



**The Bowen Forum
Annual General Meeting**
16th January 2010 at 2pm

The Institute of Education
20 Bedford Way
London WC1H 0AL
www.ioe.ac.uk

Chairman's Annual Report

The last few months of 2009 saw exceptional activity for the Bowen Forum as it pressed forward to complete the regulatory submission for the Complementary and Natural Healthcare Council (CNHC).

It now seems a long time since the House of Lords' recommendation in 2000¹ and the establishment of the Federal Working Group to enable the CNHC in 2009 to open to applications for registrants.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the Prince's Foundation for Integrated Health who during recent years has funded this important work for the Department of Health. With the submission of the regulatory framework for UK Bowen Therapy, this period of transition ends and a new era commences with the appointment of the four Professional Specific Board members.

These appointments subject to formal ratification by the CNHC follow an advertising and interview process which I am delighted to say generated a lot of interest among professional colleagues. The work of the PSB has now started with a meeting with the CNHC in mid November 2009 and as your professional representatives I hope you will get to know them:

- Alistair Rattray
- Angela Cannon
- Gillie La Haye
- Sarena Baxter

The PSB will provide essential feedback and regular updating on the applications to the CNHC, communicated through the professional associations and other electronic means in early 2010.

Arising from these posts, the Bowen Forum will now become the Bowen Professional Forum, working closely with BTER, BAUK and PSB. The work of the new Forum will commence on January 1st 2010 and we would all welcome any colleagues who might wish to be involved. I hope those who may be interested will attend the AGM on 16th January 2010.

The Bowen Forum owes much to the two associations BAUK and BTER who have helped with grant funding during the regulatory submissions. In particular they have helped fund lay members amongst which number I include myself as Lay Chair. Angela Cannon and John Francis as Chairpersons representing their members, continue to have the work of the Forum much in mind.

Most importantly the Forum has been able to enlist the considerable skills of Maureen O'Mara who has helped with her extensive experience of law and legislation relevant to the development of the National Occupational Standard (NOS), the Core Curriculum, compliance and governance.

Similarly a mainstay of the Forum and latterly the Secretary is Lynden Lane whose work for the Forum as a Lay Member has been immeasurable. Her loyalty, patience and perseverance at a time when the professional and governance work load might appear overwhelming, was critical to completing the task during the final three months in mid 2009.

The period of this report covers the financial years 2008 and 2009 during which time my predecessor Jenny Gordon led the organisation as Lay Chair, appointed by the Prince's Foundation for Integrated Health. The Forum is indebted to her for her work over several years and my recent appointment in July 2009 has now enabled the Forum to complete the regulatory submissions in due time, by October 2009.

The Annual Accounts for both years 2008 and 2009 are referred to in the Agenda.

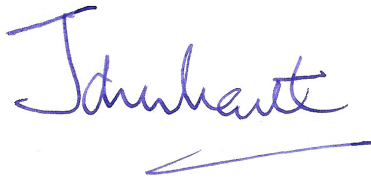
The Balance Sheet for 2008 shows a cash balance of £9,813 and cash reserves remain positive at £5,621 (31.12.09) in 2009 financial statements. As a 'not for profit' organisation, these balances are sufficient to enable the work of the Forum to continue as needed. The Funding by the Prince's Foundation for Integrated Health ended in March 2009. Ian Cambray Smith on behalf of the Foundation has provided expert guidance for the Forum and has always been available to offer his wisdom and experience in voluntary self regulation.

Without the many contributors who work largely unpaid with the Forum, critical matters could not move forward especially in education and CPD. Peter Briant, whose work in finance has created a solid base for the Forum and Richard Baverstock, who has enabled through the Website the communications medium for colleagues to obtain news and information.

I cannot thank everyone personally but I know how much each and every Bowen Forum Member has contributed, past and present. Your time, experience and guidance representing your member colleagues have been invaluable. Thank you to you all.

As the new Council of the CNHC continues its work I hope all of you will benefit and be rewarded by the challenge which this process offers. The professional opportunities for over 1,000 Bowen Therapists are there for all who wish to participate and I hope we can look forward to some new faces in 2010 to contribute to the important work of the Forum.

I wish you and all your colleagues good luck in this important work in 2010.



John Ogdon Lant
Chairman

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1. House of Lords. 2000. *Select Committee on Science and Technology. Six Report. Complementary and Alternative Medicine.* <http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/ld199900/ldselect/ldsctech/123/12302.htm>

Cambridge
16 December 2009