

Institution: <b>University of South Wales</b>
Unit of Assessment: <b>UoA A3</b>
<p><b>a. Overview:</b></p> <p>The University of South Wales (USW) was formed in April 2013 following the merger of the University of Glamorgan and the University of Wales Newport. As one of the largest universities in Wales, USW offers a broad base of subjects whilst maintaining a strong focus on the STEM disciplines.</p> <p>Following the excellent results in RAE2008 the University of Glamorgan joined with the four other research intensive/active universities in Wales to form a strategic alliance known as the St David's Day Group. Continued membership ensures that our researchers collaborate in initiatives with other institutions in Wales and beyond.</p> <p><b>Context:</b> The Health Professions, Dentistry, Nursing and Pharmacy UoA A3 provides the most appropriate framework for the broad perspective of health and social care research conducted within the <b>Centre for Research &amp; Innovation in Care Sciences (CRICS)</b> and builds on the strategy evolving from our submission to the Nursing UoA in RAE 2001 and 2008. CRICS has an over-arching focus on the promotion and maintenance of health and social well-being. Its research is interdisciplinary and considers both the application and implication of new knowledge for health and social care practice, policy and professional education. Research programmes have a strong focus on especially vulnerable groups, such as older people, people with learning disabilities and people with long term (and inherited) conditions. It aims to address the global agenda and European issues as well as priorities of the UK and Welsh Government. These include public participation in health care; policy development; organisation and delivery of services and evaluation of health care services; the prevention and management of enduring conditions and the promotion and maintenance of healthy living. (See <a href="http://crics.research.southwales.ac.uk/">http://crics.research.southwales.ac.uk/</a>)</p> <p><b>CRICS</b> (led by Kirk) is grouped into two main clusters although there is collaboration across both:</p> <p><b>Cluster 1. Health policy, evaluation &amp; engagement (HPEE):</b>        This cluster incorporates the Genomics Policy Unit (GPU) and the Health Economics &amp; Policy Research Unit (HEPRU).</p> <p><b>Cluster 2. Transforming care (TC):</b>        Research in this cluster takes qualitative approaches to understanding the individual/patient experience in order to transform care. Other programmes include innovation in education, practice and technology, along with synthesis of the evidence base.</p> <p>In line with USW's REF strategy, this submission is selective, focussing on work we believe to be of international quality. It is underpinned by other high quality research being conducted within CRICS, characterised by the enthusiasm and commitment of all researchers to 'making a difference' with their work.</p>
<p><b>b. Research strategy:</b></p> <p>As part of its commitment to sustaining and enhancing a thriving research culture, the implementation of the University Research Strategy 2009-2014 has reinforced the continuing commitment to research and provided a platform to support the research agenda. Under the direction of the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Student Experience), the Central Research Office provides core support on all research-related matters, including proactive support with grant applications, the organisation of staff and student skills development and research student administration. The research strategy of the University was further strengthened by the introduction of a 'University Research Investment Scheme' (2007 onwards) offering approximately £400,000 pa through a number of calls addressing priority areas. CRICS has benefitted from this by over £185,000, which has helped support 14 developing programmes of research. The University has also invested in PhD studentships to foster developing areas of research and support new research staff. The new Postgraduate Centre, launched in 2011, aims to enhance the sense of community amongst postgraduate researchers by providing an additional social learning space and a number of research seminars and training events over each academic year.</p> <p>CRICS' research strategy 2009-2014 is informed by its excellent performance in RAE2008 and builds on the University Research Strategy. The strategy comprises six inter-related and synergistic strategic themes:</p>

**1. Research quality, sustainability and distinctiveness** by focusing on areas of international excellence

**2. Demonstrating a difference** through interdisciplinary collaboration, working with stakeholder communities to gauge their needs and applying new knowledge through innovation in practice and policy to bring about change

**3. Research innovation and enterprise** by promoting a culture of looking beyond the immediate outcomes of research through traditional approaches and embracing the translational trajectory to include knowledge transfer, enterprise and consultancy

**4. Research engaged culture** through building capacity and capability, encouraging leading edge scholarship and demonstrating the links between teaching and research across the continuum from undergraduate to post-doctoral

**5. Attracting and preparing well-rounded postgraduate researchers fit for future careers** through a training programme that sustains and raises standards, providing a broad portfolio of skills to best equip research students in their onward chosen career, underpinned by a positive student experience

**6. Supporting good research practice** through a professionally-led management and administrative infrastructure, within the good research framework.

The success of CRICS' strategy is reflected in the fact that the unit has returned on average £814,000 p.a. over the REF period, an increase of over 50% when compared with the average of £516,000 p.a. in RAE 2008, with 254 bids being submitted, 126 successful (see section d); CRICS members published 279 peer-reviewed articles, 39 reports to external bodies and 65 'other' outputs (strategic theme 1 above). We established a Research Advisory Group with Involving People (the lay arm of NISCHR CRC) (theme 2), secured 6 KESS studentships and 18 Strategic Insight Programme (SIP) places (theme 3). PhD completions have increased by two-thirds since 2008 and we secured further funding to continue leading the all Wales Research Capacity Building Collaboration (RCBC) to 2014 (themes 4 & 5).

The strategic themes listed above will continue to be important in our strategy to 2018, when we will continue to focus research in selected fields. Revised key strategic themes will include:

- Continuing to build research capacity across the career pathway to foster a vibrant research community, recruiting more PhD students and developing postdoctoral staff, nurturing early career researchers to feel confident in seeking high quality income, through a dedicated postdoctoral training scheme, establishing a formal mentoring scheme and annual postdoctoral fellowships.
- Driving sustainability through ambitious pursuit of funding, including sources we have not traditionally sought, and via the Horizon 2020 programme.
- Maximising impact from the outset (informed by RCUK's 'Pathways to impact'), publishing in high quality peer-reviewed journals, using networks to boost citations, disseminating more widely in accessible formats and being innovative in the use of new social media.

We also plan to seize the opportunities afforded through strategic health alliances to develop a collaborative approach whereby CRICS researchers can bring their expertise to address challenges identified with NHS partners. We plan to promote more of a 'crowd science' approach, working with our commercial, health and multidisciplinary academic partners to generate ideas and foster innovation for effective translation of research outcomes.

#### **Significant changes to environment:**

During 2013, as well as merging with University of Wales, Newport, the University established five new Research Institutes, each led by a Research Institute Director. These Institutes are independent of Faculty structures and are a mechanism for enabling researchers across the University to conduct their research with appropriate support so that the University may benefit from the resultant research outputs. It is anticipated that Research Institutes will have a positive impact on the focus, sustainability, research excellence and reputation of research at USW.

#### **c. People, including: Staffing strategy and staff development:**

The University has been awarded the HR Excellence in Research Award by the European Commission for our work to implement the Concordat to Support the Career Development of Researchers. This award demonstrates the University's commitment to meeting the needs of

researchers and improving opportunities for them in terms of development and future careers. For example, as well as providing internal development opportunities, we work closely with a network of other HEIs in our Vitae region to provide researchers with access to further opportunities to develop their skills, such as the Effective Researcher, Grad Schools, Leadership In Action and Welsh Crucible (a collaborative initiative funded by HEFCW and the St David's Day Group). These events help researchers form interdisciplinary networks outside of their own HEIs, and be responsive to innovative research requirements. Welsh Crucible each year enables 30 promising researchers, following a highly competitive process, to explore and expand their potential through a series of three intensive, two-day residential workshops.

Although over the REF period, we have lost academic staff through efficiency gains, who might have been returned, staff retention otherwise remains high and we strive to foster a vibrant community that recognises staff input and nurtures early career researchers. The University and Faculty actively support staff to maximise the impact of their research through strategic and practical approaches. At strategic level, the University has formed alliances with other research active universities across Wales to promote collaboration, networking and creativity both within and outside Wales. In CRICS, training needs are identified at appraisal and mentorship is also offered. Practical support comes from allocation of time for research within the workload, along with additional study or sabbatical leave, through competitive funding initiatives and support in maintaining websites and social media sites. Two CRICS researchers have been successful in obtaining a place at Welsh Crucible, highlighting the high level of achievement in their field.

Faculty partnerships with external organisations are proving invaluable in alerting staff to opportunities in relation to collaboration, funding and knowledge exchange, as well as raising awareness about and responding to the research needs of these organisations. CRICS has a longstanding relationship with senior NHS clinicians, including Consultant Nurses/Midwives and medical Consultants who are linked to CRICS via visiting fellowships and chairs. For example our links with the Aneurin Bevan Health Board (ABHB) include Professor Sue Bale (expert in wound care) and Dr Jackie Austin (Consultant Nurse in cardiac care). A recent strategic joint appointment was Professor David Pontin (Aneurin Bevan Chair of Community Health), who provides an important link between ABHB and the Faculty.

CRICS is committed to collaborating with NHS clinicians to conduct research that is relevant, timely, of clinical importance and can inform practice and policy. Recent collaborations include patient diaries in critical care (**Gill** with ABHB), research into urinary incontinence (**Shaw** with ABHB) as well as work on Ketamine Bladder syndrome (**Gill, Shaw** and ABHB) and a Strategic Insight Programme award with ABHB (**Gill**). In collaboration with four partner trusts, CRICS invested RAE2001 income in four successful training posts through a Shared Opportunities in Research Training Scheme. This enabled clinicians to study for a part time PhD through a bursary while remaining in part time clinical employment. All four candidates successfully obtained their PhDs and there are plans to invest further in this scheme. We have recently established a formal partnership with Cwm Taf Health Board and Cardiff University as members of Cwm Taf University Health Board. Future plans include similar collaborative links with other local NHS trusts to share research expertise and infrastructure support. CRICS is also a member of the Health Services Research Network, so researchers can benefit from access to this UK-wide forum.

The clusters in CRICS work collaboratively; for example, with common interests in evaluating care and public health, **Cohen** (HPEE) and Kenkre (TC) collaborated on a NIHR Public Health project (£56,200) to evaluate an aspect of the Family Nurse Partnership programme. Expertise is also pooled in providing appropriate multi-disciplinary supervision teams for research students and all CRICS staff benefit from being able to call on the range of specific methodological expertise within the Centre. However, each cluster has particular areas of focus as set out below:

#### **Cluster 1: Health Policy, Evaluation & Engagement**

The GPU (Genomics Policy Unit) has been researching the impact of new genetic technologies on health and social care since 1996. One strand of enquiry on the public understanding of genetics/genomics (**Iredale**) takes innovative approaches to engaging hard-to-reach groups. The second strand (**Kirk, Tonkin**) explores health professional education and competency, with **Kirk** directing the nursing programme of the NHS National Genetics Education and Development Centre (Birmingham Women's NHS Foundation Trust) from 2004 to 2012. The GPU has close

links with the Wales Gene Park, Techniquet, the All Wales Medical Genetics Service, Plymouth University and Genetic Alliance UK. Its close international links include the International Society of Nursing in Genetics (ISONG) and National Institutes of Health, USA.

HEPRU (Health Economics & Policy Research Unit) undertakes research across a wide range of health services and health policy issues and provides expert analysis of the formulation and implementation of health policy. It has particular expertise in running economic evaluations alongside clinical trials, health economic decision modelling, statistical methods in health economics, preference elicitation techniques and mixed methods questionnaire pre-testing techniques. The Unit has many disciplinary links (**Cohen, Alam**) with local, national and international economics and health economics organisations and has a long track record of undertaking collaborative research in particular with the Department of Primary Care and Public Health at Cardiff University and the Centre for Health Improvement and Research at Swansea University. The Unit has formal links with a number of health service and government organisations including the Welsh Government, the Welsh Local Government Association, the Wales Institute of Medical Genetics and the Public Health Laboratory Services (Wales).

Another strand in this cluster focuses on health and social care policy research, working closely with EU, UK and Welsh Government over health and social care policy initiatives and strategy. This work, usually disseminated in the format of reports, often has a national focus though also of international relevance, with particular relevance for other small nations.

Researchers in this cluster have a common interest in evaluating the impact of new service developments in the NHS. One recently completed project led by the group and in collaboration with Dr Andrea Edwards (All Wales Medical Genetics Service), was a 3-year evaluation of a UK-wide genetics service development initiative (British Heart Foundation, £109,800).

### Cluster 2: Transforming Care

One strand of enquiry in this cluster incorporates research into enduring health needs and enjoys links with local NHS Trusts, Primary care, health promotion, community health and dentistry as well as other HEIs in Wales and the UK. **Gill** has close links with NHS Blood and Transplant Bristol, and Southmead Hospital (Bristol) Regional Renal Transplant Unit. **Shaw's** main links are with Cardiff University and ABHB, whilst **Shaw** and **Lipp** have collaborated with the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in Aalborg, Denmark (REF 2, output 1, Lipp). **Willock's** work with paediatric pressure sores has worldwide influence as well as influence upon local and UK wide healthcare providers.

Another strand works with those who have learning disabilities. Its recent groundbreaking work has included a number of outputs about abuse, with the research initiated, performed and disseminated by co-workers who are all people with learning disabilities. This has meant employing and training them as co-workers culminating in a co-authored paper published in an academic journal and presenting their findings to Welsh Government. They are now being supported to present their work as invited speakers at an international conference.

The strand led by **Weeks** focuses on education and aims to develop a world-class health professional education research and practice development facility that acts as a national and international hub for innovation in this field. Its translational research focuses on health care practice settings and austere health need and virtual and simulated clinical practice environments. A key aspect of the international collaborative translational research activity has been focused within the healthcare numeracy domain (**Weeks**). His work on medication dosage calculation error provides the focus for one of our REF Impact case studies.

The Faculty is in the process of embedding research links with local Health Boards including the recently created Cwm Taf University Health Board. We plan to encourage the creation of joint appointments in this area in the near future building on our current portfolio of Category C staff. Research staff have been involved in secondments over the REF period with agencies such as: Genetics Alliance (UK); Tenovus; Aneurin Bevan Health Board (Gwent); NHS Genetics Education Development Centre; NISCHR CRC and the Wales School of Primary Care Research with future secondments under negotiation. Current secondments include **Iredale** (Tenovus) and Dr Saltus (Aneurin Bevan Health Board). **Gill** has been awarded a Tenovus secondment to commence November 2013 along with a Strategic Insight Partnership (SIP) to start about the same time. This is the 18<sup>th</sup> SIP awarded to CRICS and more applications to the programme are planned.

Category C staff are appointed in strategically relevant areas of teaching and research to which they contribute; these Visiting Professors and Fellows have a 'light touch' appraisal every year with a Head of School or nominated link person. Visiting Professors also contribute to regular Professoriate meetings. We encourage international research links through initiatives such as our International Visiting Fellowships which have hosted visiting academic staff from the USA (National Cancer Institute, NIH) and Australia (Victoria University).

**Research students:** CRICS has 37 students (from the UK, EU, Switzerland and North America) currently registered for research degrees, 13 of whom are externally funded. To build capacity and promote research excellence, all PhDs are aligned to the two thematic clusters within CRICS. Students have access to one of two dedicated research student offices that can support up to 15 people at any one time. Each office has individual workstations with computing, printing and secure storage facilities. A dedicated video-conferencing office supports supervision for some international students. All students have access to and support from the Postgraduate Research Centre. PhD completions in CRICS have increased by two-thirds on 2008 figures, from 14 to 24. There have also been 7 MPhil completions since 2008. There is a vibrant research student community and students from all disciplines meet regularly to share ideas, present their research and learn. To promote integration and peer-support, students also have access to online support, including training programmes. The quality of the student experience is of particular importance and the Faculty has a Research Student Coordinator who takes responsibility for this and for upholding QAA guidelines.

Some PhD students are externally funded through schemes such as KESS (Knowledge Economy Skills Scholarships, n=6) where collaborative funding is provided through the European Social Fund and co-sponsored by local businesses, RCBCWales (n=7, in a combination of Post-doctoral, PhD, MRes and First into Research awards) and the cancer charity Tenovus (n=1). In the 2013-14 academic year, we have invested in a full time, funded PhD studentship in the field of genomics via the University's Centenary Scholarship scheme. Students benefit in particular from being able to draw on expertise across CRICS for their supervision teams and for further advice. Some supervision teams comprise external experts from other institutions in the UK and overseas (e.g. Malta and the USA).

CRICS offers a variety of research training and support programmes that are overseen by the Research Training Coordinator. This includes a 60 credit M-level Post Graduate Certificate in Research, which is designed to develop methodological expertise and promote employability skills. The Faculty has a Research Student Voice Representative, who has input to strategic committees at faculty and university level. CRICS students also have access to Vitae training events (USW is part of the South West Vitae group) and attend training programmes offered through the Postgraduate Research Centre, such as research student presentation days. Undergraduate students can apply for short funded internships during summer vacations to gain experience of working with researchers. To promote sustainability, CRICS operates a strategic doctoral recruitment programme, which includes targeting key final year nursing and midwifery undergraduates and postgraduate students in health and social care. In addition we funded a summer intern in 2012 and intend to continue this provision. We also provided unfunded internships.

Further significant developments have been made available in relation to research training and support for research students in order to enhance capability and employability. For example, regular research student forums, with student presentations and invited guest speakers, aimed at developing transferable employability skills (over and above research methods training). Sessions include, applying for grant funding, conference presentation skills and dealing with the media. CRICS also organises an annual public, recorded mock PhD viva, where students from across the university are invited to attend a 'well managed' and 'badly managed' viva in order to help demystify the doctoral viva process. Mock viva seminars are also hosted online, and/or available in DVD format via the library, after the event, for training and educational purposes, particularly for those not permanently based in the UK : <http://crics.research.southwales.ac.uk/phd-viva/>

CRICS leads and is grantholder for the all Wales collaboration of six Welsh universities who can bid for peer reviewed funding for postdoctoral, PhD fellowships, MRes and early introductions to research from a funding pool dedicated to building research capacity in Nursing and Allied Health

## Environment template (REF5)

Professions. (RCBCWales £3.1 million from Welsh Government/ HEFCW/ NISCHR). Tenovus also funds a student under this umbrella. This initiative has established a Community of Scholars (CoS) based on the successful Academy of Medical Sciences mode. It provides an enhanced training programme to shape our future research leaders. The CoS provides mentorship, support, networking opportunities and regular masterclass seminars in research methods and leadership. Scholars meet bi-monthly with all training coordinated by the RCBCWales academic facilitator.

**d. Income, infrastructure and facilities:**

Over the census period CRICS has spent £4.08 million on an ongoing portfolio of over 70 peer reviewed externally funded research projects. This signifies a 57% increase in annual average income from that recorded in RAE 2008 (£3.35 million) and fulfils one of CRICS strategic objectives. The current portfolio reflects our growing confidence with fewer awards but which are of larger funding in comparison with RAE 2008. One third of our income was awarded from “specific bodies that fund health research” (£1.603 million) and another third from UK central bodies, local authorities, health and hospitals (£1.6 million); £683,000 was awarded by peer reviewed awards from UK based charities. We are also growing our portfolio of collaborative funding for which we are the PI. In addition to ‘spend’ over the period and up to the current census date, CRICS has been successful in attracting new funding of £4.5 million including involvement in collaborations in excess of £10 million.

Prestigious income over the period includes **Shaw’s** Department of Health (Health Technology Assessment) funding to study weight loss management (£116,700), Northway’s Big Lottery Funding (£204,000). **Cohen’s** numerous NIHR grants total over £300,000, with MRC income of over £74,000. Other funding successes to note include the Department of Health, Wellcome Trust, NISCHR, A4B and British Heart Foundation, Research Councils (MRC and AHRC). Recent successes (from 2012-13) include Saltus (TC), AHRC (£188,700), Jenkins (TC), NISCHR (£132,500k) and Todd (TC), Baily Thomas (£97,800).

**Infrastructure:** Our strong research infrastructure was noted in RAE 2008; over the past ten years CRICS has been supported by a Faculty Research Office funded by a mix of sources, including investment of RAE QR income, external grant income and overheads. This comprises a pool of Research Assistants supporting a variety of research methods and processes, including sourcing funding and advising on the application process, the provision of statistics advice, ethics/ governance advice as well as admin and technical support. Our research support staff, funded by QR, have been working towards sustainability from external funding and have brought in over £100,000 over the REF period. Some of our QR funding has been spent on full time, part time and fees only PhD studentships. We have also invested in postdoctoral research training and Research ‘Fayres’ to raise awareness of our research as well as providing a forum for networking and interaction. The positive and supportive research culture is further encouraged through two on-going seminar programmes providing the opportunity for the exchange of ideas, open to all staff and research students. The IQD (Ideas, Questions, Design) series is especially popular.

**Facilities:** Staff have close links with the University’s Research Office, Commercial Services Office (CSO) and International Office, and a number of projects have been translated into viable products and commercial services. At Faculty level, we have a state-of-the-art Clinical Simulation Centre with its excellent facilities for research. Digital recording and transcribing equipment is high specification, further enhanced by electronic voting equipment with capacity for 200 and for which technical support is available.

We are keen to promote the University and Faculty Standard Operating Procedures and have initiated a set of regularly updated information leaflets on all areas of research governance/ good research practice that are made available to staff on induction and published on the Faculty Intranet. Our Faculty Ethics Champion chairs the Faculty Ethics Committee (established in 1999) which considers ethics/governance issues including research projects. We also encourage a similar ethical approach in our growing portfolio of commercialisation and enterprise initiatives. Three research staff are members of external R&D committees (**Dolan, Kirk and Lipp**). In recognition of the importance of high quality research funding applications and publications, we provide a non-compulsory peer review panel of experienced researchers to provide feedback and mentoring for those considering applying for funding or writing for publication. CRICS also provides expert advice on writing lay summaries by a staff member (Yeomans) who is a PPI representative

on the NISCHR Health Funding Panel.

**e. Collaboration or contribution to the discipline or research base:**

All staff returned to REF are involved in peer reviewing journal articles and grant proposals for funding bodies such as Research Councils, Wellcome Trust and NISCHR. The unit also makes a notable contribution to policy and strategy in health research and wellbeing. Kenkre is Director of the Wales School for Primary Care Research, driving the community nursing research strategy for Wales, and was a member of the UKCRC nursing sub-committee. CRICS has three Royal College of Nursing Fellows (Northway, Mead and **Kirk**). Northway is Chair of RCN Research Society Steering Committee and Chair of the Ministerial Advisory Group for learning disability nursing strategy. Longley is a Secretary of State appointee to Consumer Focus Wales and Specialist Advisor to the House of Commons Welsh Affairs Select Committee. He and Mead are members of the Bevan Commission.

**Cluster 1: Health Policy, Evaluation & Engagement**

**Iredale** is a Board member of the European Institute of Women's Health. Her team's Genetics Rap video was voted 'Judges' Choice in The Scientist's 2010 Labby Multimedia awards. It has attracted over 76,000 views on You Tube. **Kirk** is President of the International Society of Nurses in Genetics and only the second non-US nurse to be elected to this office over the organisation's 25 year history. **Kirk** and Tonkin are the recipients of the 2013 Sigma Theta Tau International Award of the Best of *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* – Clinical Scholarship Award, for their paper with co-authors from the US (NIH) and Japan (Kirk et al 2011, REF2 output 2).

**Alam and Cohen** are both members of the Health Economists Study Group UK and the Welsh Health Economists Group. Dr Alam is a member of the New Medicines Group of the All Wales Therapeutics and Toxicology Centre and the Society for Medical Decision Making. **Cohen** is an executive member of the Wales Gene Park management team, the All Wales Medicines Strategy group, the Scientific Committee of the Medical Research Council, National Prevention Research Initiative, and on the editorial board of 'Health and Social Care in the Community'. He is also a member of the NICE Collaborating Centre for Cancer. Over the census period he was a member of the Allocations Panel, ESRC/MRC/NIHR Early Career Postdoctoral Fellowships in Economics of Health and Vice Chair of the NIHR Service Delivery and Organisation National R&D Panel. Since 2006, HEPRU has been the lead institution and grantholder (**Cohen**) in collaboration with Swansea and Bangor Universities to provide a health economic support service to the health and social care community in Wales (WHESS). The current five year grant (£1.3 million) runs to March 2015.

**Cluster 2: Transforming Care**

**Gill** is a Senior Research Fellow and a former recipient of the RCN's Marjorie Simpson New Researcher Award. His collaborative links include: ABHB (skin cancer in renal transplant patients); Ketamine Bladder syndrome study (ABHB and Drug Aid Cymru). **Lipp** is a member of the Health Technology Assessment Committee (NICE) and peer reviewer for HTA and SDO, Department of Health. She is also a member of the South Wales NHS Research Ethics Committee. **Shaw's** collaborative links include the University of Leicester and Arquitecto Marcide Hospital, Spain (Obstetric factors and urinary symptoms) and a recent international grant proposal collaboration with the University of Alberta and University of Rochester, New York. **Willock** is a member of the NICE Clinical Guideline Development Group for prevention and management of pressure ulcers and a Board Member of the International Society for Paediatric Woundcare. **Weeks** is in an international partnership (*Authentic World Ltd*) with USA based CAE Healthcare, marketing safeMedicate® in six countries across four continents with over 35,500 registered users in more than 65 universities.

**Lay involvement:** CRICS has long been committed to user/ lay involvement in research at all levels as noted in RAE 2008. Examples include UDID's involvement of people with learning disabilities in teaching and researching. CRICS has a strong relationship with Involving People including the appointment of a Research Advisory Group comprising four lay people to work with research leaders in the strategic planning of research in CRICS. This group was fully involved in the 2012 Research 'Fayre' where they produced and presented a poster. CRICS also offers expert assistance to researchers in the writing of lay summaries, the production of lay friendly reports and easy read information sheets.