

Chair's report – June 2018 SEEL Placement Panel

SEEL placement panel was held on 5th June 2018 at UCL. There was PEP representation on the panel from London, Eastern region and South East in addition to the chair. A year 3 TEP representative from UCL was also present.

Staff at UCL had collated all of the TEP preferences and these were available for all members of the panel. Panel started the process by looking at all preference forms where a medical condition or family circumstances had been indicated and placing these TEPs first. In total, there were 29 preference forms where this was indicated.

Following this, we considered the one year placements for the Southampton TEPs, using draft pre-panel information prepared by the programme director at Southampton. Following this, the panel looked at each pledged bursary in turn alongside all preferences made by TEPs for this placement. This allows the panel to make the 'best fit' for both placement and TEP that it is able to.

This year, 43% of TEPs were placed in their first preference placement, 40% in their second or third choice and 17% in their fourth or fifth preference. Following an initial 'first draft' placement of all TEPs, panel returned to reconsider all TEPs with a fourth or fifth preference placement allocated in the draft round. This enabled these to be minimised to the final number.

There were a small number of unfilled placements at the end of the placement process. Some of these matched preferences made by TEPs from the North, Mid and South West courses (NORMIDSW) and were made available to these TEPs.

Looking forward to next year, it would continue to be helpful for TEPs to consider the *impact* of any family and/or medical circumstance that affects their placement decisions. As a panel, we felt that it was challenging to consider the relative weighting that should be applied to this without knowing about the impact upon the individual TEP. In addition, TEPs should be mindful that they may be allocated a placement that is not in their top three choices and as such be required to travel to that service.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to all of the PEP representatives, the programme director of Southampton who attends in her capacity of 'bursary banker' and the TEP representative for their input to this panel. The paperwork and administration continues to be undertaken by the team at UCL and their excellent support to this panel is invaluable. The panel is a complex process and requires sustained concentration and careful consideration of a number of factors. The contribution of all members enabled a smooth matching process to take place.

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