

## *News Archive 2007*

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Please note that the registration date for members of the SCST N. Ireland branch has been moved from 1st Jan to 1st April 2008 to allow for administration checks.

It is still a requirement of all members who are joining the N. Ireland branch to also be fully paid members of the SCST Main branch. The application to join or renew membership with the N. Ireland branch will only be accepted once you are a member of the SCST Main branch.

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The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of Allied Health Professionals Research Forum, Wed 24<sup>th</sup> October  
1.30 – 4.30 pm, Clady Villa, Knockbracken HC Trust.

There are both Government funds & NI Cardiac Research Network funds available to CP's for research fellowships for Masters, PHD etc.

NI Cardiac Research Network also have an opportunity for a part time CP in each trust for a facilitator ( not clinical ) type role to assist with staff undertaking research.

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It was highlighted at the BCS with the delay for State Registration that this was an unacceptable occurrence. For those who are unsure of who to write to regarding this please go to the following site, type in your postcode and you will be provided with all local representatives.

[www.writetothem.com](http://www.writetothem.com)

It is important that everyone writes these letters in order to bring it to the attention of our representatives in government. It is no longer acceptable for people to sit back and leave it to others, we must all stand up together to be heard.

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The letter from the Chief Scientific Officer was discussed at the British Cardiac Society and it was decided that all Cardiac Physiologists should now take a hand in assisting the committees with pushing forward with Registration. Please keep an eye on this web-site and the SCST magazine about what should be done to correct this situation.

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A letter from the Chief Scientific Officer was recently published regarding a further delay in obtaining State Registration.

Please click [here](#) for the full letter.

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The SCSTNI Committee has requested speakers and Poster presentations for the Irish Cardiac Society, to be held in Belfast this October, to submit a title and overview of any interesting topics or case studies to be forwarded to Dr Brian Campbell at:

[Brian.Campbell@southerntrust.hscni.net](mailto:Brian.Campbell@southerntrust.hscni.net)

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The Website was Launch at the AGM of the SCSTNI Branch by Gareth Clifford who together with Noel Black and Brian Campbell designed the website. The purpose of which was to provide the most current information to the Branch members across Northern Ireland.

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A big “*THANK YOU!*” to our former secretary, Gwyneth McClintock.

Gwyneth has been a member of council for more years than she would tell me, and was Honorary (Honorary is a euphemism for “we would like you to do a load of work you won’t be paid for”) SCST Secretary from before minutes were invented. During that time she has diligently recorded the goings on at Council and Education Committee meetings, gently reminding everyone which task they had “volunteered” to do as per the minutes and forming the hub through which all queries were filtered. The position of Honorary Secretary is a time consuming task much of which occurs in the background where few realise the sheer volume of work that needs to be carried out. Gwyneth has given a great deal of her own time for the benefit of SCST and for this the members of Council and Education committees are extremely grateful.

Brian Campbell

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## *Profession Title*

It has been brought to Council attention that there is still some discrepancy over the most appropriate title the profession should employ. Unfortunately, until state registration is complete and the title is accepted and reserved by HPC there will remain some uncertainty. In the meantime, what should we do? The umbrella group under which the SCST has applied for state registration is called Clinical Physiology; hence the term “Clinical Physiologist” has been used with perhaps the addition of Cardiac before and after the Clinical term. It has been suggested by RCCP that the title should, in some way, describe what we do, but rather than increase the length of the title the term “Clinical” should be dropped in favour of an appropriate descriptive term, in the case of SCST the term “Cardiac” is the most suitable. The title “CARDIAC PHYSIOLOGIST” has been put forward as the most appropriate title and has now been quoted in much of the recent literature produced by the Department of Health referring to our profession e.g. “Coronary heart disease CGWT progress (2003)”. The National Director for Heart Disease, Roger Boyle, also refers to the profession as “Cardiac Physiologists”.

There have been many name changes in the recent past and the Council feel it is time to ensure that a uniform title is used across the profession and recommends that the title “*CARDIAC PHYSIOLOGIST*” is utilised with the abbreviation “CP” where appropriate.