

## Editorial trainees for the British Journal of Dermatology

**Background:** The *BMJ* introduced Editorial Registrars nearly 20 years ago. Since then, there have been annual appointments. For the *BMJ* this has created a young academic publishing community that is strongly connected to the journal. Furthermore, a number of the senior editorial team joined the *BMJ* via this route (including the current editor). There is currently a generational gap in the way published academic content is accessed, assimilated and used. The *BJD* editorial team recognises the need to be connected to younger readers and authors and to cater for this IT-savvy generation. Editorial trainees have an important role in helping the *BJD* to be vibrant and relevant to all dermatologists, especially those in the early years of their careers. The creation of *BJD* editorial trainees is a joint initiative between the **British Journal of Dermatology** and the **Centre of Evidence based Dermatology**, at the University of Nottingham.

**What will BJD editorial trainees gain from this training post?** For the *BJD* editorial trainees, the benefit would be to gain inside information on how publishing works and to obtain training in publication which might benefit their career. Most importantly, they should emerge from this two year training with a good understanding of how the peer-review process works and insights and knowledge about publication ethics and the mechanics of publication. Additionally, this will hopefully be regarded as a prestigious position which will attract the brightest and best candidates and is seen as making a strong contribution to their CV.

**How many BJD editorial trainees are there?** There are just two, each for two years duration, staggered with one appointment per year. The first appointee to these posts will start in early 2015.

**Type of post:** The focus of these posts is training, with a mixture of theoretical and hands-on practical experience

**Funding:** There is a stipend of £2,000 per year for each editorial trainee to cover travel, training costs and courses during the two year appointment.

### Training:

#### *Provided by the Centre of Evidence-Based Dermatology*

- Formal training in research methods and peer review
- BEES "Getting to grips with evidence-based dermatology". A three day residential training course run by Professor Hywel Williams and Professor Kim Thomas
- Visit to the Centre of Evidence-Based Dermatology in Nottingham to learn more about the activities of the Cochrane Skin Group and the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network

#### *Provided by the BJD Editorial Team and publishers*

- BJD editorial team meetings
- BJD Editorial Board Meetings

- ad hoc editorial team meetings
- Visits the *BJD* editorial office
- Visit the publisher's offices (Wiley) in Oxford
- Visit one or two section editors and editor to see what they do and how they do it.

*Other training opportunities*

- Attending meetings of the Committee on Publication Ethics
- Academic publishing courses
- Seminars or courses at the AAD and/or EADV (and others) on “how to get published”.

**How are costs reimbursed?** By completed claim form, submitted to the *BJD* Editorial Office.

**Appointment process:** The appointment process does not require an interview, and will be based on a letter of application, letters of support from educational supervisors and training programme director, and a 500 word essay explaining why the candidate has applied and what they hope to gain from the experience. The judging panel to be Professor Kim Thomas, Professor Hywel Williams and Professor Alex Anstey.

**Who is eligible to apply?** These posts will be limited to UK SpRs who are within two years of obtaining their CCT, or have obtained their CCT but have not yet been appointed to a consult post.

**Timing:** Advertise for first appointment in October 2014; deadline for applications is Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December; appoint in late December 2014; appointee to start early in 2015.

**How much time commitment is anticipated for the editorial trainee?** It is anticipated that the time commitment will be the equivalent of 16-20 hours per month (4-5 hours per week).

**Feedback from Editorial trainees:** The appointees are expected to feedback on their experience. Additionally, editorial trainees are expected to publicise the post by seeking opportunities to talk about this new role at SpR training days. They might also write a short piece for the BAD newsletter.

**What constitutes success for these *BJD* editorial trainee posts?** These posts will be deemed to have been a success if the following criteria are satisfied:

- The trainee finds this appointment to have benefited their overall career development
- The CEBD team and the *BJD* editorial team confirm that the editorial trainee has acquired a repertoire of knowledge and skills that will be important for their future personal and professional development
- The editorial trainee is able to provide top quality peer review when asked to do so by the *BJD*
- The editorial trainee has made a tangible contribution to the development and on-going success of the *BJD*, including one critically appraised topic published in the *BJD* in year one and co-authorship of a *BJD* editorial in year 2.