



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:	The Lead for Undergraduate and Foundation Pathology 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.

Introduction

The College is a professional membership organisation dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of pathology. There are currently approximately 12,000 members, all of whom are pathologists and scientists based in hospitals, universities and laboratories in the UK and overseas. The College's main tasks are to set and maintain training standards for doctors and scientists, to advise on the appointment of consultants, to ensure the membership is kept up to date with current practice through the continuing professional development scheme, and to promote the latest developments in pathology by holding scientific meetings. The College's mission is to promote excellence in the practice of pathology and to be responsible for maintaining standards through training, assessments, examinations and professional development.

We are committed to increasing diversity and inclusion within our organisation, as well as using our voice and platform to help make pathology as a profession more inclusive. This



means reflecting critically on issues of diversity and inclusion within all that we do, identifying and taking appropriate actions to reduce inequality, and welcoming challenge.

We welcome applications from anyone regardless of their disability, ethnicity, heritage, gender, sexuality, religion or socio-economic background.

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 we aim to listen and be responsive to its needs. The coordination between international, national, regional and local activities is paramount. All office holders are expected to subscribe to these principles, and the local leads and regional Chairs are expected to provide the professional leadership within their region. The College is also expected to provide advice and guidance on specialty specific issues nationally, regionally and locally. The Specialty Advisory Committees provide professional leadership within their specialty.

RCPATH's Undergraduate and Foundation Initiatives

In 2015 the College launched the undergraduate medical curriculum in pathology which was subsequently reviewed and updated in 2019.

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. It is offered to all Summer School attendees and information is available on the College website.

The College runs the Paola Domizio undergraduate essay prize for medical students and the Hugh Platt foundation essay prize for Foundation doctors annually. The College's Science Communication Prize is also open to medical undergraduates and Foundation Doctors.

There is an annual online Foundation Taster Event, also open to undergraduates, a Foundation Fellowship scheme and a medical elective small grant scheme for undergraduate medical and veterinary students.

Purpose of the role

The Lead for Undergraduate and Foundation Pathology Education will work with the Vice-President for Learning, the Directors of Learning and Communications, the Training Manager, Corporate & Public Engagement Manager, and the Events Manager as well as relevant College Clinical Directors, Chairs of the Specialty Advisory Committees (SACs) and any other relevant individuals to lead and coordinate the College's undergraduate and Foundation education activities, through the above activities. They will develop increased awareness of the pathology specialties in those graduating from UK medical schools, universities 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.

Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the post include:

- Providing leadership for the development and maintenance of a coordinated Undergraduate Education and Foundation Strategy for the College.



- Working closely with other relevant post-holders to review and implement the Undergraduate and Foundation Strategy, and a corresponding programme of engagement, including:
 - ensuring the undergraduate pathology curriculum remains fit for purpose and is widely publicised.
 - supporting the College's undergraduate provision including the Paola Domizio undergraduate essay prize, the medical elective scheme and promotion of undergraduate pathology for non-medical specialties, as appropriate.
 - agreeing the Summer School timetable with associated societies, across the range of medical pathology specialties, developing the event and ensuring appropriate College engagement.
 - supporting the College's Foundation Doctor provision, including the Hugh Platt foundation essay prize and the Foundation Fellowship scheme and the taster event.
 - Supporting National Pathology Week activities aimed at undergraduates and Foundation doctors.
 - supporting the development of the Pathology Portal to provide learning for the undergraduate curriculum and Foundation Doctors.
 - ensuring published material is accurate and timely.
 - being aware of College support for international undergraduates interested in a career in pathology.
- Chairing occasional meetings in this area as appropriate.
- Keeping up to date with changes in medical, dental, veterinary and scientific training and standards, and providing advice accordingly.
- Representing the College, as requested, at appropriate internal and external meetings regarding undergraduate and Foundation education.
- Advising on appropriate careers content for the undergraduate and Foundation section of the College website.



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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	✓	
A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity.	✓	



<p>Skills and Abilities</p> <p>Ability to communicate effectively and develop effective working relationships on an individual basis with College colleagues and staff</p> <p>Excellent verbal and written communication skills with the ability to write clear and concise reports, letters and communications</p> <p>Ability to make decisions and give guidance</p> <p>Ability to take responsibility and show evidence of leadership</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	
<p>Qualities</p> <p>Excellent interpersonal and communications skills</p> <p>Flexible and proactive attitude</p> <p>Awareness of personal limitations</p> <p>Proven experience of working constructively as part of a team</p> <p>Proven experience in leadership and strategy development</p> <p>A track record of commitment to promoting equality and diversity.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p> <p>✓</p>	

