

The College

Election of President

Dr Fiona Caldicott, Dean of the College since 1990 and Consultant Psychotherapist, Uffculme Clinic, Birmingham from 1979, has been elected President of the College and will take up her duties in July 1993.

The other candidates were Arthur Crisp, a Vice-president of the College and Professor of Psychiatry at St George's Hospital Medical School, London, since

1967, and James Watson, Professor of Psychiatry at the United Medical School in London.

Votes were cast as follows:

Fiona Caldicott	1376
Arthur Hamilton Crisp	1116
James Patrick Watson	492

(Envelopes despatched 6857, invalid 52, total envelopes returned 3036).

Staffing a psychiatric service where there are vacant consultant posts

Memorandum to Court of Electors

Locum consultants: NB the College's recommendations on suitable training for such persons

Almost as difficult to find as applicants for substantive consultant posts owing to:

- enormous demand
- few individuals with appropriate qualifications available.

Senior registrars

Are able to do up to a three month period as a locum consultant which counts towards approved higher training, but not until the third or fourth year of higher psychiatric training.

Associate specialists

Personal appointments now made at regional level.

Individuals should have had at least ten years experience post qualification and have had four years experience in the registrar or staff grade, at least two of which should be in the appropriate specialty.

Staff grade

Limited number of approvals available for each specialty per region.

Must be working during sessions and so not appropriate for second on-call cover at night in psychiatry, though could cover a busy evening session.

Clinical assistants

Cannot be appointed with more than five sessions in a service. Contracts renewable every 12 months.

May provide invaluable support as there are no other manpower controls on this grade:

Senior clinical medical officers/clinical medical officer

Increasing numbers of appointments being made in recent years often without reference to the College.

The grade was originally "under the control of the Medical Officer of Health enabling him to carry out his public health functions which included things like child surveillance, family planning, assessment of the elderly and mentally ill. In undertaking such duties the CMOs and SCMOs normally had no clinical responsibility for ill patients, rather their duties were involved in assessment screening, prevention, etc".

These grades are being used to by-pass manpower agreements between the profession and the Department of Health and are *not* supported by the college.

NHS Trusts

It should be noted that the National Health Service Management Executive has recently made it clear to the Chief Executives of Trusts that only recognised training grades and non-consultant career grades can be used to support consultant staff working in Trusts.

No other types of medical posts are recognised.

Dr FIONA CALDICOTT
Dean

Additional information on any of the types of post described is available from Dr Caldicott, Education Department, Royal College of Psychiatrists.