

**Neuropsychology International Fellowship 2012- 2013 by subcommittee of the BPS Division of
Neuropsychology and the British Neuropsychological Society**

**Report by Ms. Ammu Lukose, PhD scholar, Multimodal Brain Image Analysis Laboratory
(MBIAL), National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), India**

Work carried out by the fellow during 1st - 28th June, 2013

Observership with Prof. Narinder Kapur:

- Discussions about neuropsychological assessment and rehabilitation with various case examples which Professor had seen. Also got exposure on using 'Smart Papers' which Prof. Kapur and Dr. Veronica Bradley had developed. Could also discuss on memory aids which Dr. Kapur had developed.
- 17th and 25th June could observe two live case assessments by Prof. Kapur. Discussed the possible assessments to be used, the interpretation of results and the prognostic and rehabilitation possibilities.
- Attended a class on neuropsychological assessment by Prof. Kapur at UCL on 14th June 2013.

Work at Institute of Cognitive neuroscience - University College London with Prof. Paul Burgess:

- Designing and developing a prospective memory imaging compatible paradigm which could be used for fellow's PhD which is titled 'Functional neuroimaging and neuropsychological study of prospective memory in schizophrenia'.
- Discussed with Prof. Burgess on the PhD topic and has taken his suggestions on the same.

Visit to the Oliver Zangwill Centre (OZC) on 26th June 2013:

Attended goal planning session for a patient with acquired brain injury and had discussions with various specialists in the centre namely the lead psychologist, speech and language therapist and occupational therapist about the outline of rehabilitation work done in OZC. Also discussed about Cogmed retraining program used in the centre.

Seminars, discussion and other activities during the period:

- Attended 2 seminars at UCL on 'How do we resist distraction (if we do?)' by Dr. Philip (University of Reading) and 'Early social and non-social development in autism' by Prof. Tony Charman (IOP, King's College London). Could also attend a student seminar at ICN on 'Semantic memory'.
- Attended a TEDx talk with Prof. Kapur in which he was presenting his experience on 'Conference Kindness'.
- Discussion with Prof. Eleanor A. Maguire, Wellcome Trust Senior Research Fellow and had great inputs from her how imagination and scene construction task which is developed in their lab could be used in fellow's PhD.

Dissemination of knowledge:

Apart from using these knowledge in fellow's PhD and her work, fellow would also like to share the knowledge with others:

- Through social networking site fellow had invited interested like-minded people for sharing her experience about the visit. Fellow could share about the same with 5-6 people who in the field of mental health.
- As both the fellows are from Bangalore, once the other fellow is also back from UK, will discuss and arrange a small group meeting about the experience both of us had to few others who are interested.
- The most inspiring part was the exposure at OZC where fellows could observe the organised and systematic work on rehabilitation and once fellow starts her clinical work will try and adapt the same to Indian setting.

Suggestions to make this scheme better:

This scheme has given the fellow a great international exposure which is going to be useful in her current PhD work, later clinical and research work and also in initiating collaborative work with UCL.

Fellowship amount of £750 is definitely not adequate for anyone to stay a week also in UK. Fellow's travel and visa expenses itself went upto £750. Prof. Burgess could arrange an accommodation for the fellow during her 3 weeks visit to ICN and Prof. Kapur was kind enough to support many of her financial expenses during the visit. Otherwise this much of exposure would not have been possible for the fellow.

Bangalore

16/07/2013



Ammu Lukose

The Neuropsychology International Fellowship Award 2012-2013

Report

Visiting Fellow: Jwala Narayanan

Date of Visit: 23rd June – 13th July 2013

Date		Liaison
24/6/2013	Oliver Zangwill Centre, Ely	Barbara Wilson
26/6/2013	Raphael Medical Centre, London	Barbara Wilson
27/6/2013	Neuropsychology Clinic observation	Narinder Kapur
28/6/2013	Conference- Medically Unexplained Symptoms	University College London
1/7/2013	Chalfont Epilepsy Centre (UCL), Chalfont	Pam Thompson
2/7/2013	Main Hospital, Great Ormond street	Sue Harrison
3/7/2013	St Thomas's hospital, London	Michael Kopelman
4/7/2013	National Hospital, London	Sallie Baxendale
5/7/2013	Survivors stories conference UK	Newmarket Racecourse
6/7/2013	Neuropsychology Clinic observation	Narinder Kapur
8-12/7/2013	Walton Centre, Liverpool	Gus Baker & others

Visit to the Rehabilitation Centres

The visit to the rehab centres included observing patient sessions, being introduced to the centres' facilities and services, attending team meetings and interacting with different teams (occupational therapy, physiotherapy, speech and language therapy) at the centre to understand the process of rehabilitation at their centre.

The visits were very helpful with regards to understanding the holistic approach to rehabilitation. The two centres were very different giving a very broad approach to rehab options across various neurological conditions. The visits also gave me a chance to discuss some of my clients and some of the challenges to rehab in India. The rehab conference was a unique experience where clients were part of the audience and speakers, they added great value to the conference by putting the talks into perspective with their experiences.

Visit to the Epilepsy Centres

The visits to the Epilepsy centres were the focus of the fellowship. As a significant amount of my work in India involves patients with Epilepsy, the visits were very helpful in developing my skills in the area. The visit to the centres included exposure to present practices and research in epilepsy surgery and non epileptic attack disorder. The visits included observation of presurgical neuropsychological workup of epilepsy patients, discussions at surgery team meetings and presenting a few Indian cases. The visit to the Walton Centre also included observing testing of language during an awake surgery, neurologists & neuropsychiatrist clinic sessions and fMRI session for language.

Clinic Sessions

The Clinic sessions with Prof. Narinder Kapur and Prof. Michael Kopelman were very interesting. I had the opportunity of sitting in on a medico-legal neuropsychological assessment which was new to me. Michael Kopelman's clinic was an interesting and unique experience of the different specialties working together in an OPD setup. The discussion about the patients with both of them was most beneficial as their approaches to diagnoses & assessment were very different from a typical neuropsychology referral.

In addition to all my visits, Prof Narinder Kapur spent several hours discussing cases, clarifying questions, sharing resources and sharing experiences in professional practice. These would significantly help improve my clinical and research skills.

Dissemination of Knowledge

Many students do an internship with me. I hope to share all that I have learnt with them. I am also sometimes invited as a guest lecturer to clinical psychology classes, much of what I have learnt would be shared with those students. As I am part of a multicentre project with other neuropsychologists across the country, I hope to share this knowledge with them when we meet next. I also hope to get together with the other Neuropsychology fellow (Ammu Lukose) to share our knowledge with a group of interested people in Bangalore.

Suggestions for the Scheme

The BNS and the DoN of the British Psychological Society have been very generous in offering this award for international professionals. It's a great opportunity to learn and exchange information. However, £750 is not a sufficient amount to cover basic expenses of travel and accommodation. Prof. Narinder Kapur had kindly offered further financial and accommodation support which made it possible for me to make the visit to the UK.

As conferences are very expensive for international fellows, perhaps a discount or waiver (if possible) for fellows attending conferences during the visit may be helpful.

Thank you

I truly feel very privileged to have had this opportunity to develop my skills. I greatly appreciate the time and effort by all the hosts. This has been a very valuable experience.