



President's e-newsletter – December 2018

President's Messages of the Month

Wishing you well

Many of our members will be celebrating Christmas in the next week or so, and we will shortly be welcoming in the New Year. You are a tremendous community of extremely talented people, doing their very best for all those we look after, and it is a privilege to work with you. To all of you, at this time, I wish you and your loved ones all the very, very best.

Alie Street

Our move to [Alie Street](#) went smoothly and we successfully ran our first two-day conference on transfusion medicine in our first week. I was really pleased to welcome experts and leaders in transfusion science to provide a broad overview of current developments. We have also welcomed a range of other disciplines since then, as well as a series of cross-cutting topics. We look forward to beginning to webcast and record meetings!

Think pathology for the new £50 bank note

The Bank of England is seeking nominations to feature a scientist on its new £50 banknote. This is an opportunity to nominate a pathologist or scientist who has contributed to the fields of science, medicine or health. For more details and how to apply visit [£50 bank note](#). Nominations close on 14 December.

Human Tissue Authority (HTA) training module – eCPD app

The College has collaborated with the [HTA](#) to develop a training module for the eCPD app. The module aims to provide leaders of services and board members with an overview of the key strategic issues facing mortuaries and pathology services and the potential consequences when standards are not maintained. We hope that this collaboration will raise the profile of the regulatory risks and issues faced in the post-mortem sector and encourage the sharing of the messages more widely. The app hosts over 300 other modules for your portfolio (and general enjoyment!), and is available free on [Android](#) or from the [Apple Store](#). eCPD has just won the UK education app of the year award!

Round-up

- Thank you to everyone who got involved in National Pathology Week this year. It was great to see so much activity on social media by members with some of the best and most imaginative featuring in our #SecretsOfTheLab competition. We also launched our 'What is a pathologist?' animation during NPW, which reached 48,000 people across social media channels during the week and had 10,000 views on Facebook alone. Many of you downloaded our new resources, including video guides such as the Your Body, Your Consent schools resource and other activities – our Pathology Pub Quiz was even run in China!
- As part of NPW, I introduced *Hidden enemies: What was the real killer of World War One?* on 8 November. This event marked both the tenth National Pathology Week and the centenary of the end of World War One. College Fellow Professor John Oxford, a leading virologist and well-known expert on flu and pandemics, spoke about the global influenza outbreak of 1918 and about his quest to pin down the genetic structure of the 1918 flu virus. The event was part of Centre of the Cell's Big Question Lecture series, which offers the public, and particularly young people, the chance to hear biology experts discuss their work and question them about it.
- I was delighted to take part in International Pathology Day (IPD) celebrations, which was partnered by The Pathologist. The event, Pathology Futures, explored the important role and contribution of pathologists, scientists and laboratory medicine professionals in the treatment and care of patients. It looked at how results from research undertaken in the laboratory are directly used to develop new ways to treat patients and combat disease.
- There have continued to be further questions in parliament over the provision of histopathologists to meet future demand following publication of our workforce census. It's pleasing to see our work on addressing workforce is paying off. I will be attending a further meeting with Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Matt Hancock, arranged through the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges (AoMRC), and will continue to raise our concerns.
- We were pleased that the Department of Health and Social Care has announced the next stage of the implementation of medical examiners from April 2019. This is the culmination of a great deal of work by the College over many years. The first steps in the practical implementation include recruitment to the post of National Medical Examiner and the publication of an e-learning package for medical examiners.
- I attended a useful and interesting meeting with the AoMRC and the NHS England senior team including Steve Powis and Lord Prior. Areas covered included the long-term plan, aligning NHS Improvement and NHS England public health, Health Education England, workforce and Healthcare Quality Improvement Partnership audits.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGES

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COLLEGE NEWS

Subsidy for the research publishing gateway increased to 100%

The College's research publishing gateway provides an online research forum for those interested in the study of the pathology of human and animal diseases. It is an exciting opportunity for both experienced researchers and trainees to build an online community where ideas can circulate rapidly and be developed with other pathologists.

The gateway has been funded by the College as a pilot up until Autumn 2019 and the College's Gateway Advisory Group has recently increased the subsidy for applications to cover 100% of the article-processing charge for articles. For more information visit: [RCPATH F1000](#).

Results and recommendations from our LEPT satisfaction survey 2018

During April and May 2018, the College undertook a survey to measure trainees' satisfaction with the [Learning Environment for Pathology Trainees \(LEPT\) system](#). More than 100 trainees provided their feedback. In response, we will be making a number of changes to help our trainees login with more ease and also enable them to track their learning more effectively. You can [read the report here](#). Please note that you will need to sign in using your member login details.

GET INVOLVED AT THE COLLEGE

Apply for Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC) roles

The College is seeking nominations for the following posts:

- Chair, Genetics and Reproductive Science SAC
- Chair, Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics SAC
- Chair, Interspecialty Committee on Molecular Pathology
- Chair, National Quality Assurance Advisory Panels (NQAAP) for Cellular Pathology.

College committees formally consider specialty-specific issues such as recommending policy, advising on staffing levels and promoting the specialty profile and pathology in general. Business is also conducted outside of meetings via email, telephone, etc.

Some key responsibilities of the committee include:

- providing guidance and advising on behalf of the specialty to the College and external stakeholders
- producing and reviewing guidance, standards and publications relevant to the specialty
- advising on workforce issues, training and the curriculum
- advising on policy documents produced by the government or other organisations.

Eligibility

You must be a fellow of the College and be in active practice, have a current GMC license to practice and have recognised expertise in the relevant specialty.

How to apply

Full details on how to apply for each post including further information, the full job description and terms of reference of the committee are available on the [College website](#). Applications must be received by midday on Monday 17 December 2018. For further information, please email elections2018@rcpath.org.

Trainees' Advisory Committee (TAC) roles

Trainees – take up an active role on the TAC. The committee covers all specialties and all College regions. Representatives on the TAC are responsible for raising issues on behalf of trainees in their specialty. The committee representatives are also active members of the [College's specialty committees](#), participating in discussions and informing the committee of the views of specialty trainees.

Why should I apply?

Make a difference – work with other trainees in your specialty, network with your peers, get involved with the College's work and support your professional development.

What TAC roles are available?

- Dermatopathology Representative
- Medical Virology Representative
- Toxicology Representative
- Veterinary (Anatomic) Pathology Trainee Representative who would be expected to share attendance at meetings with the Veterinary Clinical Pathology representative.

Deadline for applications: 5:00pm on Friday 4 January 2019.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Nominate a trainee or undergraduate in The Furness Prize for Science Communication – Closing soon!

[The Furness Prize for Science Communication](#) is an award given to a pathology trainee or undergraduate who has shown excellence in their science communication activities throughout the year. It aims to reward and recognise trainees and undergraduates who have undertaken sustained high-quality science communication activities, as well as raise awareness about the importance of public engagement. A prize of £200 is awarded to the winner, funded by former College President Professor Peter Furness (2008–2011). You can nominate yourself or someone else by 10 December 2018.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Be a Global Health Challenger for the world. Register now for next year's Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100

Prudential RideLondon is the world's greatest festival of cycling where more than 26,000 amateur cyclists take on a cycling challenge like no other through London and Surrey on a similar route to the London 2012 Olympic Road Cycling Races.

Next year's Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100 Cycle Challenge, which will take place on Sunday 4 August 2019, will include ST1 Histopathology trainee Dr Natasha Cutmore and her partner Alexander Stephenson-Brown. To show your support, please visit their [fundraising page](#).

As a 'Golden Bond Charity' with the Prudential RideLondon-Surrey 100, the College has guaranteed places for the 2019 challenge. There are still places if you want to join. We will look after you every step of the way, offering advice and tips and, of course, the coveted College cycling vest! Registration fee is only £50 with a minimum sponsorship pledge of £500.

Help make a difference and register now to take part. To secure your place, please email [Deborah Ko](#), our International Coordinator.

International Pathology Day – 14 November

As part of this year's [IPD](#) celebrations, the College partnered with [The Pathologist](#) to host a roundtable discussion. Chaired by College President, Professor Jo Martin, the panel event delved into uncharted territory for most pathologists – they discussed their crucial role in discovering new drug targets and therapeutics working within, or in collaboration with, industry. The discussion was delivered by pathologists who took the less trodden career route to work on some groundbreaking discoveries and life-changing projects. Missed the live stream? You can now watch the roundtable [on demand here](#) (you will be asked to register first).

COLLEGE CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Challenges in the Clinical Biochemistry Laboratory and Beyond

Thursday 28 February 2019

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT

CPD credits: 6

This meeting is aimed at those with an interest in Clinical Biochemistry. It aims to provide an update on a range of current analytical and clinical issues, and will challenge some conventional thinking. The topics covered will look at interpretation of results, and also factors that can cause spurious results to be produced. There will be an update on topical areas in paediatric endocrinology as well as a session challenging some common (mis)conceptions. The final session of the day will look at the impact of laboratory medicine on patient outcomes.

Advanced Molecular Brain Tumour Classification with Epigenetic Profiling

Friday 3 May 2019

To be held at the Royal College of Pathologists, 6 Alie Street, London, E1 8QT

CPD credits: 7

This one-day workshop will provide a multifaceted view of epigenetic profiling in adult and paediatric brain tumour diagnostics. The workshop will convey the biological principles of epigenetics in health and disease with a focus on brain tumours and explain how methylation profiles of brain tumours are detected with current array technologies. The day will be supplemented with an interactive practical session where participants will

have the opportunity to discuss the diagnostic approach to challenging adult and paediatric CNS tumour cases. These cases will be available to view in a digital format prior to the workshop for registered participants and during the workshop.

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NEWS FROM EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

Public Health England (PHE) reminds pathologists to consider rabies

Following the death of a UK resident from rabies, PHE is reminding healthcare workers, including microbiologists and virologists, to be aware of the steps to take with patients presenting with an animal bite abroad or a bat bite in this country. A risk assessment should always be carried out to decide what post-exposure treatment may be needed. PHE's Rabies and Immunoglobulin Service (RIgS) can carry out this risk assessment with the health professional managing the patient. More information can be found [online](#).

Health Foundation – GenerationQ leadership programme

The Health Foundation is looking for applications for the final round of its GenerationQ leadership programme. The programme is an 18-month part time, funded leadership development programme for senior leaders in clinical and non-clinical roles from across the UK, representing the wide variety of sectors working in and with the health service, including provider, commissioner, policy, regulatory, third sector, local authority and charitable organisations. This fellowship is open for application until 14 January 2019. For more information visit [GenerationQ](#).

Join Food Standard Agency (FSA) expert Scientific Advisory Committees

The FSA is inviting applications to join three of FSA's independent Scientific Advisory Committees, including three new joint expert groups.

The FSA is seeking independent experts to provide advice on microbiological, chemical and other risks in food and feed, and in new food and feed products, additives,

processes and packaging to help ensure food produced or sold in the UK is safe and effectively regulated.

For more information please visit the FSA's [recruitment page](#).

The closing date for receipt of completed applications is Friday 4 January 2019

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

See [external conferences](#)

- [Fungal Update 2019](#) – 15-16 March 2019
- [2019 Winter Meeting, Let's Speak about Precision Pathology!](#) – 22-23 January 2019
- [Genomics and Clinical Microbiology](#) – 20-25 January 2019
- [Embryo biopsy workshop](#) – 4-5 April 2019
- [Genomics and Clinical Virology](#) – 10-15 February 2019
- [2018 National OPAT Conference](#) – 13 December 2018
- [The London Haematopathology Course: A Practical Integrated Approach to the Diagnosis of Haematological Malignancies](#) – 6-8 March 2019
- [Antimicrobial Chemotherapy Conference 2019: An ABC for everyone involved in developing new antimicrobials](#) – 15 January 2019
- [BSAC Spring Conference 2019](#) – 21-22 March 2019
- [The 15th British Association of Urological Pathologists Advanced Prostate Pathology Course](#) – 29-30 April 2019
- [5th Digital Pathology and AI Conference](#) – 6-7 December 2018