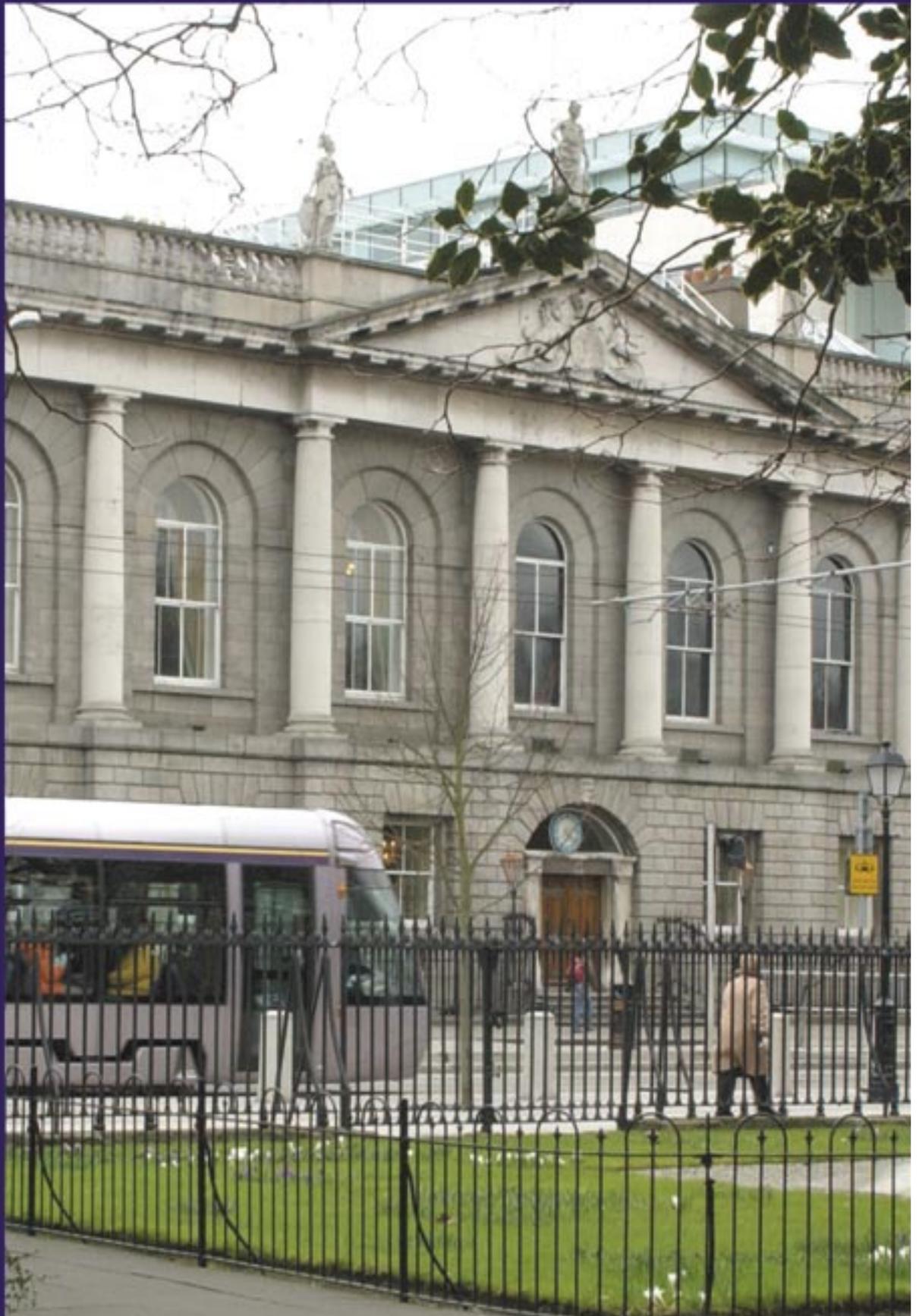




Faculty of Radiologists Annual Faculty Newsletter 2006/2007

RCSI

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland
Coláiste Ríoga na Máinleá in Éirinn



Dean's Introduction



Dear Colleagues,

It is my great privilege for the first time to address you as Dean as an introduction to the Annual Faculty Report. The extent and scope of Faculty business continues to grow considerably, and the complexity increases apace. The Faculty in Irish standards is relatively small by comparison to other teaching bodies, but it must nonetheless provide the entire range of services in terms of education, training, CME accredited meetings and validation, as well liaising with other bodies as required. For this reason I am indebted to the sterling work of my very supportive colleagues on the Board.

Board Personnel

After the Annual Scientific Meeting in September last year, Drs John Stack, Ronan Ryan, William Torreggiani and Ian Kelly all joined the Board. All four have played a major role, Dr. Stack as Honorary Treasurer, Dr Ryan as Chairman of the Radiation Protection Committee, Dr. Torreggiani as Chairman of the Validation Committee, and Dr. Kelly as Chairman of the Research Committee. I would like to pay particular tribute to all who are having taken on such a high degree of responsibility so soon after coming onto the Board, it just goes to prove that no good deed goes unpunished!

As was the situation last year, four members will leave the Board. It has been my great privilege to work with Dr. Barry Kelly who has served as my Vice Dean during this term. Dr. Kelly's tireless and diligent application to Board matters has been inspiring. Professor Donal Hollywood retires from the Board, having been a major stimulus to the enormous expansion in the range of activity of the radiation oncology community, which has been copper fastened recently by the doubling in size of the cohort of the Specialist Registrar group. Dr. Sean Darby has resigned from the Board, Dr. Niall McEniff has kindly accepted the ministerial appointment to the Board of the Radiologic Protection Institute of Ireland in his stead.

I would like to pay particular tribute to my predecessor as Dean, Dr. Éamann Breatnach. Éamann enjoyed a very fruitful and successful two year period as Dean, and part of his vision for the Faculty was a realisation that we were now ready to ask the President of Ireland Mrs Mary McAleese to accept our Honorary Fellowship. (Dr. Barry Kelly's introduction of Mrs McAleese as an Honorary Fellow will be seen as a seminal moment in Faculty history and is reproduced later in this Newsletter). Dr. Breatnach has now concentrated his energies in a European forum, and was recently elected Chairman of the Education Committee of ESR, and he can be assured of our continuing support for his efforts in Europe.

I am delighted that Dr. Risteard Ó Laoide has accepted the appointment as Honorary Secretary to the Board, and I am very appreciative of his wise counsel. Dr. Catriona O'Sullivan does trojan work as Chairman of the Radiation Oncology Committee, which has become a more and more onerous position with passing time, and her diligence is deeply appreciated. Dr. John Buckley continues as Chairman of the CME Committee, in addition to his other onerous role which is that of Chief Part I FFR Examiner. Dr. Patricia Fitzsimons chairs the Breast Sub Group. To all I am deeply indebted for their professionalism and support.

I would also like to pay tribute to four other former Board members, Dr Michael Hurley, Dr. Stephanie Ryan, Professor Michael Lee and Dr. Dermot Malone, who all perform various duties outside of Board activity directly, but which contributes enormously to the workings of the Board. I would also like to thank Dr. Adrian Brady whose work as Chief Part II Examiner has been outstanding. Dr. David McInerney, past Dean, has been an outstanding source of sensible advice for me as Dean in addition.

Finally I would also like to pay tribute to the small but extremely dedicated group of attenders and contributors to the various committees of the Faculty. These colleagues have made major contributions to the development of the discipline, and their support is always welcome. I am also as you are aware particularly keen to encourage recently returned Fellows and new members to become involved.

Annual Scientific Meeting 2006

The theme of the meeting was Emergency Radiology, and a very high standard of national and international categorical course lectures was given.

In addition to President McAleese, the Faculty also awarded Honorary Fellowships to Professor Nicholas Gourtsoyiannis outgoing President of the European Association of Radiology, for his outstanding contribution to European radiology over a long number of years, and to Professor Thomas Keane from Vancouver whose support for Faculty processes distinguishes a long career in radiation oncology, and who was a member of the accreditation group in 2006.

Visiting Research Professor

Dr. Lehana Thebane from the University of Toronto, a biostatistician, visited the Faculty in June 2006 to give a series of day long seminars on statistics and study design, which was well attended by the registrars.

Combined Spring Meeting 2007

The 2006 meeting was held at Lyrath House Hotel in Kilkenny, and proved to be a great success. The theme of this years meeting was Musculoskeletal Radiology, and the Faculty is deeply indebted to Dr. Barry Kelly for designing such a wonderful programme. A number of new innovations were made at this meeting, not least of which was the presentation session from students performing MSc theses in radiologic sciences at UCD.

Radiation Oncology

With the National Plan for Radiation Oncology now at an advanced stage, the main change for the Faculty on this occasion has been the significant increase in the number of Specialist Registrars which has now doubled. This year Faculty appointed five new SpRs to the programme, and it is anticipated that a similar number will be appointed next year also. It is hoped that the promised expansion in Consultant numbers will also occur, this has been somewhat delayed by the continuing dispute over the consultants' contract. Nonetheless this is a very exciting time to be a budding radiation oncologist, with major opportunities in place. The Faculty notes with deep gratitude the reconvening of the accreditation group for the week beginning February 4th, 2008 when St. Luke's Hospital will be revisited, and it is hoped that the facilities in Galway and Cork will also seek recognition for training for the first time.

European Society of Radiology

At the final meetings of both the European Congress and European Associations of Radiology in Vienna in March 2007, both organisations have now been officially wound up and are amalgamated in a single umbrella organisation, the European Society of Radiology. The Faculty is delighted that the first President of ESR Professor Andy Adam who also coincidentally will at the time be also the President of the Royal College of Radiologists (UK) has agreed to accept an Honorary Fellowship in September 2007 at our Annual Scientific Meeting.

A change to the way the ESR generates funds from National Societies Europe wide has been proposed by the new President, incorporating a single fee of €10 levied on each national society for each member. However, this slightly increased subvention comes with the obvious worthwhile prize of automatic ESR membership with all the privileges which that entails. This is an innovative new development which Faculty Board has agreed to support.

SI478 & Compliance with EU Legislation

It is a legal requirement of SI478 that an audit process be carried out on a five year time scale on the original enactment of the law in 2002 in October. The HSE and the Department of Health and Children have set up a joint task force to evaluate the process. It is intended that this will implement the strictures of SI478 in the old Health Board areas, but in particular will perform the overseeing role in relation to the implementation of the Radiation Safety Committees of the local hospitals and most significantly for individual radiologists, will perform clinical audit in the departments of diagnostic radiology around the country. It is also likely that such audits will take place in departments of radiation oncology in addition. A tender has been sent for this audit process, and the closing date has passed at the time of writing. This audit process will include all aspects of the work of the imaging department including clinical audit and will have major implications for our work practice.

Final Remarks

Diagnostic radiology and radiation oncology are both in very healthy states at present. The quality of candidate we are attracting into our programme is absolutely outstanding, and is not bettered in any other training discipline. This is due in no small measure to the outstanding reputation of the Faculty's training programme and continued commitment of those involved in the teaching process. It is humbling for me as Dean to sit on the interview committees for applicants for entry to first year posts to see the truly stellar quality of some of the candidates. This is also being mirrored in radiation oncology where some outstanding candidates presented for positions on the expanded programme.

Notwithstanding this, there is no room for complacency. It is very clear that new legislation and new agendas undermine our core professionalism, and uncertainties regarding the new consultant contracts, as well as the unique situation of a non medical majority on the new Medical Council as proposed in the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, will fundamentally change the way we work, practice, teach and research. This brings its own challenges, which we must face head on and behave with dignity and professionalism.

I would particularly like to encourage some of our more recently returned consultant appointments to become involved in Faculty work. I realise that huge work commitments as well as other responsibilities are causing a rapidly contracting amount of free time available for such work, but this work is deeply rewarding.

I am very conscious of the signal honour of being elected to the Deanship, and would like to acknowledge the great work performed by my predecessors as Deans and Board members, all the present generation is doing is building on the great work and foundation laid by previous generations. The future is really bright, there are many opportunities in terms of research and educational opportunities. As Fellows and Members will be aware, we now issue a short newsletter after each Faculty Board meeting to appraise colleagues of issues discussed of general relevance, this has been received very positively I can only exhort you all to be as involved as fully as possible.

Finally I would like to pay great tribute to Ms. Jennifer O'Brien, Faculty Secretary whose unfailing support and courtesy makes my job substantially easier, and I would also like to acknowledge the support of our new colleague Ms Karen Milling who has settled in very well since joining us in October 2006.

Professor Peter McCarthy
Dean
Faculty of Radiologists

Citation for Mary McAleese President of Ireland on the occasion of the Conferring of an Honorary Fellowship September 29th 2006

President, Excellency, Dean, President of the College, Members of Council, Deans of Faculties, Members of Boards of Faculties, Fellows, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is my singular honour to propose Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists for President, Mary McAleese.

Mary Leneghan was born, in north Belfast, on 27th June 1951, the first of nine children, and was educated at the Convent of Mercy Primary School and St. Dominic's High School (for Young Ladies) where among other distinctions, she was the captain of the debating team.

President, I clearly recall the high stone walls around St Dominic's from my adjacent vantage point at St. Mary's Grammar School (for Young Gentlemen). Imposing and challenging though those walls were, several of my peers developed a robust interest in abseiling!

President McAleese graduated from The Queen's University, Belfast, with an LLB in 1973.

She was called to the Northern Ireland Bar in 1974 but chose to return to academia and was appointed Reid Professor of Criminal Law, Criminology and Penology at Trinity College Dublin in 1975, and again in 1981. In 1987 she returned to Queen's University as Director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies, and in 1994 she became the first female Pro-Vice Chancellor of that university.

Her assured talents as a communicator led to broadcasting, both as a journalist and presenter, notably on the news programme "Today Tonight". She has a particular interest in religious and social issues and she contributed the "Thought for the Day" on BBC Radio 4's "Today" programme.

There are also, President, many connections with the medical world. Her primary school was in the grounds of the Mater Hospital and her secondary school just across the Falls Road from the Royal Victoria Hospital where she subsequently became a non-executive Director of the Royal Group of Hospitals Trust. Amongst her numerous Honorary Degrees and Fellowships she is an Honorary Fellow of this College, the College of Anaesthetists and the Faculties of Dentistry and Nursing.

Possibly President McAleese's closest association with the medical world came when she married her husband, Dr Martin McAleese, a dentist, on the 9th of March 1976. Subsequently, they were blessed with three children: Emma, born in 1982, and twins, Justin and Sara Mai born in 1985.

Religious matters have always been at the center of Mary McAleese's life. She was a member of the Church's Episcopal Delegation to the Northern Ireland Forum, co-chair of the Inter-Church Working Party on Sectarianism and was a member of the Catholic Church's delegation to the North Commission on Contentious Parades. She has also supported both the ordination of women and the Gay Rights movement, being a founder member of the Campaign for Homosexual Law Reform.

These achievements, President, only represent a fraction of a remarkable life

In November 1997 Mary McAleese was elected eighth President of Ireland - the first person from Northern Ireland to be so honoured and the first time in history that a woman had succeeded another woman as an elected head of state anywhere in the world. Since November 2005 she has been the longest serving woman head of state.

The theme of her Presidency has been "Building Bridges."

In her inaugural address, President McAleese asked "the hesitant to muster the courage to complete the journey across and let the bright new landscape of hope reveal itself" As radiologists, we identify with the concept of crossing into that undiscovered country, the search for the truth, the diagnosis, the answer. And when crossing our bridge becomes demanding and difficult, Robert Runcie comforts us that, "A shared anguish can be a bridge of reconciliation. Our neighbours are indeed like us."

How then, President, to weave these diverse facets of a life together: Irishness in the wider world, The Church, History, Communication, Academia, Medicine, and our own "New Light" of Radiology.

Perhaps if we consider the words of an 8th century Irish Benedictine monk, writing at the Monastery of Carinthia on an Island, in Lake Constance, on the Austrian border -illuminating, in every sense, a dark world -, with only his cat, Pangur Ban for company. I offer the final quatrain:

É fé sin is cumas dó
Na modhanna do ghní gach aon lá
Do thabhairt do-réidh go glé
Faoin mhodh chéanna tá mise
Practice every day has made
Us perfect, in our trade;
We get wisdom day and night
Turning darkness into light.

Georges Pompidou wrote that, "A statesman is a politician who places himself at the service of the nation" and this nation is indeed fortunate to have President McAleese as President.

I now have the privilege and honour to request that, President, you confer the Honorary Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists on the President of Ireland, Mary McAleese.

Dr. Barry Kelly
29th September 2006

ANNUAL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES 2006/2007



(i) Radiation Oncology Committee

In April 2006 The Faculty of Radiologists RCSI made a site visit to St Luke's Hospital to undertake accreditation of SpR training. Until the mid 1990s all accreditation was undertaken by the London Royal College of Radiology. The Radiation Oncology committee developed an accreditation document, to be used by all applicant hospitals, as a template in preparing their institutions for the site visit. Dr Ronan McDermott, the Radiology National Training Co-ordinator, generously provided his expertise in it's preparation.

The accreditation team was led by The Dean of the Faculty, Dr Eamann Breathnach accompanied by the Dean Emeritus, Dr David McInerney. The external assessors were Professor Tom Keane from BCCA, Vancouver, Professor Michael Baumann, President of ESTRO (European Society of Radiation Oncologists) / Professor of Radiation Oncology at Dresden, and Dr Seamus McAleer, Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Belfast Cancer Centre, NI.

St Luke's Hospital was led by the Hospital Training Committee, chaired by Dr Catriona O'Sullivan (Medical Director SLH), Dr Pierre Thirion (Hospital Training Co-ordinator), Dr Clare Faul (Chair of the Department of Radiation Oncology SLH), and Professor John Armstrong, (Director of the Clinical Trials Research Unit / CTRU SLH).

The accrediting team were of the opinion that a profound deficit of consultant Radiation Oncologist numbers makes it impossible to sustain and develop a National SpR training program. St Luke's Hospital was accredited for 2 years

SpR training, pending the appointment of new Consultant Radiation Oncologists. The HSE have recognised the need to improve both service and training and have agreed to appoint new consultants to the health service in 2007. SLH has re-applied for SpR training program accreditation which will take place in January 2008.

During their preparation for accreditation in April 2005 Dr O'Sullivan, and Dr Thirion recognised the need to comprehensively upgrade information on eligibility for SpR training, the pre-clinical and clinical syllabus, the rules & regulations for examinations, and the process of application for validation of training. They also recognised that periods of "time out" to undertake research or go on an "out of program experience" (OOPE) needed formal recognition. This culminated in the first ever Radiation Oncology website added to the pre-existing Faculty of Radiologists website.

The Annual Faculty Radiation Oncology meeting took place in September 2006 and was very well attended with sessions on Head & Neck oncology, post SpR training in Canada & the USA, the new Medical Practitioner's Act, Oncology and the Law, & new technologies in Radiation planning such as Image Guided Radiotherapy (IGRT) .

The keynote address was given by Professor Tom Keane from Vancouver, who was the 2007 Visiting Professor in Radiation Oncology at St Luke's Hospital. The Faculty awarded him an honorary Fellowship in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Radiation Oncology in Canada, and more recently in Ireland. This was made all the more special as Her Excellency, the President of Ireland Mrs Mary McAleese was awarded an honorary Fellowship on the same occasion.

In 2008 Professor Ann Barrett from Norfolk University, President Emeritus of ESTRO will be the visiting Professor of Radiation Oncology at St Luke's Hospital, & will deliver the keynote lecture at the ASM. She will be recognised by the Faculty for her outstanding contribution to both European and Irish Radiation Oncology with the awarding of an Honorary fellowship.

In July 2007 Dr Jerome Coffey joined St Luke's Hospital and the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, as a consultant Radiation Oncologist with a special interest in GU Malignancy. The Radiation Oncology community recognise the imperative to bring younger consultants into the business of education & training in Ireland. He has already been co-opted on to the Radiation Oncology Education Group, the Faculty of Radiologists Education committee, (representing Radiation Oncology), and been invited to attend the Royal College of Radiology (London) Education Committee meetings as an observer. This link is very important for Radiation Oncology in Ireland, as Irish SpRs sit the First FRCR examination. This is in recognition of the close friendship between the two countries. Dr Coffey is warmly welcomed to the faculty, as is Dr Joseph Martin, who has been asked to join the Radiation Oncology Education Group representing UCHG.

In 2007 plans to expand Radiation Oncology services in Ireland continue with the opening of new centres in Limerick and Waterford. By February 2008 St Luke's Hospital will have installed 2 new Linear Accelerators. Each Linear Accelerator is capable of treating 500 additional new patients per annum. Their installation will increase capacity substantially by early 2008, and facilitate the development and implementation of more complex technology, allowing IMRT (Intensity Modulated Radiotherapy) and IGRT (Image Guided Radiotherapy) to become more readily available. Their arrival will expand the existing services in Stereotactic Radiosurgery for patients with brain tumours and vascular malformations, and will support the increased availability of the technology required for Clinical Research in Radiation Oncology, whose goal is the ultimate provision of better treatment for cancer patients in Ireland.

New Technology requires properly trained Radiation Oncologists to implement the changes. This requires ever more involvement by the Radiation Oncology community in selecting & educating SpRs, and vigilance in both maintaining & improving the existing high standards of Radiation Oncology in Ireland

**Dr. Catriona O'Sullivan FFRCSI
Chairperson, Radiation Oncology Committee**



(ii) Continuing Medical Education (CME) Committee

The main issues concerning this Committee in the last year related to the Medical Practitioner's Act vis-à-vis those sections relating the maintenance of our professional competence (Part 11 Sections 91-95).

The Medical Practitioner's Act was signed by President McAleese on May 7, 2007 and hence became law from the preceding midnight.

It will now be the duty of the new Medical Council to satisfy itself as the ongoing maintenance of the professional competence of registered medical practitioners. The New Medical Council has one year from its establishment to operate and establish a scheme for the maintenance of professional competence.

Hence, it is likely to be mid 2008 at the earliest before a scheme is put in place.

Ongoing discussions are being held by the Competence Assurance Committee of the Medical Council to tease out a practical approach to the establishment of ongoing competence assurance. Further details of the Medical Council Competence Assurance Proposals can be obtained from the Medical Council website (www.medicalcouncil.ie).

Again, details of CME can be obtained from the Faculty website (www.radiology.ie).

I would also like to stress that Radiologists who have not yet availed of their entitlement to be placed on the Register of Medical Specialists through the "Grandfather Clause" provisions should do so immediately as this clause ceases to be in effect when the new Medical Council is appointed. This clause states that all doctors holding permanent appointment before 1 January 1997 as a Comhairle Approved Consultant are entitled to automatic inclusion in the Register of Medical Specialists.

Dr. John Buckley
Chairperson, CME Committee



(iii) Education Committee

The work of the Education Committee is the core activity of Faculty. I would like to pay tribute to all members of the Committee, and all the Training Coordinators for their input over the year. The Education committee tends to be very well attended, with a very high level of commitment shown by members. A number of important initiatives have occurred, most notably the Faculty's plan to incorporate MOODLE the intranet training tool developed by RCSI, into the training programme. This will be done under the chairmanship of a small group overseen by Dr. Ian Kelly. It is also hoped that this group will evaluate the possibility of using the Faculty's video conferencing facilities and to develop the second year didactic lecture programme.

Regional Rotations

The Faculty remains committed to the position outlined in the accreditation document in 2005, but it is becoming increasingly clear that without significant expansion of specialist registrar numbers, it will be difficult to implement this programme. Consequently each Coordinator is being asked to collate data so that the Faculty can present a plan to take back to the HSE with whom it had a very useful and positive meeting earlier this year.

Dr. Margaret O'Riordan from the ICGP oversaw the Communications Module run by the Faculty on a trial basis with considerable success. This years Bracco Professor is our compatriot Dr. Michael Blake currently working in Boston who will visit in October.

Year Five Group

This group has been particularly active under the Chairmanship of Professor Lee and has produced discussion documents regarding undergraduate curriculum, which has been sent to the Dean's of all the medical schools, on the intern year, and for a revamp of the fifth year higher training programme. Professor Lee and his colleagues are to be congratulated on producing such a high quality series of documentation in a relatively short time.

Examinations

The Faculty would like to thank all examiners, and in particular the external examiners Dr Mike King and Dr. Michael Collins. Dr. King has indicated that he wishes to step down after the next examination, and the Faculty is delighted to note that Dr. Shelia Rankin will partly replace him, with the help of Dr. Christine Herron. The Faculty would like to formally thank Dr. Richard Johnson who retired after many years of Part I examinership both in Ireland and in Kuwait and served with distinction.

Part I FFR RCSI (Diagnosis): Dr. J. Buckley Chief Part I Examiner
Dr. J. Upton
Dr. J. Buckley
Dr. B. Kelly
Dr. N. O'Donovan
Dr. R. Ó Laoide
Dr. W. Torreggiani
Dr. J. Virjee
Dr. R. Johnson

Part II FFR RCSI (Diagnosis): Dr. A. Brady Chief Part II Examiner
Dr. F. Keeling
Dr. Clare Roche
Dr. J. Stack
Dr. J. Murray
Dr. Stephen Skehan
Dr. Mark Logan
Dr. M. Collins
Dr. H. Irving

Part II FFR RCSI (Therapy): Dr. Clare Faul Chief Part II Examiner
Dr. Ian Fraser
Dr. Kieran Moore (External)
Dr. Séamus McAleer (External)

Prize Winners

The winner of the **Edward Malone Medal** for the best oral presentation at the Combined Spring Meeting May 2007 was Dr. Carmel Cronin from University College Hospital Galway for her paper entitled: "Prevalence and significance of Asymptomatic Venous Thromboembolic Disease (DVT and PE) found on oncological staging Computed Tomography (CT) Scans".

The **Radiological Society of Ireland Medal** for the best poster presentation at the Combined Spring Meeting May 2007 was presented by the Past President of the Radiological Society of Ireland, Dr. David O'Keefe to Dr. John Moriarty for his poster entitled: "3D Multidetector row CT angiography of non-aneurysm Acute Aortic Syndromes (AAS): Acquisition protocols, Imaging Findings and relevance for Radiologic Intervention".

Examination Results

The following candidates were successful in the 2006/2007 Examinations:

Primary Fellowship Examination in Radiodiagnosis, Dublin - September 2006

Dr. Refaa Hamad Abdullah Al Ajmi
Dr. Nuha R. H. Rasheed Al Azmi
Dr. Abdulmuhsen A.A. Al Sahaf
Dr. Osama Eswawah
Dr. Edward Valentine Gough
Dr. Damian Mullan
Dr. Tarak Masri Al Hadi Ramadan
Dr. Michael Slattery

Primary Fellowship Examination in Radiodiagnosis, Dublin - May 2007

Dr. Ian Brennan
Dr. Ann Michelle Browne
Dr. Michael Burns
Dr. Victoria Chan
Dr. Catherine Dewhurst
Dr. Chris Hegarty

Dr. Peter Joseph MacMahon
Dr. Shaunagh McDermott
Dr. Darra Murphy
Dr. Gillian Murphy
Dr. Jennifer Ni Mhuircheartaigh
Dr. Conor O'Riordan
Dr. Carole Ridge
Dr. Joanna Pearly Ti
Dr. Yusra Sheikh Omar

Final Fellowship Examination in Radiodiagnosis (FFRCSI), Dublin - Nov. 2006

Dr. Cormac Farrelly
Dr. Anne Foster
Dr. Tadhg Gleeson
Dr. Pradeep Govender
Dr. Jennifer Kerr
Dr. Michael Moore
Dr. Sorcha O'Brien McNally
Dr. Alan O'Hare
Dr. Thara Persaud
Dr. Suzanne Shine

Final Fellowship Examination in Radiotherapy (FFRCSI), Dublin - Nov. 2006

Dr. Hafiz Algurafi
Dr. Sinead Brennan

Final Fellowship Examination in Radiodiagnosis (FFRCSI), Dublin May 2007

Dr. Sean McSweeney
Dr. David O'Donnell

Final Fellowship Examination in Radiotherapy (FFRCSI), Dublin - May 2007

Dr. Asim Amjad
Dr. Syed Mansoor Hasnain

**Prof. Peter McCarthy
Chairperson, Education Committee**

(iv) Research Committee

The Research Committee continued its activities of pump priming research grant awarding and also continued the initiative of the previous chairman in the field of education in research skills.

Faculty Grants

To foster an ethos of collaborative research lines in departments and between grades of SpR it was decided to raise the possible ceiling on grants from €2500 to €10,000 in an effort to pump prime research activity amongst trainees and attract good quality projects.

2007 grant research applications round.

One grant was awarded.

Dr Peter McMahon

"Developing a multiple myeloma specific MRI contrast agent"

Supervisor: Professor Stephen P Eustace

Mater University Hospital

A full Faculty Research grant of €10,000 was awarded and Dr McMahon was roundly congratulated for his excellent presentation and initiative in basic laboratory based molecular imaging technology

Research Assistance

A previous grant winner Dr Aoife Keeling received a top up to her previous award to enable completion of her project. This was seen as an extension to her previous award in 2004 and her project entitled: "To determine if C Reactive Protein and Cellular Adhesion molecules are useful markers for follow up of patients after peripheral PTA"

Supervisor: Professor Michael Lee
Beaumont Hospital Dublin.

To further the planning and preparation of an additional line of research a sum of €500 was made available to fund statistical evaluation and phantom design.

Dr Cormac Farrelly's project entitled: "18F PET phantom study to determine the optimal PET derived measurements and their limitations when evaluating tumour response to treatment"

Supervisor: Dr R McDermott,
St. James's Hospital, Dublin.

The members of the panel were Prof. Peter McCarthy, Dr Dermot Malone and Dr Ristéard Ó Laoide. Many thanks to the panel members for their hard work and sound advice during the grant review process. The financial support of GE/Amersham and Siemens is gratefully acknowledged.

G.E. Visiting Research Professor 2007:

Dr. Jerry Jarvik, University of Washington has accepted the invitation to teach the 2007 programme which will run in early December. The financial support of GE is gratefully acknowledged.

Dr. Ian Kelly

Chairperson, Research Committee



vi) Overseas Committee

The Overseas Committee met on four occasions over the previous year to examine and direct the programme. This past academic year has been a positive one for the Overseas Training Programme.

The Programme Co-Ordinator, Dr. Denis O'Connell, organised a complete Part II Programme for candidates who had passed their Part I in the previous year as well as the remaining Part II candidates in Kuwait. A Part I course was not conducted during this year.

Examinations were not conducted in Kuwait during this academic year. It was agreed that a full year of Part II tuition was required to prepare trainees adequately for examinations which are proposed for Kuwait in November 2007.

In Kuwait the programme is co-ordinated by Dr. Abdelmohsen Ben Nakhi and Dr. Tariq Sinan continues to give his invaluable support. Dr. Mehraj Sheikh also plays an important part on behalf of Kuwait University Medical School.

A substantial enlargement of the medical services in Kuwait is envisaged by the authorities and expansion of the programme in terms of numbers of trainees and numbers of involved hospitals is also envisaged.

Our present arrangements with the Kuwait Institute of Medical Specialisation (KIMS) end this year and the Dean has been active in forwarding discussions for the future. Dr. McInerney and Dr. O'Connell visit Kuwait in the Summer of 2007 to continue these discussions and to interview new Part I candidates who will commence the course in September 2007.

I would like to record my gratitude to my Committee Members for their hard work and invaluable advice throughout the year.

Dr. David McInerney

Chairperson, Overseas Committee

vii) Radiation Protection Committee



The Radiation Protection Committee met four times in the 2006/2007 academic year. The implementation of Statutory Instrument 478 (Health Protection of Individuals Against The Dangers of Ionising Radiation in Relation to Medical Exposures), incorporated into law in Ireland in October 2002, continues to dominate Committee agendas. It is a legal requirement of SI 478 that an audit process be carried out within five years of its enactment (i.e. October 2007). The HSE and Department of Health and Children have set up a joint task force to effect this process, which intends to oversee the implementation of SI 478 in all former Health Board areas and in particular to oversee the establishment and subsequent workings of Radiation Protection Committees in local hospitals and the performance of clinical audit in Radiology Departments. The criteria for clinical audit as originally designed by The Faculty of Radiologists have fortunately been accepted by the task force.

The task force intends to tender for the clinical audit of the processes within Radiology Departments, not just in relation to the implementation of the SI, but of the entire working processes within Departments. Obviously this has major resource implications.

The Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA) has now been established on a statutory footing, and it appears likely that HIQA will take on the role of establishing standards in Radiation Protection from The Irish Medical Council, although it is likely that The Medical Ionising Radiation Committee of the IMC, (which continues to be chaired by Dr. Michael Hurley), will in fact continue to convene despite the fact that this Committee is not specifically mentioned in the new Medical Practitioners Bill, which has been recently signed into law – a final decision on these matters is awaited.

Another issue which has exercised the Committee is EU Physical Agents Directive 2004/40/EC which proposes to limit exposure time of individuals to Electromagnetic Radiation, which would potentially limit MRI Radiographers to working set numbers of hours per week, thereby reducing MRI throughput in Radiology Departments. Faculty has outlined its concerns in this regard in writing to the Irish Government and European authorities and intends to adopt a collaborative approach with The Institute of Physics in Ireland in order that the severity and urgency of this be conveyed to politicians in light of its eminent threat to services (enactment scheduled for July 2008). The European Society of Radiology has formed an " Alliance for MRI " to lobby the European Parliament and other relevant authorities directly on this issue.

Finally, I am very much indebted to my predecessor, Dr. Stephanie Ryan, for composing articles on SI478 and Risk/Benefit of X-Rays which appear on the Faculty, RCSI and RCPI websites and in the Irish Medical Council Newsletter. Dr. Ryan continues to make an enormous contribution to the workings of The Radiation Protection Committee.

Dr. Ronan S. Ryan Chairman, Radiation Protection Committee

(viii) Scientific Committee



The Annual Scientific Meeting took place on Friday 29th and Saturday 30th September 2006. The Categorical Sessions included lectures on Cardiovascular Imaging, Abdominal Imaging, Neuroradiology Imaging and Future Directions. In the latter session, the future of e-Learning, Teleradiology, Virtual Reality and Nanotechnology were discussed.

The Honorary Fellows for 2007 were Mary McAleese, President of Ireland, Professor Nicholas Gourtsoyiannis and Professor Thomas Keene. The Schering Distinguished Speaker's lecture was given by Dr Pearse Morris.

The Imaging Meeting and the Professional Practice and Continuing Education meeting took place on Friday, February 9th. The theme of the Imaging Meeting was Contrast Media. A group of distinguished speakers considered the following topics: Iodinated Contrast Media, Ultrasound Contrast, Barium, MR contrast, PET agents, and the management of contrast reactions.

The Professional Practice and Continuing Education meeting was entitled, "Systems Failures: Lessons from the Aviation Industry." Two distinguished speakers, Dr John Dyet, and Captain Ciaran Carthy delivered two wide-ranging and complementary lectures detailing the similarities of systems failures between the practice of Medical Imaging and the Aviation Industry.

The Combined Spring Meeting of the Faculty took place on 20th and 21st April 2007 at Lyrath Estate Hotel, Co Kilkenny. The theme of the meeting was Musculoskeletal Imaging. The format consisted of two Scientific sessions, two Categorical sessions, Open sessions, and the Bayer-Schering Pharma Symposium. This symposium was entitled, "Review Topics for the Fellowship Examinations" and was extremely well attended. The Open Sessions showcased work conducted within the Irish MSc programmes. The dinner on the Friday evening was at Rinucinni Restaurant in Kilkenny and the Saturday formal dinner at the Lyrath Estate Hotel.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to my colleagues on the Scientific Committee for their enthusiasm and hard work. I must also add thanks to the many speakers who accepted often difficult briefs with alacrity and great professionalism. I must single out Dr Dermot Malone, my predecessor, for his support. Dr Malone persuaded me that the job could be tackled from 'out of town' by following some simple rules. The results, in no small way, demonstrate the result of applying these 'Malone Principles'. These, I heartily commend to my successor. I am, of course, also indebted to the Deans and Board for steadfast support throughout my term on the Science Committee.

Finally, I owe a great debt of gratitude to the staff in the Faculty office; Lorna Murphy, Karen Milling, and the incomparable Jennifer O'Brien. Without their good humour, skill and sheer dedication, none of these achievements would have been possible.

Dr. Barry Kelly
Chairman, Scientific Committee

Honorary Conferring 2006



Left to right: Prof. Donal Hollywood (Board Member of Faculty of Radiologists); Dr. Barry Kelly (Board Member of Faculty of Radiologists); Prof. Gerald C. O'Sullivan (President, RCSI); Mr. Terry Slattery, Mace; Dr. Éamann Breatnach (Dean); President Mary McAleese (Honorary Fellow); Dr. Dermot Malone (Board Member of Faculty of Radiologists); Prof. Nicholas Gourtsoyiannis (Honorary Fellow); Prof. Thomas Keane (Honorary Fellow)

HONORARY SECRETARY'S ANNUAL REPORT 2006/2007



Changes to the Faculty Board

Professor Peter McCarthy was welcomed as the new Dean of the Faculty at the Board meeting of the 3rd November 2006. The following officer changes were also made at that meeting:

- Dr. Barry Kelly: Vice-Dean.
- Dr. Risteard Ó Laoide: Honorary Secretary
- Dr. John Stack: Honorary Treasurer

The following Officers and Committee Chairmen were also subsequently confirmed:

- Educational Committee Prof. P. McCarthy
- Scientific Committee Dr. B. Kelly
- Finance & General Purposes Committee Dr. John Stack
- Radiation Protection Committee Dr. Ronan S. Ryan
- CME Committee Dr. John Buckley
- Overseas Committee Dr. David McInerney
- Research Committee Dr. Ian Kelly
- Radiation Oncology Dr. Catriona O'Sullivan

The incoming Dean, Professor Peter McCarthy, thanked Dr. Éamann Breatnach for his wonderful service to the Faculty and for his offer of support and advice. He also welcomed the new Board members Dr. Ian Kelly, Dr. John Stack, Dr. Ronan S. Ryan and Dr. William Torreggiani.

Tribute was also paid to retiring members of the Faculty Board. In particular Dr. Stephanie Ryan was thanked for her significant contribution to the Faculty as Honorary Secretary and as Radiation Protection Committee Chairman during her term on the Board. Dr. Adrian Brady was also thanked for his significant contribution as CME Committee Chairman, Honorary Treasurer, Vice-Dean, and Part II Examiner. Dr. Dermot Malone was acknowledged and thanked for his contribution as Scientific Committee Chairman, Research Committee Chairman, and for his general contribution as a Board member. The contribution of Dr. Donnie Ormonde on the Board of the Faculty was also acknowledged. Dr. Sean Darby also resigned as Board member during the year, and his contribution is also acknowledged.

During the year Dr Ronan McDermott stepped down as Radiology Training Programme Coordinator and his significant contribution, particularly with respect to the accreditation processes in 2005 was unanimously recorded. Dr. Martina Morrin was welcomed as Training Programme Coordinator with the assurance of full support from the Education Committee and the Board of the Faculty.

The following Board members were nominated and agreed to take the following positions:

- Postgraduate Medical & Dental Board (Flexible Training Sub Committee): Dr. Patricia Fitzsimons.
- Radiological Protection Institute of Ireland (RPII): Dr. Niall McEniff.
- Medical Council Registration Committee: Dr. Éamann Breatnach.
- National Advisory Committee of Medical Education & Training: Professor Peter McCarthy.
- Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies: Professor Peter McCarthy and Dr. Risteard Ó Laoide.

National Advisory Committee of Medical Education & Training

This Advisory Committee had its inaugural meeting in March 2007. All training bodies are represented on the Committee as well as representation from the HSE, the Higher Education Authority (HEA), the Department of Health & Children (DOHC), the Department of Education & Science, the Medical Council, Medical Schools, Medical Students and Patient Groups. The main purpose of the Committee is to provide oversight and advice on the implementation of the Fottrell and Buttimer Reports on undergraduate and postgraduate medical training respectively.

Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies

The Forum of Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies has representation from all the various postgraduate bodies. It is chaired by Professor TJ McKenna, former President of the RCPI. The Dean and Honorary Secretary of the Faculty are members of the Forum. The Forum interfaces with the HSE on issues such as medical education and training facilities, and the funding of pilot projects arising from the Fottrell and Buttimer Reports. A project on the rollout of Evidence

Based Training in Radiology, under the direction of Dr. D. Malone, was submitted by the Faculty of Radiologists. The submission was successful and received funding of €25,000 per annum over two years. Other issues addressed by the Forum include generic hospital inspections, overseas training, and audit of postgraduate medical training.

Faculty Interaction with HSE

During the year discussions took place with Mr John O'Brien, Director of the National Hospitals Office. Issues discussed included the expansion of the training programme by involving a substantial regional hospital rotation. Parallel with this development is the Faculty's intention to phase out the Supernumerary (Sponsored SpR) Programme which will require a further complement of approximately 25 additional substantive SpR posts. Other issues discussed included interventional radiology, community diagnostics and teleradiology, a national PACS/EPR strategy, and the radiation oncology training programme. Discussions continue with the HSE in an attempt to progress some of these issues.

Medical Practitioners Bill

The Medical Practitioners Bill was signed into law in June 2007. The Board of the Faculty had significant reservations concerning the new Bill. The Dean made formal representations on behalf of the Faculty concerning these reservations. The Faculty of Pathology RCPI and the Faculty of Radiologists RCSI now share a position on the Medical Council. The precise mechanisms by which this is achieved have not yet been clarified.

Visiting Professors

Bracco Visiting Professor: Dr. Denis Balfe, Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology visited Dublin from 22nd – 26th May 2006. Dr. Balfe gave a lecture entitled "Cross-sectional Imaging of the Retroperitoneum: the Layered Look" on Thursday 25th May 2006 in the Albert Theatre, RCSI.

Faculty Interviews

First year SpR interviews took place on 27th February 2007. 62 applications were received and 13 substantive trainee posts were filled. The standard of applicants was again extremely high, with very many having received gold medals in their undergraduate careers. In addition very many of the candidates had considerable achievements in their clinical years to date. It is a credit to the Faculty of Radiologists Training Programme and especially the Training Coordinators, Drs Martina Morrin and Ronan McDermott that the radiology programme continues to attract the brightest and best medical graduates.

15 Higher Training (fifth year SpRs) were appointed. These SpRs have chosen to do a fifth training programme in one or two subspecialties of their choice.

Faculty Appointments in Europe and North America

Dr. Éamann Breatnach continues his significant contribution as member of the Executive of ESR and Chairman of its Education Committee. He is also the Faculty representative on UEMS, as well as being a member of the International Committee of the Radiological Society of North America.

Dr. Pradeep Govender, an SpR in the Adelaide / Meath Hospital, is the current trainee representative on the Executive of the European Radiologists Trainee Forum. He has also been elected Treasurer of this Forum.

O'Halpin / Linders Scholarship

Dr. Yusra Omar Sheikh commenced her training in Cork University Hospital in September 2006 as the third candidate on this scholarship. The other two candidates on the programme, Dr. Irene Mwangi and Dr Rowland Okello Okumu continue their training in the Mater University Hospital and St. Vincent's University Hospital respectively.

The charity status of the scholarship fund has been formalised and Fellows of the Faculty continue to donate generously to the fund.

Faculty Office Staff

The business of the Faculty continues to increase inexorably. The entire Faculty remain indebted to our full time secretary Ms. Jennifer O'Brien whose good humoured, willing, capable and efficient help is pivotal to all the work and achievements of the Faculty of Radiologists. We are also indebted to her able and capable assistant Ms. Karen Milling.

Meetings of the Board of the Faculty of Radiologists

Since the last AGM, October 2006, there have been five Board Meetings,

The Board of the Faculty for the years 2006/2007 was constituted as follows:

DEAN PETER MCCARTHY	TERM OF OFFICE 2004 – 2009 (Elected Dean 2006 – 2008)
VICE-DEAN BARRY KELLY	2002 – 2007
HONORARY TREASURER JOHN STACK	
HONORARY SECRETARY RISTÉARD Ó LAOIDE	2003 – 2008
BOARD MEMBERS	
CAITRIONA O’SULLIVAN	2004 – 2009
NIALL MCENIFF	2003 – 2008
DONAL HOLLYWOOD	2002 – 2007
JOHN BUCKLEY	2003 – 2008
SEAN DARBY	2003 – 2008
PATRICIA FITZSIMONS	2005 – 2010
WILLIAM TORREGGIANI	2006 – 2011
RONAN S. RYAN	2006 – 2011
IAN KELLY	2006 – 2011
ÉAMANN BREATNACH	2000 – 2005
COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE: EX-OFFICIO:	Mr. Freddie Wood Prof. Gerald C. O’Sullivan (President, RCSI)

Dr. Ristéard Ó Laoide
Honorary Secretary

Finance and General Purposes Committee Annual Report 2006/2007



The accounts for the Faculty year ending 30th September 2006 were prepared with the assistance of the Finance Department RCSI and audited by PriceWaterHouseCoopers.

The finances of the Faculty remain satisfactory. Revenue from members’ subscriptions and training programme remain an important contribution to the support of the Faculty. The pharmaceutical industry and equipment manufacturers have continued their generous support of the academic meetings and contribute to the costs of the overseas visiting lecturers. Their contribution is greatly acknowledged and enables the Faculty to maintain the high standard of the teaching programme. The Faculty also acknowledges the ongoing financial assistance from the Postgraduate Medical & Dental Board which, this year, amounted to €92,900, enabling the continuance of the teaching programme and library facilities.

Expenditure increased marginally on the previous year, mainly due to the cost of the Spring and Annual Scientific Meetings, along with the Central Shared Costs levied by the RCSI, and rental charges for the Faculty accommodation. The Spring Meeting incurred a significant loss, with a small profit from the Annual Scientific Meeting.

It is likely that expenditure for 2008 will rise significantly due to increased clinical activity in sub-specialty programmes, and examination costs due to proposed modifications in Fellowship examinations. Further expenditure will be incurred with the incorporation of MOODLE software into the teaching programme, and also additional Officers attendance will be required at meetings organized under the auspices of the HSE, e.g. Forum and its sub-groups.

The Faculty's investment portfolio has continued to perform satisfactorily throughout the year. It is unlikely that gains made in the past two years will be obtained in the coming year due to increasing inflation, rising interest rates and possible downturn in economic activity in Europe and North America. A relatively broad portfolio will be maintained.

The O'Halpin / Linders Scholarship was awarded to Dr. Yusra Sheikh Omar who is based in Cork University Hospital. Dr. Omar is the third recipient of the Scholarship, aimed at providing the Faculty trained radiologists returning to their departments in Kenya. Details of the programme are provided in previous Annual Newsletters and in Dr Éamann Breatnach's report to follow.

Specialty Groups

There are currently four sub-specialty groups in the Faculty;

Breast Imaging chaired by Dr. Patricia Fitzsimons
Interventional Radiology, chaired by Dr. Niall McEniff
Nuclear Medicine chaired by Dr. Martin O'Connell
Paediatric Imaging chaired by Dr. Stephanie Ryan

The sub-specialty groups are an important educational resource funded by the Faculty. The Faculty greatly acknowledges the contribution made by the Officers of these groups and is happy to support their academic endeavours.

The Faculty welcomes Ms Karen Milling to the administrative staff. She joins Ms. Jennifer O'Brien who continues to provide the administrative cornerstone of our Faculty.

Our satisfactory financial position is due to the diligence and dedication of the previous Honorary Treasurers of the Faculty, most recently Professor Peter McCarthy, whose influence and enthusiasm has provided financial stability ensuring the Faculty continues to flourish.

Dr. John Stack

Honorary Treasurer

Chairperson, Finance & General Purposes Committee

O'HALPIN LINDERS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT 2006/2007

This scholarship programme was inaugurated in 2005 to commemorate Dr. Dara O'Halpin, Consultant Paediatric Radiologist, Temple St. Hospital, past Board member and Hon. Treasurer, 2002 – 2003, and member of the Board of the Faculty. Three candidates from Nairobi, Kenya, are presently on the scholarship programme. I am pleased to report that all have had an exemplary academic record. Dr. Irene Mwangi, the first candidate, is an SPR in her third year at the Mater Hospital, Dr. Roland Okello is in his second year at St. Vincent's Hospital, and Dr. Yusra Skeikh Omar is in her first year at University College Hospital, Cork. On behalf of the candidates and Faculty I wish to thank consultants and SPR's in the host departments who have welcomed and assisted these candidates in every way.

I remind Faculty members that these scholarships cover all tuition fees, accommodation, books and reading materials, Medical Council fees, one home return trip per annum and a monthly living allowance. A conservative estimate of value is EU 50,000 per candidate per year. We are extremely grateful to the generous sponsors of this programme, and I would take this opportunity to remind all Faculty members that donations, large and small, to the scholarship fund are very welcome. A payment form to facilitate this is included separately in the annual Faculty call for subscription fees, and a tax efficient covenant is applicable.

Each candidate has been a graduate of Nairobi University Kenya, have applied through open competition, and interviewed locally by a distinguished local academic panel including Faculty representation. The successful candidate spends four years within the Faculty training programme before returning to Nairobi to appointments within the Mater Hospital Nairobi, Kenyatta Hospital, Nairobi, with teaching duties at Nairobi University, together with an outreach commitment. I visited Nairobi in January of this year to ensure that the positions available will reflect fully the outreach and educational spirit of the programme. On completion of the present programme of three candidates there are no immediate plans for further candidates and the fundraising focus will be aimed at provision of adequate equipment within the participating institutions so that the skills of these excellent radiologists will be fully realised. Resulting from this visit, I can assure all sponsors and Faculty that on completion of this phase a core of radiologic expertise will exist within the Nairobi area which will have an ongoing and impressive impact on both local services to the needy, and educational standards within radiology for Kenya. There are plans that a similar structure will be adopted in the future for an alternate needy community on completion of the present programme.

Dr. Éamann Breatnach

EUROPEAN AFFAIRS



The major event and achievement of 2006 in European Radiology was the official launch of the European Society of Radiology, dissolving as separate entities and combining both the EAR (European Association of Radiology) and ECR (European Congress of Radiology) into a single society. This important development was the result of many years of complex negotiations between both bodies, and Faculty can be proud that its own Past Dean Dr. Gerry Hurley, was pivotal in their progress and ultimate success.

The new European Society of Radiology (ESR) statutes and proposals were presented at the Annual Leadership Meeting in 2006, where I can report overwhelming support for the concept. Statutes for the new organisation were ratified at the General Assembly of the European Society of Radiology at the ECR meeting in March 2007. The rules of the new society were agreed at an Executive Board Meeting of the ESR in June '07. Members of the Executive of ESR include Andy Adam, (UK) President '06/07, Iain McCall (United Kingdom) Fellow of the Faculty 2002, Vice President, Guy Frija (France) Secretary General, Éamann Breatnach (Ireland) Chairman of the Education Committee, Bruno Silberman (France) Chairman Professional Organisation Committee, Gabriel P Krestin (Holland) Chairman Research Committee, Jose Bilbao (Spain) Chairman Sub Specialities Committee, Andras Palko (Hungary) Chairman, National Organisation Committee, Adrian Dixon (United Kingdom) Editor of European Radiology, Christian J Herold (Austria) Austria Congress Chairman, and Dr. B. Marincek (Switzerland), Congress Representative.

European affairs, and an appreciation of their importance for Faculty have been recognised in the agreed nomination by Board of Prof. Nick Gourtsoyannis, immediate Past President EAR as an honorary fellow in 2006 and of Prof. Andy Adam, President ESR as honorary fellow of the Faculty for 2007. I have no doubt that the European backdrop will have an increasing significance for Faculty business in the future, and in many cases will supplant Faculty's heretofore reference to exclusively North American and British structures. The publication of the European Training Curriculum Charter represents a defining moment for European radiologic training and its influence on the standardisation of training throughout Europe cannot be overemphasised. A full report of the educational committee of the ESR, along with full text of the European Training Curriculum guidelines are available for download from the ESR website, www.myesr.org. It is reassuring to report that Faculty's training structures and curriculum adhere fully to these recommendations. This reference point will be of great assistance to Faculty in making its case to remain the body solely responsible for educational standards in radiology in this jurisdiction: adherence to it will represent a strong supportive argument for Faculty position, which one can predict will come under increasing pressure to shorten the period of specialist radiology training in the interests of service. Wide dissemination of its principles will also assist in evaluating European credentials which will be a potentially contentious issue in the context of HSE plans to dramatically expand consultant numbers.

European Society of Radiology has produced a number of other publications on matters of radiologic practice including Teleradiology, Best Practice, Risk Management, CME/CPD guidelines etc which I commend to all faculty members. These are available for download from the ESR website <http://www.myesr.org>.

I would like to congratulate the Dean and Board on the decision to join all Faculty members as individual members of the new ESR, where membership within six months of commencement stands at 17,000. The ESR Executive plans

that by 2009 ESR will be the largest single radiologic society worldwide with a membership larger than that of RSNA or any equivalent organisation. Faculty's voting power will depend directly on our membership base, and within the new voting systems of ESR it is essential that this should be kept to a maximum. Details of this voting structure are available under ESR statutes, www.myesr.org. I would like to take this opportunity to encourage in particular younger Faculty members to become involved in European structures and wish to congratulate Dr. Pradeep Govender who was appointed Treasurer of ESR Radiology Trainees Forum (RTF) in March '07.

I have been pleased to act as Faculty representative at UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialties) meetings since the retirement of my predecessor as Faculty Representative, Dr. James Masterson, Past Dean. Dr. Masterson represented Faculty at UEMS where he was a highly influential and respected voice. The Union of European Medical Specialties (UEMS) is the body that represents over two million E.U. hospital doctors. The importance of this body is its singular recognition by the EU parliament as being the official negotiating body for European hospital doctors and recognises 52 medical specialties grouped into 37 sections. The UEMS deals largely with professional issues, but is also involved through the Education Committee of ESR with matters of training. This year saw the election of Peter Pattynama as President of the Radiology Section of UEMS. I look forward to close cooperation with him in the future, specifically in areas of common interests, eg. the development of a standardised European CME programme for radiology within Europe, development of European Diploma etc. 2007-2008 promises to be another important year in the consolidation and evolution of the new European structures.

Finally, I would encourage Faculty members to attend next year's ESR meeting in Vienna, from March 7th – 11th 2008. Our SPR's continue to be active presenters and many Irish Faculty members are invited speakers and moderators at this meeting. I would like to congratulate Prof. Michael Lee on his Chairmanship of the Interventional Subcommittee of the Congress and I look forward to representing Faculty's priorities at every opportunity.

Dr. Éamann Breatnach

Breast Radiology Sub-Group Annual Report 2006/2007



The Breast Radiology Group met on two occasions in 2006 & 2007. On the 3rd of April 2006 they attended as part of the Breast Disease conference in Croke Park. The workshop was held to discuss the National Quality Assurance standards for symptomatic breast disease. Significant contribution was made to these Standards and they were published on the 18 of May 2007, and launched by Mary Harney, Minister for Health in Government Buildings. The formal Educational and Social meeting was held in the Heritage Hotel in Killenard, Co Laois and Dr. Deirdre Duke from Beaumont Hospital gave an excellent talk on Pre-operative Assessment of Local Disease extent in Breast Cancer. This was well attended by members from all the regions.

Dr. Patricia Fitzsimons
Chairman of the Breast Radiology Subgroup

Nuclear Medicine Sub-Group Annual Report 2006/2007

The nuclear medicine subgroup met at the Faculty of Radiologists Annual Scientific Meeting in September. Submissions were sought from Radiologists and Nuclear Medicine Physicians for a list of the most appropriate and accurate indications for PET/CT in clinical practice. At the meeting these indications were discussed and a summary document was compiled. Indications for nuclear cardiology investigations and a discussion of new developments in nuclear medicine also took place.

Dr. Martin O'Connell
Chairperson of the Nuclear Medicine Subgroup

Validation Committee Annual Report 2006/2007



The Validation Committee was originally constituted by the Dean in November 2004 in order to oversee the marked increase in applications to the Faculty for Validation of credentials and training of candidates applying for posts in Ireland. The Validation Committee is a subcommittee of the Board and reports directly to it.

The validation committee met on the 4th July 2007 to review and update its criteria for validation of candidates. The group consisted of the chair, the Dean as well as other board members and undertook a revision of the requirements of the faculty of Radiology to recommend placement of an applicant on the register of specialist training in Radiology. These requirements were updated and agreed by the group. A summary of the updated criteria is as follows:

The requirements to be placed on register of specialist training in Radiology.

- 1). Possession of a primary medical qualification eligible for full registration with the Irish Medical Council.
- 2). Possession of the Fellowship of the Faculty of Radiologists RCSI or equivalent
- 3). Possession of 5 years satisfactory training in Radiology. Training must be deemed equivalent to training in radiology under the auspices of the Faculty of Radiology, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland.
- 4). Up to date CV
- 5). Up to date references
- 6). Proof of training with copies of all relevant degrees
- 7). IELTS certificate in English for all non EU applicants with a minimum score of 7 in each of the four bands

For EU applicants for certificate of specialist doctor or certificate of specialist training, the Medical Council of Ireland has the following rules in its regulations:

Applicants must:

- Be an EU National
- Have an EU Primary Medical Qualification
- Have completed the majority of their training in Ireland

The Medical Council is the competent authority in Ireland responsible for issuing Certificates of Specialist Doctor and Certificates of Specific Training under EU Directive 93/16/EEC as amended. These Certificates are issued to facilitate freedom of movement throughout the EU. The three above criteria must be met for the issue of certificates under the terms of the free-movement directive 93/16/EEC:

The group at this years meeting discussed in detail applications by 9 candidates who have applied for validation. The majority of these applications are sent through the medical council and the validation committee works closely and within the rules and regulations of the medical council in processing these applications. The validation committee expects that the numbers applying will grow substantially over the next few years. The validation committee will play a major role in ensuring standards in radiology are kept to the same high standard that presently exist and ensuring only fully trained radiologists are validated.

**Dr William C. Torreggiani,
Chairman of the Validation Committee.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2007-2008



Faculty of Radiologists

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 123 St. Stephens Green, Dublin 2

Tel: 402 2139

Email: radiology@rcsi.ie

Fax: 402 2466

Website: radiology.ie

4th to 8th February 2008

Radiation Oncology Accreditation

March 4th & 5th 2008

Mock Part I Examinations

March 7th to 11th 2008

ECR

March 15th to 20th 2008

RCSI Overseas Meeting, Malta

7th to 9th April 2008

Final FFR Radiodiagnosis

19th to 21st May 2008

Primary FFR Radiodiagnosis

21st to 23rd May 2008

Final FFR Radiotherapy

12th to 14th June 2008

Faculty of Radiologists ESSR-BSSR Combined 'Spring' Meeting, Galway

14th July 2008

Postgraduate Conferring

8th to 10th September 2008

Primary FFR Radiodiagnosis

Thursday 25th to Saturday 27th September 2008

Annual Scientific Meeting and Dinner (Venue: RCSI, Dublin)

10th to 12th November 2008

Final FFR Radiodiagnosis

12th to 14th November 2008

Final FFR Radiotherapy

30th November to 5th December 2008

RSNA

15th December 2008 TBC

Postgraduate Conferring

MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES 2006 / 2007

Radiation Oncology Committee

Chairperson:	Dr. C. O'Sullivan Prof. D. Hollywood Dr. M. Moriarty Dr. M. Pomeroy Dr. P. Thirion Dr. C. Faul Dr. S. McAleer Dr. C. McGibney Dr. É. Breatnach	St. Luke's Hospital St. Luke's Hospital St. Luke's Hospital – Chair Emeritus St. Luke's Hospital – UCHG Rep. St. Luke's Hospital – SLH Rep. St. Luke's Hospital Belvoir Park Hospital, Belfast – Belfast Rep University College Hospital, Cork – Cork Rep. Mater Misericordiae Hospital
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Corresponding Members:

	Dr. M. Maher Dr. J. O'Sullivan Dr. J. Harney Dr. M. Hurley	Mater Private Hospital Belvoir Park Hospital, Belfast Belvoir Park Hospital, Belfast University College Hospital, Cork
Ex-Officio	Prof. P. McCarthy Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologists

Continuing Medical Education (CME) Committee

Chairperson:	Dr. J. Buckley Dr. C. Collum Dr. G. Hurley Dr. D. Malone Dr. M. Maher Dr. D. McInerney Dr. D. O'Driscoll Dr. J. Morris Dr. K. Carroll Dr. H. Kelly Dr. É. Breatnach	Cork University Hospital Naas General Hospital Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Tallaght St. Vincent's University Hospital Mater Misericordiae Hospital Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Tallaght Letterkenny General, Donegal Mullingar Regional Hospital St. Luke's Hospital, Kilkenny Kerry General Hospital, Tralee Mater Misericordiae Hospital
Ex-Officio	Prof. P. McCarthy Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologist

Education Committee

Chairperson	Prof. P. McCarthy Dr. É. Breatnach Dr. D. McInerney Dr. M. Ryan Dr. P. MacEaney Dr. C. Brenner Dr. R. Browne Prof. M. Lee Dr. R. Ó Laoide Dr. F. McGrath Dr. I. Kelly Dr. B. Kelly Dr. R. McDermott Dr. C. Faul	University College Hospital, Galway Mater Misericordiae Hospital Adelaide / Meath Hospital, Tallaght Regional Hospital, Cork Mercy University Hospital, Cork Our Lady's Hospital Adelaide / Meath Hospital, Tallaght Beaumont Hospital St. Vincent's University Hospital Beaumont Hospital Waterford Regional Hospital Royal Victoria Hospital Co-ordinator Irish Training Programme St. Luke's Hospital
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Prof. S. Eustace	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
Dr. M. Morrin	Beaumont Hospital
Dr. B. Morrissey	Sligo General Hospital
Dr. P. Govender	Trainee Representative
Dr. S. Ryan	Children's University Hospital, Temple St.
Dr. A. Quinn	Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda
Dr. D. Brophy	St. Vincent's Hospital
Dr. I. Davidson	University College Hospital, Galway
Dr. J. Coffey	St. Luke's Hospital
Dr. M. O'Connell	Mater Misericordiae Hospital

Ex-Officio:	Prof. P. McCarthy	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists
	Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologists

Finance & General Purposes Committee

Chairperson:	Dr. J. Stack	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
	Prof. P. McCarthy	University College Hospital, Galway
	Dr. A.J. O'Dwyer	Beaumont Hospital
	Dr. P. Brennan	Beaumont Hospital
	Dr. C O'Sullivan	St. Luke's Hospital
	Dr. R. Deignan	Wexford General Hospital
	Dr. M. McNicholas	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
	Dr. D. McInerney	Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Tallaght
	Dr. N. McEniff	St. James's Hospital
	Dr. D. Malone	St. Vincent's University Hospital
	Dr. L. Johnston	Belfast City Hospital
	Dr. R. Ó Laoide	St. Vincent's Hospital
	Dr. D. Brophy	St. Vincent's Hospital
	Dr. É. Breatnach	Mater Misericordiae Hospital

Ex-Officio	Prof. P. McCarthy	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists
	Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologists

Overseas Committee

Chairperson	Dr. D. McInerney	Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Tallaght
	Dr. J. Masterson	St. Vincent's Hospital
	Dr. D. O'Connell	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
	Dr. N. Murphy	University College Hospital, Galway
	Dr. J. Kelleher	Our Lady's Hospital for sick Children, Crumlin
	Prof. P. McCarthy	University College Hospital, Galway
	Dr. É. Breatnach	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
	Dr. John Stack	Mater Misericordiae Hospital

Ex-Officio	Prof. P. McCarthy	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists
	Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologists

Radiation Protection Committee

Chairperson:	Dr. Ronan S. Ryan	Mayo General Hospital, Castlebar
	Dr. P. Brennan	Beaumont Hospital
	Dr. L. Johnston	Belfast City Hospital
	Dr. N. O'Donovan	South Infirmary Hospital, Cork
	Dr. M. Casey	St. Vincent's University Hospital
	Dr. D. Ormonde	Waterford Regional Hospital

Prof. P. McCarthy	University College Hospital, Galway
Dr. M. Moriarty	St. Luke's Hospital
Dr. É. Breatnach	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
Dr. S. Ryan	Children's University Hospital, Temple St.

Ex-Officio	Prof. P. McCarthy	Dean, Faculty of Radiologists
	Dr. R. Ó Laoide	Honorary Secretary, Faculty of Radiologists

Scientific Committee

Chairperson

Dr. B. Kelly	Royal Victoria Hospital
Dr. D. Malone	St. Vincent's University Hospital
Dr. R. Ó Laoide	St. Vincent's University Hospital
Dr. N. McEniff	St. James's Hospital
Dr. D. McInerney	Adelaide & Meath Hospital, Tallaght
Prof. S. Eustace	Mater Misericordiae Hospital
Dr. C. Faul	St. Luke's Hospital
Dr. P. Kennedy	Royal Victoria Hospital
Dr. P. Kavanagh	James Connolly Memorial Hospital
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