

CAIPE Annual Trustees Report July 2008

The Trustees of CAIPE wish to preface this report with a reflection on the progress the organisation has made over the last two years. CAIPE is now in a very different place, most notably the move from rented offices in central London with paid staff, to the development of a virtual organisation, supported by a more effective website, managed and administered entirely by the CAIPE Board and Executive Group on a voluntary basis. This achievement, including the move to a more financially secure organisation is due entirely to the commitment and enthusiasm of Board members, CAIPE members and donations from friends of CAIPE. No core funding is received to provide a service to members; CAIPE relies on membership fees, workshop fees and consultancy.

Throughout this transition period CAIPE's services to members have been maintained through the development of a new website; networking and intellectual engagement; dissemination and publication of IPE research and evaluation work; providing consultancy and delivering workshops. These services include a range of opportunities to share ideas and suggest ways in which people from different organisations, professions and occupations in the community, education institutions and in the workplace can learn and work together; foster mutual respect; overcome barriers to collaboration and engender joint action to improve services and meet the needs of patients and clients.

Over the past year CAIPE Board members have presented at conferences in the UK, Europe and beyond, and delivered developmental workshops throughout the UK, Europe, Japan and Australia. Board members have also been involved in the development of Department of Health projects e.g. Creating an Interprofessional Workforce Framework and a Social Work pre-qualifying education project, and national consultations, e.g. Skills for Health and the Nursing and Midwifery Council.

The following annual report was prepared by the Chair, Prof Marilyn Hammick, for the CAIPE AGM on 10th July 2008 held at Birmingham City University.

Good morning and welcome everyone to the 2008 CAIPE AGM and to Birmingham City University. My thanks go to this University for hosting the meeting and to Susanne Lindquist and Julia Rout for their work on today's agenda.

I am pleased to present to you a report for the past year on CAIPE's development. CAIPE in July 2008 is a vibrant organisation, well respected and of great value to the international interprofessional and collaborative practice community. My report is shaped by the changes

that are taking place in the leadership of CAIPE. As any report demands and as I have been Chair in the past year, I shall reflect back on CAIPE'S progress and its many achievements in the last twelve months. Today also marks the end of my term of office on the Board and as Chair; it is time and timely that a Board with fresh faces and a new Chair take CAIPE forward. So I also plan to take this opportunity to speculate from the position I have had leading CAIPE for two years; to ask and offer some answers to two of the critical issues that are key to the organisation's future. Firstly, are my reflections on CAIPE's development since the AGM in Leicester, June 2007.

CAIPE –and I remind you that as with any organisation, the name is just a synonym for the people who work in and engage with that organisation- has much to celebrate in relation to its many achievements. We are a very different looking organisation than we were a year ago; in particular in terms of our outward face to others and our membership. The Board is to be congratulated for its decision to invest in a new website, from a new provider and deserves our thanks for all the hard work that this change entailed. Special thanks are due to Bryony Lamb who led this aspect of CAIPE's development and who, with Helena Low, continues to ensure its smooth running. Both these Board members have given huge amounts of personal time to make sure that CAIPE's main link with its members and potential members is up to date, useful and attractive. Thank you both.

The new website is vital now that CAIPE has achieved its aim to be a virtual organisation. This time last year we still had use of some part time office space at Health Sciences and Practice Subject Centre and my thanks go to Margaret Sills and her staff for accommodating CAIPE and so much of its office technology and paperwork during the transition to our present virtual state. Of course, years of paperwork are not easily sorted and the CAIPE archive now resides at Oxford Brookes University, so thank you, Ann Ewens for your help in organising the 'large cupboard' that now holds the archive. This is not simply a matter of papers being kept until we have volunteers to sort and shred; much that is there is a repository of valuable documents about interprofessional education. One task to be completed is to catalogue and permanently house the archive so that it can be used by interprofessional scholars in the future.

Some of those scholars will I hope be CAIPE members. Our mid-year changes in membership categories have done much to encourage participation in CAIPE's activities by everyone. Melissa Owens and Dawn Forman, with Clare Stewart, our volunteer administrator, have worked very hard to grow and develop the membership – thank you all very much. Our healthy level of corporate membership has played a large part in ensuring that CAIPE is in a stronger financial position than this time last year. There will be more on the financial situation late in the agenda so I will move on to other matters now.

The present three categories of membership mean that organisations and individuals together are CAIPE. For the first time, we have a membership category that encourages students to

take an active role in the life and work of the organisation. I will return to the students later. I want to now remind you of the importance of the link between CAIPE membership and the subscription to the Journal of Interprofessional Care. It is a sign of CAIPE's status that this link is the strongest of its kind between that Journal and other interprofessional organisations. It has been a pleasure working with colleagues from Informa to establish a joint system for ensuring that our members have access to this key Journal. There is mutual benefit in this type of arrangement: the Journal reaches a wide audience and, in turn, many in that audience become the authors, reviewers and eventually may be editorial members of the Journal.

Our partnership with Informa means that CAIPE's corporate members have an attractive deal of access to the Journal and the opportunity to be part of the Corporate Forum as part of their membership package. The Corporate Forum has great potential and you will hear more about the plans for this shortly.

One of CAIPE's continued successes this year has been the E-Bulletin. As you know this is now published quarterly, electronically and is freely available. With every new edition I and other Board members receive messages about its value. CAIPE owes a great debt of gratitude to Siobhán Ni Mhaolrúnaigh and Eileen Huish for their extraordinary work editing the Bulletin. I hope some of you in this audience today are ready to help out in similar roles when the time comes. Importantly, please all of you, do remember that good editors depend on good copy.

This year has seen the beginning of bringing students fully into the CAIPE community of interprofessional practice. In partnership with Birmingham City University, we have founded the UK Interprofessional Students Network – you will hear more about this in details after lunch. For now I would like to thank the University for the human and financial resources it has pledged for this initiative. In particular, thank you to Beccy Freeman and Nic Gee for their work in organising meetings and the student section of the website. With that kind of support it was possible to have a UK interprofessional student led workshop at All Together Better Health 4, in Stockholm last month. This was a great success, showing how the student voice is central and vital to developments in interprofessional learning and teaching. It is wonderful to have two students on the newly elected CAIPE Board – a true reflection of CAIPE as a post modern organisation that seeks to involve stakeholders from all constituencies.

Before I leave this look back at the past year I would like to remind you that CAIPE at aged 21 is the elder organisation of its kind internationally. One important step taken this year was an agreement with the Institute of Technology, Tralee (ITT), Ireland, to work with CAIPE to support an extension of UK CAIPE, namely CAIPE Ireland. I have had the pleasure of two visits to Tralee, meeting many education and practice staff who are enthusiastic about interprofessional education and collaborative practice. We can look forward to seeing and learning from interprofessional initiatives from Ireland in the future, many, I am sure, led by Siobhán Ni Mhaolrúnaigh and her colleagues. Similar regional organisations are either

established or being thought about elsewhere and the International organisation, InterEd, will be debating its relationship to all these in the coming year. For those of you thinking about places to present your work in the future, note that All Together Better Health 5 is in Sydney in May 2010.

Those reflections have, I hope, given you a picture of CAIPE in its context for the last year. All those successes provide a firm foundation for the future. It is to the future that I would like to now turn; to briefly comment on what is needed from and by a UK interprofessional organisation or community of practice, and why this is important. My focus is on just two aspects; on scholarship and funding, so what I have to say is directed at both the intellectual and the practical. These are not the only aspects of the future that the new Board might turn their attention to: they are simply two that I feel able, and have time, to comment on today.

My preface is that I have no doubt of the need for an interprofessional community of practice. In other words something that creates and supports opportunities for debate and discourse in the topic, for learning about what others are doing, learning from them (after all no-one has time to reinvent wheels) and learning with each other to grow and take forward these collective *knowledges* about interprofessional education and collaborative practice. Presently, some of this work is being done through the medium of the ESRC funded seminars on evolving theory in interprofessional education and, of course, CAIPE members are part of that. Similarly, several CAIPE members are part of the WHO Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Study Group – an important initiative for the international communities. It links developed and developing countries together to learn all together and to work together to achieve WHO Millennium Development Goals.

This type of work depends on engaged community of interprofessional education and service delivery practitioners and scholars; often, of course, these are one in the same person. Their experiences and expertise are vital to the interprofessional discourse, to the development of theory and to our increasing understanding of the practice of being interprofessional and being a collaborative practitioner. CAIPE has a role, more than that, it has a responsibility, to encourage the novice scholars, to ensure opportunities for their work to be in the public domain and for contributions to evidence informed decision making for practice and policy to be transferred and put to use by practitioners and policy makers.

I was struck by the wealth of well reported, robust UK studies on posters at the All Together Better Health conference, 2008, and by the valuable findings they reported. In the UK we are no longer describing what we do on this topic, many, many colleagues are reporting research and evaluation studies with key contributions to the evidence needed to shape learning and teaching practice and policy in the future. Much of that work will be or is already published; it is worthy of being presented in keynote lectures and to being shared in seminars and workshops. CAIPE has a role in ensuring that this new generation of knowledge bearers is heard and acknowledged.

Much of the work I am thinking of in this respect also has findings that could be shared more widely than the usual disciplines and professions we are concerned with through CAIPE. Interprofessional education and collaborative practice is not only of importance in health and social care: it extends further to many other areas and services. I am not suggesting here that CAIPE has the answers for everyone; it is simply that our community is wider than, perhaps, we have previously acknowledged. We must continue to look at diverse and different arenas to inform our thinking on interprofessional education and collaborative practice and to also grow our influence on others. It is about learning together, about opening up and looking over our boundaries; taking an outward approach and circulating in a wider community of practice. I am suggesting that there is some truth about strength in numbers; and that the larger the membership base the greater the chance of sustainability and capacity for development. I would encourage the new Board to consider how this can be achieved, to look for ways that CAIPE can work with others for mutual benefit.

This brings me to my second and much more practical point: funding. You are all aware that CAIPE is a membership charity, presently funded only by member's fees. It is dependant upon the voluntary work of its Board, Treasurer and Administrator to carry out its key functions. Growth in membership is related to the capacity to sustain the services that fees pay for; capacity is related to willingness and time to provide services. This year the Board has taken a long hard look at this equation and sought to find the potential for strengthening all its aspects. The work to find the optimal place for CAIPE to continue its development continues. This probably does not need saying but CAIPE's members need to appreciate the time and energy Board members, and particularly the CAIPE leadership will need to bring this to a satisfactory conclusion. I know they have your support in this work and the new Board has my very best wishes as it takes CAIPE towards this next stage.

One insight that may assist their decision making has become very concrete in my mind as my two years as CAIPE Chair ends. Increasingly, interprofessional education, i.e. that arrangement of learning activities that enables us to learn about each other, from each other and to generate knowledge with each other (and please note my careful order of those phrases), increasingly, this sort of education is recognised as a means. As a means of learning to achieve the end, which is, simply put, working better together. It is difficult to make education appealing; even more difficult to ask for money for education for learners who have or are already appear to receive a good proportion of the public purse for their education. It is less difficult to construct an appealing argument for resources to support work to improve publicly funded human services. I would argue that this is a fruitful direction and one that needs the highest profile.

Of course, the appeal of anything is closely related to audience. Those of you here today know the strengths of the connections between interprofessional learning and service delivery enhancement. Project funders, statutory service budget holders find they often cannot see these. This is despite that fact that the evidence is growing and in places it has become or is

becoming normative practice to support learning together as a way of assisting practitioners and agencies to work better together. It may be time for CAIPE to shift the lens away from education towards applications to practice and service delivery in a very public way. It certainly is time to look for funding to provide security for some of CAIPE's key functions. Possibly the two are linked?

So there are my two speculations. Firstly, that CAIPE should and must encourage scholarship amongst its members so that all UK work in interprofessional education and collaborative practice is recognised nationally and internationally. I believe that unique amongst our global colleagues we have a history of intellectual engagement with the topic: it is our responsibility to nurture the novices and ensure that history continues anew.

Secondly, CAIPE, and that includes me, all of you and all student members, individual members and staff working for corporate members, needs fiscal security. That may only be achieved by a d'avant-garde approach to the future, one that includes partnership and a re-tuning of its key characteristics; an appropriate task for an organisation that has now *come of age*.

My final task today is to say thank you and au revoir. Thank you to all of you for your support during my time as Chair, and especially thank you to the CAIPE Board. It truly has been a working together experience. I could not have done it without you, neither would I have enjoyed it half as much. As always it is people who make any organisation and I have had the privilege of leading a Board of wonderful people. Some have retired in the past two years, some remain on the new Board: to you all my thanks.

It can be invidious at a time like to single people out but I cannot leave today without acknowledging Hugh Barr, who as CAIPE President has been such a very good friend and advisor to me, Clare Stewart, whose efficiency and organisational skills still amaze me and Bryony Lamb and Dawn Forman, who between them have provided me with everything and more that Vice Chairs should provide. When you see the smooth running organisation that is the outside of CAIPE do remember that it is people like Bryony and Dawn who supply and support the ideology, do the hard work and step in when no-one else is around to do what needs to be done. Thank you both very much.

My very best wishes to the new Chair, those on the executive group and new Board as you take CAIPE from strength into strength in the future.

Marilyn Hammick

Chair 2006-2008

