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PRESS RELEASE:

The Dental Schools Council – a new strategy, a new name

The Dental Schools Council is the new name for the Council of Heads and Deans of Dental Schools.

The name change reflects the expertise at all levels within Dental Schools, not least the contribution of Heads and Deans but also by other dedicated staff members including admissions tutors, administrators and students themselves. The focus of the Dental Schools Council is the role of Dental Schools in promoting basic dental education, clinical dental training and dental research.

The Dental Schools Council is launching its website www.dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk. The website will have news updates, publications and will be developing a recruitment portal for clinical academic jobs.

The survey of Clinical Academic Staffing Levels in UK Dental Schools as at 31 July 2007 is published today. The report highlights that there are currently 460 FTE clinical staff in UK Dental Schools, including 90 FTE clinical teachers, indicating a return to total staffing levels similar with 2000 data, albeit with a significant increased student population and two new Dental Schools.

Professor Bill Saunders, Chair, said 'This is an exciting time for dental education, research and training, and the new strategy of the Council embraces the evolving clinical environment. The Dental Schools Council brings together academic and support staff across the four UK nations, enabling effective collaboration to improve and support quality in basic dental education, clinical dental training and dental research.'

Professor Bill Saunders

Chair

Dental Schools Council

Thursday 26 June 2008

Notes to editors:

1. For further information about the work of the Dental Schools Council please see www.dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk

2. The Dental Schools Council can be contacted at:

admin@dentalschoolscouncil.ac.uk

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