

Lead for Undergraduate and Foundation Pathology Education

Role description

Appointed by:	Council
Responsible to:	Vice-President for Learning
Accountable to:	Council
Term of office:	Three years from the date of the AGM in the year of appointment
Commitment:	0.5 days per week (on average). The post will not be remunerated but reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

The College

This College has a key role in the professional aspects of pathology services in the development and delivery of health care. Those holding office in the College provide professional leadership, and thereby contribute at a national level to the maintenance and development of pathology services, and the quality of care that patients receive. The College expects its office-holders to be proactive, and to provide leadership not only in their own specialty but also in pathology in general, in the wider context of health services. The College's influence extends to all sectors of healthcare provision.

The College is its membership, and the coordination, coherence and consistency between national, regional and local activities is paramount. All office-holders are expected to subscribe to these principles.

Undergraduate Education

In 2015 the College launched the undergraduate medical curriculum in pathology, following a lengthy Delphi project with its members, including consultants with and without official education roles, trainees and lay representatives.

The BDIAP/RCPaTh/Pathological Society annual summer school has been running successfully since 2014 and remains an on-going exercise in engagement with medical undergraduates across the UK. It receives excellent feedback and enables a lively interaction between medical students interested in what pathologists do, and practising trainees and consultants across the UK, working in all pathology specialties.

An undergraduate membership category was introduced in 2014 and currently has over 400 members. It is offered to all Summer School attendees and information is available on the College website.



The changes to medical training suggested in the Greenaway report on the *Shape of Training*, suggest that developments in the frameworks for undergraduate and postgraduate medical education will need to be coordinated. There are also possible synergies between undergraduate education in the medical, dental, scientific and veterinary areas.

The number of medical school places in the UK is expanding, and in some medical schools fundamental curriculum redesign is underway. New medical schools are being established. In addition, the GMC will also be introducing the Medical Licensing Assessment (MLA), a common threshold for safe practice, for UK, EEA and non-EEA graduates in 2022.

Foundation Training

The Foundation Curriculum was updated in 2016. In the foundation training programme Pathology is an important area where opportunities in pathology can be promoted, either through tasters or longer attachments.

Purpose of the role

The Lead for Undergraduate and Foundation Pathology Education will work with the Vice-President for Learning and the Head of Educational Standards, as well as relevant College Directors, Chairs of the Specialty Advisory Committees (SACs) and any other relevant individuals to lead and co-ordinate the College's undergraduate education activities, through the above activities. The Lead for Undergraduate Education will be expected to devote the equivalent of, on average, 0.5 days per week to this work. The post will not be remunerated but travel expenses will be reimbursed in accordance with the College's expenses policy.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the post include:

- Providing leadership and strategic development for Undergraduate Education and Foundation Training activities in the pathology specialties
- Leading in the development of a coordinated Undergraduate Education Strategy for the College
- Keeping up to date with changes in medical, dental, veterinary and scientific training and standards, and providing advice accordingly
- Working closely with other relevant post-holders to support the development and implementation of the Undergraduate Education strategy, including as follows:
 - agreeing the Summer School timetable with associated societies, across the range of medical pathology specialties, developing the event and ensuring appropriate College engagement
 - developing and sustaining a network of undergraduate educators in pathology across the UK to support the objectives of the College
 - developing and implementing a programme of engagement with undergraduate members of the College
 - developing increased awareness of the pathology specialties in those graduating from UK medical schools and foundation training, in order to facilitate a culture of increased co-operative working with pathologists, and increased popularity of the specialties in career aspirations
 - ensuring the undergraduate medical curriculum remains fit for purpose and is widely publicised
 - supporting the development of the e-learning programme being designed to provide learning for the undergraduate curriculum



- working with the non-medical pathology specialties to assist with the development of undergraduate curricula, as appropriate
 - ensuring published material in this arena is accurate and timely.
- Chairing occasional meetings in this area as appropriate
- Representing the College, as requested, at appropriate internal and external meetings regarding undergraduate education
- Advising on appropriate content for the undergraduate section of the College website.

Lead for Undergraduate Education Person specification

Requirements	Essential	Desirable
Fellow of the College in active practice at the time of nomination	✓	
Participating in a CPD scheme	✓	
Not currently subject to any investigations related to professional performance or probity	✓	
Broad overview of all pathology specialties	✓	
Knowledge of the structure and governance of undergraduate and postgraduate training, and of the bodies external to the College with responsibility for the various aspects of postgraduate training	✓	
A demonstrable interest in education	✓	
Extensive first-hand practical experience in the leadership and development of undergraduate education	✓	
Trained and up to date in all issues relating to equality and diversity	✓	
Skills and Abilities		
Ability to communicate effectively and develop effective working relationships on an individual basis with College colleagues and staff	✓	
	✓	
Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to write clear and concise reports, letters and communications	✓	
Ability to make decisions and give guidance	✓	
Ability to take responsibility and show evidence of leadership	✓	
Qualities		
Excellent interpersonal and communications skills	✓	
Flexible and proactive attitude	✓	
Awareness of personal limitations	✓	
Proven experience of working constructively as part of a team	✓	
Proven experience in leadership and strategy development	✓	
Track record of achievement	✓	