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## forthcoming events

Imperial College London and West London Mental Health NHS Trust are the organisers of **Current Issues in Assessment and Treatment**, a 1-day conference on personality disorder to be held at Regent's College, London on Wednesday, 11 October 2006. For a programme and booking form please contact the course administrator, Forensic Education Department, West London Mental Health NHS Trust (tel: 020 8354 8683, fax: 020 8354 8685, e-mail: forensic-education@wlmht.nhs.uk).

The Psychotherapy Department at Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust will be holding a 1-day seminar entitled **The Therapeutic Use of Metaphor, Story and Narrative**. The speaker will be Pat Williams and the event will take place on Friday, 13 October 2006 at the Postgraduate Centre, Milton Keynes Hospital. Stories help people bypass rigid views, thus enhancing flexibility of thought. By suspending ordinary constraints, they also help people reclaim optimism, reframe situations and fuel the imagination with the necessary energy to attain goals. To obtain a booking form please contact Jane Gurnett (e-mail: jane.gurnett@mkpct.nhs.uk; tel or fax: 01908 243134).

**The 4th Walsall MRCPsych OSCE Workshop** will be held on Saturday, 30 September 2006. This is a unique workshop, more than a mock examination, which aims to prepare candidates for

their MRCPsych part I examination. Candidates wishing to attend should contact Chris Witek, Secretary to Dr S.H. Jawed, the workshop organiser, at [chris.witek@walsll.nhs.uk](mailto:chris.witek@walsll.nhs.uk) or at Dorothy Pattison Hospital (tel: 01922 858095) for an application form. Places are limited and will be offered on a first-come first-served basis.

Applications are invited for Semester One of the **MRCPsych course** run by University College London (UCL). **Part I** takes place on Monday afternoons commencing 4 September 2006 and **part II** takes place on Tuesday afternoons commencing 5 September 2006. The course has been updated in keeping with the Royal College of Psychiatrists' syllabus and includes mock exams, theme-specific revision sessions and patient perspectives. For further information and an application form please contact Lydia M. Clinton, Course Administrator (tel: 020 7679 9475, e-mail: [mrcpsych@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:mrcpsych@ucl.ac.uk)).

The UCL Department of Mental Health Services invites applications for a 2-year, part-time **MSc in Psychiatric Research** course starting in October 2006. The MSc is intended for senior house officers and specialist registrars in psychiatry and provides practical training in the research skills relevant to psychiatry. All teachers on the course are very active as researchers, and students report that the course is enjoyable and highly relevant to developing the skills needed to be an

independent researcher. Our aim is to equip graduates to carry out research at doctoral level and apply for research posts in university departments. The first year consists of workshops and seminars on research skills, held on Monday afternoons. Topics include literature reviews and meta-analysis, design and selection of research instruments, epidemiology, evaluation of interventions, qualitative research methods, biological research and statistics. In the second year students undertake a research project under supervision and submit a dissertation. Early application is advisable as places are limited. For an application form and prospectus please contact Lydia M. Clinton, Course Administrator (tel: 020 7679 9475, e-mail: [mrcpsych@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:mrcpsych@ucl.ac.uk)). To discuss the course please contact the course tutor, Dr Sonia Johnson (e-mail: [s.johnson@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:s.johnson@ucl.ac.uk)).

Food For The Brain, a not-for-profit educational campaign, would like to announce the conference **Food For The Brain**, a 3-day event to take place in central London from Saturday, 30 September to Monday, 2 October 2006. This conference explores the vital link between food and the brain, mental health and behaviour, and looks at the latest research and treatment breakthroughs for a series of mental illnesses through nutritional intervention. For further information please e-mail [info@foodforthebrain.org](mailto:info@foodforthebrain.org) or visit the website at <http://www.foodforthebrain.org>.