



The Royal College of **Pathologists**
Pathology: the science behind the cure

END OF YEAR REVIEW

July 2015 to June 2016



CONTENTS

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Introduction | Page 2 |
| College | Page 2 |
| Membership & Finance | Page 3 |
| Learning | Page 4 |
| Communications | Page 8 |
| Professionalism | Page 10 |
| Corporate Services | Page 12 |

1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the End of Year Review. The SMT have prepared this End of Year Review to capture and highlight the range and volume of activities undertaken by the College teams to achieve the College's strategic aims and objectives between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016.

2. COLLEGE

2.1 Premises

- The project board comprising all of the advisors, together with the Treasurer, Chief Executive and Facilities Manager, has continued to meet to manage the governance of the redevelopment project. The Head of Corporate Services joined this project board following his employment commencing in May 2016.
- The RIBA Stage 3 plans were approved by the Trustee Board in November 2015, with the RIBA stage 4 plans (the detailed design and costings) in the final stages of being drawn up for approval in July 2016.
- Formal planning application to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets council for the redevelopment of the site was lodged in September 2015 with the full consent received in March 2016. Negotiation with the council on the planning conditions was successfully completed and agreed in April 2016.
- Negotiations are at an advanced stage with HM Revenue & Customs regarding the VAT treatment of the new building and construction costs.
- The demolition contract for the existing building was tendered and awarded. The contract was signed in May 2016 with formal possession of the site handed to John F Hunt Limited in June 2016. The soft demolition commenced in June 2016 with the main build set to commence in November 2016.
- The contract for the main build was tendered from an initial long list of 21 companies, whittled down to three who were asked to submit formal bids. Work is underway to evaluate the tender responses.
- The lease extension on the short-term premises at 21 Prescott Street was agreed beyond the original September 2017 end date to allow the project to complete without necessitating another interim office move.

2.2 New Appointments

- In November 2015 Sir Rodney Brooke and Mr Tommy McIlravey were appointed as lay Trustees.
- Dr Esther Youd was elected chair of the Wales Regional Council and a Trustee from the AGM in November 2015.

Director Appointments

Director of Professional Standards – Professor Peter Furness
Director of Publishing & Engagement – Dr Lorna Williamson

New Volunteer Appointments

Statistics Advisor – Dr John Dormer

E-Learning Clinical Lead – Professor Simon Cross

International Advisor for the Americas – Dr Don Nwose

International Advisor for South East Asia – Dr Gary Tse

Undergraduate Lead – Dr Nicki Cohen

Senior Advisor on Medical Examiners - Professor Peter Furness

Country Advisor Appointments

Dr Kevin Stuart (Barbados)

Dr Victor Mudenda (Zambia)

Dr Olorunda Rotimi (Nigeria)

Dr Mona El-Bahrawy (Egypt)

Dr Rudo Mutasa (Zimbabwe)

Professor John Obafunwa (Nigeria)

Dr Irene Regan (Republic of Ireland)

2.3 Staff Recruitment

The following 13 appointments have been made:

- Nigel Pollard, Head of Corporate Services
- Matthew Byrne, Workforce Administrator
- Jonathan Baker, Administrative Assistant for Professionalism
- Gemma Hooley, International Administrator
- Zuzana Lescisinova, International Education Officer
- Umo Young, International Projects Officer
- Marianne Salonen, Senior Examinations Co-ordinator
- Rumana Begum, Finance and Membership Administrative Assistant
- Jane Stern, HR Manager
- Michelle Dominique, Committee Support and Services Officer
- Dale Rustige, Committee Support and Services Officer
- Agatha Uchendu, Governance and Committee Services Manager
- Mary Kehoe, Executive Assistant.

2.4 The College Website

- A new College website was launched in November 2015. This was the culmination of months of hard work by College staff. The new site has a range of functionality not previously available as well as a modern look.

2.5 Volunteers

- Acknowledged and celebrated the vital contribution volunteers make to the work of the College during national Volunteers Week during June 2016.

3 MEMBERSHIP & FINANCE

- Throughout the year the monthly processing cycles and management accounts production have been run to time.
- 3,483 invoices and expense claims have been processed and paid.

- The annual subscription upgrade process took place in October/November 2015 with invoices being sent out immediately after the AGM. The monthly direct debit collection of subscription payments has been made on time each month.
- The department has dealt with approximately 23,544 internal and external emails, 3,615 letters and 2,778 phone calls.
- The budget for the financial year commencing 1 July 2016 was put together and presented to the Trustee Board in May 2016.

4 LEARNING

a) Infection Project

The first cohort of Combined Infection Training (CIT) trainees started their training in August 2015. The majority of trainees are undertaking dual training in Medical Microbiology or Medical Virology and Infectious Diseases. All workplace-based assessments are available through a single e-portfolio for all trainees, hosted by the Royal College of Physicians.

Transitional arrangements for existing single specialty and dual trainees were drafted and consulted upon in November 2015. Following feedback from the consultation, the transitional arrangements were revised and submitted to the GMC for approval and were approved. They were published and communications sent out to Training Programme Directors.

The FRCPATH Part 1 and Combined Infection Certificate Examination (CICE) examination is being offered for the first time in autumn 2016 following the establishment of a panel of examiners, incorporating examiners in microbiology, virology and infectious diseases. Further items from the Infectious Diseases Specialty Certificate Examination were transferred from the Royal College of Physicians and a new item bank for the FRCPATH Part 1/CICE was established. The autumn paper has been agreed and standard set.

b) Shape of Training

An initial responses to the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges Mapping Exercise was submitted for consideration at an Academy/GMC workshop on 30 October 2015.

A copy of the College response is available on the [College website](#).

c) Higher Specialist Scientific Training

11 HSST curricula were finalised and published on the College website.

The Stage 1 workplace-based assessments were completed, approved and uploaded onto the Online Assessment Tool (OLAT) for HSST trainees to use. The revision of workplace-based assessments for Stage 2 Clinical Scientists is underway. These are nearing completion for the curriculum leads approval.

The Royal College of Pathologists, National School of Healthcare Sciences (NSHCS) and the Manchester Academy for Healthcare Scientist Education (MAHSE) issued a joint statement in February 2016 about the Professional Doctorate. Following this, a Memorandum of Understanding was agreed between the College, Manchester Metropolitan University and the University of Manchester.

A Molecular Pathology panel of examiners was established and the FRCPath Part 1 for Molecular Pathology HSST trainees was run for the first time in Spring 2016.

A Transfusion Science HSST curriculum was approved by Health Education England's (HEE) Education and Training Working Group. A Transfusion Science panel of examiners was established.

d) Histopathology BMS Project

The pilot has been completed and a conjoint board now oversees the project. Two candidates passed the final stage of the project during spring 2016.

4.1 Assessment

- An educational meeting on developments in histopathology training and assessments took place on 2 October 2015 in London. There was a full discussion about the future of medical training in histopathology, examination changes to FRCPath, consideration of the curriculum, workplace-based assessments and supervised learning events, molecular pathology and independent reporting.
- The LEPT system was moved to a new platform in July and single sign-on was launched with the new College website in November 2015. A demonstration of the LEPT system took place for trainees at the New Trainee Welcome Day and the histopathology block teaching week at Bristol University in September, and for histopathology educational supervisors and trainees at the Oxford and London deaneries in November and December 2015 respectively.

4.2 Examinations

- A total of 1,301 FRCPath, Diploma, Certificate and Year 1 examination results were issued across 20 different specialties in over 60 individual examinations.
- 578 results were issued from the autumn 2015 examinations with a 74% pass rate in Part 1 and 59% in Part 2. 628 were issued from the spring 2016 examinations of which there were 466 passes with a 66% pass rate in Part 1 and 64% pass rate in Part 2. 95 candidates sat the Year 1 OSPE in histopathology and chemical pathology.
- The first sittings of the FRCPath Part 2 examination in histopathology outside of the UK were taken at the School of Medicine and King Abdullah University Hospital at Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) in Irbid, Jordan. A total of 17 candidates were examined in autumn 2015 and spring 2016. Agreement has been reached to hold the FRCPath Part 2 in haematology in Dubai.
- Two new overseas centres were introduced for the Part 1 examinations in Cairo, Egypt and Khartoum, Sudan. There are now 11 available overseas centres for the Part 1 examinations.
- An online exam application and payment system was introduced for the spring 2016 session and subsequent Year 1 OSPEs.
- A new FRCPath Part 2 examination in virology has been approved by the GMC and piloted. A new FRCPath Part 1 in clinical biochemistry examination has been approved. Changes to the medical microbiology FRCPath Part 2 were submitted to the GMC in June 2016.

- An examiners' group to deliver the FRCPATH Part 1 in infection/combined infection certificate examination has been established and met to write questions, set the papers and standard-set items.
- 85 new examiners were appointed across the 20 specialty panels. 92 examiners attended examiner training. The Year 1 OSPE examiner groups were fully integrated into the wider examiner panels.
- Implementation of the examinations e-management system has begun with transference of items into centralised item banks. All Year 1 OSPE papers for 2016 have been produced using the system.
- Development of enhanced Quality Assurance monitoring and appointment of Panel QA Leads.
- All examinations reviewed to explore the possibility of future modularisation.

4.3 International

- **LabSkills Africa**

The pilot of the College's LabSkills Africa initiative was successfully completed in September 2015 with the organisation of an end of project conference, which took place in Kampala, Uganda. The conference brought together key stakeholders, participants and decision makers to showcase the project's achievements and share the lessons learned.

Following submission of the final project progress report to the Tropical Health Education Trust (THET) in November 2015, the College received the following response:

"The narrative provides a succinct yet thorough and informative summary of the project including its many achievements, some of the challenges faced and several important lessons that can be applied more widely. Improvements are reported at an individual, lab and country level with the most notable of these highlighted at the start of the report. You have been able to present an abundance of rich data to support the project's progress and achievements at multiple levels. In most cases, this is backed up with clear explanations of where results have come from, and often, concrete examples are provided as further evidence. The partnership's efforts to sift through and analyse vast amounts of information have been particularly impressive and we thank you for this. Clearly it has resulted in a strong evidence base with which to demonstrate the success and potential of the LabSkills approach....."

(Meggan Ireland, Grants Programme Manager, THET)

- **Republic of Ireland**

Over 60 College Fellows, scientists and exam candidates in the Republic of Ireland have attended a consultation event in Dublin on 13 February 2016. The key outcome has been a strengthening of the College's relationship with the Faculty of Pathology of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland. In particular, Council have approved the representation of an appropriate member of the Faculty of Pathology of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland on each of the CSTCs, in order to improve communication between both organisations.

- **Pakistan**

The College signed an MoU with the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan (CPSP) and the Pakistan Association of Pathologists (PAP) at the annual PAP meeting in Lahore, Pakistan in November 2015. In December 2015, the College hosted a meeting between Dr Suzy Lishman and representatives of CPSP and PAP on 17 December 2015. A working group has been established to take forward the goals set out in the MOU.

- **Myanmar**

In August 2015, Dr Maadh Aldouri met with Dr Than Aung, Minister of Health for Myanmar and Professor Thet Khine Win, Permanent Secretary at the Myanmar Embassy in London, hosted by the ambassador. The discussion focused on agreeing the actions needed to follow-up the College delegation visit to Myanmar which took place in October 2014. Dr Aldouri and Professor Soo-Yong Tan (International Advisor for Western Pacific) also visited Myanmar in September 2015 to speak at the annual conference of the Myanmar Haematology Society in Yangon. Professor Tan has now established a successful series of Histopathology Education Workshops at the University of Medicine 1 in Yangon under the auspices of the College.

- **Overseas examinations**

The department assisted in the introduction of the histopathology FRCPATH Part 2 examination in Irbid, Jordan and the new FRCPATH Part 1 centres in Cairo, Egypt and Khartoum, Sudan.

4.4 Training

- The College welcomed 78 new trainees in chemical pathology, medical microbiology and virology and histopathology to a New Trainee Welcome Day, held at Kings College on 7 September 2015.
- A new histopathology curriculum was approved by the GMC and published on the College website. A molecular pathology sub-group was established to draw up guidance on the implementation of molecular pathology in the curriculum.
- An online trainee registration and payment system was developed.
- 135 new StRs were registered.
- 108 CCTs were recommended.
- 12 CESRs were recommended.

4.5 Research

- A research strategy was approved and published, alongside development of a research and innovation section of the new College website, in November 2015. This provides a framework around which all specialties can develop their academic activities.

5 COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 Engagement

- National Pathology Week was previewed with a week-long parliamentary exhibition to engage politicians with pathology. The exhibition was hosted by the Chair of the Health Committee, Dr Sarah Wollaston MP. The exhibition comprised our new corporate display stand and banners, new briefing sheets on core pathology specialties, and a range of hands-on activities. Attendees included Health Secretary, Jeremy Hunt, and 65 MPs, including more than half the members of the health committee as well as several peers. Local school students, civil servants and parliamentary staff, as well as members of the public visited.
- The Week itself was launched at a parliamentary reception on 2 November 2015. There was a particularly strong turn out by peers, many of whom have a strong medical/science interest. Guests heard from Professor Ian Cree about molecular pathology and the President launched our policy pamphlet, *Pathology and the NHS Five Year Forward View*, which sets out key College priorities. Copies of the pamphlet were sent to all UK parliamentarians and other partners.
- Some 240 events took place around the country. The College organised eight events as part of the week. The theme was *Pathology: the key to your health* and this saw a variety of new events focusing on the advances in molecular pathology and its role in personalised medicine.
- The second International Pathology Day took place on 18 November 2015 with events taking place around the world to highlight the contribution of pathology to global healthcare. Events were held in Australia, Canada, USA, Malaysia, India and Germany.
- The College hosted a conference for International Pathology Day at the King's Fund in London featuring high profile speakers including the BBC's Global Health Correspondent Tulip Mazumdar and Professor Richard Tedder. The conference gave the audience an opportunity to hear first-hand from pathologists about a range of pathology projects from tackling the Ebola outbreak in West Africa to how remote pathology can bring direct benefits to diagnoses in developing countries.
- The College was a partner organisation (with Cancer Research UK and Genomics England) at a drop-in exposition, *Personalised treatment: a revolution in cancer care*, for parliamentarians, funded by Novartis Pharma UK. Professor Ian Cree was one of the speakers and George Freeman MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Life Sciences, also spoke.
- The College's stand at the Chelsea Flower Show, *A Low Allergy Garden*, was very popular with visitors. Volunteers on the stand explained allergy testing and how to plant a garden suitable for hay fever sufferers. The garden was awarded a silver-gilt medal. Support was given to Fellow Dr Tim Wreghitt and his team who organised the stand. This included advising on stand design, writing and designing the public information leaflet.
- Three Science Communication Training activities took place during the year. Fifty six people attended and they have currently organised 40 events, with many more in the planning.

- The College is strongly involved in the Schools Science Conference and, as part of the organising committee, we were delighted to be presented with a 'Healthcare Science Ambassador of the Year Award' at the 2015 Healthcare Science Awards by the Chief Scientific Officer. The College delivered a workshop featuring molecular pathology and cancer diagnosis as part of this year's conference 'Science for Your Future'.

5.2 Public affairs

- The first priority in our *Pathology and the NHS Five Year Forward View* policy pamphlet, to deliver a national system of medical examiners, was pursued through meetings with ministers including the health secretary, lobbying via the health committee, placed parliamentary questions and briefing of other key players such as NHS England.

In March, the health secretary announced that a national system of medical examiners would be implemented in April 2018. To support the Department of Health consultation on death certification reforms, the College organised a high-level round table, chaired by the President and introduced by Sir Robert Francis QC and Dr Alan Fletcher, Chair, RCPATH Medical Examiners Committee. Leading patient representatives, health regulators and senior figures from charities, government and local government discussed key strategic issues affecting the scope and implementation of the medical examiner system. The College submitted a report of this meeting and its corporate response to the consultation.

- The College supported the devolved nation regional councils to develop pathology manifestos in time for the election campaigns in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. These were sent to all assembly members and parliamentarians and other stakeholders with launch events in Cardiff and Belfast attended by many senior politicians and partners.
- A series of ministerial meetings have been organised between the President and the Secretary of State for Health, Jeremy Hunt, and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Life Sciences, George Freeman; regular meetings with Ben Gummer, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Care Quality have been established. These have built good relations between the College and government enabling us to take forward many issues of concern to the College including a commitment to implement a national system of medical examiners, support to deliver the National Laboratory Medicine Catalogue and an understanding of the College's views on the junior doctors' contract.

5.3 Media

- The College issued a number of statements regarding the dispute over the junior doctors' contract, including one regarding the Department of Health's Equality Analysis of the new contract, which was well-received by trainees. The College supported the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges' 'pause' request which provided space for junior doctors and the Department of Health to resume talks.
- The College worked closely with Media Planet on its '*Blood Health*' campaign, a major supplement to mark World Blood Cancer Day which launched in the Guardian at the end of May. With a foreword from the President on stem cell

donation, the supplement was published with partners Bloodwise, Myeloma UK, the Haemophilia Society and the British Society for Haematology.

- Letters from the President were published on topics including the need for medical examiners and molecular diagnostics.
- Contributions were made to the *Health Service Journal* on issues including NHS England's decision to cut the Pathology National Clinical Director Post, and the need to introduce medical examiners.
- The College's Low Allergy Garden generated strong media interest, helped by our celebrity guest, Carole Boyd, who plays Lynda Snell in the Archers, including the Radio 4 Today Programme and The Sunday Times.

5.3 Publishing

- Four issues of The *Bulletin*, a new-look Annual Report for 2014/2015 and 20 College documents including 7 datasets and 3 tissue pathways were published.
- The January 2016 edition of The Bulletin had a molecular theme, which has continued for the April 2016 and July 2016 issues. Each issue has continued to feature examples of A3 problem-solving exercises.
- The College is leading the update of the high-profile 2004 publication, *Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy: A multi-agency protocol for care and investigation*. A working group has been convened with The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Lullaby Trust (formerly The Foundation for the Study of Infant Deaths), the Chief Coroner, the National Policing Child Death Investigation Group and Baroness Helena Kennedy QC. The consultation is underway.
- The team designed in-house:
 - a range of policy documents, including *Pathology and the Five-Year Forward View and Medical Examiners*
 - three high-profile political manifestos for the devolved nations
 - an exhibition of five reusable promotional stands for a week-long exhibition in Parliament to engage politicians in the value of pathology
 - the backdrop, information posters and a leaflet for the award-winning College garden at the 2016 Chelsea Flower Show.

6 PROFESSIONALISM

6.1 Professional Standards

- An online system for approving events for CPD was launched in November 2015. A webpage was created to highlight the benefits of CPD event approval, for example, free advertising of the event in the College *Bulletin*, President's e-newsletter, and on the calendar of events webpage. Since inception, the department has received approximately 157 applications for event approval and has accrued approximately £21,000 in fees.
- The 2015/2016 CPD review commenced on 31 May 2016. Following a decision by the Trustee Board the review was for non-medical CPD participants only

because the review was found to be no longer of value to medical members undergoing medical appraisal in their workplace. 80 non-medical members (representing 10% of the non-medical population) were selected using a random number generator. CPD staff will be reviewing the submitted reports of CPD activities in line with the new revised Guidelines for review of CPD portfolios 2015/2016, available on the College website.

- A single sign-on for the College website which enables users to access their online CPD portfolio without the need to enter their log in details again was introduced.
- The team processed 4,008 annual CPD returns for the CPD year 2015/6 by the deadline of 30 June 2016, equal to an 84% return rate by submission deadline.

6.2 Clinical Effectiveness

- The development of a guideline production programme is progressing well. 16 new or revised guidelines were commissioned during the year and further 13 were completed and published.
- The team have completed specialist input into 43 NICE guideline or technology appraisal consultations and coordinated input into a further 119 ongoing consultations.
- The team hosted the 36-48 month NICE accreditation follow-up meeting on 27 April 2016 to assess any changes to our datasets/tissue pathways process. NICE reported that our accreditation status remains in place but we were informed of some changes to their standards which we will need to meet when we make a reapplication for full accreditation (due in 2017).
- The work on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) is progressing well.
 - Published four A3 problem solving reports, five haematology and two cellular pathology audit templates in *The Bulletin*.
 - Reviewed and republished four cellular pathology audit templates.
 - Undertook a membership-wide CQI survey on 6 February 2016 to discover awareness and requirements for CQI skills development, and produced a survey report that will be published in the July 2016 issue of the Bulletin.
 - Created and published acceptance criteria for CQI reports.
 - Advertised and recruited five new audit evaluators.
- The existing key performance indicators were reviewed and circulated to selected officers plus all SAC chairs for input. The comments and suggestions are being collated to prepare a draft revision for membership-wide consultation.
- Submitted six Choosing Wisely proposals of which five have been accepted for the next stage by the Academy's Choosing Wisely steering group.

6.3 Workforce

- Achieved update of 64% of UK medical member workforce records over the last three years.
- The proposal for an annual Workforce Working Group was approved by the Trustee Board. The Group met on 13 April 2016 to co-ordinate preparations for College specialty submissions to HEE's 2016 Call for Evidence and discuss other workforce issues.
- The first annual medical workforce planning report was circulated to the SACs, Trustee Board, Council and an abridged version included in the January 2016 edition of the *Bulletin*.
- Centralisation of consultant level job description review has been expanded to include Wales and Northern Ireland as well as England. N.B. Scotland has a separate system.
- The department has successfully reviewed 359 job descriptions in the past year and organised 377 College Assessors to attend Advisory Appointment Committees in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- A quality assurance process of the College review of job descriptions and appointment committees for which a College representative was sent has been carried out by the Workforce Administrator. The Workforce Co-ordinator has drafted a report for presentation by the Assistant Registrar to the Trustee Board. The report showed that the College provides a good efficient service with Job Descriptions endorsed promptly and AAC assessors identified in a timely manner.
- The specialty model job descriptions have been reviewed and revised, with assistance from the SAC Chairs.

7. CORPORATE SERVICES

7.1 Committees/ Secretariat

- Administered 60 committee meetings, five Trustee Board Meetings, four Council Meetings and one AGM.
- The Lay Governance Group was convened and met for the first time in March 2016.
- 31 external consultations were considered.
- The process for administering the College submission for Clinical Excellence Awards for 2016 is complete. The College supported more members than in previous years, including those not on the ranked list.

7.2 HR

- Staff attended training on customer care, minute taking, effective writing, proofreading, presentation skills, event management, Storyline software, Excel

software, Indesign software, supervision skills, data protection, first aid and display screen equipment assessment.

- A Pay and Benefits review was conducted on behalf of the College. During the first stage of the project, a desktop review was carried out including a benchmarking exercise to review staff salaries, a facilitated consultation with staff took place, and a staff group was formed to evaluate jobs.

7.3 Data

- Implemented support and programming on the integration with Integra for the website launch in November 2015 in conjunction with Pixl8 and Hart Square which was key to the success of services provided by the website.
- Introduction of Orbis task centre to automate database management tasks.

7.4 IT

- IT infrastructure update was completed to time and budget in November 2015. Features include offsite real-time replication of servers and a further offsite data backup. The infrastructure put in place has a life expectancy and will provide sufficient resource for 5 years.
- IT Security and PCI compliance audits were completed.
- A remote access device allowing 50 concurrent users has been purchased along with a two factor authentication login system.

7.5 Events

Conferences

- Gynaecological Pathology – Putting Virtual Microscopy to the Test was hosted in January 2016 at the Royal College of Physicians. Histopathologists have to progressively deal with digital images and virtual microscopy, web-based external quality assurance schemes and e-learning resources. This event gave delegates an opportunity to put their concerns to the test through practical, interactive virtual microscopy sessions in the field of gynaecological pathology.
- Hosted the ever-popular Liver Biopsy Conference on 29 February 2016 at the RCPsych with over 100 delegates in attendance. This is the 6th year we have hosted and the interest in the topics never fades. The organiser, Professor Stefan Hubscher, always submits an excellent programme.
- Hosted a joint Immunology event with the RSM Pathology section – we supported the programme by organising some of the speakers. Built up a great relationship with the current President of the Pathology section, Dr David Spratt, who was impressed with our commitment and keen to work with us again.
- The National Joint Training Day Histopathology/Microbiology in April 2016 proved extremely popular, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration in order to improve the investigation, diagnosis and management of infection. It was a clinically-oriented day, with plenty of case presentations to illustrate important practical points. We also utilised our voting handset pads to maximise involvement and learning opportunities.

- Designed to correspond with the release of the latest update of the WHO classification of CNS tumours, the Combined RCPATH/BNS Neuropathology/Neuro-Oncology Conference in May 2016 provided a practical approach to the diagnosis of CNS tumours, focusing on the interpretation of new molecular tests and their integration into the overall classification of the patient's tumour.
- It is important for histopathologists to understand the clinical significance of their reports and how a data item that is critical in one clinical scenario may be entirely irrelevant in another setting. The Uropathology Reporting conference in June 2016 was aimed at senior trainees and consultant histopathologists, explaining how uropathology data is used to guide patient management.
- The Annual Summer School was held at in St Hilda's College, Oxford in August 2015 and 75 students attended the two-day event.

Facilities

- We hosted our biggest ever admission ceremony at Middle Temple on 17 March 2016 with nearly 200 guests in attendance. The level of attendance has increased dramatically, with guests from all over the world attending.
- Our Annual Dinner in June 2016 celebrated the 90th birthday of Her Majesty The Queen with nearly 130 guests seated at tables representing the decades of the Queen's life alongside medical innovations of the time. Great feedback was received for the guest speakers Professor Sue Hill and Vivienne Parry.
- Facilities team continued work supporting the Alie Street development.

7.6 Regions

- The inaugural meeting of the England Regional Council was held in May 2016.
- Continued administrative support and attendance at Devolved Nations' Regional Councils including Manifesto launches, Northern Ireland Regional Council (3 meetings), Scotland Regional Council (2 meetings) and Wales Regional Council (3 meetings).
- Ongoing support for regional information requests from College Departments and Officers – e.g. HEE Call for Evidence, patient safety info for Independent Medical Examiner Round Table meeting, Brexit risk identification, policy template proposal, devolution and Regionalisation Working Group, Choosing Wisely initiative.
- Regular outputs include: bi-monthly regional e-newsletter, regional briefings to CSTCs and SACs, Devolved Nations' regional newsletters.

SMT
September 2016