



REGIONAL SIMULATION AND HUMAN FACTORS PROJECT

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 010 | January 2024

Do you have news, views, 'asks for' or 'offers of' support? Contact ksssim@canterbury.ac.uk to contribute to the next newsletter &/or SimNet meeting.

CPD Open Access Course: 12th March Online

This course has been designed in co-production with integrated Service-User involvement, mostly in commentary, but also throughout, including participation during delivery.

A multi-agency, cross-cutting Mental Health Education course addressing crises in Personality, Psychotic, and Depressive Disorders

This course provides a safe platform for multi-agency and inter-disciplinary professionals to participate, observe, question, challenge, and reflect, collaborating in an inclusive and empowering learning environment.

Evidence from our work demonstrates learning outcomes focus on the development and enhancement of non-technical skills: communication, situational awareness, proactive decision-making, and can inform empathic partnership across agencies.

An online event, specifically designed for engaging participation onscreen from home or work.

This course is targeted towards the following audience: • Front Line Police Officers • Paramedics • GPs • Social Workers • Nurses • Other AHPs • Other doctors, notably psychiatrists • Pharmacists • Physician Associates

“Made me more empathic towards someone sectioned with a mental health condition.”

Information: <https://cccub2b.my.site.com/Events/s/event-detail?eventId=a0yPz000000PaUv>

CONFERENCE 'SIM4SAFETY' 2024

We are delighted that so many of you have already purchased your tickets to SIMNET 2024! We are also thrilled to see that so many will be joining us for both days!

SIM4SAFETY, our third annual conference, at Southampton Solent University on the 22nd and 23rd May features lots of exciting conference elements such as Keynote Dr Dawn Benson, an escape room, gala dinner, wellbeing room, maritime sim opportunities, a packed exhibition hall and opportunities to network. For those of you who haven't been to the venue it really does have the WOW factor and you can have a look on the website www.simnetse.com or through our [60 second walkthrough video](#) when we went to meet our hosts. Hotels are very close by and we would recommend the [Leonardo Hotel](#) or the [Premier Inn](#)

Abstracts close with a hard deadline of the 14th February, please do apply for a workshop, presentation or poster. This is a great opportunity to share your work in a supportive, more collaborative, and friendly, environment.

Ticket sales close on the 1st May or when sold out (tickets are limited) and start from just £30.

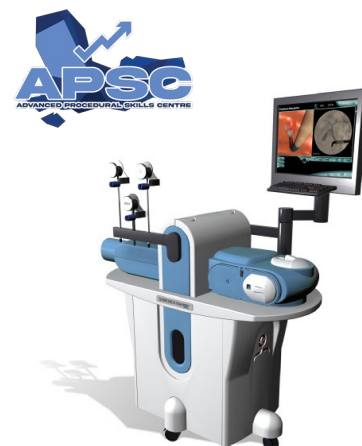
[BUY YOUR
TICKETS HERE](#)



Dr. Dawn Benson

APSC PROVIDES EQUIPMENT

The team at the Advanced Procedural Skills Centre (APSC) provided the first of what is hoped to be many equipment loans, bringing state-of-the-art, speciality simulators into trust settings. The Simbionix ENDOMentor Portable was delivered to the Endoscopy suite at Kent and Canterbury Hospital and will be used to train a new Nurse Endoscopist, Kalinka, who told us "I read about equipment like this but never thought I would be able to access it locally, let alone in my own department; the last group of trainees had to go to Liverpool". It is hoped that many more loans of equipment like this will support the speciality training gap in medicine and ensure that resources are available across the region.



NEWS FROM ACROSS SimNeT

I am writing to inform you we have released additional dates for the HCID assessment PPE simulation course and 'Train the Trainer' Course in January, April and July 2024. These can be viewed and booked directly via our website (or via email):

www.hcid-training.co.uk

See also the resource centre section of the website, which includes updated online learning, videos and posters for HCID assessment.

Kind regards,

DR LUKE HUNT

SpR in Infectious Diseases & Medical Microbiology - Sheffield Teaching Hospitals



Perspectives

Skiping the Skip: Repurposing Simulation Equipment

It is no secret that, while being houses of learning, universities tend to also be houses of 'things', and in many cases, despite best intentions, accrual of these aforementioned erroneous items relates directly to waste. The build-up of unused and superfluous stuff commonly takes form in everything from office supplies, furniture, and defunct IT equipment: when was the last time you honestly yearned for a box file, big bag of treasury tags or, at the extreme end of the scale, 25 spare computer keyboards?

So what is the fate of these mass hoards? Often, sadly, it is a skip, where once vital resources are reduced to landfill, doomed to decay alongside society's waste whilst budgets continue to wither and are required to stretch further. With an ever-growing focus on environmental pressures, it would be unfair to dismiss the good work that is being done to address needless waste (*reduce*), however, there tends to be a focus on sustainable new materials to replace old resources that have been disposed of (*recycle*), without giving due credence to what is right under our collective noses: repurposing of current resources (*reuse*).

It is, of course, hard to imagine that a shipment of box files and keyboards would be received like a shipment of aid following a natural disaster, however, when examining which resources go underutilised, clearly, with a bit of specialist knowledge (HEI raison d'être), what were once state-of-the-art technologies costing thousands of pounds, can be brought back to life to serve once again; and as has been shown over the last decade, simulation is proving to be the perfect petri dish for innovation and agile change.

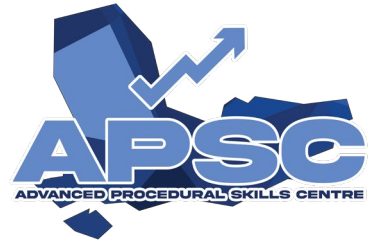
The team at Canterbury Christ Church University's Advanced Procedural Skills Centre (APSC) recently sought to address this when considering purchase of a multi-camera system with recording and live-streaming software, the market price for one such system being £18,000. In lieu of such funding, and a plethora of equipment available, a legacy system made by the company Cameron Communications 'C-Skills' was identified as unused and an ideal candidate for repurposing. Three units, each consisting of a master console to which up to three Internet Protocol (IP) cameras can be connected via ethernet cable and a corresponding laptop were first used in their original capacity which identified that the software, running on Windows7©, while capable of receiving the camera outputs, could no longer record or transmit and did not have a stable audio signal.

C-Skills confirmed that the system was no longer supported and would not function with their new operating system. Instead, the technical team at the APSC deconstructed the master console units to extract the network switch, allowing the IP cameras to be formatted and re-networked on a closed system. This was then routed into the free software Open Broadcaster Software (OBS©) allowing recording and streaming. Combined with an existing microphone set, the resulting system is now capable of supporting up to nine cameras from three remote locations, producing high quality A/V for both live streaming and recording. There is also an opportunity to update the three remaining laptops, micro-PC units and wireless routers.

This project has proven that, with a small amount of expertise, many disused pieces of equipment may one day find their way back to the frontline, saving vital resources and avoiding a fate commonly reserved for discarded pieces of garden furniture.

Footnote: during the repurposing the project lead was amazed to get a MS Teams call from the technician via Hololens headset, to observe the senior specialist instructing the technician via MS Teams, both were drawing (wiring diagrams) 'in mid-air'.

Do you have a perspective to offer? Send it to ksssim@canterbury.ac.uk
Published perspectives will be posted on our website <https://blogs.canterbury.ac.uk/simnet/>



MEET THE TEAM

We would like to introduce you to our excellent team!



Dr Sue Plummer is Director for the Institute of Medical Sciences and is the Campus Director for the Medway campus.



Andy Buttery is the Regional Simulation and Human Factors Project Lead, working to build a collaborative community of practice with specific objectives in Simulation for Mental Health (S4MH), Faculty Development in Simulation and Human Factors, and Simulated Patients/People (SNIPS).



Sarah Keeling-Smith started at the university as a Senior PA to the Pro Vice Chancellor in 2010 and then became a Project Administrator in 2013 for various EU Interreg Projects such as CASCADE and DWELL. She began working on the Regional Simulation and Human Factors Project in May 2021 and became Project Manager in January 2023.



Isobel Clarke joined Canterbury Christ Church University in April 2021 as Clinical Fellow in Simulation for Mental Health responsible for design, delivery, and evaluation of the Sim4MentalHealth programme.



James Barber is a CCCU graduate and has returned as our Senior Specialist Simulation Technician after 5 years as a Paramedic with the South East Coast Ambulance Service.



Toby is the newest member of the Regional Simulation Project Team. He will be working as a Simulation Technician with James Barber in the APSC.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

12th March CPD Open Access MH Course

22nd and 23rd May SimNeT Sim4Safety Conference

8 Feb PM SimNet Meeting on TEAMS coming from the APSC and including a reflective discussion with Prof Ali Bokhari.



ENGAGE WITH US

