Teaching in Queen Square: From Brown-Sequard’s outpatient lectures to distance learning

This exhibition, which will run in Queen Square Library until November 2015, features photographs, objects, and documents from Queen Square Archives, highlighting teaching in the Square from the 19th century to the present day.

Please contact: neuroarchives@ucl.ac.uk or see www.queensquare.org.uk/archives for further information.

August 2015
Early lectures in the Hospital

Postgraduate teaching has always been an important feature of the National and began with Brown Sequard, the second physician appointed to the National Hospital in 1859.

He established a series of weekly lectures at the Hospital, supported by Dr Ramskill, which were advertised in the main medical journals, and out of which grew the National Hospital medical school.

Lectures were first delivered in one of the outpatient rooms, and later in the pathological laboratory.

After the original surgical department was opened in 1890 the operating room also served as a lecture theatre, until 1906 when a new surgical wing was erected.

Outpatient clinics

In 1878, Dr Buzzard and Dr Hughlings Jackson began inviting visiting medical staff to attend their outpatient clinics. These were further promoted from 1888 to students and medical practitioners, initially by Gowers, followed by other colleagues, including Risien Russell and later Collier, Holmes, Wilson, Adie and Riddoch.

The outpatient clinics became very popular and continued to be one of the main features of the medical school and a visit to the National Hospital out-patient clinics became part of the London scene for overseas medical staff. In 1902 over 730 medical staff from all over the world made 3,000 visits to lectures and clinical sessions.

Establishment of the National Hospital medical school

Charles Beevor was appointed Dean of the Medical School in 1896 and systematic lecture programmes were instituted including instruction in nervous system pathology as well as clinical lectures. Clinical clerkships in both the wards and the outpatient departments were also established. Royal College of Surgeons and Royal College of Physicians officially recognise the Hospital in its teaching capacity.

Clinical and systematic teaching further organised from 1919, including regular courses of lectures during each University term on the anatomy and physiology of the nervous system, pathological demonstrations and lectures, neurosurgery and methods of examining patients.

Dr Collier began holding weekly public demonstrations of selected cases in 1925, continuing after his death by the Physicians in rotation. In 1946 the demonstrations were increased to twice-weekly.
A School of training in the use of massage, medical electro-therapeutics and Swedish remedial exercises was set up in 1923 conjunction with UCH.

**Founding of the Institute of Neurology**

In June 1948 the medical School was reformed as a Limited Company and designated the Institute of Neurology. It was the oldest medical postgraduate teaching organisation in London.

A system of guest lectures was started whereby distinguished neurologists from other centres or abroad were invited to lecture.

In August 1950 the Institute entered the British Postgraduate Medical Federation and became an integral part of the University of London.

In January 1951 the medical school of the Maida Vale Hospital for nervous diseases was incorporated into the framework of the Institute of neurology and it was agreed that all formal teaching should take place at Queen Square, while clinical teaching would proceed at both hospitals.

Arrangements were made for courses of instruction at the Institute in the basic sciences and neuro-physiology.

**First Masters programmes and merger with UCL**

The first Masters degree was provided in 1983-84 (MSc in Human Communication) alongside the existing Diploma in Clinical Neurology. In 1982-3 there were 32 PhD Students; 17 MD; 6 MPhil and 24 Diploma in Clinical Neurology students.

The Institute became affiliated with UCL in 1995 and merged in 1997, and further programmes were developed, including MSc in Clinical Neuroscience in 1998, Dual Masters in Brain and Mind Sciences (in 2006) and Advanced Neuroimaging (in 2008).

Since then, total numbers of students at the Institute have doubled.

**Recent developments and future plans**

The Institute launched a comprehensive online Distance Learning Diploma in Clinical Neurology in 2012 and the MRes Translational Neurology in 2014. They also host the MRes Brain Sciences programme which started in 2013.

These will be joined by two new courses in 2015: Stroke Medicine and Neuromuscular Disease, followed by MSc Dementia: Neuroscience in 2016.

The Education Unit also organises a variety of successful short courses, the latest of which is *Neurology - leading edge neurology for the practising clinician*. The 2nd annual course was held in March 2015, and is already a highlight of the British Neurology calendar.
Queen Square Alumnus Association
The Queen Square Alumnus Association was established in 1989 in order to foster a collegiate spirit in people who have undertaken part of their training at Queen Square. It is an international association, and organises periodic meetings of Alumni at appropriate international gatherings. Members receive a comprehensive e-newsletter 3 times p.a.

Queen Square Symposium
Established in 2000, this is an event for students of all disciplines based at Queen Square.

The 16th Annual Queen Square Symposium was held in May 2015 and boasted the highest turnout of the Symposium yet – bringing together all niches of the Square, from cognitive neuroscience and functional neuroimaging to molecular neuroscience and electrophysiology.

Photographs
(QSA references from Queen Square Archives website: www.queensquare.org.uk/archives)

- Massage school (from 1919 Annual report) - QSA/15487
- Nurses training school, 1935 - QSA/2097
- Kinnier Wilson teaching 110 doctors from 22 counties, 1930s - QSA/12359
- Postgraduate students (from 1939 Annual report) - QSA/1789
- MacDonald Critchley teaching on the ward, 1930s – QSA/1871
- Remedial exercise students at work (from 1937 Annual report) - QSA/11937
- Dr Purdon Martin’s last ward round, 1958- QSA/1987
- Nursing study unit, 1964 - QSA/2101
- Postgraduate group, 1978
- Postgraduate group photos – 2012-14
- Queen Square Alumnus Association event, 2013
- Queen Square Alumnus Association newsletter cover – Issue 3, June 2002

Objects:

- Lancet articles promoting lectures at the National Hospital, 1860 and 1912
- Brown-Sequard glass photo
- First volume of medical school committee minutes, 1919-1939
- Transcript of postgraduate lecture on acute myelitis, Gowers, 1895 – QSA/15072
- IoN Annual report 1950-51 - QSA/18963
- Massage and Electrical School certificates 1916 – QSA/1511
- Framed group photos of IoN lecturers - 1962 and 1963
- Postgraduate School of Neurological and Neurosurgical Nursing certificate and prospectuses from 1959 and 1967
- Queen Square Alumnus Association event booklet, 2013
- Neurology 2015 Handbook
- MSc and MSc poster winners from the 2015 Queen Square Symposium