

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021





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### **President's Report**

Professor George Shorten President

Both as an organisation and a community, our College has performed exceptionally well over the past year. The challenges posed by the pandemic are not over, and there will be lasting effects. Families have lost loved ones and others continue to struggle with Covid related illness. I believe that we can be proud of the manner in which our doctors have responded to the greatest threat to our public health in generations. We can also take pride in the manner in which the College has continued to deliver its core activities properly and well. The decision to undertake a fundamental digital transformation in the College's operation was made before the pandemic and has proven to be enlightened and effective. The passage of time will reveal the extent of the effect on those who have worked in very stressful conditions; we have a responsibility as a College to be perceptive to signals of distress and to respond effectively.

As I write, it is the 22nd day of the Russian invasion of the Ukraine. Our College condemns the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and stands in solidarity with the Ukrainian people. We are deeply worried about the consequences of the war for Ukrainian people and the doctors, health and social care professionals providing care to them. I have written to Professor Sergii Dubrov, President of Ukrainian Society of Anaesthesiologists expressing our support and asking if there are specific ways in which we can help his members. The College has made a donation of EU 5,000 towards humanitarian aid for those affected by the war.

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In 2021, I expressed to Council the view that our College can become, and be acknowledged as one of the best medical training bodies in Europe by 2030. Since then, preparations have been underway to enable us to take a lead in certain areas of "best practice," while maintaining consistently high standards in our core activities of training and assessment. In April 2022, as we re-examine our five year Strategy, we put meat on the bones of that aspiration: important initiatives include the introduction of education in reflective practice in a meaningful way, piloting proficiency-based progression training, collaborating with international experts to define what our training outcomes should be and embedding inclusivity in our organisation at all levels and in all our practices. We will be ambitious in extending the scale and value of our offering to overseas trainees through the International Medical Graduates Training in Ireland programme. As partner to the Forum Strategic Framework for Postgraduate Training in Ireland (2021-30), we have taken the lead in the Objective 3, namely "Collection and use of data to measure training and develop actionable insights to improve training and patient safety". Patient Safety is central to what our College does; under the leadership of Professor Barry Lyons and Dr Deirdre McCoy, the National Patient Safety in Anaesthesia Conference 2021 (November 12th) showcased the impressive advances made in this field in Ireland and internationally.

During 2021-2, our Council has proven itself to be resourceful, and decisive. It has made key decisions regarding continuation of our training and educational activities, and examinations. A respectful, responsible and open culture is evident in the manner in which the Council operates; this is attributable, I believe in no small part, to the leadership of my predecessor Professor Brian Kinirons. This year will see the departure from Council of three elected members whose contributions over the past decade have been exceptional: they are Professor Kevin Clarkson, Dr Anne Hennessy and Dr Rory Page. Two of our non-executive members of Council, Mr Len O'Hagan and Mr Enda Brazel have also stepped down, having served with diligence and commitment. Much of what the College has achieved over recent years can be directly traced to the generous and expert input of these individuals. On behalf of the College, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to each of them.

I would like to acknowledge specifically the work of the Finance and General Purposes Committee, chaired by Treasurer, Dr John O'Dea (and on an interim basis by Professor Clarkson) which has directed our financial affairs in a manner that is rigorous, ethically sound and effective. In 2021, the Council approved a revised set of terms of reference for the College Executive Committee which explicitly enables it to take actions which it deems to be consistent with the direction(s) and intent set out by Council.

### EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY (EDI)

Led by Dr Niamh Hayes and Mr Martin McCormack, a College EDI strategy is being developed, which adapts the US Aid Framework for our purposes. Our vision is to create an inclusive environment in which individuals can operate at all levels regardless of their personal circumstances. Our aims are to ensure representativeness, provide role models, and to optimise College performance and to foster a sense of community based on inclusivity. Our success as a College depends on the diversity of our staff, our trainees and our fellows; the Framework will ensure that we value and recognise the contribution that each individual makes. To quote Dr Kirsten Joyce in her 6

message marking International Women's Day, March 8th: "I'm both excited and hopeful to see change year on year. I'm lucky to have worked with many inspirational female consultants in anaesthesia and intensive care and consider many of them to be mentors both professionally and personally. I'm very proud to be a part of our profession's changing landscape."

#### TRAINING AND EXAMINATIONS

The College is first and foremost a Training Body and our trainees must be at the centre of our thinking, planning and activities. CAT Chair Dr Kirsten Joyce and her colleagues have been articulate and strong in representing the views of the trainee cohort. The emphasis placed by CAT on wellbeing generally, and, in particular, the demands placed on trainees by certain rosters has strongly influenced the College position in accrediting training sites and in our engagement with the HSE as employer.

The Training Department, led by Professor Camillus Power and Dr Eilis Condon, has effected fundamental changes to our National Training Programme since 2020, which include a new curriculum and e-portfolio system for trainees. These changes represent the results of effective co-operation between the Training Department and the Training Committee, chaired by Dr Brian O'Brien. The introduction of Workplace Based Assessments (WBAs) are a critical part of the move to Competency-based Training. Since their introduction during 2021, trainers and trainees have been learning how to conduct and log WBAs. Uptake and compliance with the new WBA requirements has been good, although not yet 100%. The College is committed to implementing WBAs as a sustainable means to ensuring that training is effective and feedback prompt and relevant. The number of trainees selected to commence the national training programme in July 2022 has increased to 48. We are delighted to return to an "in person" Conferring Ceremony on June 17, 2002; this is a landmark event for our graduates and their families and we welcome the opportunity to celebrate their achievements together. I would like to emphasize the importance of the role

of College tutor in maintaining consistently high standards of training. It is the cornerstone of our Training Programme and I would like to express sincere thanks to those who undertake it.

The College has a responsibility to support Non Training Scheme doctors working in our disciplines. This means that it should and will continue to offer facilities and support for NTSDs to pursue their professional and personal development. Dr Ehtesham Khan, as Chair of the Credentials Committee has played a central role in articulating the needs of these doctors and leading the College efforts to meet them. Specific initiatives include the provision of Simulation based Training courses offered specifically for NTSDs, and continued rollout of the Capstone Programme in Patient Safety by Professor Barry Lyons, Director of Patient Safety.

One of the exceptional achievements of the College during the past three years has been the implementation of online examinations in manner that is educationally rigorous and fair. This is the result of the work of the Examinations Committee, chaired by Professor Michael Griffin, and the Examinations Department. I would like to acknowledge the specific contribution of Dr Gareth Morrison for his invaluable analyses and advice. The development of a new set of Examination Regulations is nearing completion and will provide the College with a sound basis for future formal assessments.

### EDUCATION AND MAINTENANCE OF PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

Dr Niamh Hayes chairs both the Education Committee and the Professional Competence Working Group. In the former, the College has undertaken to pilot measurable and reproducible training effect through proficiency based progression training. In the latter, she leads the College efforts to implement the strengthened MCI Maintenance of Professional Competence Framework Model, which marks a shift towards CPD which is more reflective in nature. This is an area in which our College envisages taking a lead in ensuring that reflective practice becomes feasible, relevant and worthwhile.

#### **WELLNESS**

The Wellness Committee first convened in 2021 and, co-chaired by Drs Michelle Duggan and Pádraig Sheerin, undertake to develop a strategy and implementation plan for the promotion and maintenance of health and wellness amongst the CAI community. The Committee is committed to ensuring the plan produces meaningful improvements in the health and wellbeing of doctors practising in our disciplines: one specific outcome will be a Wellness Curriculum initially embedded in our Training Programme.

#### HSE LIAISON COMMITTEE

The HSE Liaison Committee, chaired by Dr Therese O'Connor, was also newly established (in 2021). It has been proactive in facilitating and informing CAI engagement with the HSE in areas of mutual responsibility. These include the recurrent imposition of emergency tax on doctors in training as they move from one HSE hospital to another, applications on behalf of the CAI to the National Development Programme funds, preparation of the College's annual Service Level Agreement with the HSE.

### THE JOINT FACULTY OF INTENSIVE CARE MEDICINE IN IRELAND

The work of Dr Andrew Westbrook as Dean, the Faculty Board and the National Clinical Programme for Critical Care has definitively influenced the government's Strategic Plan for Expansion of Critical Care Capacity. The Minister of Health has reiterated his commitment to deliver an increase in overall number of critical care beds to 350 by the end of 2022, and to meet the Plan's overall aim to deliver 446 operational critical care beds. Dr Michael Power has been an exceptional leader in this development and in fulfilling his responsibilities as Clinical Lead for the National Clinical Programme. It is a pleasure to express our gratitude to him for expert and sustained contributions.

### THE FACULTY OF PAIN MEDICINE

An application to establish a new two year training programme in Pain Medicine was submitted to the Medical Council on the 15th December 2021. This is an historic step in the development of the discipline of Pain Medicine in Ireland for which the Dean, Dr Hugh Gallagher and the Faculty members are to be congratulated. Substantial work remains to support preparatory work at training sites ahead of the MCI evaluation visit scheduled for October 2022. The role of supervisors of training in effecting the planned programme will be crucial.

### COLLEGE OF ANAESTHESIOLOGY SIMULATION TRAINING (CAST)

Professor Crina Burlacu has stepped down as Director of Simulation after a successful 13 year tenure during which she and her team developed the Centre and the Programme. On behalf of the College, I would like to express sincere gratitude to Prof Burlacu for her sustained and valuable commitment to CAST and to the College. Mr Nick Wall CAST Centre Technician and Manager has also stepped down after his 14 months tenure with the College. We wish Prof Burlacu and Mr Wall continued success in their future endeavours.

As an interim arrangement, Professor Barry Lyons has taken on the role of Director of Simulation (as well as retaining his Director of Patient Safety responsibilities. This represents a degree of selfless commitment, and indeed ability for which we as a College are very grateful. Former CAST staff have also agreed to return (part time) to support course delivery January–June 2022.

Recruitment for three roles is well advanced, namely a replacement post of CAST Centre Manager /Technician, Director of Technology Enhanced Learning and Clinical Lead for Simulation based Training. Once these roles are filled, a Simulation Working Group will convene with the remit of setting a clear plan and objectives for the College's simulation activities into the future. INTERNATIONAL

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Professor Brian Kinirons has continued to lead the College's Global Health activities during 2021/22, a role which Dr Patrick Seigne will assume after June 2022. entitled "COVID-19: Lessons for the future of Anaesthesia and Critical Care" on June 15-17, 2021. The conference was well attended (approximately 1000 registrants and >1000 views of the recorded material) and feedback was positive. On December 8, 2021, IACA delivered a webinar "Putting Doctors' Health and Wellbeing into Practice." and are planning a series of webinars for 2022/3 covering subjects such as sustainability and opioid prescribing.

The College continues to work closely with the Association of Anaesthetists and the two organisations have agreed to develop collaborative works streams on wellbeing, sustainability and the equality/diversity/ inclusivity agenda. Dr Wouter Jonker who has so ably chaired the Irish Standing Committee of the Association has kindly agreed to remain in the role beyond term, to facilitate the appointment of his successor.

The Royal College of Anaesthetist/British Journal of Anaesthesia / CAI Collaborative research grant for 2021 was awarded to an application led by Professor Donal Buggy and Professor Simon Howell for the Management and Outcomes of Perioperative Outcomes of European Diabetic Patients (MOPED) programme. The Northern Irish Board of the RCoA, chaired by Dr Will Donaldson, has continued to provide support and a crucial line of communication between the two Colleges on matters such as workforce planning, cross border transfer of patients, and the implications of Brexit for our disciplines. Internationally renowned intensivist, Dr Martin J Tobin delivered the inaugural Brian Kavanagh Lecture during the annual Congress in May 2021. The lecture title was "*Consensus, controversy and medicine*" and was a fitting tribute to the late Dr Kavanagh, a hugely influential figure in critical care and deeply missed by his friends, colleagues and the wider critical care community. Dr Stephen Bolsin, Professor Irene Tracey, and Dr. Ross Freebairn was conferred with Honorary Fellowships of the College at Congress 2021.

The Winter College Lecture entitled "the Thin Line between success and failure and how you can stay on the right side of it" was delivered by Mr Martin Bromiley OBE during the annual National Patient Safety Conference. Mr Turtle Bunbury's Gilmartin Lecture (December 9, 2021) entitled, " 'Of Chloroform, Contagion & the Comanche Nation: Aspects of the World in 1847' was enthralling and amusing.

I would like to express my personal thanks to Ms Rebecca Cornally who has provided me with exemplary administrative support over the past year. I believe that, during 2021/2, the College has again benefited to an immeasurable extent from the expertise, commitment and hard work of our COO, Ms Margaret Jenkinson and CEO Mr Martin McCormack. In his many roles within the College, Vice President, Professor Kevin Clarkson has been a consistent source of support and wise counsel.



### **Chief Executive Report**

Martin McCormack

2021 proved to be a year that tested our true resilience and determination in striving for excellence, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that created very challenging conditions for our Fellows, Trainees and staff and indeed postgraduate education and training globally.

I am proud of how much we were able to achieve — staying true to our core mission of promoting excellence in patient care and safety in the fields of anaesthesiology, intensive care and pain medicine.

### **RESPONDING TO COVID-19**

A key feature of 2021 was the substantial demands placed on already overstretched, understaffed and under resourced anaesthesiology, critical care and pain medicine services. The doctors we are privileged to serve had to change the way they worked, in very stressful circumstances. We were especially mindful of all our doctors who balanced their personal risk with their duty to care for patients as well as balance their responsibilities for members of their own family or household in high risk groups. There were periods of immense sadness and reflection during 2021 when colleagues, relatives and patients became very ill and died from COVID before a vaccination had arrived. I want to take a moment here once again to acknowledge the selflessness of all health care workers who died during the pandemic. Their deeds will inspire generations, long after the pandemic has passed.

As a College we responded to the crisis with the support of our Council and staff through a structured crisis management response framework. Our crisis response framework had four pillars: Clarity of action, Team Health and Safety, Business Strength and Financial Resilience.

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We coordinated and scaled the Colleges response, adapting to the circumstances that applied. This included the voluntary redeployment of trainees to accredited clinical sites being overwhelmed with critical care admissions, daily input to the HSE National COVID-19 response team and weekly attendance at the Department of Health leadership meeting with the Minister of Health, CEO of HSE, Chief Medical Officer in Dept of Health. The College officers and Executive also represented the voice of our Community to the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies, the Medical Council and HSE. I am proud of our College for leading with purpose and integrity and our staff who made every effort to support our community.

We continued to implement revised public health protocols to reduce risk of transmission and balance this with the need to progress trainees through their mandatory training. As the regulatory environment impacting our College and our people changed, we ensured compliance with all the regulatory requirements and mediated on issues impacting our Fellows and Trainees, such as changes to the Medical Council professional competence scheme.

From a business perspective the management team prepared a business plan for 2021 that preserved our core mission and the trust of our partners. We continued to focus on and support our ability to supply training and examinations.

Innovative use of online education and simulation alongside carefully managed in-person clinical and campus access, enabled our cohort of Specialist Anaesthesiologist Trainees to graduate from our Specialist Training Programme. We worked with the HSE to enhance the number and range of post CSCST Fellowships to support all doctors graduating with a CSCST to be able to pursue a Fellowship if desired. Through the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies of Ireland we reached agreement with the HSE that these posts could be filled by doctors within two years of completing CSCST or gaining entry to the specialist division of the register.

We provided support and access to mandatory training programmes for doctors in our community not registered on specialist training programmes, who are following a pathway to the specialist register in the Medical Council of Ireland.

Our Fellows provided expert commentary to numerous media outlets and played a key role in disseminating evidence based information to the public. We created free online resources to help and held some public information sessions online to bring trusted healthcare information to the public.

We adapted our resources to meet the needs of our Fellows, Trainees and Exam candidates, our colleagues here in Ireland as part of the International medical graduate Scholarship and Sponsored Fellowship programmes. In particular we monitored and responded to competitive dynamics globally to prepare for a bounce back scenario to full operational status. In 2021 we accelerated our digital transformation programme, "Project Ether" to support our mission through enhanced digital resources. We developed and delivered over 300 hours of continuing professional development material online, which were made available to Fellows and Trainees all over the world. This material was still being consumed up to 6 months after each event. We also used our webinar facility in conjunction with the JFICMI, ICSI and sister colleges and professional societies to disseminate trusted up to date research and to facilitate debate on issues relating to the pandemic and the profession.

As we approached the one year anniversary of the COVID19 in March 2021, our core strategic plan continued to serve as an enduring guide in the face of unprecedented crisis and societal change. As challenges abounded in 2021, our mission to "promote excellence in patient care and safety in the fields of anaesthesiology, perioperative medicine, intensive care & pain medicine", was fulfilled though strong performance. The CAI Council oversee the effectiveness of implementation of each of the five strategic objectives contained within our strategic plan.

Some of the highlights of our achievements were:

- Developed a new CAPSTONE programme in Patient Safety and Quality Improvement
- Implemented key changes to support our Curriculum (WBAs).

- Successful reaccreditation of our SAT programme by the Irish Medical Council.
- Digital transformation programme milestones achieved in online exam delivery, online eportfolio, digital PCS system.
- Contributed to review of national international medical graduates training initiative with Dept of Health, Dept of Justice and HSE.
- Enhanced our business continuity framework, including our digital platform to deliver education events.
- Played a leadership role in the development of the International Academy of Colleges of Anaesthesiologists (CAI, ANZCA, RCPSC, RCOA, HKCA). Joint collaboration on wellbeing for doctors.
- Our Annual Congress and Scientific meeting in May and National Patient Safety in Anaesthesia Conference in November 2021
- Began development of equality, diversity and inclusion framework.
- Successful business case for start-up phase of national learning analytics unit

#### PURPOSE, VALUES AND BUSINESS MODEL

During 2021 we continued to revise our financial plan and perform scenario-based stress tests, ensuring cost discipline across the College, managing our cash and liquidity and I am pleased to report an overall surplus for 2021. In terms of business continuity, our people and our plans were severely tested in 2021. I am proud to say that we have weathered the storm and emerged stronger, continuing to pursue operational excellence and following through our long-term growth strategies as we strive towards our vision.

### **FUTURE PLANS**

In 2022 our Council and Executive team will lead a refresh of our corporate strategy focusing on our core mission in medical education and postgraduate training, patient safety and quality of care and quality examinations.

We will complete this phase of our digital transformation programme and introduce a more personalised Members and Fellows database and bring in key changes to how we manage, publicise and run our events.

We will engage with an independent external review of our governance framework and effectiveness of our board and committees. We will launch a series of initiatives to deliver on our strategy and to achieve excellence. We will communicate our equality, diversity and inclusion framework and develop our roadmap to guide the College community. We will benchmark our current position and publish our benchmark and progress.

We will collaborate with international partners to produce a consensus statement on training outcomes in Anaesthesiology (target for completion is 2023). Separately we will expand how we measure learning using a proficiency based progression approach.

We are planning a major change in how we embed reflective practice in our education and maintenance of professional competence. We are committed to continuing to support our global health initiatives in Malawi and CANESCA, as well as our sponsorship of WFSA Fellowships in low and middle income countries.

We look ahead to 2022 and beyond with confidence. I want to thank all our Staff, our Clinical leads, Faculty, Examiners, Tutors, Council, Trainees and Fellows for your trust and continued support. Together, we are ready for what's next.

Mr Martin McCormack, CEO, CAI

## CAI COUNCIL MEMBERS 2021–2022

Prof George Shorten President

Prof Kevin Clarkson Vice President/ Chair Sustainability Committee

Dr Anne Hennessy Hon Secretary

Dr John O'Dea Hon Treasurer

Dr Deirdre McCoy Chair, Q&S Committee

Dr Ehtesham Khan Chair, Credentials Committee

Dr Niamh Hayes Chair, Education Committee and PCS Group

Prof Michael Griffin Chair, Examinations Committee

Dr Brian O'Brien Chair, Training Committee

Prof Donal Buggy Chair, Congress ASM Committee

Dr Therese O'Connor Chair, HSE Committee

Dr Padraig Sheeran Co Chair, Wellbeing Committee

Dr Michelle Duggan Co Chair, Wellbeing Committee Dr Rory Page Chair, Hospital Accrediation

Mr Len O'Hagan Non executive Member

Mr Enda Brazel Non executive Member

### **CO-OPTED MEMBERS**

Dr Andrew Westbrook Dean, Joint Faculty of Intensive Care

Dr Hugh Gallagher Dean, Faculty of Pain Medicine

Dr Wouter Jonker Convener ISC, Association of Anaesthetists

Dr Kirsten Joyce Chair, CAT Committee

### **EX-OFFICIO**

Mr Martin McCormack CEO

Ms Margaret Jenkinson COO

Dr Brian Kinirons Immediate Past President

Dr Camillus Power Director of Training & Education

Dr Will Donaldson Northern Ireland RCoA





### Honorary Treasurer's Report

Dr John O'Dea,

Honorary Treasurer and Chairman of the Finance & General Purpose Committee

Clearly 2021 was a year that continued to be dominated by challenges arising from the COVID-19 pandemic, and associated restrictions on the holding of examinations, courses and other events. Notwithstanding this, the significant investment undertaken in our IT infrastructure during 2019 and 2020, which allowed all examinations and many courses and events to be held remotely, led to a strong recovery in these sources of income. Our Annual Scientific Meeting, which had to be cancelled in 2020, was held online for the first time in 2021. Based on the success of this event, we are continuing with virtual format for our 2022 Congress.

During 2021 we engaged closely with the HSE in order to identify and secure additional opportunities for new development and project funding. We also engaged with the various sponsoring bodies in relation to International Fellows in order to ensure that these doctors could resume travel to Ireland once COVID-related travel restrictions were eased. Both of these strategies have been successful, yielding financial gains in 2021 which have continued into 2022.

These factors, together with the support of our members through the payment of their Annual Subscriptions, as well as strong performance from our investment, have resulted in the recording of a surplus of €304,483 for 2021. This compares very favourably to the deficit of €36,185 recorded in 2020.

In 2021 we commenced the final phase of our IT infrastructure upgrade which will see the replacement of our existing membership database and events-management system with a fully integrated cloud-based solution. This is scheduled to be completed over the coming months. The upgrade will yield benefits for the College in terms of financial management and data security, but also for our members through the roll-out of a new members' portal on our website. This portal will extend greater control and flexibility to members in terms of their interactions with the College, as it will include self-service options for a number of areas that currently require members to contact the Finance Office directly.

The College continues to pursue a prudent approach to risk management, through ongoing review and assessment of the risks facing the college and implementation of timely actions to mitigate these risks. Our risk register continues to be a key tool in this area.

At the date of writing this report, we do not envisage any conditions that would impact on the College's ability to continue as a going concern. We have demonstrated resilience throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, which

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bodes well for our capacity to deal with any unforeseen challenges that future may bring.

We have again received a clean audit report from our auditors this year. The Financial Statements of the College for the year ended 31st December 2021 are provided on pages 16 to19 of this annual report.

### **INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Total income for the financial year ended 31st December 2021 was €4,069,290, which represents a 24% increase on the income generated in 2020. HSE funding continues to be our single largest source of income, accounting for 51% of total income in 2021. While this percentage has declined from 59% in the prior year, the level of funding received in monetary terms increased by €159K compared to 2020. This was mainly due to additional project funding to assist with development of new educational courses and research initiatives for our Trainees and Fellows. Annual subscriptions was our second largest source of income, accounting for 15% of total income. This was followed income from Examinations and then Educational Meetings & Courses which accounted for 13.7% and 6.3% of income respectively. It should be noted that income from these three categories has recovered strongly compared to 2020, and has surpassed the income generated from these streams in 2019, pre-pandemic.

Total expenditure for 2021 was €3,764,807. This represents a 13% increase on 2020 expenditure. This increase was expected and is directly attributable to the growth in activity with regard to examinations, courses and events in 2021 compared to 2020. The fact that the increase in expenditure was significantly lower than the 24% growth in income for 2021 is due to prudent control of College overheads, as well as efficiencies associated with the virtual platforms used for remote delivery of examinations and courses.





### **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** 2020-2021





### **EXPENDITURE BY CATEFORY**



### **BALANCE SHEET**

The Balance Sheet shows the assets, liabilities and resulting accumulated funds of the College at year end. Total accumulated funds at 31st December 2021 were €10,823,643, which represents an increase of €304,483 on the level recorded at the previous year-end. This is explained by the aforementioned surplus generated for 2021.

In terms of the movement in key elements of the Balance Sheet during 2021, Debtors at 31st December 2021 increased by 16% on the prior year level. This is largely a timing issue, relating to balances owing from the HSE and sponsors of International Fellowships. We expect all debtor balances to be fully recoverable.

Creditors decreased by 20% on the level recorded at 31st December 2020. This is explained by an unusually high level of creditors at 31st December 2020, arising from balances owing in connection investment in our IT infrastructure, a significant amount of which occurred towards the end of 2020. Investments increased by €540K in the year, due to both additional funds invested, as well as an increase in the market value of the investments between the two year ends.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank CAI members for their continued support through the payment of the Annual Subscription. The fact that income from Annual Subscriptions has not only recovered to the pre-pandemic level, but surpassed it, is a testament to the commitment of our members in their support for the College and is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the commitment and support of members of the Finance committee for their diligent work and ongoing financial stewardship, thereby ensuring the continued success of the College. I would also like to thank the staff in the Finance office, Margaret Jenkinson our Chief Operations & Finance Officer and her team — Ben Courtney, Natalie Brennan & Siobhán Maher. We look forward to another productive year for 2022.



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### **BALANCE SHEET**

### As at 31 December 2021

	2021	2020
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	5,902,767	6,073,611
Investments	2,035,035	1,494,664
	7,937,802	7,568,275
Current Assets		
Debtors	842,902	727,673
Cash at bank and in hand	2,673,792	3,009,353
	3,516,694	3,737,026
Creditors		
Amounts falling due within one year	(630,853)	(786,141)
NET CURRENT ASSETS	2,885,841	2,950,885
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	10,823,643	10,519,160
Capital and Reserves		
ACCUMULATED FUNDS	10,823,643	10,519,160

On behalf of the Board of Directors Prof George Shorten, President CAI Dr John O Dea, Honorary Treasurer, Chairperson Finance and General Purpose Committee



Independent auditor's report to the members of The College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland CLG





### Report on the audit of the financial statements

### **OPINION**

We have audited the financial statements of The College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland CLG ('the College'), which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the Company financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in Note 3. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council (FRS 102)

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the Company as at December 31, 2021, and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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### OPINIONS ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- the information given in the directors' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements;
- the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements;
- the accounting records of the Company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited; and
- the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

### MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the Company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of Sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the Company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES**

### Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement out on page 19, the directors responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority's website. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

FURTHER READING OUR RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-9b8fa98202dc9c3a/description\_of\_auditors\_responsibilities\_for\_audit.pdf

### THE PURPOSE OF OUR AUDIT WORK AND TO WHOM WE OWE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES

Our report is made solely to the Company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Company and the Company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Tommy Doherty**

for and on behalf of Mazars Chartered Accountants & Statutory Audit Firm Harcourt Centre, Block 3 Harcourt Road Dublin 2



# Training Committee and Directors of Training, 2021



Chairman Dr Brian O'Brien Director of Training Prof Camillus Power Deputy Director of Training Dr Eilis Condon

The Committee met four times over 2021, with all meetings on line. The impact of Covid-19 on training varied greatly over 2021 but ultimately became familiar and manageable, thanks to technology-based solutions to teaching and examining. These challenges, and a determination not to allow individual's training to be disrupted by the pandemic, have directed many of our discussions and decisions. The rapid adaptability shown by the College at corporate level, to develop, innovate and implement such solutions was remarkable, while also typical of the attitudes and outlook that characterise our professional practice. The Committee formally changed its name from the Training & Education Committee to the Training Committee in September 2021. The Terms of Reference were updated to reflect this change. The e-Curriculum for the SAT programme will be updated in 2022 to reflect this change and any further changes that may arise.

#### SAT RECRUITMENT

SAT recruitment is in positive state, with about two applicants for every training post. We recruited 48 newcomers to the program at interviews over Zoom, in January, who were selected from over 60 shortlisted. The interviews are objective, with structured questions, and points awarded for specific achievements on one's CV. We thank the interviewers for their time and input. The application and interview process evolve continually, and most involved find the online virtual format completely satisfactory. The ability to interview candidates from their home environment arguably allows a more natural and less stressful form of assessment, and presumably generates less disruption to work schedules and, indeed, less CO2 emission that the traditional format. The question now arises of whether to resume face to face interviews. Particular credit is due to Dr Eilis Condon as Deputy Director of Training for management of this during the difficult years of the pandemic.

#### SAT ANNUAL TRAINEE PROGRESSION & EXIT REVIEWS

The SAT annual trainee progression reviews took place between May and July 2021. 42 SAT 1 progression reviews were completed online by zoom over 3 days with the help of Dr Barry Lyons, CAI Director of Patient Safety & Quality Improvement. Our SAT 2-5 trainee progression reviews were completed through an online survey with follow up online meetings as required. Finally 28 SAT 6 trainee exit reviews were completed online by zoom during June and July. The SAT progression and exit reviews for July 2022 will all be carried out either by video link or an in person interview.

#### **TRAINING POSTS**

The array of training posts is a complex and evolving process, covering the 6 year program schedule for over 240 doctors. Each sequence needs to include paediatric experience, obstetric care and a broad range of other specialties. We try to minimise geographical disruption and so schedule each trainee to work in only 2 geographic locations, one of which is the Eastern Region. The current trajectory of development is towards sub-specialty SAT Year 7 options, which we expect to be comparable to the highest standards of training globally. This has required significant work from Prof Camillus Power, Director of Training and the President and CEO of the College, and has the potential to change specialist training pathways and careers at a time when international travel and relocation has become more challenging. A move toward more flexible training is on-going, but it raises a variety of challenges that have not yet fully been defined. This is especially so when fractions other that half-time are requested. This is an important priority over the next few years as we now see a more mature category of trainee, with greater levels of family and other responsibility. Meeting this is problematic but crucial to well-being on the program. The logistical considerations and knock-on effects are significant.

### **CAI TUTORS**

The major contribution made by tutors in our 25 training hospitals must be acknowledged. The names of all tutors are listed at the end of this report, therefore. Dr Louise Moran, who will step down as Lead Tutor in March 2022, was always an enthusiastic and constructive voice at meetings and we thank her for her valued contributions.

### SIMULATION

Prof Crina Burlacu also stepped down from her role as Directors of Simulation in December 2021, in which she pioneered and lead the state of the art service which has been a key-stone of our training programme. We thank Prof Burlacu for her dedication and vast contribution to our training programme. 2021 was a challenging year for the College of Anaesthesiologists Simulation Training (CAST) programme. The CAST centre was closed from January to April 2021 due to the Covid restrictions. However, between April and December 2021, the CAST programme still managed to run 63 courses between CAI (39), ASSERT centre in Cork (7), IPCASS in Galway (6) and CAI/RCSI collaboration (11). The CAST programme delivered all mandatory training courses for SAT trainees (345) along with Non-scheme trainees (138). The CAST team would like to thank all course leads, support faculty, nurses, and simulation fellows for all their hard work and commitment to continue simulation training during the pandemic.

### **TRAINEE ISSUES**

Problems that are raised by individual trainees are a topic at every Training Committee meeting. Covid raised particular challenges and difficulties, often with our work conditions making it impossible to fully guarantee safety at work. There is a sense of a resumption of normality at this point, albeit with the residual effects of Covid still evident in ICU patients, in backlogs of surgical cases and delayed presentations and in the sustained toll it has taken on our specialty at all levels. The years ahead will be demanding.

### WBAs

The development of competency-based training is mandated by CAI Council and as a practical initiative that supports the CAI's commitment to patient safety. Thus we introduced WBAs (workplace based assessments)



Photo: Critical Care Simulation Suite

in January 2021, on a six-month pilot basis. Trainees were asked to complete at least one of each of the three feedback tools. These involve the direct observation of procedural skills, or DOPS; case-based discussions (CBDs), and Mini-CEX or clinical evaluation exercise. Each trainee was required to complete three, by July 2021. The WBA forms are available in the Trainees e-Portfolio for Training and they were expected to complete the forms and then meet and discuss the relevant WBA with their Tutor/Trainer within the Department. Trainees were asked to complete at least one WBA in March, one in April and a final one in May 2021. The requirement then increased to 5 WBAs per six months from July 2021.

In order to support the launch of a new training requirement a number of WBA Zoom support sessions for Tutors and Trainees took place in July and September 2021. A step by step video on how to complete the form was also provided. Additional information on competency based training was given via the digital hub on the "my college" section on the CAI website <u>www.thecaihub.com</u>.

Since July 2021, the completion of 5 WBAs per six months of training, is a mandatory requirement for

progression on the SAT programme. Levels of proficiency were not assessed. The aim was for trainees to familiarise themselves with the WBAs. Due to the low level of engagement with this new mandatory requirement it was agreed at CAI Council that Trainees who have not engaged or have not yet met the required 5 WBAs before changeover in January 2022 would be issued with a Yellow Card (provisional warning). Trainees who are issued with the Yellow Card will need to make up the number of WBAs they missed in the six month rotation (July 2021 – Jan 2022) as well as complete 5 WBAs for the next rotation (Jan - July 2022). If Trainees have not completed the required number of WBAs in the next rotation, then they will be issued with a Red Card (pause in progression). They will not receive a progression review and will therefore not progress on the training programme in July 2022. Initial reports in January 2022 showed that apart from a group of about 20 SAT trainees who had not yet engaged or had minimum engagement the rest of the trainees had achieved the mandatory requirement or exceeded it.



Photo: ACCT Train the Trainer 4th June 2021

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### SAT 7 YEAR — CAI POST CSCST FELLOWSHIP JULY 2022:

Following two rounds of recruitment between July and December 2021 there was a total of 11 applicants appointed for the SAT 7 Fellowships in July 2022. There were changes agreed by the Training Committee and CAI Council to the original SAT 7 Fellowship proposal. A SAT 7 trainee will now, not be entitled to a CAI SAT 7 Fellowship in ICM or in Pain Medicine because it is not aligned to the Faculty and HSE / Medical Council Training and Manpower designations. In the rare circumstances where someone fills such a post and does not pass or take the JFICMI or the Pain Medicine exams, the CAI will offer a letter to signify completion of training in a SAT 7 year in ICM or Pain Medicine.

Below is a list of the SAT 7 posts for July 2022.

Trainee Name	Speciality	July 2022 — Jan 2023	Jan — July 2023
Gerard Kavanagh	Regional Anaesthesia	UCHG	UCHG
Stephen Murphy	Intensive Care Medicine	Beaumont	Vincent's
Robert Turner	Intensive Care Medicine	Galway	Beaumont
Kate O'Donnell	Intensive Care Medicine	Mater	
Barbara Cusack	Intensive Care Medicine	St James	Tallaght
Fiona Roberts	Intensive Care Medicine	St Vincent's	Mater
Padraig Calpin	Paediatric Anaesthesia	Crumlin	Crumlin
Damian Kerrigan	Paediatric Anaesthesia	Temple Street	Temple Street
Liam O'Driscoll	Cardiothoracic Anaesthesia	Mater	Mater
Noelle Healy	Perioperative Anaesthesia	St Vincent's	St Vincent's
Eva Corcoran	Obstetric/Clinical Research	Galway	Galway
Murray Connolly	Obstetrics Anaesthesia	Coombe	Rotunda



#### **HOSPITAL INSPECTIONS**

All hospital inspections continued to take place virtually for 2021. They were supported by the Chair of Hospital Inspections, the Directors of Training & the Training Department. In some cases the President and or the CEO attended the inspections. Virtual hospital inspections took place for Waterford, Limerick and Letterkenny Hospitals. All sites were recommended to remain accredited for Anaesthesiology training at all levels. Limerick was also inspected and approved for 2 months modular training in ICM and 6 months year 1 Fellowship training. Particular attention was paid to the compliance with the need to maintain a one in six rota per tier of trainee on call.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMMES

International recruitment of our CPSP and SMSB scholarship programme, took place at the end of 2021 with interviews being conducted virtually in early February 2022. The standard of the applicants and the interest from the relevant colleges remains very high. These doctors are part of a 2 year training programme from Pakistan and Sudan, and play a very important role in our departments nationally. We appointed 10 doctors to commence in July 2022, and they will join the 12 CPSP/SMSB doctors entering their second year on the programme.

### ZOOM LIFE

We continued to conduct all of our meetings, trainee progression reviews, trainee events, hospital inspections and SAT recruitment virtually in 2021 and into early 2022. It has been another challenging year with adapting our work practices to suit the virtual environment but we continued to adopt a professional approach to all areas of Training.

### TRAINING DEPARTMENT

The current composition of the Training Department and roles are outlined below:

- Dr Brian O'Brien Chair of Training
- Prof Camillus Power Director of Training
- Dr Eilis Condon Deputy Director of Training
- Jennie Shiels Training & Professional Competence Manager
- Rachael Kilcoyne Training, Simulation & Kaizen
  Administrator
- Rebeca Williams Training & Faculty Support Senior Administrator
- Hazel Monks Training, Credentials & Tutor Liaison Administrator
- Tara Cornyn Training, ICIS & PCS Administrator
- Aoife Moloney Training, International Programme & Mandatory Training Courses Administrator

Dr Brian O Brien, Chairperson, Training Committee



All the Tutors have played a significant role in the past year and are deserving of our gratitude.

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MaterJohn MacHaleVincent'sDara Stephen BreslinMaterCatherine DeeganVincent'sNiamh ConlonMaterThomas WallVincent'sDonal RyanMayoMichelle DugganVincent'sAbigail WalshMayoCiara CanavanWaterfordPatricija EcimovicMayoMichael HurleyWaterfordSheeba HakakMercyJeremiah John DowlingWexfordMuhammad Shahid	Mater	Margaret Doherty	UCHG	Michael Callaghan
MaterCatherine DeeganVincent'sNiamh ConlonMaterThomas WallVincent'sDonal RyanMayoMichelle DugganVincent'sAbigail WalshMayoCiara CanavanWaterfordPatricija EcimovicMayoMichael HurleyWaterfordSheeba HakakMercyJeremiah John DowlingWexfordMuhammad Shahid	Mater	Katie Padfield	UCHG	Olivia Finnerty
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Mullingar Muhammad Farooq	Mercy	Jeremiah John Dowling	Wexford	Muhammad Shahid
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### **Examinations Committee**

Professor Michael Griffin Chairperson Examinations Committee

It is my pleasure to bring you the Examinations annual report for 2021. It was a busy, challenging and successful year. The Exams Committee met formally five times and, as always, Committee members and Examiners undertook a huge amount of work in their own time.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to present significant challenges to Examiners, the Exams Department as well as to the College as a whole. However, given that modification of our online preparation, delivery and candidate assessments were established by autumn 2020, 2021 was thankfully a more controlled and somewhat less dramatic year.

In January 2021 we circulated an examiner survey to update our database, plan for recruitments and retirements and give examiners opportunity to express preferences for different exams and interest in additional and lead roles. Our exams are closely mapped to our curriculum and constantly being updated as new relevant topics emerge, for example recently, quality and safety. During 2021 question formats and marking schemes were modified in the interests of quality and compatibility with on line delivery. The ongoing adjustments ensure the validity and reliability of these high-stakes exams, minimising risk and maintaining defensibility to key stakeholders such as the IMC. We were aware that these changes were disconcerting for some trainees and we did work to minimise them. We are also acutely aware of the Colleges' commitment to equality and diversity and the need for our examinations to be a fair assessment for all. An online equality and diversity module has been initiated for all new Examiners.

We have reviewed our Examination regulations throughout 2021 and will have a final document encompassing all College exams, including ICM and Pain, in the coming months. Some of the issues incorporated into them are around candidate guidance, recheck and appeals processes, disability and issues raised by online examinations. In June 2021, following wide discussion in Committees, College Council decided that the Final exam first sitting should be in SAT4. Some of the considerations discussed were standards over the preceding number of years, impact on trainee wellbeing, the benefits of closer alignment of examinations with clinical experience and sub-specialty modules. Other factors were the potential for more useful feedback to the training scheme and to trainees and the increase in time available to trainees with the ending of the SIYs and commencement of post-CST Fellowships as well as ICM and Pain Fellowships. The regulations will be available to all candidates on the website and specific detailed information for each examination. 32

There are many advantages as well as challenges to on line examinations. In general much more information is now available to candidates to facilitate time management and questions are shorter. Preparation and marking of the components of the online examinations is now more efficient. Analysis of questions after examinations is easier. Challenges include the work required by the Exams department on exam days to support candidates and contribute to surveillance and analysis of suspicious behaviour.

Just prior to the pandemic In January 2020 the Examinations Department held a very successful examiner training day with the largest attendance to date, which now feels a long time ago. Our first workshop since then will be based around question writing. We hope to gradually re develop our international profile in the near future.

### MEMBERSHIP EXAMINATION

### MCQ

There were 3 sittings of the written component of the examination during the year. SBAs and MTFs are the question types.

### OSCE / SOE

There were 2 sittings of this exam which remained in a written format using CRQ type questions.

### FINAL FELLOWSHIP EXAMINATION

#### Written exam

There were 2 sittings of the written component of the examination during the year. SBAs and SAQs are the question types.

### **Final FCAI Clinical**

The clinical exam remained online for 2021 due to the covid 19 pandemic using CRQ format.

#### MEDAL WINNERS OF 2021

The following exam candidates were the deserving medal winners of the year.

Membership Medals Spring 2021 — Dr Sean Boyd Autumn 2021 — Dr Sarah Gaffney

William and Jane Brophy Medal, Final Fellowship Spring 2021 — Dr Robert Owens Autumn 2021 — Dr Joanna Tan

Fellowship of the Joint Faculty of ICM Medal 2021 Dr Stephen Murphy

Fellowship of the Faculty of Pain Medicine Medal 2021 Dr Cillian Suiter

### SUCCESSFUL EXAM CANDIDATES OF 2021

Outlined below are the successful exam candidates in all examinations for the year. I would like to congratulate them on their successes and welcome them all once again as Members and Fellows of our College. We look forward to you all continuing to gain from and contributing to your College in the future and throughout your careers.

Successful candidates Membership CAI 2021

Mohsin	Ali
Patrick	Yore
Maria	Boylan
Orna	Ni Choileain
Sarah Louise	Galea
Kim	O'Brien
Eoin	Murray
Aoife	Brady
Umer Farooq	Malik
Muhammad	Arslan
Rebecca	Keane
Gillian	O'Keeffe
Seamus	Daly
Harry	McGrath
Sinead Josephine	O'Brien
Jonathan	Doran
Furqan	Sattar
Ciara	Killalea
Mark	O'Rahelly
Robert Mark	Griffin
Eoin	Cashman
Stephen	Moyles
Belal	Khalil
Min Xian	Lim
Nishanth	Ganapathi Pillai
Eoghan	Farrell
Sean	Boyd
Pratibha	Kumari
Arshad	Mahmood
Ezzuddin Akif	Mohammed
Ali	Elrefaey
Abd Salam	Nur Farhana
Jo Sheng	Ng

En Hau	Chua
Olivia Elaine	Anak Harry
Fathi	Abu masaid
Sin Yee	Teh
Kashif	Rauf
Serene	Tan
Jun Ting	Ноо
Loganathan	Muniandy
Md Jahid	Hasan
Nazir Ahmad	Hj Mastan
Maeve	O'Brien
Cherise	Oosthuizen
Ahmed	Samir
Ben	O'Connor
Hamsathvani	Chandrakanthan
Darragh James	McKeon
Aminu Muhammed	Ahmed
Mairead	Hennessy
Lim	Jing Wei
Leena	Rudrapogu
Munikar	Chembeti
Chiang Wei	Khor
Tan	Chan Ming
Fatima	Tul — Zahara
Louis Francois	Taljard
Lim	Shaun Jing
Amelia	Hogan
Teh	Ping Xuan
Alaa	Abdelhafeez
Liam	O'Gorman
Michael	McCrohan
Bing Jue	Ng
Siew	Yang Yi

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### Successful candidates Fellowship CAI 2021

Ahmed	Abdelaziz
Hossam	Aboulgheit
Ashfaq	Afridi
Ahmed	Aiyad
Muhammad	Ajmal
Umair	Akram
Mousa	Alaqrabawi
Mohsin	Ali
Abtihal	Al-Jourany
Muhammad	Arslan
Aly	Bahadur Ali
Mohammad	Bashar
Fizza	Batool
Gabriel	Beecham
Kieran Denis	Brosnan
Gerard	Browne
Syed Hamza Ali	Bukhari
Ben	Cantan
Hamsathvani	Chandrakanthan
Hui Xin	Chang
Akash	Chavada
Dikshitha	Chetty
Zhi Hao	Chua
Ciaran	Costello
Katarzyna	Czech-Gracz
Abdulrahman	Dardeer
Zeyad Wadullah	Dawood
Ciarán	Doherty
Ahmed	El Tawansy
Mohamed	Elayouty
Aiman Fawzy	Elshikh
Abdou	Elshawa
Mahmoud	Gabr
Bhavesh	Gohil
Andrew	Grech

Christine	Greene
David	Hannon
Susan	Hannon
Jett Lin	Hau
Robbie	Hollingsworth
Anna Louise	Horgan
Aima	ljaz
Anna	Impiumi
Humaira	Jadoon
Yeoh	Jie Cong
Hatem	Jlala
Gerard	Kavanagh
lan	Kelly
Raymond	Kelly
Salma	Khalil
Zafar	Khan
Maha	Khan
Fareena	Khan
Pervaz	Khan
Jennifer	Kielty
Anand	Kulkarni
Shankar	Lal
Haitham	Lashein
Chang Melvin	Lee
Gary Wel Kean	Leong
Meng Chuan	Liu
David	Lorigan
Noreen	Louis
Hafiz Zaman	Malik
Umer Farooq	Malik
Ammara	Masood
Sorcha	McCague
Ruth	McGovern
Jennifer	McGrath
András	Mikor

Mohamed	Mohamed
Ayman	Mohammed
Nurhana	Mohd Rais
Moustafa	Moustafa
Orla Anne	Murphy
Abu	Nadeem
Jo Sheng	Ng
Jun Hui	Ng
Timothy	Nolan
John	O'Keeffe
Eanna John	O'Sullivan
Robert	Owens
Vishal Krishna	Pai
Loh	Pei Ven
Shane	Power
Cheng Zoung	Pui
Naomi	Quigley
Marike	Rademan
Lua	Rahmani
Alia	Rashid
Amrita	Rath
Christopher	Read
Ciaran	Reynaud
Waseem	Shafique
Arjan	Sunil
Mei Xuan	Tan
Su Ching	Tan
Joanna	Tan
Regina Sabine	Thomsen
Riona	Tully
Neil	Verma
Gulnaz	Virani
Misha	Yadav
lfra	Zahoor
Naila	Zahoor

Successful candidates Fellowship of the Joint Faculty of ICM 2021

Aoife	Brennan
David	Burke
Padraig	Calpin
Sarah	Corbett
Sinead	Farrell
Kevin	Hore
Mohd Shazrul	M Ramly
Cathal	Mac Donncha
Maeve	McAllister
Stephen	Murphy
John	O'Connell
Kiran	Reddy
Fiona	Roberts
Emer	Ryan
John	Sheehan
Teresa	Sweeney

Successful candidates Diploma in Pain Management 2021

Swati	Bhat
Alan	Blake
Medhat	Eldereny
Sarfaraz	Khan
Darshana	Maheshwari
Eveline	Matthews
Sandeep	Miglani
Andrew	Purcell
Francois	Rousseau
Zaeem	Siddique
Pankaj	Surange

Successful candidates Fellowship of the Pain Faculty 2021

Aoife	Brennan
David	Burke
Padraig	Calpin

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to acknowledge the huge contribution our Examiners have made in 2021. They have adjusted to many changes, developed new questions in new formats, rewritten questions, attended standard setting meetings and spent many hours marking papers. Subsequently, questions need to be evaluated, possibly revised or rejected. This proceeds continuously throughout the year for each of the many exams and different sittings.

In recent years our numbers have increased significantly. We currently have 68 MCAI, 65 FCAI, 55 JFICM and 20 Pain Fellowship examiners. Our newly appointed examiners in 2021 were Lindi Snyman; John Fitzgerald; James Freeman; Peter Moran and Diarmuid O'Briain. I wish them and all recently appointed examiners an enjoyable and challenging future in this role.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Chairpersons and Leads of each examination for their professionalism, dedication and hard work. Some of our Exam Lead roles require hand over or transition time given the amount and complexity of the work. In particular, I want to acknowledge the huge contribution Dr Frances Conway has made over many years as an Examiner but, in particular, for her two terms serving as SBA lead. Thanks to the following leads who finished their terms, Dr Caitriona Murphy, Dr Robert Whitty and Dr David Moore. There were two retirees from the ICM examinations Dr Ed Carton and Dr Kieran Crowley we wish them well and thank them for their contribution to the examinations.

Our Medical Educationalists, Dr Gareth Morrison and Dr Helena McKeague continue to be a valuable and vital resource to the Exams Committee in the ongoing process of quality improvement. Prof. Richard Arnett, RCSI continues to act as a valuable advisor to the Exams Committee on quality assurance and other matters.

Membership Chairperson	Dr Michelle Duggan
MCAI MTF Lead	Dr Peter Hooker
MCAI SBA Lead	Dr Edel Duggan
MCAI OSCE Lead	Dr Suzanne Cronly
MCAI Pharmacology SOE Lead	Dr Caitriona Murphy
MCAI Physiology SOE Lead	Dr Adriana Nizam
Fellowship Chairperson	Dr Louise Moran
FCAI SBA Lead	Dr Frances Conway
FCAI SAQ Lead	Dr David Moore/Dr Louise Moran
FCAI Clinical SOE Lead	Dr Fergus Walsh
FCAI Clinical Anaesthesia & Pain Lead	Dr Robert Whitty/Dr Louise Moran
FCAI Intensive Care	Dr Margaret Doherty
FJFICMI Chairperson	Dr Andrew Westbrook
FFPMCAI Chairperson:	Dr Basabjit Das

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Ms. Ann-Marie Harte, Mr Mark O'Rourke, Ms Orla Doran. We thank Mr Conor Murphy who left the College for his contribution to the Dept and wish him well in his future career. We welcomed Mr Andrew Tigue to the team in August. Behind the success of our Examinations lies a lot of hard work, careful planning, organisation and teamwork, which our team displays in abundance. Their contribution to the online delivery of our exams has been immense, with work beginning in early 2019 which placed us in good stead to take on the challenges of the subsequent two years. I am hugely indebted to them for all of their support to me as Chairperson and I am privileged to work with them, as well as with our Examination Leads and Examiners. I hope to see at least some of you in the near future!

Michael

Professor Michael Griffin Chairperson Examinations Committee
## **Education Committee**

Our Annual Congress is the showpiece of new ideas in anaesthesiology, intensive care and pain medicine in Ireland. Following the disappointment of cancellation of Congress 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we were delighted to bring a virtual meeting from Merrion Square and further afield in May 2021. Given the times, the theme was safety and wellbeing of both patients and health professionals, and the conveners were Professor George Shorten and Dr Brendan Conroy. The congress opened with the first ever session on sustainability in recognition of new directions in the College of Anaesthesiologists in Ireland to advance sustainable medical practice, and more broadly our shared responsibility to the environment. The inaugural Brian Kavanagh lecture to mark the life and legacy of a hugely influential, inspirational and admired Irish-Canadian clinician was delivered by Professor Martin Tobin on "Consensus, controversy and medicine". Professor Stephen Bolsin, who has had a lifetime commitment to patient safety, delivered a keynote lecture and was awarded with a CAI Honorary Fellowship. The feedback for this first fully virtual Congress was positive, with participants commenting on the ease of switching from plenary to priority sessions, and the ability to return to lectures at a later date.

The Delaney Medal competition, sponsored by Fannin, returned to congress 2021. This competition is the premier research event in the college's calendar, attracting high-quality laboratory and clinical studies. Appropriately, the 2021 Delaney medal was awarded for an academic project on sustainability: *"A national audit* of CO2 equivalent emissions from inhalation anaesthetic gases" which was presented by Dr Oscar Duffy. Other medal competition winners were awarded at congress too. Dr Rachel Nolan won the Dr Mary Lehane Medal for *"Improving discharge prescribing in a tertiary referral centre*". This scholarship fund is sponsored by Abbvie. Digital archive content from Congress 2021 is available on the website including ePosters and other material.

With our media partners DV4 we continued to deliver diverse virtual educational content through

2021. The College of Anaesthesia Trainee (CAT) group presented a 10th anniversary webinar in May. The focus of this meeting was wellbeing, with discussions on the Association guideline document *"Suicide amongst anaesthetists"*, practical advice on positive psychological and psychiatric health, wellbeing initiatives from other medical colleges in Ireland, and civility in the workplace by Dr Chris Turner of the UK-based group Civility Saves Lives.

The College of Anaesthesiologists in Ireland is a founding member of the International Academy of Colleges of Anaesthesiologists (IACA, along with the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthesiologists, the Hong Kong College of Anaesthesiologists, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, and the Royal College of Anaesthetists in the UK). The aim of this new alliance is to build a community of anaesthesia practice and creating a forum for knowledge-sharing and common interests. The IACA was officially launched at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne, Victoria on April 30th 2021, and the first education event was a virtual conference on "Covid-19: Lessons for the future of Anaesthesia and Critical Care" in June. The content included personal accounts of Covid-19 from patients and healthcare professionals, successes, ongoing problems and public education challenges related to the pandemic. Feedback clearly indicated that delegates enjoyed the international dimension to the conference. On this basis, two further Academy webinars were held on "Still learning — reports on Maternal and Child Safety" which ran before the NAPSAC meeting in September and "Putting doctors' health and wellbeing into practice" in December. IACA will look to build on the synergies of our collective college activities in diversity and inclusion, leadership development, international relations and global health programmes going forward.

A virtual ICU4U meeting was held in September, the second iteration of this important event covering the Covid-19 pandemic to date and looking to future solutions in healthcare. Once again, the meeting was 38

preceded by the ICU4U commemorative charity cycle where teams of healthcare staff from around the country cycled to Dublin to raise money for charities supporting people affected by Covid-19. The teams involved from Cork, Belfast, Galway, Limerick, Sligo and Waterford passed through as many community hospitals as possible en route to Dublin, collecting white roses along the way to represent lives lost to the virus. The Kate Flynn prize is a central component of JFICMI and was awarded to Dr Ian Mcbride from St Vincent's Hospital for his presentation on "*DKA and severe hypertriglyceridemia managed with therapeutic plasma exchange*" during the September meeting. The Kate Flynn Medal competition and other key talks from the conference are hosted on the JFICMI website https://jficmi.anaesthesia.ie/education/icu4u2/.

The Curlew Prize will be awarded for the first time at Congress 2022. Sponsored by BBraun, it will recognise the red conservation status of the Curlew, a bird in danger of disappearing following decades of population decline, and be awarded in the category of sustainable healthcare. This complements the first ever "Green Anaesthesia Week" run by the Sustainability Committee of CAI last September on the themes of "Minimising Monday, TIVA Tuesday, No Waste Wednesday and Town Hall Thursday". Advocacy for, and commitment to reduction of the adverse environmental impact of ourselves as individuals, more broadly as scientifically literate professionals, and collaboratively as a college should be a core aim to realise the CAI sustainability strategy. We have reached a tipping point in the future of many of our wild bird populations (the Curlew is just one), we cannot delay anymore in stopping the decline in biodiversity as a cost of agricultural intensity and deforestation. Nor can we continue to ignore the damaging impact of our professional practice on climate change. I thank Drs Tim Keady and Gillian O'Keefe for co-ordinating the organisation of this critically important educational event.

Salus dum vigilamus — the college motto emphasises a priority education event for our college is the National Patient Safety in Anaesthesia Conference in November. Organised by Dr Barry Lyons, the meeting addressed what can we do better, aspects of teamwork to improve patient safety, innovations for safety, and culminated in the Winter College Lecture delivered by Martin Bromiley OBE: "The thin line between success and failure and how you can stay on the right side of it". Human Factors training is the application of scientific methods to make people safer and perform better. Promoting education and training in teamwork, task management, resources and equipment, workspace, culture and communication is a core responsibility of the college that has been embodied in the College of Anaesthetists Simulation Training (CAST) programme, and mandatory professionalism courses for more than a decade. It is also reflected in the Kevin P. Moore Medal which is awarded to leading projects on safety in the fields of anaesthesiology, intensive care and pain medicine. At NAPSAC 2021, Dr Mai O'Sullivan won the KP Moore Medal for "Simulating high-fidelity emergency front-of-neck access training in an obstetric setting".

In December, the college hosted a virtual Gilmartin Lecture. Honouring the first Dean of the Faculty of Anaesthetists in the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, Thomas James Gilmartin, Mr Turtle Bunbury, a noted historian, gave a lecture "Of Chloroform, Contagion & the Comanche Nation: Aspects of the World in 1847". Turtle tied the history of the first use of modern anaesthesia in Ireland to world events in 1847 through a "golden thread" of huge interest and entertainment. Despite stormy weather and broken internet connections, Turtle took us from the HMS Terror through Ignaz Semmelweis's hygiene developments, to Huff's ether experiments in the early days of Texan hippy communes. Thank you Mr Turtle Bunbury. For more reading, see Turtle's book on 1847 and his updated website developing themes from his Gilmartin lecture: https://turtlebunbury.com. The old and the new inform our practice.

Before Covid-19 restrictions, the college celebrated the 10th Anniversary of CAST. Despite public health restrictions, the college simulation training programme continued through 2021 and offered almost 150 places on simulation courses to non-SAT trainees in addition to the SAT workload. CAI is committed to developing technology enhanced learning in the future. New programmes in 2021 and beyond include proficiency based progression training and regionalisation of simulation training courses. As restrictions lift, the college facilitates in person education activities in anaesthesiology, intensive care medicine and pain medicine. Organ Donation, Regional Anaesthesia, Echocardiography, Perioperative Medicine and Pain Medicine Cadaver courses are just a few of the diverse educational activities on offer. I sincerely thank all of those course organisers, faculty and attendees who progress education in our speciality. As Chair of the Education Committee, I wish to thank all my colleagues who contribute regularly to the committee's activities, including CAT representatives Dr Carrie Murphy and Dr Sinead O'Brien. The ongoing support of Mr Eoin Lumsden, Ms Aoife Moloney, Ms Tara Cormyn and the President, CEO, COO and Council is, as always, very much appreciated.

Dr Niamh Hayes, Chairperson, Education Committee

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## **Quality and Safety Advisory Committee**

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#### Salus Dum Vigilamus. Salus Semper.

The remit of QSAC, in alignment with CAI culture is to promote safety and quality in education and training programmes and to communicate information and standards to guide priority objectives that impact effective patient care delivery. The committee provides a forum to consider safety issues, to discuss possible solutions and to plan educational and audit activity. QSAC reports directly to CAI council.

During 2021 the committee met on four occasions. Membership comprises individuals with experience of and commitment to safety, and, knowledge of quality improvement methods.

Dr Barry Lyons, CAI Director of Patient Safety, oversees online educational module development, national audit project planning and convenes the CAI annual patient safety meeting (NAPSAC).

The Health Products Regulatory Authority (medicines and medical devices) is represented on the committee by Dr Tom Melvin. The National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesia is represented by Dr John Cahill, Dr Michael Dockery and Ms Aileen O'Brien. CAI Sustainability Committee is chaired by Dr Dónal O'Cróinín and committee member Professor Kevin Clarkson reports to QSAC. During 2021, CAI QSAC was delighted to welcome Dr Pádraig O'Scannail and Dr Amy Donnelly from The Irish Perioperative Medicine Society, Ms Jane Anne O'Connor from The Irish Medication Safety Network, and, The Committee of Anaesthesia Trainees' representative Dr Sinéad O'Brien. Professor Gerard Fitzpatrick chairs the Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies' Safety, Quality and Risk Committee and is the CAI link with the Health Information and Quality Authority, the State Claims Agency, the National Patient Safety Office, and the HSE Quality Improvement Division. Professor Kevin Clarkson represents CAI on

the UK based, Safe Anaesthesia Liaison Group (SALG), and attends The Royal College of Anaesthetists Sustainability Committee meetings on behalf of CAI. Dr Irene Leonard represents The Safety Anaesthetic Network Ireland (SANI) that promotes local safety culture and disseminates safety alerts to named representatives in each department of anaesthesiology in Ireland. The network ensures correct processes for incident reporting using the SANI website portal for unexpected events, equipment malfunction or drug alerts. CAI is represented on The Forum of Postgraduate Training Bodies Patient Safety Committee and contributes to the RCSI Working Group on Cosmetic Surgery (Committee of Surgical Affairs, RCSI)

QSAC communicates safety issues on the CAI website safety area, issues safety advisory notices including SALG information via SANI, and Dr Lyons publishes a biannual Quality and Safety Newsletter.

Despite a second year of COVID-19 restrictions, Dr Lyons and CAI President Professor Shorten successfully delivered the fifth annual Patient Safety Day, broadcast from 22 Merrion Square on November 12th 2021, attended in person and virtually by faculty and by 234 delegates.

The programme began with reports on maternal and infant safety; *Still Learning*?, moderated by Dr Niamh Hayes comprising presentations by Dr Frances Liu (Hong Kong), Dr Felicity Platt (UK), A Professor Victoria Eley (Australia) and by Dr Peter Mc Kenna (Dublin). Subsequent sessions addressed improvement in patient safety, working in a team and innovation for patient safety; trainee patient safety project presentations for the annual Dr Kevin P Moore Medal Competition, and, The College of Anaesthesiologists of Ireland 2021 Winter College Lecture: *The Thin Line between Success and Failure*, delivered by Mr Martin Bromiley OBE, Airline Captain and Founder of The Clinical Human Factors Group.

An open meeting of the SANI group was held to discuss national audit planning.

Speakers on the day included Dr Jannicke Melsen-Olsen (Past President, World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists), Professor Eilish McAuliffe (UCD), Professor Peter Gillen (RCSI), Dr Noelle Healy (SAT CAI), Dr Peter Young (NHS Innovation), Professor Barry O'Sullivan (UCC), A Professor Caoimhe Duffy (U of Pennsylvania).

Dr Mai O'Sullivan was the winner of the KP Moore Medal for her project entitled Simulating High Fidelity Emergency Front-of-Neck Access Training in an Obstetric Setting. Best Podcast was won by Dr Hannah Marsh for Guidance on Discharge Prescriptions for Opioid Tolerant Acute Surgical Patients — A Quality Improvement Exercise and the Medical Student Essay Competition was won by Mr Conor Farrell (Year 3, TCD) who presented Safety While we Watch, What Should a Safety Culture in Anaesthesiology Look Like.

I acknowledge with thanks the ongoing support for the work of this committee offered by CAI President Professor George Shorten, Dr Barry Lyons, CAI Patient Safety Lead, CAI CEO Mr Martin McCormack and CAI COO Ms Margaret Jenkinson, in addition to the administrative support of Ms Tara Cornyn, Quality and Safety Advisory Administrator.

DM McCoy Chair, Quality and Safety Advisory Committee



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## **Credentials Committee**

Dr Ehtesham Khan (Chairman), Dr Brian O'Brien, Dr Camillus Power, Dr Michael Scully (JFICMI)

This is my fourth report as chair of the Credentials Committee which met four times during 2021.

The Committee is guided by the Medical Practitioners Act 2007 and European Directive 2005/36/EC. The Committee reviews applications on behalf of the Medical Council for Registration as a Medical Specialist. The Medical Council retains discretion in the final decision but usually supports the College recommendation. There is no direct contact between the candidate and the College of Anaesthesiology or the Credentials Committee and all correspondence is between the candidate and the Medical Council. This process allows doctors who have not taken part in the College of Anaesthesiology National Training Programme to demonstrate equivalence of training and experience. Doctors who have recognised Specialist Training Recognition within the EU are entitled to apply directly to the Medical Council for inclusion in the Irish Specialist register.

The Medical Council also accepts applications from doctors who qualified from recognised Medical Schools outside the EU. The Medical Council carries out due diligence of documents and certificates and then forwards the applications to the relevant recognised Training Body for assessment and requires a recommendation within a specified time frame.

Candidates are assessed for competence in clinical modules as well as in nonclinical competencies as outlined in the College document "Competence in Professionalism for Independent practice".

Applicants may be recommended for immediate registration by the assessors when documentation is complete. The application form includes substantial and verified evidence of training including rosters, logbooks with a breakdown of caseload and structured references requested by the Committee. There is a Service Level Agreement between the Medical Council and the Postgraduate Training Body, which sets out the timelines within which applications must be reviewed and determined. The fee for such applications to the Medical Council is €4,500.

Assessment of the applications is undertaken by assessors on behalf of the CAI Credentials Committee. During 2021, 12 new Anaesthesiology applications were received of which 2 were recommended for approval on first application. 10 were recommended for additional training or completion of courses — 4 of whom have since re-applied and 2 have been recommended. We received 2 re-applications from previous years in 2021, both of whom had met requirements and so were recommended for inclusion in the Specialist Register.

Intensive Care Medicine is now in the third year of recognition as a separate speciality. During 2021, the College received 33 applications for entry to the specialist register, of which 21 were recommended for approval on first application, 2 were recommended for additional training or completion of courses.

The Credentials Committee organises a symposium every year during Congress to facilitate doctors practising Anaesthesiology in Ireland who might be considering an application to the Medical Council for inclusion on the Specialist Register for Anaesthesiology. The session provides an opportunity for an in-depth discussion on issues facing doctors seeking registration and some important guidance is provided. The Credentials Symposium at Congress 2021 was held virtually.

The Credentials Committee organized an Assessors training day which was held virtually on the 17th February 2022. 11 assessors attended this training day, including one new Anaesthesiology assessor.

The Credentials Committee undertook a review of its documentation in 2021. Amendments were made to the Guidance Documents for Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine, and to the Structured Reference Report document. The confirmed changes were submitted to the Medical Council.

The role of The College is advisory, and the Medical Council makes the final decision on eligibility for inclusion on the register of medical specialists. The Medical Council have an appeals process for doctors whose applications are refused. The Committee also assists College Council with applications for Ad Eundem fellowship of the College. I would like to thank Ann Kilemade and Hazel Monks on behalf of the Credentials Committee at the College of Anaesthesiology for their wonderful support and help.

I would also like to thank Professor David Honan, who took up the role of Chair in 2020 until 2021.

For further information on how to apply and the detail involved pleased contact the Medical Council for an application or refer to <u>http://www.medicalcouncil.ie/</u> <u>Registration-Applications/ (web link)</u>

Dr Ehtesham Khan Chairperson, Credentials Committee.



## Committee of Anaesthesiology Trainees (CAT)

Chair	Dr Kirsten Joyce
Vice Chair	Dr Barbara Cusack
Treasurer	Dr Gillian O'Keeffe
Training Committee	Dr Eva Corcoran/Dr Sophia Angelov
Faculty of Pain Medicine	Dr Eva Corcoran
Examinations Committee	Dr Gillian de Loughry
LAT Co-ordinator	Dr Gillian de Loughry
JFICMI/ICSI	Dr Bryan Reidy
Quality and Safety Committee	Dr Sinead O'Brien
Education Committee	Dr Sinead O'Brien
National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesia	Dr Lauren O'Callaghan
HSE Liaison Committee	Dr Lauren O'Callaghan
Health and Wellbeing Committee	Dr Barbara Cusack/Dr Laura Griseto
AABGI Co-opt	Dr Laura Griseto
Sustainability Committee	Dr Gillian O'Keeffe
CAT News	Dr Sophia Angelov
Pre-Hospital Representative	Dr Barry Singleton
Trainee Sub-committee of the Forum	Dr Kirsten Joyce
Immediate Past-Chair Co-opt	Dr Carrie Murphy

#### INTRODUCTION

This academic year has presented many new challenges for anaesthetic trainees and consultants alike. While we've seen some renewed hope with the nation-wide roll-out of the vaccination programme, along with a cautious resumption of elective work, it's safe to say that the way we practice anaesthesia has permanently changed. Facemasks and goggles have become a part of our uniform, and it's hard to imagine a time where they weren't.

Over the past two years, the nature of this pandemic has meant that trainees have had more exposure to critical care medicine in lieu of anaesthetic experience. Many long hours were spent providing care for our most vulnerable patients both inside the intensive care unit and outside on the wards, with many units rapidly developing outreach services. The swift response to the increase in workload has not gone unnoticed, and I am immensely proud of my fellow SAT and non-SAT colleagues for their immeasurable collegiality and work ethic.

The purpose of the CAT is for trainee representation at all major college committees, where we can give our unique viewpoint on any issues raised. Our committee is made up of twelve individuals, including a new co-opt role created this year for our immediate past Chair. This year, the College of Anaesthesiologists also introduced two new committees: the HSE Liaison and the Health and Wellbeing Committees. The HSE Liaison Committee is designed to improve our communication and links with the HSE, the National Doctors Training and Planning and the National Clinical Programme of Anaesthesia, which will assist manpower distribution and the improvement of the future model of care for our speciality. The new

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Health and Wellbeing committee are focussed on creating a sustainable and tangible improvement to the H+WB of trainees and consultants alike; ensuring any future ventures will be evidence-based.

Aside from providing trainee representation, we have continued some projects initiated by our predecessors while also embarking on a number of new endeavours.

#### LEAD ANAESTHETIC TRAINEES AND THE SAT BUDDY SYSTEM

To maintain ties with individual training departments across the country, our LAT network was co-ordinated this year by Dr Gillian de Loughry. This allowed us to send regular informal updates and reminders to the trainees, while also opening another avenue for them to contact us.

The SAT Buddy system sees first-year SATs paired with more senior trainees within the same department, a tradition that was renewed again this year due to its popularity, and this year was co-ordinated by Dr Gillian O'Keeffe. It is an informal system, with its aim to give those starting out on their anaesthetic path another layer of support where needed.

#### **ICU FOR BEGINNERS**

In September 2021, CAT members and previous CAT Chairs Drs Carrie Murphy and Bryan Reidy created a series of helpful videos designed to assist those commencing intensive care modules or going on-call in the ICU for the first time. Lectures were delivered online by a selection of intensivists, and recorded videos were uploaded to the JFIMCI website shortly after. It was an excellent project that was well-received amongst trainees and non-trainees alike.

#### **MEDICAL CAREERS DAY**

Once again, the CAT represented the College at the annual Medical Careers Day in October, and I would like to thank Dr Barbara Cusack and Dr Gillian O'Keeffe for each giving talks relating to both the beginning and the end of the Specialist Anaesthesiology Training programme. I would also like to take the opportunity to welcome all new incoming SATs. Our specialty is rapidly evolving, and while it is an exciting time to be embarking on a new journey, it can also be quite challenging. Please know there is always support available, and if there is anything that we can do to help, feel free to reach out to us.

#### **GREEN ANAESTHESIA WEEK**

Last September, the Sustainability Committee launched its first ever Green Anaesthesia Week, with online sessions concerning the environmental impact of our profession and the steps we can start to make to mitigate this. Our own Sustainability representative Dr Gillian O'Keeffe along with past-CAT member Dr Tim Keady both chaired sessions during the week with great success!

#### **ON-CALL AUDIT**

This year, with the encouragement of the Training Committee and the College Council, we re-audited the current call frequency across all CAI training sites. Recruitment and retention of healthcare staff is an ongoing national crisis, and this has only been compounded by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. However, there are some centres that feel this more keenly than others.

We made some key changes this year in an effort to improve the accuracy of reporting and to add robustness to the data. Rota-makers at each training site were approached and asked to quantify both the number the call tiers staffed at their institution, along with an average call frequency for each tier over the preceding 8 weeks. This was done to account for leave of any kind. The results of these audits have been used to assist future plans for manpower recruitment and distribution.

#### SAT SURVEY

In 2018, the CAT conducted a survey targeting trainees' attitudes to training, along with an assessment of their overall wellbeing. This survey was valuable as it highlighted focus areas for improvement for both the CAT and the college. In September and October 2021, we circulated a similar online survey, and going forward it is hoped that this will be repeated cyclically. 103 trainees responded (53 male, 50 female), representing 41% of the total SAT complement, with good representation across the SAT years. There were 50 questions, where four themes were explored: training, wellbeing, practicalities of changeover and post-CSCST aspirations.

Call frequency and its impact on trainee wellbeing was well described, as well as its impact on access to modular training. These results were fed back to the Training Committee and have been used to guide future projects within the college.

#### INTERVIEW WORKSHOP AND CAREERS EVENING

On April 11th, the college held its annual CV and Interview Workshop, which was immediately followed by the annual CAT Career Progression Evening. After being held online last year, this year we opted for a hybrid event in the College. It has always been an important event in the CAT calendar as it offers trainees an overview into the consultant application process and can guide us as to the direction we see our own careers travelling in. I would like to thank Dr Fidelma Kirby, Dr Andrew Westbrook, Dr Paul Fennessy and Dr Elise Alexander for their insight, wisdom and time, as well as our own CAT member Dr Lauren O'Callaghan for chairing the event.

#### SOCIAL EVENTS

The CAT social calendar was somewhat scuppered yet again this year with ongoing restrictions and high case numbers of Covid-19 being reported daily. However, we are hopeful that this summer will see the first ever CAT Tag Rugby Blitz! Proceeds will be going to Pieta House, and fingers remain crossed that the weather will be good to us.

#### COMMUNICATION

We would like to thank all that contributed to our quarterly CAT Newsletter, which is a vital tool used in the dissemination of information to our SAT colleagues. I would like to especially acknowledge the Trojan effort our editor, Dr Sophia Angelov, put into each edition. We also had some delightful artwork from fellow SAT Dr Gillian Crowe. At Christmas, we held the (now) annual Christmas Decoration competition, which was won by the talented anaesthetic department at the Mercy University Hospital. We hope this joyful tradition continues!

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

On behalf of the CAT and the entire trainee community, I would firstly like to thank our CAI President Professor George Shorten for his perpetual support of trainees and for all his wisdom imparted this year, both officially and unofficially. His genuine interest in our wellbeing was palpable, and something we are incredibly grateful for.

I would also like to thank our CAI CEO Mr Martin McCormack for his dedication to trainees. His keen insight to trainee issues and the broader workings of the Irish healthcare system was evident through his sound advice.

I would like to thank Professor Camillus Power and Dr Eilís Condon as Directors of Training and Dr Brian O'Brien as Chair of the Training Committee for their support and engagement with CAT throughout the year.

A huge thank you is owed to our Training Manager Ms Jennie Shiels, whose role in the smooth running of our committee cannot be overestimated and is a genuine pleasure to work alongside. I would also like to thank the many other members of the college faculty that were so helpful in the organisation of our events, with a special mention to Ms Aoife Moloney, Ms Rebeca Williams and Ms Lucia Zelenska.

Finally, to my fellow CAT members, I cannot overstate the impact of your support and enthusiasm has had on me and my ability to chair our committee. While the majority of our meetings have been virtual, your good humour and drive have made this a most enjoyable year. I cannot thank you enough.

## Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine Committee

The Board met on 4 occasions — 4th March, 3rd June, 23rd September and 24th November. The AGM was held on the 10th June. All meetings were held via Zoom.

#### **BOARD OF THE JFICMI**

Dr Andrew Westbrook	Dean, Chair-Elect EDIC Committee
Dr Jennifer Hastings	Vice Dean and Chair Credentials
Dr John Bates	Immediate Past Dean 2018 – 2021
Dr Patrick Seigne	Hon Treasurer
Dr Catherine Nix	Hon Secretary
Prof George Shorten	President CAI
Dr Edward Moloney	Representative RCPI
Prof Paul Redmond	President RCSI
Dr Sinead McArdle	Emergency Medicine Representative
Dr Colman O'Loughlin	ICSI President
Dr Donal Ryan	Chair of Exams and EDIC representative
Dr Enda O'Connor	Chair of Training
Prof Gerard Curley	Chair of Education
Dr Robbie Sparks	Trainee Representative
Prof Kevin Clarkson	
Mr Martin McCormack	CEO CAI

#### **Co-opted Members**

Dr Brian Marsh	Immediate Past Chair of Training		
Dr Andrew Neill	Website Development		
Dr Bryan Reidy	CAI CAT Rep		
Dr Cathy McMahon	Paediatric Intensive Care		
Mr David Hickey	Lay Representative		
Dr Dermot Doherty	NASCCRS		
Dr Michael Power	NCCP		
Dr Peter Moran	JFICMI Echocardiography Committee Chair		

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#### TRAINING

Dr Enda O'Connor succeeded Dr Brian Marsh as Chair of Training. Four JFICMI trainees completed the Specialist Training Programme in July 2021 and will be conferred in June 2022.

The JFICMI was successful in getting approval for 6 new training positions in ICM from July 2020. The NDTP confirmed bridging funding for a further 4 additional posts in July 2022 linked to bed expansion numbers in Dublin centres. These positions are open to non-CAI anaesthesiology trainees as well as RCPI and EM trainees. The total number of ICM Special Interest training positions currently stood at 17 for 2021 which will increase to 21 in 2022.

#### CREDENTIALS

Dr Michael Scully remained as Chair of Credentials for 2021 and stood down in February 2022. The Board thanks Dr Scully for his leadership in this portfolio over the past 3 years assisted by Dr Brian Marsh and Dr Dermot Phelan. Dr Jennifer Hastings was appointed new Chair of Credentials at the Board meeting in March 2022. A total of 33 new applications to be admitted to the Specialist register in ICM were received in 2021. The fee waiver for applications to the specialist register was extended until December 31st 2021. From this point on, the full application fee shall apply for prospective applicants to the specialist register in intensive care medicine with the medical council. Currently there are 7 assessors with the JFICMI and each assessment will earn an assessor 1 CME point. The JFICMI is still engaging with the Medical Council to work out a mechanism for credentialing of Paediatric Intensivists in Ireland. A meeting between the Board and the Medical Council is planned for later this year.

#### **EXAMINATIONS**

Dr. Donal Ryan takes over this portfolio from Dr. Andrew Westbrook. Twenty three candidates sat the written fellowship exam of the JFICMI in 2021. Of these 19 passed and were eligible to present for part 2; 18 presented for examination and 16 passed. Dr Donal Ryan succeeded Dr Andrew Westbrook as Chair of Exams. Twenty three candidates sat the written fellowship exam of the JFICMI in 2021. Of these 19 passed and were eligible to present for part 2; 18 presented for examination and 16 passed. The names of the successful candidates are listed in the Examinations Committee report.

The examination dates for 2022 are finalised and the pre-examination course took place on March 2, 3, 4 and 5, 2022 in the Mater, St. Vincent's, St. James's and Beaumont hospitals respectively, the latter for the first time which will continue into the future.

The JFICMI is currently reviewing its examination regulations in conjunction with the CAI and the Faculty of Pain Medicine. The revised regulations will be available on the website once completed.

#### EDUCATION

Prof Ger Curley took over as chair of education. Dr. Curley has set up a 10 week intensive care grand rounds series which will involve all of the JFICMI accredited teaching hospitals and be delivered by video conference from March to May 2022.

Dr Bryan Reidy and Dr Carrie Murphy developed and presented an Introduction to Intensive Care course which took place over 10 weeks in the format of a video conference. The course included a guest lecturer each week delivering a presentation on aspects of patient care in ICU. All took place over Zoom. <u>https://jficmi.anaesthesia.</u> <u>ie/education/introduction-to-intensive-care/</u>

The Irish Donor Awareness Programme course was held in the format of a webinar on the 6th May 2021.

#### ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY (POCUS) COMMITTEE

Dr Peter Moran succeeded Dr Catherine Nix as the Chair of the JFICMI Echocardiography Committee. The Board thanks Dr Nix for her work as Chair of Echocardiography.

#### NATIONAL CRITICAL CARE PROGRAM

Dr Michael Power continues in this role in 2022. The minister for Health Mr Simon Donnelly announced the Government Critical Care Strategic Plan on December 18th 2020 which includes 2 phases of critical care capacity development. Phase 1 targets an additional 75 critical care bed capacity to increase from 255 (census 2019) to 330 by end 2022. Phase 2 targets capital new builds at 5 sites – CUH, Beaumont, St. James's. Mater and St. Vincent's and an additional 116 critical care bed capacity to increase capacity from 330 to 446 as in line with Department of Health/HSE Capacity Review published in 2018. The Government Critical Care Strategic Plan includes the provision of sufficient additional critical care isolation room capacity and room ventilation plant e.g. Airborne Infection Isolation Rooms (AIIRs).

In response to national adult critical care capacity development requirements, the HSE COO and CCO have sponsored HSE Acute Operations Critical Care Steering Group with 5 Work streams to implement and deliver additional adult critical care capacity.

In response to the COVID, NCP Critical Care completed and published the annual critical care bed capacity count in 2021 <u>National Adult Critical Care</u> <u>Capacity Census 2021. (web link)</u>

As at 17th Aug 2021 the national adult critical care bed capacity was reported to Census process as 302 critical care beds by Hospital and Hospital Group service providers.

In response to the surge of critically ill COVID and non-COVID Patients, the **Intensive Care Medicine Workforce Plan** was published by HSE National Doctors Training Planning NDTP in collaboration with Dr Brian Marsh JFICMI delegate and Dr Michael Power NCP Critical Care. <u>icm-workforce-plan-2020-final-report.pdf</u> (hse.ie) (web link)

In response to COVID, Critical Care Nursing colleagues have continued to develop Critical Care Nursing Workforce Planning, Education & Training structures and processes to build and strengthen the **Critical Care Nursing Career Pathway** to meet the need.

### national-critical-care-nursing-workforce-report-2018.pdf (hse.ie) (web link)

In addition during COVID education and training supports were given to acute hospital Nursing who were temporarily redeployed to ICU to participate in ICU-Nurse led Teams to care for the surge of critically ill COVID and non-COVID Patients.

critical-care-escalation-plan-nursing.pdf (hse.ie) (web link)

The **National Critical Care Conference** took place in Dublin Castle on Jan 21st 2022. A virtual event, the Conference attendees were addressed by Mr Simon Donnelly TD Minister for Health. The Conference was addressed by senior critical care leaders in Ireland. The Conference also heard of the COVID critical care experiences of Colleagues from Northern Ireland and UK. At the peak 251 attendees were in attendance on-line.

#### HSE Critical Care 2022 Session 1 - YouTube

critical-care-conference-2022-programme.pdf (hse.ie) (web link)

#### WORKFORCE PLANNING

Dr Brian Marsh continues to lead workforce planning on behalf of JFICMI. The publication of the National Doctors Training and Planning HSE (NDTP) Intensive Care Medicine Workforce Plan 2020 provides a template for intensive care training numbers to develop consultant staffing for current and predicted intensive care requirements nationally.

Work to deliver some of these training posts has progressed between the JFICMI and NDTP in 2021. The model will need to be agile to changes in service configuration, but provides a strong basis to support such development through to 2030. <u>https://www.hse.ie/eng/</u> <u>staff/leadership-education-development/met/plan/spe-</u> <u>cialty-specific-reviews/icm-workforce-plan-2020-final-</u> <u>report.pdf.</u>

#### **ELECTIONS**

Prof Kevin Clarkson, Dr Patrick Seigne and Dr Jennifer Hastings (second term) were elected to the Board in April 2021.

#### FINANCE

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Dr. Patrick Seigne succeeded Dr Alan Gaffney as Honorary Treasurer. The Board thanks D. Gaffney for his work in this role.

### STAFF

The CAI continues to support the JFICMI. I wish to extend my thanks on behalf of the Board to Mr. Martin McCormack, CEO of CAI. Ms. Rebeca Williams continues to provide administrative support for the Board of JFICMI. Ms. Ruth Flaherty and her team supports the smooth running of the Fellowship Examination of JFICMI and the EDIC 2 examination, a collaboration which continues to enhance the knowledge and development of our own exam. I also wish to acknowledge the support to the Board and Credentials Committee provided by Ms. Hazel Monks and indeed all other staff from the CAI. In addition, I would like to thank Dr Michael Scully for leading the Credentials committee for 3 years. The Board Members of JFICMI has worked tirelessly over the last year on behalf of the faculty. I extend my thanks to them.

Dr Andrew Westbrook Dean, JFICMI

## **Faculty of Pain Medicine**

The Faculty held 7 board meetings during the year. Our Annual Scientific Meeting was held as part of the Congress of Anaesthesiology in the CAI. Prof Irene Tracey delivered the Rynd Lecture and was awarded the Francis Rynd Medal. The invited speakers for 2022 are Prof Nadine Attal, Dr Kevin McCarthy and Dr Arun Bhaskar. Prof Attal will deliver the 2022 Rynd Lecture. The Clinical Research Medal in Pain Medicine competition took place during the 2021 Congress and Dr Sinead Forde was awarded the medal.

The Faculty examinations were a combination of an online and in-person vivas. A clinical examination, using actors, was part of the Fellowship examination. Several Single Best Answer questions were introduced in the 2021 sitting. The proportion of these questions will increase in subsequent years. The guidance of Dr Gareth Morrison in developing the new format has been of considerable help in shaping an examination which will better reflect the scope of the curriculum as submitted to the Medical Council. Drs Hari Gopal and David Moore oversee the examination process. They and Dr Liam Conroy deserve credit for developing the question bank and for preparing a database of appropriate questions for future examinations. Dr Conroy has a long association with the CAI and was awarded the medal of the European Federation of IASP Chapters for his work on developing the European pain examination. We are grateful for his guidance.

Interviews for the SAT Year 7 Fellowship and Post CSCST Training in Pain Medicine were conducted in September 2021, three candidates were appointed to the Fellowship posts.

Dr Amy Donnelly, who was co-opted on to the board in 2021, is the Faculty representative on the National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesiology. Her work on opioid prescribing guidelines, in association with the HSE, and on a patient discharge information booklet in association with the various pain bodies in the UK and Ireland, should lead to safer and more appropriate prescribing practices for patients. Her work will be presented at several international conferences during 2022. We hope to expand the number of bord members in the coming year to give representation to the graduates of the training programme as they begin their clinical practices.

A revised set of documents were submitted to the Medical Council in December, 2021 in support of our application for approval of a two-year training programme in pain medicine. The proposed curriculum had earlier been reviewed by Prof Michael Vagg, Dean, FPM ANZCA, in 2021 and modified in light of his comments. Prof Vagg felt that a certain degree of subject choice, reflective practice and self-directed learning should be part of the training programme. We need to acknowledge that trainees' exposure to clinical case load will vary and each will not necessarily get a chance to cover all subspecialty areas to the same extent. These recommendations have been incorporated into the new Curriculum.

Further documentation relating to the Medical Council application was submitted in February, 2022. The process is expected to be reviewed in consultation with Medical Council representatives in mid-year. Again, considerable work was done on the additional documentation by the Faculty board, in particular Drs Therese O'Connor, Conor Hearty, David Moore, Hari Gopal and Prof Camillus Power. The submission includes a Framework for Service delivery document drafted by Dr Moore, which lays down a template for future consultant posts in pain medicine.

The Supervisor of Training role continues to be expanded, with emphasis on the elements of the two-year curriculum which was submitted to the Medical Council and the Clinical Case Series which will be piloted in 2022. The study day for these supervisors was very successful in highlighting the roles and responsibilities of the trainers in the approved training institutions.

We are working on the development of a database to record the clinical roles of holders of the FFPMCAI. We

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will make efforts to highlight the professional satisfaction from work in the pain medicine field and to work with national bodies to progress the standing of pain medicine. The development of revised Standing Orders, to reflect the proposed new training programme and examination structure as well as the roles of the Supervisors of Training, was begun during 2022.

The goal of the Faculty is to improve the training of graduates so that they can deliver high-quality specialist pain medicine services to their patients. We also work towards the recognition of pain medicine as a specialty in Ireland. We look forward to progressing these goals in the coming year and anticipate that Medical Council approval of our proposed curriculum will enhance the reputations of our graduates, both at home and internationally.

On behalf of the Pain Medicine Faculty, I would also like to thank Prof George Shorten, Mr Martin McCormack, Ms Ann Kilemade, Ms Ruth Flaherty, Ms Jennie Shiels, Ms Margaret Jenkinson, Ms Rebecca Cornally and the Examinations Department for their support and guidance over the last year. As in previous years, none of our activities would be possible without the dedication of Ms Rebeca Williams. My colleagues and I owe her a considerable debt of gratitude.

Dr Hugh Gallagher, Dean, Faculty of Pain Medicine

## **HSE Liaison Committee**

It has been my privilege to be the first chair of the "HSE Liaison Committee" (HLC) of the college, a new standing committee of college whose purposes are:

- To facilitate and inform CAI engagement with the HSE with respect to all areas of mutual responsibility.
- To represent the CAI, through its Chair or nominee of its Chair, on i. the Working Group of the HSE National Clinical Programme for Anaesthesia (NCPA) and ii. on the Advisory Group to the NCPA.
- On occasion, to identify and prepare applications on behalf of the CAI to the National Development Programme funds, subject to calls made by the NDTP. These applications will serve to support CAI

initiatives approved by its Council and be prepared in conjunction with the CAI Executive Team.

- Through the nomination of the President of the CAI, the Chair or nominee will represent the CAI on the HSE Consultant Appointment Approval Committee.
- To support and inform the CAI CEO in preparation of the College's annual Service Level Agreement with the HSE.
- To engage on behalf of the CAI with the HSE at a senior level on any specific issues or initiatives of national importance that arise relating to their areas of mutual responsibility.

Our members include:

Dr Brian Kinirons, Director, NDTP, Dr Michael Dockery, Lead, NCPA, Dr Dorothy Breen, Consultant in Anaesthesia and Intensive Care, Dr Rory Page, Chair, CAI Hospital Accreditation Sub-Committee, Dr Ehtesham Khan, Chair, CAI Credentials Committee, Professor Michael Griffin, Chair Final Fellowship, Dr Camilllus Power, Director of Training, Dr Kirsten Joyce, Chair & Dr Lauren O'Callaghan, Member, CAT, Mr Martin McCormack, CEO, Ms Margaret Jenkinson, COO.

The committee held its inaugural meeting on 31st August 2021. The issues dealt with by the HLC since its inauguration were many and varied.

#### NATIONAL CLINICAL PROGRAMME FOR ANAESTHESIOLOGY (NCPA)

The committee engaged with NCPA on the following issues:

CAI educational courses for doctors, nurses, and other healthcare workers

The committee commissioned a high level feasibility study on the option of the CAI becoming an accredited QQI/ NUI provider of courses, carried out by CEO Martin McCormack. The main driver for the feasibility study was a lack of clarity on the quantum of resources required to become an accredited provider. The four main elements considered were : set up costs; library affiliation; platform; sustainability — marketing. Further work on potential funding of courses is currently being carried out by COO, Margaret Jenkinson. Guidance for Opioid Prescribing for Acute Non-Cancer Pain & HSE National Policy for Safe Surgery

The committee coordinated endorsement by the Faculty of Pain Medicine and Council, CAI.

Code of Practice for Healthcare Workers: Advanced Healthcare Directive (AHD)

The committee obtained a clear legal / ethical opinion from Dr Barry Lyons on the position of the college regarding concerns that might arise when an anaesthesiologist with a conscientious objection is not able to opt out of an AHD, for example in the emergency when transfer of care is not possible.

HSE Healthcare Audit Reports re compliance with the NCPA and CAI Model of Care for Anaesthesiology (2019)

The committee brought the results of audits of six hospitals to council and the Training Committee for consideration of implications for trainees.

#### HSE NATIONAL DOCTORS TRAINING AND PLANNING (NDTP)

- The committee sought to support the NDTP regarding the five key deliverables of the Report of the NDTP Working Group on Doctors not in Training: Optimising the Irish Medical Workforce (2019): Increase consultant number; Increase trainee places; Develop a robust Medical Associate Programme in partnership with the PGTBs; Enhance controls on the number of non-training posts; Expand the existing Irish Medical Graduate Training Initiative. It obtained data concerning the numbers of non-training posts in hospitals around the country and obtained a picture of the changes in numbers of these posts over the past five years. The number of new consultant posts per clinical site during that period was also obtained. The data was shared with Council and the Training Committee to assist in forward planning of training.
- A survey of post CSCST fellows over the past five years was carried out (Dr Camillus Power) to assist in understanding the reasons for choices of consultant post uptake and in planning of training in the future.

 The committee has joined forces with the Education Committee Chair, Dr Niamh Hayes, to develop an enhanced submission (led by Dr Dorothy Breen) for NDTP funding on the Equality, Diversity & Inclusion theme. Call for development funding is expected in late March 2022.

#### EXPOSURE PRONE PROCEDURES (EPPS)

"those invasive procedures where there is a risk that injury to the health care worker may result in the exposure of the patient's open tissues to the blood of the health care worker".

Extra pre-employment screening tests are required for healthcare workers who are deemed to undertake EPPs.

The committee liaised closely with National HSE Occupational Medicine / HSE Workforce Health & Wellbeing to clarify a new process whereby each new post will be individually assessed by the relevant Clinical Director in liaison with the Specialty Lead and Occupational Health Department of the hospital, then being communicated to the Medical Manpower Manager.

#### **EMERGENCY TAX FOR NCHDS**

At the request of the Committee of Anaesthesiology Trainees (CAT), the committee coordinated a response to a CAT survey that demonstrated that a significant number of trainees are paid incorrectly or placed on emergency tax (ET) when they changed hospitals. An information leaflet advising "How to avoid ET" was circulated to all trainees by the committee and a re-survey was carried out after the changeover. Nine hospitals have been identified that repeatedly charge ET and, after pursuit of this issue with the HSE through the committee by the CEO, the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly has invited the chair of CAT (Dr Kirsten Joyce) to present this and other issues affecting trainees at a meeting with him in Spring. Through liaison with the Forum of Irish Postgraduate Medical Training Bodies by the CEO, further similar surveys by other specialties will be carried out to progress this issue.

#### CONSULTANT APPLICATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAAC)

During 2021, 14 new consultant posts, 3 replacement posts and 1 restructured post were approved.

#### THANKS

I would like to acknowledge the support of the President, Professor George Shorten and the Council in progressing the work of the HSE Liaison Committee. I would also like to acknowledge the help and support of the committee members and the College administrative staff.

Dr Therese O Connor, Chairperson, HSE Liaison Committee

## **Wellness Committee**

The Wellness Committee had its inaugural meeting in October 2021, and has had 2 subsequent meetings since. The committee members include Dr Laura Grisetto, Dr Barbara Cusack, Dr Mohammed Mustaffa, Dr W Jonker, Dr B Lyons, Dr B O'Brien, Dr N Hayes.

The purpose of the committee is to develop a strategy for wellbeing in the College curriculum, and also at local, departmental level. This is through implementation of the terms of reference drafted and by promotion and maintenance of health and wellness amongst the CAI community.

From an education perspective, we hope to make formal submissions to the College curriculum development regarding wellbeing, and also hope to introduce micro credentials towards mindfulness, and important healthy behaviours. Reflective practice will also be introduced into training and maintenance of professional competence. We hope to identify practical tools for measurement of wellness at individual, departmental and college levels, as well as promote education and support systems regarding physical and psychological health and wellness in the workplace.

In addition to these plans, through interaction with non consultant anaesthesiologist's, SAT trainees and fellows of the College, we hope to utilise the College website to place wellbeing information and sources of assistance in times of health related stress and crises.

Once the outline for the strategy has been agreed on, this can be posted on the College website so all members and fellows can assimilate and understand the focus of the committee and the President.

Dr Padraig Sheeran & Dr Michelle Duggan, Chairpersons, Wellness Committee

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## Sustainability Committee

Sustainability Committee Members: Prof Kevin Clarkson, Dr Donal O'Croinin, Ms Margaret Jenkinson, Dr Tim Keady, Dr Oscar Duffy, Dr Vincent Wall, Dr Wouter Jonker, Dr Niamh Hayes, Dr Barry Lyons, Ms Patricia Cummins.

The Sustainability Committee was established in 2020. In 2021, the Committee undertook an N2O Mitigation and Irish Anaesthetic Gases Mitigation Project which is an ongoing push from the committee to reduce the carbon footprint associated with anaesthetic gases. Data has been collected on the N2O usage of Irish Hospitals and individualised feedback has been issued to hospitals on their N2O usage.

The Sustainability Committee adopted the Curlew as our Sustainability mascot, and the name of the Sustainability practice award at the Congress of Anaesthesiology. The first CAI Sustainability Newsletter was published in the Summer 2021 and was well received.

The Committee organised a Sustainability session for Congress 2021. We thank Dr Jodi Sherman, Dr Tom Pearson, and Dr Kenneth Barker who presented at this session. The "Green Anaesthesia Week" was organised by the Committee and took place over 4 days in September 2021. There were 250 attendees for this event. A virtual lecture was released on Minimizing Monday, TIVA Tuesday, and No Waste Wednesday. On Town Hall Thursday, a virtual Q&A took place with all the speakers. We thank Dr Donall O'Croinin, Dr Claire Nestor, Dr Rob Burrell, Ms Alifia Chakera, Ms Grace O'Sullivan, Prof Mike Irwin, Dr Oscar Duffy, Dr Niamh Hayes, Dr Tim Keady, Dr Gillian O'Keefe and Dr Ola Nordrum who spoke during the Green Anaesthesia Week.

We congratulate Sustainability Committee Member Dr Oscar Duffy, who won the Delaney Medal in 2021 with his work 'A National Audit of CO2 equivalent emissions for inhalational agents'.

Professor Kevin Clarkson, Chairperson, Sustainability Committee. 57

# Photographs from Recent Events

## CAI Congress 2021



Prof George Shorten, President Elect CAI, Mr Martin McCormack, CEO CAI.



Dr Colman O'Loughlin, Dr John Bates.



Dr Brendan Conroy, Outgoing Dean Faculty Pain Medicine, Dr Hugh Gallagher, Incoming Dean Faculty Pain Medicine.



Dr Brian Kinirons, President CAI, Dr Anne Hennessy, Honorary Secretary.



Dr Brendan Conroy, Outgoing Dean Faculty Pain Medicine, Ms Margaret Jenkinson, Chief Operations Officer CAI, Dr Hugh Gallagher, Incoming Dean Faculty Pain Medicine.

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Prof George Shorten, Citator for Dr Stephen Bolsin, Honorary Fellowship of the College.



Dr Brendan Conroy, Outgoing Dean Faculty Pain Medicine.



Dr Brian Kinirons, President CAI.



Dr Colman O'Loughlin, Citator for Dr Ross Freebairn, Honorary Fellowship of JFICMI.



Dr Anne Hennessy, Honorary Secretary CAI.



*Dr John Bates, Dean of the Joint Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine of Ireland.* 



Dr Hugh Gallagher, Incoming Dean Faculty Pain Medicine.



Vice-Admiral Mark Mellett, Chief of Staff Ireland's Defence Forces.



Prof Dominic Harmon, Citator for Prof. Irene Tracey.



Prof. Irene Tracey, Honorary Fellow Faculty Pain Medicine.



Dr Stephen Bolsin, who received his Honorary Fellowship of the College.



Dr Ross Freebairn, Honorary Fellowship of JFICMI.

## International Women's Day 2022 – #BreakTheBias

Our College is proud to mark it by publishing messages from some remarkable women who are leaders in our community. Although we, as a College, claim trust and partnership as core values, we do not live in a gender equal world. In medicine, gender inequity takes many forms; but perhaps implicit gender bias is the most pervasive and influential. Although it operates in an invisible sphere, it produces remarkable discriminatory effects. A classic Swedish study demonstrated that women needed 2.5 times as many impactful publications to receive an equivalent score on grant reviews as their male counterparts.[1] In the US and elsewhere, the percentage of female anaesthesiologists who hold senior academic ranks or leadership roles, lags behind the percentage of female anaesthesiologists overall.[2] Effective corrections will not be easy, but are necessary. Today we hear the voices of some of those women who lead our College as we continue to put those corrections in place.









#### **BREAK THE BIAS**

(an offering for my younger colleagues of all genders)

To recognise it when you hear it To see the question and to ask it To take the trouble To not let it pass To pick up on the detail To follow the thread To sweat the small stuff To face the frustration To roll with the punches To hang in there To take the long view To try

To remind those who would forget To laugh in the face of presumption To sidestep the branding To throw cold water on the mistruth To not accept what can be changed To go to the meeting To pen the email To follow the process To pursue the trail To take the small steps To summon the courage To believe

To walk the line To keep the balance To avoid the righteousness To appreciate all colleagues

To shake it off To shake it off some more To celebrate the difference

*by Dr Therese O'Connor, Chair HSE Committee* 





The following are a selection of pictures from the CAI- ICU4U Charity Cycle event held on 3rd September 2021. It involved healthcare and frontline staff from all across the island of Ireland to remember everyone who lost their lives to the Covid 19 pandemic. The event also raised significant funds for a number of charities/organisations who were affected by the pandemic. Following the ICU4U cycle, a ceremony was held at the Memorial Gardens, Island bridge Dublin, in front of 7450 white roses.





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