

WWW.ASME.ORG.UK/JASME

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Doctors in Difficulty? Conference. 26th May 2011 in London

ASME Annual Scientific Meeting. July 13th - 15th in Edinburgh. Funding may be available from your medical school.

Annual Scientific Meeting  
Diversity in an Age of Standardisation



## WHO ARE JASME?

**JASME** are a special interest group of **ASME** - the Association for the Study of Medical Education. We represent medical students who are interested in medical education.

Join online and get your friends along too.

# j a s m e



*Junior Association for the Study of Medical Education*

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## News Bytes

Welcome to the new edition of the JASME newsletter, we of the JASME committee hope you like it and enjoy reading some exciting JASME news. Firstly, a big hello to all our new members, thanks for joining up. To our veteran members, good to see you again.

Back in October we worked with the newly formed Leicester Med Ed Society to put on a brilliant workshop incorporating the popular JASME Teaching Toolkit. Feedback was positive and we hope to keep up our association with Leicester.

Breaking news - JASME are looking to get student reps in each medical school. Think you'd be good? Watch this space!

The ASME conference is coming up in July, this year in Edinburgh. ASME operates a 'buy-one-get-one-free' for medical student, so get your medical school to fund some places.

Earlier this month JASME ran the popular Teaching Toolkit workshop in Liverpool. It was very well received, thanks to all who came along. Look out for more JASME workshops running

around the country.

Lucie from the JASME committee has written an interesting article for ASME in The Clinical Teacher journal. All JASME members have online access to the two journals that ASME publish, so go to The Clinical Teacher's website to read 'Enthusiasm: It's Catching'

It is an exciting time to be involved in medical education and what better way to set up a society in your medical school. If the idea of this fills you with joy, we at JASME would love to hear from you and help you on your way.

## National Licensing Exam Symposium

Dana Abraham from the JASME committee reports on the discussion

ASME held a symposium in December on the topic of the National Licensing Exam to examine the evidence for and against one being introduced in Britain. Dana from the JASME committee attended and reported on the day. Speakers from Canada and Switzerland spoke about their experiences with similar exams and arguments were raised for and against this exam in Britain.

Arguments for

- Guaranteed quality for the public
- Common standard for graduating doctors
- Transparent and accountable
- Fosters high quality assessment
- Allows comparability between medical schools
- Easy for the public to understand and trust
- Introducing it ourselves may prevent it being forced in by an outside organisation.

Arguments against

- Is it required - quality control is already in place
- Cost
- Such an exam may oversimplify and undermine the profession
- Discourages independence of medical school teaching style
- Performance data and rankings of schools could be misused
- Why do we want it? What problem are we trying to fix?

Attended and reported by Dana of the JASME committee.