

## **Final Report for IATL**

### **Overview of the project**

This is a collaborative project between Warwick medical students and staff entitled “Graduate-entry medicine student: challenges to transition through medical school”. It is an interview-based explorative study that aims to find what are the challenges anticipated and experienced by Warwick graduate-entry medical students as they progress through medical school training. A total of 21 Warwick medical students have been interviewed. Audio recording of interviews were transcribed verbatim and analysed constant comparison. Our study have yielded findings that can help inform educators about the challenges anticipated and experienced by Warwick graduate-entry medical students, how the prior life experiences of graduate-entry students can influence their medical school learning experience, the experiences of medical students with disabilities and the process of developing professional identity.

### **Meeting the objectives of IATL**

We would like to thank the Institute of Advanced Teaching and Learning, University of Warwick, for their generous support and funding.

Student collaborators were involved in the planning and execution of the every stage of study. They have developed a range of skills as described below: -

*Academic literacy:* Student collaborators were directly involved in planning and performing literature search of information related to the study. They gained experience in appraising papers and writing conference abstracts. As a result, 2 conference abstracts were presented at an international conference.

*Engagement with global culture:* Student and staff collaborators met research participants who came from a diverse range of demographic and cultural background that is very different from their own culture.

*Interdisciplinary activity:* The study findings will be distributed to Warwick Medical School. We will talk to stakeholders about the study findings that may lead to organised interdisciplinary activities to address the challenges reported by

## Graduate-entry medicine student: challenges to transition through medical school

(Asim Yousuf, Nina Owen, Mike Smith and Simon Tso)

graduate-entry medical students.

*Research-led learning:* Student collaborators gained first hand qualitative research experiences. They gained an overview about the various qualitative research methods and their application. One of the three student collaborators expressed interests in continuing to develop qualitative research skills and all student collaborators expressed an interest in pursuing academic medicine.

### **How did we spend the IATL grant?**

The funding from the IATL was spent on reimbursement of research participants' traveling expenses and the costs for transcribing audio recording of interviews. The use of a professional transcriber has freed up time for student and staff collaborators so that they can concentrate on conducting research and learning about qualitative research.

### **Academic output**

We are glad to report that we have presented 2 conference abstracts at the Association for the Study of Medical Education Annual Scientific Meeting in July 2013. The references are as follow: -

Yousuf A, Owen N, Tso S, Kidd J. Disabled medical students: a consideration of barriers experienced during transition from pre-clinical to clinical years. ASME Annual Scientific Meeting 2013, Edinburgh (E-poster)

URL: <http://epostersonline.com/asme2013/?q=node/50>

Tso S, Kirk E, Yousuf A, Owen N, Smith M, Kidd JM,. Graduate-entry medicine students' perception and attitudes towards health advice requests from family and friends. ASME Annual Scientific Meeting 2013, Edinburgh (E-poster)

URL: <http://epostersonline.com/asme2013/?q=node/158>

### **Future plans**

We will continue to write up our study findings and disseminate our work to Warwick Medical School and other stakeholders.