The Julian Costello Travel Bursaries

Opportunity for Future Leaders in Primary Health and Care Informatics to attend the Medical Informatics Europe (MIE) 2025 Conference in Glasgow

The Primary Health Care Specialist Group (PHCSG) of the BCS is offering up to three £1,000 travel awards for early career Health and Care Informaticians to attend Medical Informatics Europe (MIE) in Glasgow on **19-21 May 2025**. MIE is the annual European Informatics conference co-organised by the European Federation of Medical Informatics (EFMI). These awards are named in memory of Dr Julian Costello a long-time member of the PHCSG.

The awards are specifically for applicants whose main area of informatics interest is primary care, be they working in primary care, a primary care support organisation or primary care related research, whatever their discipline and however part time. This would include those in vocational training. The Faculty of Health and Care of BCS is also offering three awards for those working in digital, data or technical roles in health and care.

The applicants must be early in their health informatics career (5 years or less), not necessarily in their clinical career if relevant and should be able to show the potential to be a future leader in the field. They are aimed specifically at those who can show potential and enthusiasm for the discipline, not those who are already well established in their careers.

Other characteristics which will also be considered are:
- Undertaking a post graduate degree in health informatics at a UK university
- A member of the current Digital Academy cohort or Scottish Digital Health and Care Leadership Programme
- Working in a Digital Health role
- Demonstrable potential to make a meaningful contribution to Health and Care Informatics and the PHCSG.

The winning applicants will be expected to join the Primary Health Care Specialist Group (PHCSG) as soon as possible. PHCSG is a part of the British Computer Society (BCS) Health and Care Faculty , which is hosting the MIE conference this year. Membership will get the reduced member's rate when registering for the conference.

To apply you need to write a proposal on one side of A4, maximum 800 words, in the following structure:
1. Who are you (include your email, phone number, correspondence address and current employer with their contact details)
2. How you meet the award criteria and why do you want to attend?
3. Make clear how are you involved in **Primary Care** informatics.
4. What areas of health informatics covered by the conference are of most interest and relevance to you?
5. How can you help promote Health and Care Informatics and the PHCSG?
6. How will attendance contribute to your personal and career development?

Submit your application as a word document or pdf file attachment and send it to the secretary Karenjohnson@gmx.co.uk with a copy to john@fairstead.net

The closing date for applications is Monday 3rd February 2025 at 5pm.
Applications will be reviewed, and the winner selected by a subgroup of the Primary Healthcare Specialist group committee. The committee decision is final. It is intended that the winner will be notified no later than **17th February**. The winner must commit to registering for the conference and ensuring active membership of PHCSG as soon as possible and be able to claim all travel expenses (to a maximum total budget of £1,000 including the members rate conference fee, travel, accommodation, and subsistence, including the conference dinner) by 30th June 2025.

The winners will:
- be asked to write a 1000-word blog for the PHCSG website. (see previous blogs)
- be asked to contribute to social media during the event. To be agreed with the PHCSG social media representative prior to the event.
- be asked to produce a paper, poster or video on learning from the conference to be presented at the PHCSG conference in the autumn.

Full details about MIE 2025 can be found at https://mie2025.efmi.org/
Enquiries should be submitted to john@fairstead.net
The awards are funded by the Medical Software Group