

Industrial Pharmacists Group visits Robert Gordon University

16th May 2008 - Aberdeen, U.K.

Following the success of their visit last year, Dr David Bain, Market Development Manager, Colorcon, and Dr Sarah Connolly, Clinical Research Pharmacist, Bio-Images Research Ltd., returned to the Robert Gordon University (RGU), Aberdeen to present a careers seminar on industrial pharmacy.

The Industrial Pharmacists Group (IPG) of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society continues to maintain links with each school of pharmacy through a nominated member of staff. At RGU, Dr Denise Hansford and the IPG organise annual visits to schools of pharmacy by pharmacists currently working in the pharmaceutical industry. Such liaison visits are an ideal opportunity for students to discover more about being a pharmacist in industry.

Dr Steve Robertson, Controlled Therapeutics and a committee member of the IPG, was also visiting RGU and joined the seminar to discuss his opinions on careers in industry.

Dr Bain presented a series of slides on the opportunities and benefits of a career in industry, the various options available for a career in the industrial sector and generated group discussions with the students on some of the issues raised.

Following this, Dr Connolly, drawing from her own experiences, discussed summer placements, pre-registration placements in industry, postgraduate studies and starting a career in the industrial sector following her recent appointment as Clinical Research Pharmacist with Bio-Images Research Ltd.

“As ambitious, able and enthusiastic individuals, it is little wonder pharmacists succeed in an industry that provides the widest possible scope for pharmacists to use their knowledge of medicines development, use and optimisation to improve the quality of patient lives.” Dr Bain

“I am extremely enthusiastic to promote the pharmaceutical industry to pharmacy students, as pharmacists have an ideal skill set for a career in this sector. Due to my own difficulties in obtaining experience in this field, I am keen to provide advice and assistance to students who are interested in industrial pharmacy.” Dr Connolly

“As programme leader for the Master of Pharmacy degree at The Robert Gordon University, I am extremely grateful to the Industrial Pharmacists Group (IPG) of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society for sponsoring this visit. The students have gained a real insight into the pharmaceutical industry; for many this would have been their first such encounter and this will have widened their horizons and knowledge considerably.” Dr Hansford