

Professional Education and Training for the Next Decade

The Pan-Thames Pharmacy Symposium 2001 was held on the 19th and 20th July 2001 at the School of Pharmacy, University of London. The symposium was a co-operative event, jointly hosted by NHS managed service and university sectors, taking its theme as professional aspects of education and training. The main programme addressed the new challenges in vocational undergraduate education to those of formal post-registration training and continuing professional development. The symposium was organised and delivered by a number of agencies including: London Regional Pharmacy Services; South East (South Coast) Pharmacy Education and Training; School of Pharmacy, University of London; Department of Pharmacy, King's College London; School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences, University of Brighton.

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The principal symposium was a mix of keynote addresses, research presentations and specialist

seminars. The topics included information technology, (Dr Larry Goodyer and Bethan George), the question of professional competence (Dr Graham Davies and David Webb), recruitment, retention and education (Susan Sanders and Gail Fleming). There were oral presentations on research and development issues, plus abstract and poster sessions, which are reproduced in this issue of the journal. All abstracts have been reviewed; however, readers are encouraged to contact the principal author in those cases where results are pending.

The closing lecture on reconciling different demands on the education and training agenda was given by Dr Graham Davies, University of Brighton and brought the symposium to a fitting finale.

Peter Sharott
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Symposium Chair