in returning to work. The meeting closed with a very interesting presentation by Margaret Hickson, Advisor to the London Mayor regarding the Paralympics and Olympic Access in London. The project started in 2003 and Ms. Hickson presented some of the key areas with the aim of creating the most accessible and all inclusive games ever, with the promotion of really good positive practices not just obeying minimum standards.

London businesses are being encouraged to review their accessibility, there are huge improvements being made to the South Bank area and an "Inclusive London" website has been developed which is already in use and is an extremely useful resource for visitors to and people living in London. The web site provides a huge amount of information about London businesses and access and includes a trip advisor section for feedback.

As previously advertised our next annual scientific meeting on the 7th and 8th October 2011 will be held in London for the first time in many years at the W12 Conference Centre in Hammersmith. The programme is nearly complete and there will be a session on prosthetic feet, a focus on the impact of diabetes and management of the diabetic patient and Jason Highsmith, our Blatchford lecturer, will come from the USA to present a review of the current literature relating to the Otto Bock "C" Leg. The OETT lecture will be given by Professor Andrew Boulton on the management of the diabetic patient. The exhibition will provide an opportunity for delegates to meet with prosthetic and orthotic companies and review new products. The annual meeting is a great opportunity to bring ISPO UK members together and I very much hope that the committee can rely on your support of our meeting in October and look forward to meeting you there! We will follow the days programme on Friday with an evening meal at the Ramada Hotel in West London and hope that you will join us.

The programme for the 2012 Trent International Symposium being held in May has been finalized and a call for papers circulated. The programme offers a good variety of speakers and topics and is on course to be a highly successful meeting as in previous years. We are also working on a one day course on medical issues in amputee management which is planned for Tuesday 6th December 2011 to be held at Roehampton ~ more details will be published soon.

Discussions regarding a more collaborative event for 2012, our 40-year anniversary, with both BAPO and BACPAR have begun and this will be an exciting opportunity for many of us working in the field of prosthetics and orthotics in the UK to come together and share practice and new innovations. The president of ISPO, Jan Geertzen has agreed to join us and as soon as we have details of dates we will be publishing them widely as this will be an event not to be missed! If the membership has any ideas about topics for inclusion at future scientific meetings, then please do let the committee know.

I can be contacted directly at laura.burgess@imperial.nhs.uk.

Enjoy the remainder of the summer and I hope to see you in October!

Laura Burgess
Chair ISPO UK NMS

Committee Members

Laura Burgess, Chair, ISPO (UK)



Laura Burgess qualified from St Thomas' Hospital, London in 1990 and has been working in the field of amputee rehabilitation and prosthetics for sixteen years. Her current position, held for 12 years is as Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist at Charing Cross Hospital, part of Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust London, which is both a regional vascular and plastics/trauma unit. She has been involved in research investigating the use of compression therapy in the UK, prosthetic use following discharge from rehabilitation and is currently part of a team evaluating the use of the Wii in rehabilitation. She has been an active member of the British Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Amputee Rehabilitation for many years and is the current Chair of the International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics (UK). Laura has been involved in lecturing and running workshops at the last two uniting frontiers ISPO meetings held in Central America.

Dr T Lal Landham, Vice Chair, Treasurer, ISPO (UK)



Dr Lal Landham is Lead Clinician for Rehabilitation Services and Programme Director of the Specialist Training Committee in Rehabilitation Medicine for the London Deanery. Prior to developing an interest in neurological and amputee rehabilitation he worked in Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston in a paediatric orthopaedic Unit where he developed his first interest in congenital limb deficiency. He has been an ISPO member since 1989 and was involved in writing the "Guidelines for Amputee Care". He has served on various committees in the British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine, including specialist interest group for amputee medicine, Assistive Technology and the National Executive Committee.

Colin Dance IIPEM



Colin Dance is a Rehabilitation Engineering Manager based within the Rehabilitation Engineering Division in the Medical Engineering & Physics Department at King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust London.

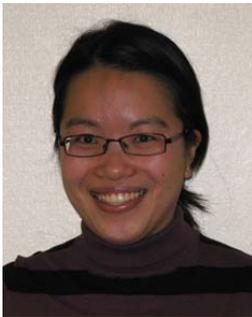
He has worked in the Prosthetic Service for the past 32 years, initially with a commercial prosthetic company and for the past 16 years in the NHS. He is currently responsible for managing a team of Rehabilitation Engineers working in five Rehabilitation Centres in the South East of England. Throughout his career he has served on various committees representing his profession and has been an ISPO member since 1992.

Terry Pond



Terry Pond is a Rehabilitation Engineer based within the Rehabilitation Engineering Division in the Medical Engineering & Physics Department at King's College Hospital NHS Foundation Trust London. Having worked in the Prosthetic Service for the past 22 years, initially with a commercial prosthetic company and for the past 9 years in the NHS, Terry splits his time between Crystal Palace and Medway. He has served on various committees representing his profession and has been an ISPO member since 2005.

Melissa Leong



Melissa Leong is the Clinical Lead Occupational Therapist in Amputee Rehabilitation at Bowley Close Rehabilitation Centre, Guy's & St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust, London. She completed her degree in BSc Occupational Therapy in 1998 and has experience working in both Australia and the UK. Her clinical experience involves working with adults and children in a variety of settings including acute, community and outpatients. She is committed to developing a high quality of OT service in amputee rehabilitation, both for upper limb and lower limb amputees. Her clinical interests include working in paediatrics and providing training/education. She is currently a member of the Trent International Prosthetic Symposium (TIPS) 2012 organising committee.

Thomas Wickerson



Thomas Wickerson is the Clinical Lead Prosthetist at the Roehampton Rehabilitation Centre, Queen Mary's Hospital, London. He completed a degree in Prosthetics and Orthotics at the University of Salford in 1996. Clinical interests include congenital/acquired, hip-disarticulation,

paediatric and hiactivity prosthetics. He is involved with the Salford University undergraduate training programme along with lecturing for the amputee rehabilitation courses held at Roehampton. He will soon be embarking on an MSC in Motion Analysis.

Professor J R Kulkarni MA FRCP FRCS



Professor Jai Kulkarni is Specialty Lead for the Disablement Services Centre, Manchester and Programme Director of the Specialist Training Committee in Rehabilitation Medicine for the North West Deanery. He is the elected Chair of Specialist Interest Group in Amputee Medicine (SIGAM) and is committed to Amputee Rehabilitation, Hon. Professor in Rehabilitation at University of Salford and is involved in teaching of prosthetic students and specialist trainee doctors. He also serves on the British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine Executive Committee and has published numerous chapters / peer reviewed papers on both Amputee and Neurological Rehabilitation. Professor Kulkarni recently initiated the reformation of the National Amputee Database Group via University of Salford.

Paul Charlton



Paul Charlton is an orthotist with Peacocks Medical Group and delivers orthotic services in the North East and London. He also delivers orthotic education across all disciplines at venues across the country. He has been instrumental in setting up and running multi-disciplinary orthotic interest groups in London and Yorkshire. Having developed a special interest in adult neurology and delivered the orthotic clinical service to the National Hospital for Neurology in Queen Square in London, he focused his research on the impact of orthotic intervention on hemiplegia and recently gained his MSc. As the past chairman of the International Society of Prosthetics & Orthotics (UK), he was responsible for several initiatives. He is also a regular presenter to BAPO conferences and publications, as well as an associate member of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists with interest in Neurology (ACPIN), Northern Paediatric Interest Group and the North East Orthotic Network.



Rebecca Beltran

Rebecca Beltran qualified as an Occupational Therapist BSc (Hon) in 2002 from Brunel University College, London. She has recently worked as part of the amputee rehabilitation team at Queen Mary's hospital, Roehampton. She is now actively involved in the assessment and prosthetic treatment of upper and lower limb clients with limb absence. Her special interest within prosthetics is the rehabilitation of multiple amputees and upper limb clients. She has previously worked in the areas of Trauma and Orthopaedics, Elderly Inpatient Rehabilitation.

Professor Rajiv Hanspal FRCP, FRCS



Professor Rajiv Hanspal is a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine at the Hillingdon Hospital, Uxbridge and at Stanmore Disablement Services Centre, Royal National Orthopedic hospital, Stanmore. He is a past Chairman of the International Society of Prosthetics & Orthotics (UK) where he was responsible for several initiatives. He is a past President of the British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine and of the Amputee Medical Rehabilitation Society and has served on several Department of Health Committees. He has been active in research and teaching. Currently, he serves on the Protocol Committee of the ISPO and is involved in redrafting the society's constitution.

Ramesh Munjal



Ramesh Munjal is a Consultant in Rehabilitation Medicine at the Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. He is Clinical Lead for the Prosthetic, Orthotic and Neuro-rehabilitation service which provides a full range of prosthetic services for children and adults. His main interest is in the prevention of vascular complications in the amputee population and the development of computerized prosthetic components including the effect of these on the quality of life. He has been a member of ISPO since 1998.

[Fergus Jepson's photo and biography not available at time of print]



**International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
UK National Member Society**

**ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING & EXHIBITION
7th & 8th October 2011**

W12 Conference Centre, Hammersmith Hospital, London

The ISPO UK NMS 2011 Annual Scientific Meeting & Exhibition will continue to deliver a full and varied programme of invited speakers, free paper presentations, the Blatchford lecture and the OETT lecture. Our main focus topic this year will be the management of the diabetic patient – a topic very relevant to all our ISPO UK members. The AGM will be held on the afternoon of Friday 7th October and all members are encouraged to attend.

In line with previous years, delegates will have the option of registering for one day or the full conference. However, **all single day registrants will now be entitled to attend the final session of day one and the first session of day two** so maximising the opportunity to benefit from all aspects of this multi-disciplinary event.

The annual conference dinner will take place on the evening of Friday 7th October at the Ramada Encore London West which is a ten minute drive or short bus ride from the conference centre.

The **W12 Conference Centre** is ideally located in West London just minutes from London's Underground system, close to the arterial A40, just a few miles from Heathrow Airport and a brief 20 minute walk to the new Westfield London Shopping Centre. Delegates will be free to book their own accommodation from a range of quality hotels within walking distance of the conference centre. We've teamed up with The Corporate Team which offers a range of hotel accommodation within easy reach of the conference centre - at discounted prices (see registration form for details). We believe that the central London location, combined with a good mix of focus topics and free paper presentations, will make this year's conference a particularly exciting event and we very much look forward to sharing it with you.

For further information on the W12 Conference Centre visit: <http://www.w12conferences.co.uk/index>
For updates on conference programme, accommodation and registration details, visit: www.ispo.org.uk

PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

Friday 7th October	Saturday 8th October
Technical Developments Session on Prosthetic Feet – S. Zahedi Free Paper Presentations Blatchford Lecture- J. Highsmith (USA) ~ A Review of the Evidence Related to the "C" Leg Multidisciplinary Programme ~ Focus on Management of the Diabetic Patient (Guest Speakers) <i>Annual General Meeting</i> <i>Conference Dinner – Ramada Encore London West</i>	Free Paper Presentations Technical Developments OETT Lecture – Professor Andrew Boulton (UK) ~ Update on Diabetes, current management & the evidence Steve Hutchins: Evidence on The Effects of Walking with Rocker-soled shoes <i>Presentation of Prizes</i> <i>Conference Closes at lunch time</i>

International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
United Kingdom National Member Society



ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC MEETING

W12 CONFERENCE CENTRE, HAMMERSMITH HOSPITAL, LONDON
7th & 8th October 2011

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT YOUR DETAILS USING BLOCK CAPITALS

Title:	First Name:	Last Name:
---------------	--------------------	-------------------

Company/Organisation:

E-mail: Your name, company details and e-mail address will be published in the conference compendium. If you have any objection, tick <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the box and your name and city only will be included. <input type="checkbox"/>

Correspondence Address:

Tel:	Profession:
-------------	--------------------

Special Needs/Dietary Requirements:
--

<p style="text-align: center;">TRAVEL & ACCOMMODATION</p> <p>The W12 Conference Centre (http://www.w12conferences.co.uk) is ideally located in West London, close to the arterial A40, just a few miles from Heathrow Airport. The nearest tube stations are White City and East Acton on the Central Line and Wood Lane on the Hammersmith & City Line.</p> <p>ISPO UK NMS in association with The Corporate Team has arranged special discounted rates at hotels in the area surrounding W12 Conference Centre. To book accommodation contact The Corporate Team by phone (+44 (0) 20 7592 3050) or email (events@corporateteam.com) and quote ID Number: 8563. Alternatively visit www.corporateteam.com/events/8563ISPO to book on-line.</p>
--

REGISTRATION	
Reduced registration rates are available to ISPO members.	
Are you a member of ISPO? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Membership No: _____
Membership application forms can be downloaded at www.ispo.org.uk or are available from the Secretariat office.	

REGISTRATION	Registrations received on or before 15 th September 2011		Registrations received after 15 th September 2011	
	Member	Non Member	Member	Non Member
Full Registration (Note 1)	£140.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£180.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£160.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£200.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Day Delegate				
Friday 7 th October (Note 2)	£95.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£125.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£115.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£145.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday 8 th October (Note 3)	£95.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£125.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£115.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£145.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Student Delegate				
Full Registration (Note 1)	£60.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£60.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£60.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£60.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Day Delegate (Notes 2 and 3)				
Friday 7 th October <input type="checkbox"/>	£30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	£30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Saturday 8 th October <input type="checkbox"/>				

Notes:

- 1 Full registration includes access to conference and exhibition on both Friday 7th and Saturday 8th October, AGM, buffet lunch and refreshments on both days.
- 2 Friday delegate registration includes access to the conference, exhibition and AGM on Friday 7th October, buffet lunch and refreshments and access to the first session (Free Paper Presentations) on Saturday 8th October.
- 3 Saturday delegate registration includes access to the conference and exhibition on Saturday 8th October, buffet lunch and refreshments and access to the last session after the tea/coffee break (on management of the diabetic patient) and AGM on Friday 7th October.

Conference Dinner - Friday 7 th October to be held at the Ramada Encore London West Hotel	No. of tickets <input type="checkbox"/> @ £35 each
---	--

PAYMENT	I enclose cheque payable to ISPO UK NMS in the sum of £
	Signed Date
	In the event of cancellation a fee of £20 will be levied to cover administration costs. Cancellations received after 22nd September 2011 may not qualify for a refund.

Please forward your completed form, together with registration payment, to
Irene Cameron, ISPO UK NMS Secretariat, PO Box 2781, Glasgow, G61 3YL
Tel: 0141 560 4092 Fax: 0141 560 4092 E-mail: info@ispo.org.uk

International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
United Kingdom National Member Society



8 August 2011

**35th Annual General Meeting
ISPO UK National Member Society**

Notice is hereby given that the next Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held at the **W12 Conference Centre, Hammersmith Hospital, London on Friday 7th October 2011 at 1800 hrs.** Any resolutions or items for inclusion in the agenda of the Annual General Meeting should be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary, at the address below, **by 19th August 2011.**

Committee Elections

The following committee members are due by rotation to retire in October 2011:-

Rebecca Beltran Colin Dance Tom Wickerson

Members are encouraged to make nominations (with the approval of the nominee). A nomination form is attached. Please return completed forms to the Honorary Secretary at ISPO UK NMS Secretariat, PO Box 2781, Glasgow, G61 3YL **to arrive no later than 19th August 2011.**

**Fergus Jepson
Hon Secretary
ISPO UK NMS**

ISPO – UK NMS COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

To be completed by all persons nominating a candidate for election to the UK NMS Committee. Candidates should be aware that the UK NMS Committee meets four times each year and that members are expected to play an active role on the committee.

Candidate

Address
.....
.....

Profession

Present Position

Institution/Company

Responsibility
.....

Length of membership of ISPO

ISPO Number

Proposer

Address
.....
.....

Reason for proposing the Candidate (include significant professional achievements)
.....
.....
.....
.....

Seconder

Address
.....
.....

Signatures

Nominee

Proposer

Seconder



"Incredible India" to host the next ISPO World Congress in 2013

With ISPO's 13th World Congress now behind us, we are looking forward to the next global event and are working hard on making sure ISPO 2013 will be a unique experience. ISPO's 14th World Congress will take place in Hyderabad, India on 4-7 February 2013.

For more information, visit www.ispoint.org or click on the link below:-



You are invited to submit a Proposal for Instructional Course/Symposium at ISPO 2013 **Below is a draft template for your proposal. Please use as much space as you require to answer the questions.**

This proposal is for an Instructional Course: YES/NO Symposium: YES/NO

- 1 Title of Proposed Session:
- 2 Name of Proposer and Chair with professional designation:
- 3 Contact details of Chair:
- 4 For Instructional Courses Only
 - Objective:
 - Course content
 - Benefits to Attendees:
 - Intended level of Audience:
- 5 Why is this topic suitable for a Symposium/Instructional Course?
(in terms of current practices, modern trends etc -max 250 words)
- 6 Proposed Speakers

Name	Affiliation	Email address	Title of Presentation
Speaker 1			
Speaker 2			
Speaker 3			
etc			

E-mail your proposal to Dr.Ashok Johari, Chair Scientific Committee at scientific@ispo2013.org

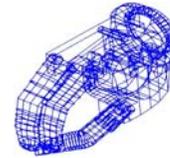
by October 1st, 2011 with the email subject titled as "Proposal for Symposium/ Instructional Course.



International Society for Prosthetics and Orthotics
United Kingdom National Member Society

Trent
International
Prosthetic
Symposium

2012



Burleigh Court Conference Centre, Loughborough, UK
21st to 23rd May 2012

Guest Speakers now confirmed:

- *Randall Alley, CEO & Chief Prosthetist, **biodesigns**, Southern California, USA*
- *Dr Oskar Aszmann, Professor of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, Medical University of Vienna, Austria*
- *Diane Atkins, OTR, FISPO, Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA*
- *Danny Crates, 2004 Paralympic Champion, European Champion & Paralympic World Cup winner, UK*
- *Professor Simon Kay, FRCS, FRCS (Plas), FRCS Ed (Hon), Consultant in Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery & Surgery of the Hand, St James University Hospital, Leeds, UK*

Call for Abstracts & Short Clinical Papers

You are invited to submit free paper abstracts and short clinical papers. For full details, together with guidelines for submission and deadline dates visit http://www.ispo.org.uk/events_meetings-V.html

Plus ...

Instructional Workshops * Exhibition * Manufacturers Workshops

Register now to take full advantage of discounted registration rates for ISPO members and additional early bird discounts!

www.ispo.org.uk/events_meetings-V.html



APLLG

Dr. Indrasiri Deputy Director General Ministry of Health (Education, Training and Research) on behalf of the Government of Sri Lanka recognises the profession of Prosthetist/Orthotist as the Sri Lanka School of Prosthetics and Orthotics celebrates its 4th Graduation



London Olympic Games and Paralympic Games Accessibility

Members are delighted to share the good word by providing a copy of a Presentation made to the Group by **Margaret Hickish**, Advisor to Paralympic Games for the Greater London Authority



Minister of State for Universities and Science **David Willetts MP**
Secretary of State for Health **Andrew Lansley CBE MP**;

Justine Greening MP

Welcome New Foundation Degree Course in Clinical Technology



ISPO Success for Technicians

Distance Learning Triumphs



Secretary of State for Health **Andrew Lansley CBE MP**;

Minister for Europe **David Lidington MP** and

Dame Anne Begg MP Welcome European Limb Loss Day



Baroness Tonge

Welcomes Updated Limb Loss Patient Pathway



Welcomed Collaboration 'Making it Work'

from Good Practice to Good Policy



One Life – Live It !

The lifestyle exhibition for people with limb impairment

Ashton Gate Stadium, Bristol, BS3 2EJ

10am to 4pm on Friday 9th September 2011

This unique exhibition gathers together a range of exhibitors that address the everyday lifestyle challenges that those with limb impairment who have mobility and/or dexterity issues, come up against time and time again. The exhibition will take place on Friday 9th September 2011, 10am until 4pm, at the Ashton Gate Stadium, Bristol, BS3 2EJ.

Limb impairment may result from a wide range of diseases, may be the result of an accident or a lifelong disability as a result of a congenital issue, but no matter the cause it affects our ability to do everyday tasks to greater or lesser degrees. It presents with a myriad of issues such as where & how to go on holiday, how to apply make-up, maintain personal hygiene, take part in sports, put on shoes & clothing, get in and out of cars....the list can appear endless and sometimes insurmountable to those in difficulty, their families or carers.

It is hard to find information in one place to provide solutions to the challenges mentioned and those many that are not. One Life – Live It! aims to do just that and bring the solutions to you at the one venue.

The PORT-ER event is being supported by its Patron Michael Caines, Celebrity Chef, who will be present on the day. He will address the audience from the demonstration stage, after which exhibitors will be able to demonstrate their products.

PORT-ER is a registered charity that is committed to improving patient care for those with a disability through national and international development. PORT-ER promotes the provision of appropriate education and training in prosthetics and orthotics to enable clinicians to assist others to exercise their human rights and achieve optimal mobility. PORT-ER fund their activities through fund raising activities, donations and this event, One Life – Live It! aims to provide a unique opportunity for those with a disability to access a broad range of lifestyle solutions.

Exhibition event team:

Sandra Sexton and Rhona Murison: events@port-er.co.uk

Diana Corrick: diana@port-er.co.uk Telephone: 0845 850 9808

PORT-ER, c/o Exeter Mobility Centre, Lister Close, Wonford Road, Exeter, England EX2 4DU

Exhibition website with information for exhibitors and advertisers: <http://www.port-er.com/exhibition.html>

Kind regards

Sandy

Mrs Sandy Sexton

Chair of Trustees

Prosthetics, Orthotics Rehabilitation Technology - Education and Research (PORT-ER)

Email: events@port-er.co.uk

M: 07825 775998 S: sandra.sexton (by appointment)

Website: www.port-er.com

NEWS RELEASE

LONDON SOUTH BANK UNIVERSITY LAUNCHES CLINICAL TECHNOLOGY COURSE WITH OPEN DAY

London South Bank University's (LSBU) Faculty of Engineering, Science and The Built Environment is proud to announce the launch of a new Foundation Degree in Clinical Technology this September.

The validated two-year course has been developed to support technical and support staff who are already employed within the rehabilitation sector, including prosthetics, orthotics, and special seating.

An Open Day, which will include talks from the Course Director, LSBU's Dr Geoff Goss, and a number of top industry names, will be held on LSBU's Southwark campus on Monday 20 June.

The course was developed when LSBU was approached by colleagues from the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, and the programme of study was subsequently designed in close partnership with the NHS, industry and the Associated Parliamentary Limb Loss Group.

It has been developed in response to a recognised skills gap. This skills gap has resulted from the shortage of apprenticeships during the 1980s and 1990s, which created an aging workforce.

The course will also help to meet the growing need for special seating, orthotics and prosthetic devices in the UK due to the increase in diabetes, neurological conditions, an aging population and casualties from conflict zones.

Students will be able to broaden and extend the experience they have already gained in the work place through four main core subject areas – mechanics, materials, manufacturing and design, and clinical rehabilitation. They will also be taught how to utilise the latest innovative technologies.

Dr Geoff Goss, of LSBU's Faculty of Engineering, Science and The Built Environment, says: "We are really excited about the launch of the new Clinical Technology course at LSBU. There is a clearly established need for this course with the industry skills gap set against a growing demand for these devices due to the dramatic rise in diabetes and an increasingly aging population.

"Technicians will be able to bring back skills to their workplace, including making the most of the latest technologies, which will not only further their own professional development but also benefit their employers too."

Jose Spring, Research and Development Coordinator at the Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability, says: "The Royal Hospital for Neuro-disability appreciates LSBU's enthusiasm in providing training on special seating, which is not provided anywhere else in the UK. It will be an extremely well-rounded course, for the first time, spanning both the faculties of Health & Social Care and Engineering."

Michael O'Byrne, Chief Executive Officer of the Ability Technology Group, says: "This is a much needed development for the training and education of technicians. It creates the opportunity for progression for technicians who wish to commit to this initiative. I believe it will be well supported by employers."

Steve McNeice of the Associate Parliamentary Limb Loss Group says: "This innovative and aspirational course will provide many new skilled caring healthcare professionals hopefully for some years yet to come, improving the quality and range of services provided to patients and individual patient outcomes and quality of life."

Students can only be accepted onto the course if they are able to undergo work-based learning.

To find out more about the Open Day or to order a course information booklet, please contact Dr Geoff Goss at gossga@lsbu.ac.uk