

**The Academy of Clinical Science**

**and**

**Laboratory Medicine**

**AGM**

**11<sup>th</sup> May 2024**



# Agenda

**President's Address**

**Financial Report**

**Brian O'Malley**

**Membership**

**Sinéad Creagh**

**Continuous Professional Development**

**Leo Mulvany**

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**Irene Regan**

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**Advisory Body Reports**

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**New President**

**AOB**

# **Council 2023**

**Bernie Quirke (President)**  
**Sinéad Creagh (President Elect)**  
**Brian O'Malley (Treasurer)**  
**John Crumlish**  
**Marie Culliton**  
**Greta Domarkaite**  
**Bernadette Jackson**  
**Alison Malkin**  
**Dermot McBrierty**  
**Karen McGibney**  
**Barry McGuinness (Nov 2023)**  
**Pat Mulhare**  
**Isabelle O'Callaghan**  
**Dr Fiona O'Halloran (MTU)**  
**Joan O'Keefe (ATU)**  
**Dr Irene Regan**  
**Cían Ryan**  
**Dr. Claire Wynne (TU Dublin)**

# Presidents Report

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## Operations

### **CEO resignation and new CEO appointment.**

Helen Barry tendered her resignation in late 2023 and a recruitment team was established, following an interview process Jemma Kehoe was appointed as CEO of ACSLM. A sincere thank you Helen for all the guidance she has given to me as President and also for her amazing contribution to the profession. Congratulations to Jemma Kehoe and we wish her all the best in her new role.

Long serving council members Pat Mulhare and Marie Culliton stepped down in 2023. Their contribution and commitment to the medical scientist profession is difficult to capture in words but it is truly admirable. The profession owe them a deep gratitude for all they have done to advance Medical Science and we all continue to benefit from their legacy. The academy will continue this great work and we thank them sincerely for their many years of service.

Barry Mc Guinness (UHW) joined council after the last AGM and replaced Pat Mulhare as our European Association for Biomedical Scientists (EPBS) nominee.

### **Strategic planning**

Council are reviewing the implications for the constitution arising from the transfer of competent authority to CORU. Following an initial draft, a strategy day was planned for Quarter 1 2024 and a survey issued to Medical Scientist to gather information on objectives and future direction for the Academy. This constitutional review is ongoing.

## Events

### **BioMedica**

BioMedica 2023 was held in the Convention Centre, Dublin from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup> of March. The theme of the conference was 'Medical Science: Shaping the Future'. We had the largest attendance in BioMedica's 25+ year history with 1627 attending across the two day event. This was an increase of 77% on the number of delegates attending since BioMedica was last held back in April 2018. The CCD as a venue, provided a quality environment which had a professional look.

The feedback from attendees and exhibitors was very positive. It was great to hear that the feedback noted the importance of the Conference sessions to the high attendance. This is a testament to the hard work of our Advisory Bodies in putting the programme together and to all those Medical Scientists who stepped up when asked to present. In spite of the large lecture halls, there was standing room only at a number of these sessions. There were over 60 presenters across the sessions, workshops, and panel discussions. A number of attendees stated that the range of presentations, depth of content and quality of speakers was very high and went on to say that this makes "BioMedica one of the world leading events from a

delegate's perspective". We are pleased with this acknowledgement.

The interview by RTÉ's Fergal Bowers with Academy President, Bernie Quirke was a highlight. A press release was prepared and circulated early the week before and were delighted when he contacted us the day before to arrange the interview. This gave the Academy an opportunity to highlight the recruitment and retention issues for Medical Scientists on the national airwaves and to get some much needed PR for our profession. The interview is available on the Academy website.

Despite his busy schedule, the Chief Clinical Officer, Dr Colm Henry, accepted our invitation to give the keynote address as part of the opening session. Bernie Quirke had the opportunity to appraise the Chief Clinical Officer, Dr Colm Henry of some of the issues affecting Medical Scientists and Laboratory Medicine. He has invited Bernie to a meeting to discuss these in more detail.

This year we introduced early morning panel discussions and workshops. These proved to be very successful with large attendances at both.

### **President's prize**

Thank you to Ber Jackson and the judging panel Pat Mulhare, Marie Culliton, Kate Dever and Hayley Foy Stones who organised a very successful 2023 President's Prize competition. Presentations and judging panel held at BioMedica 2023 .The candidates were

- Eimear Carr (ATU)
- Michelle Marrinan (ATU)
- Aoife Leech (TU Dublin)
- Erin Murray (TU Dublin)
- Gavin Buckley (MTU)
- Stephen McKenna (MTU)

The very high standard of President's Prize finalists was evident yet again this year. Congratulations to Gavin Buckley.

### **International Federation of Biomedical Laboratory Science IFBLS**

The IFBLS General Assembly of Delegates was held in Dublin on 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> October. It was a great opportunity for the President and CEO to meet with international colleagues and get a view of professions across the world and we were proud of our own Marie Culliton who is current President of IFBLS.

Membership of IFBLS has increased with the addition of Jordan, Sri Lanka and Tanzania.

We have entered into a new triennial agreement with WHO where the focus will be on sustainability, and enlargement of the EDL, impact of AI on laboratory medicine and estimation of the global workforce.

To that end a questionnaire has been issued to members to establish the workforce. Our annual meeting will take place in Vancouver in September and will have a symposium marking 70 years of IFBLS.

## **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Academy is 50 years in existence in 2024 and with this mind a subgroup was established to organise an event to mark the 50th anniversary in 2024.

## **LabCon 2024**

Planning LabCon 2024 started with our Colleagues in MLSA. The event will be in Limerick on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2024. The theme will be Forward Together through Sustainability and Reform.

## **National and International update**

### **National Review Group**

Academy members and Council contributed to the HSE Review to Inform the Strategic Direction of Laboratory Medicine (Byron report). The draft report for circulated for comment and review towards the end of 2023 and Council made an additional submission to the final draft. The review document was launched at a meeting held in Dublin on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.

The HSE will build on this review to develop a Strategy for Laboratory Services 2025-2029 to support the future of HSE laboratory services in Ireland. A draft strategy is currently being circulated to all laboratory personnel and the National Clinical Programme for Pathology (NCP-P) office are holding a number of stakeholder engagement events.

### **Trainee Medical Scientist**

A national HSE taskforce was established to address the Medical Scientist staffing crisis. One of the outcomes was the requirement to develop a 'Trainee Medical Scientist post' to allow suitably qualified science graduates enter the service and provide them with a means to progress to CORU registration while working. At the start of 2023, the scheme to fund 260 spaces over 5 years progressed in consultation with MLSA and the programme was approved. Dr Irene Regan on behalf of the Academy was co-chair of group on sourcing and development of suitable training programme with HSE, DOH and HEI. This culminated when finally, the introduction of a new HSE 5 year sponsored training programme for "Trainee Medical Scientists" was announced in August 2023. After many years of discussion and advocacy, it was very disappointing that funding for this programme was not included in the 2024 National Service Plan

### **HSE Chief Clinical Officer Meeting**

In May 2023, Academy President, Bernie Quirke and CEO, Helen Barry, met with HSE Chief Clinical Officer, Dr Colm Henry. A number of key points were raised including graduate numbers and retention of qualified staff, CORU Registration of all laboratory scientists and increased workloads with the implementation of Slaintecare initiatives in the absence of Medical Scientists at the planning stages. The risks associated with increased TATs in all disciplines, particularly in Cellular Pathology were discussed and solutions were put forward to ensure a secure pipeline of Medical Scientists (increased undergraduate places, trainee Medical Scientist grade and graduate entry programmes). The Academy emphasised that

the HSE needs to develop opportunities for career progression as one means of retaining our trained and skilled laboratory workforce.

The Academy continues to advocate to ensure Medical Scientists are included in relevant HSE and HSCP national and international committees.

### **HSCP Advanced Practice Framework WG**

- The HSCP Advanced Practice Framework has been completed and was published at the end of June. Next step will focus on the educational pathway for HSCP AP with input from HSCP colleagues in the HEIs

### **HSE Recruitment, Retention and Reform**

- HSCP Compensation Measures Group is working on a strategy and pathway for overseas applicants who have been provided with recommendation of a period of adaption from CORU. The group completed a mapping process and communication has been sent to all the HG CEOs and CHO Chief Officers.  
The work has now moved on to developing an application process for overseas applicants who need to undertake a period of adaptation. It is proposed that the process would follow the Nursing model which is a one-step application with the Dept of Justice. HSCP-adaptation groups would need to be recognised as critical workers.  
A business case has been submitted for pre-registration grades, this needs approval from Dept of Health. The Job Descriptions will need to be reviewed and signed off by the professional bodies (and unions)
- HSCP Expert Implementation Group is one of 5 EIGs that are part of HSE Resourcing Strategy. There are 112 individual projects identified, 18 resourcing actions have been prioritised. The group voted on further prioritisation and increasing clinical specialist roles and advanced practice was the top project.

## **Communications**

The Academy is issuing four editions of Converse this year. Monthly newsletters are sent to all from CPD. We have a very active social media presence. Please engage with all our platforms. Dr Anne Mac Lellan provides much valued editorial support with Converse.



@acslm1 @acslm\_cpd



Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine



Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine ACSLM.ie

# Finance Report

**Brian O'Malley, Treasurer**

The Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine Finance Report for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

## **Principal Activity**

The ACSLM is a not for profit organisation. The ACSLM provides a vocational educational committee dedicated to the advancement of medical laboratory science through its advisory bodies. The ACSLM is dedicated to the development of medical laboratory science education in collaboration with specified colleges whose courses the ACSLM accredits. The ACSLM is dedicated to the advancement of medical laboratory science as a vehicle in the improvement of healthcare and healthcare outcomes for the Irish population. Further, the ACSLM is dedicated to the advancement of health in developing nations through the advancement of medical laboratory science internationally.

The Company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT to the Members of The Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine Report on the audit of the financial statements**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine ('the company') for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, the Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses, the Balance Sheet, the Reconciliation of Members' Funds, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2 of the financial report. 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, applying Section 1A of that Standard.

In our opinion the financial statements: - give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended; - have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard; 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 described below 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.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

for the financial year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
<b>Income</b>	<b>383,795</b>	294,117
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>(307,763)</b>	(259,534)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year</b>	<b>76,032</b>	34,583
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>76,032</b>	34,583
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Approved by the board on 10 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

**Irene Regan**  
Director

**Patrick Mulhare**  
Director

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**The Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine  
BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		
<b>Tangible assets</b>	<b>501,600</b>	<b>513,000</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Current Assets</b>		
<b>Debtors</b>	<b>1,134</b>	<b>1,062</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>432,197</b>	<b>394,861</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>433,331</b>	<b>395,923</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	<b>(28,334)</b>	<b>(78,358)</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>404,997</b>	<b>317,565</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>906,597</b>	<b>830,565</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Reserves</b>		
<b>Income and expenditure account</b>	<b>906,597</b>	<b>830,565</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Members' Funds</b>	<b>906,597</b>	<b>830,565</b>
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

*The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.  
Approved by the board on 10 April 2024 and signed on its behalf by:*

**Irene Regan**  
Director

**Patrick Mulhare**  
Director

# ACSLM Membership 2023

## Membership Committee Members 2023

- Sinead Creagh (Chair)
- Ber Jackson
- Alison Malkin
- Dermot McBrierty
- Fiona O'Halloran

Total number of applications received in 2023 = **82**

Total number of applications approved in 2023 = **68**

Total number of applications deferred in 2023 = **10**

Total number of applications refused in 2023 = **4**

Total number of members as of December 2023 = **986** (1,023 same time 2022)

## Summary of Meetings

Eleven Membership Committee reviews of applicants were performed in 2023 (one per month, no August Council meeting), all conducted via email and/or online meetings. All documentation uploaded into a share file for review prior to discussion meeting. Monthly reports with recommendations on applications and final decisions at council meetings are produced following these reviews.

## Summary of Membership Decisions in 2023

The following table outlines the decisions of the Committee, subsequently approved by council

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
Approved applicants from Academy accredited BSc	18 <sup>^</sup>	17	18	30	36
International Applicants	19	12	12	14	19
Other Applicants (Clinical Scientists / Biochemists)	0	0	4	4	2
Total Membership Approvals	37	29	34	48	55
Refusals/ Deferral	2 <sup>*</sup>	2	1	1	1
Fellowship Approvals	12	21	26	46	53
Postgraduate Qual Review Approvals	12	9	7	9	N/A

Fellowship / PG Qual Refusals/ Deferral	12*	0	4	2	0
Associate Approvals	5	14	3	5	1
Associate Deferral	2*				
<b>Total</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>109</b>

^ Two from TCD course

\* Applicants mainly deferred – require more information / documentation / work experience

There was one Membership deferral, approved in 2024, and one refusal, this candidate was accepted as an associate member

There were seven Fellowship deferral, all requiring additional information and two fellowship

There were two Post Grad Review deferrals requiring further information and one refusal

There were two Associate deferrals requiring further information

### Trends Observed

- The decrease in Membership applications since the opening of the CORU register for Medical Scientists continued into 2023 but is at slightly improved on 2022, there were 12 applications for standard membership in April following BioMedica.
- There were 4 new graduates (7 in 2022 and 2 in 2021) there is an opportunity to increase membership from the new graduate pool.
- The number of international applicants has increased, this likely reflects the increase in internationally qualified Medical Scientists in the workplace.
- There were 36 Fellowship and PG Qualification Review applications in 2023 which is consistent with the previous 2 years. As observed in the report for 2020, this fall off in applications may still be due to clarification in HSE eligibility criteria for Senior Medical Scientist posts, whereby applicants with an Academy accredited MSc do not need to demonstrate eligibility for Fellowship. There were 8 deferred applications either awaiting additional information from the applicant or the committee identified outstanding requirements.
- Total membership numbers down by 37 from 2022

### Actioned:

- The committee undertook a review of the membership clauses of the Academy Constitution and will recommended any required changes to the working group that are reviewing the entire document in 2024.

# CPD

- Jemma Kehoe
- Leo Mulvany

## CORU Update

Since 31st March 2021 the title of Medical Scientist is protected and may only be used by registered Medical Scientists.

Table 1. Decisions made on applications for recognition.

Decisions Made on Applications for Recognition			
Profession	2021	2022	January – 8 November 2023
Dietitian	58	53	99
Dispensing Optician	5	7	6
Medical Scientist	61	160	189
Occupational Therapist	106	84	110
Optometrist	50	83	51
Physiotherapist	162	209	182

The Registration Board of the relevant profession acts as the competent authority in Ireland and validates professional qualifications obtained in countries outside of Ireland. CORU’s Registration Boards made decisions on applications for the recognition of international qualifications for 665 applicants in 2021 and 958 in 2022. January to November 2023 shown in table 1.

Table 2. Registrations per profession up to December 2023.



As of December 2023, there are now 2,948 medical students on the CORU register (table 2). The April 2024 CPD audit will see 2.5% of the eligible medical scientists selected, asked to show 60 CPD credits for the 24 month period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. On April 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, those who have been selected will receive an email from CORU requesting their CPD logs as evidence of their CPD systems and processes.

CPD officers continue to meet with CORU on 2 occasions a year in CORU offices, Dublin.

### **CPD Officer Engagement**

CPD Officers engage the profession with CPD opportunities in the following formats:

- CPD Open Forum on Zoom (every 6 weeks on average)
- CPD In-Person training at the Academy office
- Regular webinars/meetings on Zoom
- Seminars and workshops
- Multiple choice questions
- Visiting laboratories on request to meet with staff regarding CPD and holding back to back sessions. 5 laboratories in 2023 (June to December)
- Engaging with members by email and phone
- Use of H5P software for improved MCQ's platform and functionality

### **Continuous Professional Development 2023 Events List**

- Thursday, 12th January, Transition in Progress to Professionalism
- Tuesday, 17th January, 1pm. CPD Open Forum
- Friday, 20th January, Statistics and Data Analysis 2nd Workshop
- Thursday, 9th February, Laboratory Managers and Chiefs Meeting, "Chronic Disease Management"
- Thursday, 2nd March, CPD Open Forum
- Saturday 4th March, "Wellbeing" Back to Basics
- Tuesday 14th March, CPD In-Person Courses
- Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th March 2023: Biomedica Workshops
- Monday 27th & Tuesday 28th March 2003: Biomedica 2023
- Wednesday, 11th May, In-Person, CPD Training In-Person at the Academy's office
- Tuesday, 16th May, EnveteC Generations - Sustainable treatment of biohazardous laboratory waste
- Thursday, 25th May: Introduction to Data Analysis in MS Excel. Dr Seán Lacey, MTU.
- Thursday, 15th June, Research Studies Involving Human Participants – What should a participant be informed of before consenting?
- Friday, 23rd June, The Interpretative series inaugural event: Blood gases. Trinity Centre for Health Sciences, Tallaght University Hospital
- 14<sup>th</sup> August: GUH: Simulation of PPH
- Tuesday 15th August 2023 at 1pm. (ZOOM) CPD Open Forum
- Thursday, 31st August, Epidemiological typing of MRSA recovered in Ireland
- Saturday, 16th September 2023. Research Workshop for Health and Social Care Professionals

- Monday, 9th October, Scientific Writing Workshop, ACSLM + UCC Biomedical Society
- Tuesday, 17th October 1-2pm. Skin Histodissection
- Thursday, 9th November, CPD Training In-Person at the Academy Office
- Saturday, 18th November, AGM of the Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine
- Friday, 24th November 2023, Microbiology from the front line
- Tuesday, 5th December, 1pm Zoom TB or not TB
- Thursday 14th and Friday 15th December 2023, An Introduction to SPSS Statistics

### **2023 Statistics**

Events for 2023: 25 (for eg. BioMedica = 1 event)

Video repository: 28.7 hours of recorded events added in 2023

Website: 109,825 visitors with 429 776 page hits

Newsletters and Advertisements: 55

### **Mentoring:**

The Engagement & Advancement Advisory Body have continued to roll out the mentoring programme. Training sessions for Mentors and Mentees took place through the EDelia Group. Following training, Mentors and Mentees have been paired and are working together. Feedback is very positive from those who have engaged with the Mentoring programme and the programme requires more Mentee's.

There is a "Mentoring" tab on the navigation bar of [www.acslm.ie](http://www.acslm.ie) and another in the members area with extra content.

### **Work with the HSCP Office:**

Besides regular meetings, the Academy communicates directly with the HSCP Office regarding future CPD funding and professional development. A wide variety of courses were offered to HSCP's recently which were fully funded for HSCP's to attend. CPD officers completed courses in Communications and Digital Health.

### **Funding Applications HSCP Office:**

CPD officers survey the members in order to compile training needs analysis. This information provides the backbone for CPD events for the following year. This also forms the basis of our application for funding from the HSCP Office. It is important that the Academy as a whole has an input into ongoing training needs.

### **Online Learning Platforms Available to members of the Academy:**

These platforms are offered to Academy registered members:

- e-MEDICINimage
- EFLM
- The Blood Academy
- ISBT
- IFBLS

### **Website Update:**

News, events, Jobs and other areas of the website are continuously updated. The CPD video repository continues to grow with CPD content.

### **Communications:**

As you may have noticed, the Academy issues regular newsletter updates by Mailchimp. If you or your colleagues are current members and are not receiving these updates, please contact the office by emailing [mail@acslm.ie](mailto:mail@acslm.ie) and we will ensure that you are on our mailing list. A common reason for not receiving these updates is using an inactive email address in your Academy personal record “CPD Portfolio”, “My Details”. Please update your email address in your Academy record. Please be sure to follow our social media channels for updates also.

Facebook: The Academy of Clinical Science and Laboratory Medicine

Twitter: [@acslm\\_CPD](https://twitter.com/acslm_CPD), [@acslm1](https://twitter.com/acslm1)

Instagram: [Academy.ie](https://www.instagram.com/academy.ie)

### **Upcoming Events:**



Academy HOMEPAGE:

For upcoming events, use the EVENTS CALENDAR on the front page. It contains links to “details & registration’ the events

The calendar is updated continuously as well as the ticker tape and sliders.

The “NEWS” tab lists current and past events.

**Your CPD Officers are here to help: [cpd@acslm.ie](mailto:cpd@acslm.ie)**



# Education and Research

## Members:

- Irene Regan (Chair)
- Deirdre Keating
- Helen Lambkin
- Karen McGibney
- Isabelle O'Callaghan
- Cían Ryan
- Claire Wynne

## HSCP Advanced Practice Framework

Consultative document completed by the Education Committee.

## Research

The Academy seeks to encourage Medical Scientists to explore research opportunities as part of CPD and for publication. To this end, the committee held a research seminar in September 2023.

Feedback from this included a request for more research skills workshops. A future aim is to further explore barriers to research within the profession in Ireland and to provide additional learning resources to help Medical Scientists contribute more to research.

A research representative from each of the CORU Programme-approved universities will be a member of the Committee in the coming year.

## Bursary

Details of updated Education/Research Bursary is now on the Academy website.

## Course Validation

The Committee oversees Validation of BSc/MSc programmes. The validation of one University course is currently underway.

The Validation Committee is chaired by Helen Lambkin, with members Irene Regan, Marie Culliton, Karen McGibney and extern Prof Fernando Mendes, University of Coimbra, Portugal.

## RCSI Partnership

The Academy is partnering with the RCSI and delivering CPD in Medical Science to NCHD surgical and emergency medicine students. The first programme of 12 lectures from Medical Scientists was recorded in Q4 2022 delivered in 2023. This was a wonderful

opportunity for Medical Scientist to showcase their expertise and scientific leadership. The E&R Committee will continue to pursue such opportunities for Medical Scientists.

### **Poster sessions at LabCon/BioMedica**

The restructuring of adjudication has been ratified by Academy Council.

# Green Labs

## Membership:

- **Greta Domarkaite (Chair)**
- **Bernadette Jackson**
- **Joan O’Keeffe**
- **Wendy Brennan**
- **Caroline Donaghy (ACBI)**
- **Kathleen Brosnan (TU Dublin)**

The ACSLM Green Lab Committee was established in March 2023. The aim of the ACSLM Green Lab Committee is to provide guidance and support for labs to implement sustainability practices to the best of their ability. The committee met in April, June and October 2023.

The Green lab committee set out a list of goals to work towards over 2023-2025:

1. Creating guidelines on general sustainability best practice, such as waste segregation, water saving and energy use.
  - Currently the ACSLM website contains both EFLM and IBTS guidelines for sustainability actions in laboratories.
  - A list of take back and recycling schemes provided by different suppliers will be compiled and circulated.
2. Continuing to be a regular feature in converse sharing information and updates on current developments
  - Sustainability and Green lab themed articles in all issues of Converse from September 2022 to Present.
  - Case studies on how to best apply sustainability practices in the lab.
3. Organise webinars and share CPD opportunities on different topics of sustainability in the lab
  - Envotec Webinar hosted in May 2023
  - CPD resources shared on the website.
4. Put together a set of guidelines with step by step changes towards the standard your lab can achieve covering the four pillars of lab sustainability: Energy, Water, Waste and Green Chemistry.
  - Guidelines are currently being put together using guidance from EFLM and MGL.
  - Each section of the guide will be split into three parts: Starting; Improving and Excelling.
  - This will allow for the guide to be used as a checklist in any lab with clear tasks starting from quick and easy tasks to actions requiring more policy change.
5. Compile guidelines specifically for purchasing and tenders to help ingrain lab sustainability – currently in progress.

# Advisory Body Reports

## CELLULAR PATHOLOGY 2023 Report

### Members

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ● Laura Clifford (Chair)    | Bons Secours, Tralee          |
| ● Anna Purcell (Vice Chair) | Mater Hospital                |
| ● Michelle Griffin          | University Hospital Waterford |
| ● Terri Muldoon             | ATU                           |
| ● Alison Malkin             | TU Dublin                     |
| ● Kathleen Brosnan          | TU Dublin                     |
| ● Cathal Farrell            | ICON                          |
| ● Mary McElroy              | Altnagelvin                   |
| ● Arianna Raso              | Beaumont Hospital             |

### Summary

In Late 2019 CPAB met with the Academy & MLSA. It was agreed to set up two working groups to look at the skill mix (scope of practice) and the advanced practitioner roles Medical Scientists have undertaken or aspire to. In addition to CPAB members an open invitation was issued to all Cellular Pathology Laboratories to put forward additional representation for either group (ACSLM members).

See below for background on these working groups. Updates since last AGM highlighted in red.

### Group 1 – Medical Scientist Skills Review Working Group Report

Report was submitted by the CPAB in April 2021 and released in August 2021.

#### Working group undertakings

- Review the Scope of Practice for Cellular Pathology Medical Scientists.
- Review current workforce trends for Cellular Pathology Medical Scientists.
- Develop recommendations to allow Cellular Pathology Laboratories react safely to Medical Scientist workforce trends while safeguarding service provision.

**Recommendation 1** Supervised Delegation of Tasks to a Non-Medical Scientist Grade

**Recommendation 2** Constitution of Supervised Delegation

**Recommendation 3** Medical Laboratory Aides as the Non-Medical Scientist Grade

**Recommendation 4** Cellular Pathology laboratory staff must work within their scope of practice

**Recommendation 5** Educational Training

## **Recommendation 6** Analysis of the Recruitment and Retention of Medical Scientist Graduates

**No further update on this since release of report in August 2021**

### **Group 2 - CPAB Medical Scientist Role Development/ Allowances Working Group.**

AIM: To provide a framework for the development of recognised roles of Advanced Practice and Extended Scope of Practice for Cellular Pathology Medical Scientists (MS) and to draft a pay and allowance structure for these expanded duties.

Report was submitted from CPAB in August 2022.

#### **Scope of report:**

- **Extended Practice:** it was agreed that the scope would be refined to just histodissection (HD). MOHs, ROS, EBUS services not to be included. Working group will look to define a clear pathway for a career structure/ staff model for extended practice
- **Remuneration for Extended Practice:** Agree the working group would only work on this for Histodissection qualifications. All other qualifications would be outside the scope of the working group.
- **Advanced Practice:** It was agreed that the scope of the working group would only look at defining a career structure for a Consultant Grade post for Medical Scientists in Cellular Pathology (not discussed in this report). Consultant grade posts in other disciplines are outside the scope of this working group.

The recommendations on pay, allowances and grading have been drafted and will be discussed with the MLSA.

#### **December 2021**

Further survey on Cellular Pathology laboratories on current recruitment difficulties and current laboratory work practices. Submitted in draft in January 2021.

#### **2023 UPDATE:**

##### **Extended Scope:**

CPAB Medical Scientist Role Development/Allowances Working Group Report has been reviewed by Council. Working group to meet with ACSLM President for further discussions to clarify wording before publication. Expected to be agreed in 2024. Aiming for ACSLM website publication following this. Some centres have successfully created upgrade posts from Senior Medical Scientist to Specialist Medical Scientists in Histodissection in 2023.

##### **Advanced Practice:**

Mary McElroy presented her journey from Histodissection to Advanced Specialist Diploma (ASD) in Gastrointestinal Histopathology Reporting training at BioMedica 2023. A Pathologist survey has been drafted to assess opinions on ASD IBMS qualified Medical Scientist reporting akin to UK BMS Reporting posts. This survey is currently being reviewed by a Consultant

Pathologist in Gastrointestinal Histopathology. We aim for this survey to be distributed by this Consultant Pathologist to all Pathologists nationally by the end of Q4 2023. Data from the survey will be communicated to the Dean of RCPI to open dialogue in Q1 2024.

## CPD

### March 2023 BioMedica

**Workshop: Diagnostic Cytology**, facilitated by NEQAS assessors, Anna Patterson, UK NEQAS Diagnostic Cytology Assessment Co-ordinator, Janet Murtagh, Senior Medical Scientist BreastCheck.

**Workshop: H&E BMT Slide Review**, facilitated by NEQAS BMT assessors, Dharmesh Mistry UK NEQAS Assessment Co-ordinator, Anna Purcell, Eimear Murray and Will Robertson.

**Discussion Group: Accreditation in Cellular Pathology** chaired by Laura Clifford.

**Presentation: Introduction of a Managed Service Contract for Cellular Pathology in University Hospital Limerick.** Deirdre McCrae, Chief Medical Scientist.

**Presentation: The Future of Colorectal Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment Combining Tissue Responsive Probes, AI and Machine Learning to Transform Medical Care.** Dr Niall Mulligan, Consultation Histopathologist.

**Presentation: Advanced Practitioner/Trainee Consultant Healthcare Scientist (GI Pathology) A Personal Journey.** Mary McElroy Advanced Practitioner/Trainee Consultant Healthcare Scientist.

### July 2023 – ACSLM Website

MCQ – Interactive MCQ on Cellular Pathology

### October 2023 –Zoom Webinar

**Skin Histodissection presentation.** Dr Nabeel Salmons Consultant Histopathologist, Bon Secours Hospital Tralee, Alison Malkin, TU Dublin, Laura Bauer, Medical Scientist Midland Regional Hospital, Tullamore.

### November 2023 – Zoom Webinar

**Cellular Pathology Accreditation Forum** discuss new standards. DATE TBC

### Q2 2024 Workshop

2 day **workshop** facilitated by UK NEQAS. Details and Date to follow

### Q2/Q3 2024 Zoom Webinar

Following success of Zoom Webinar on Skin Histodissection, we plan to replicate this with a Breast Histodissection one. Date TBC.

### Q2/Q3 2024 In person meeting

Chief's meeting. Subject and date TBC.

# Engagement & Advancement

## Members:

- James O'Connor (Chair), MTU, Cork.
- Hayley Foy-Stones, St James, Dublin
- Cian Ryan, Lancaster University, UK.
- Shane McCarthy, St Luke's, Kilkenny
- Darren Bourke, Blackrock, Dublin (On Sabbatical).

## Overview since last Annual Report:

❖ Mentorship Programme Round 2	Staggered Completion December 2022/January 2023
❖ First Early Career Scientists Seminar at BioMedica	March 2023
❖ Scientific Writing Workshop (BioMedica)	March 2023

## Events and Projects in 2023

### Event 1) Mentorship Pilot Programme 2

- In conjunction with ACSLM (CPD officers, President, CEO, Vice/Formal-President)
- Included Mentee and Mentor Training provided by Edelia for 2 new mentors and 4 new mentees.
- This round saw 3 mentee/mentor pairings- very good feedback including testimonial from one Mentor/Mentee pairing in Converse.

### Event 2) Early Career Scientist Seminar BioMedica 2023

- Theme: Scientists as leaders
- 4 great speakers organised by all members of the group
  - Pat Mulhare (HSE National Clinical Programme)
  - Reiltín Werner (CMS- NGS Histopathology CUH)
  - Dr Nicola Gardiner (CMS Cryobiology, St James')
  - Thomas Walsh (HSE eHealth and Disruptive Technology, Lab Programme Manager)

### **Event 3) Scientific Writing Workshop October 2023**

- Delivered by James with help from Cian to a collection of scientists from all over the country.
- Day 1- BioMedica



# Haematology

## Members:

- Dr. Claire Wynne (Chair)
  - Irene Regan
  - Norma Reidy
  - Rayan Elsheikh
  - Stephen Power
- Technological University Dublin  
Children's Health Ireland at Crumlin  
Munster Technological University  
Our Lady's Hospital Navan  
University Hospital Limerick

## Year long

### Blood Academy – Monthly CPD Opportunity

All members can avail of a monthly case study via the Blood Academy website. Clinical details alongside a virtual blood film are presented each month and users are asked to make a diagnosis, comment on blood film features and recommend any further testing required. When the case closes, a commentary video is uploaded to the website outlining all the key features from the case. This is an incredible learning resource for all members and offers a monthly CPD opportunity. This platform can be used to review cases which might not typically be present in your place of work and therefore also plays an important role in maintaining morphology skills.

## March

### Haematology session at BioMedica

The Haematology Advisory Body (HAB) organized the Haematology session at BioMedica which took place on 28<sup>th</sup> of March. The session was chaired by Dr Norma Reidy and involved both national and international speakers. The first speaker was Dr Keith Gomez, Consultant and Associate Professor in Haematology, Haemophilia Centre and Thrombosis Unit, Royal Free London, President of the British Society of Haemostasis and Thrombosis who spoke on 'The laboratory investigation of suspected platelet function disorders'. The next presentation was shared between Conor Grieve, Senior Medical Scientist, Cork University Hospital, and Stephen Power, Medical Scientist, University Hospital Limerick who presented 'An overview of the implementation of 'Blood Sciences' in two large hospitals. The final speaker in this session was Nicki Lawrence, Principal BMS Advanced Practitioner in Morphology at University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust who spoke on 'Advanced practice for Medical Scientists in Haematology'. Ms Nicki Lawrence and Dr Claire Wynne facilitated a 'Digital Morphology Workshop' later on that afternoon. All sessions were over-subscribed and very well received.

## October

### Laboratory session at the Haematology Association of Ireland Conference

The Haematology Association of Ireland (HAI) Conference took place in the Galway Bay Hotel last autumn. The laboratory session which is jointly organised by the Haematology Advisory Body and the Transfusion and Transplantation Advisory Body kicked off after lunch on October 13th. The format of the session was three thirty-minute talks followed by poster presentations and finally five short presentations selected from the abstracts that were submitted. Dr Claire Wynne and Dr Irene Regan chaired the presentation section. The first speaker of the evening was Fiona Murray, Specialist Medical Scientist from Galway University Hospital (recently retired). She presented 'Minimal residual disease assessment in multiple Myeloma by flow cytometry'. Julie Long a Medical Scientist from the RCI, Irish Blood Transfusion Service presented the next talk, which was entitled 'Mitigating the interference caused by anti CD-47 in pre-Transfusion serological testing'. The final speaker was Paul Fitzsimons, Quality Manager, Blood Transfusions Department University Hospital Limerick with a talk entitled 'Emergency, O positive use in UL Hospital Group: benefits and protocols.

After a thirty-minute break to view the posters, the short presentation section commenced which was chaired by Dr Claire Wynne and Paul Fitzsimons. The first of the short presentations was presented by Carley Keegan, National Maternity Hospital Dublin. The title of the presentation was 'Manual titre scores determined by column agglutination technology, for antenatal monitoring of anti-D antibodies in the National Maternity Hospital'. Niamh Casey from the Cryobiology Laboratory Stem Cell Facility in St James Hospital presented the second short presentation. The title of her talk was 'Optimisation of an assay to detect CAR-T cells and CAR-T cell exhaustion makers post CAR-T cell therapy'. Gavin Buckley, Cork University Hospital presented the next short presentation entitled 'Removing interference from direct oral anticoagulants in routine and specialised coagulation assays using activated charcoal'. The fourth short presentation was presented by Cindy Chong Galway University Hospital; Atlantic Technological University. The title of this presentation was 'Evaluation of the Sysmex automated Haematopoietic progenitor cell count as a surrogate marker for a flow cytometric CD34+ cell count in autologous peripheral stem cell transplants'. The final short presentation of the day was by Claire O'Meara, University Hospital Limerick and the title was 'The inappropriate use of the coagulation screen in the A&E department'.

Due to the high quality of the short presentations from the abstracts, two winners were selected. The best laboratory oral presentation was awarded to Gavin Buckley and the laboratory early career award to Cindy Chong. The best laboratory display poster was awarded to Lorna Power, Cork University Hospital for her poster entitled 'Cold hands; warm heart? Cold- agglutinins in cardio-pulmonary'. Both advisory bodies would like to thank the HAI committee, in particular Sinead Cassidy for all her help in organising a really well received laboratory session. Thanks also to all those who submitted abstracts for review, the quality this year was exceptional. HAI 2024 will take place on Friday 11th and Saturday 12th October in the Europa Hotel, Belfast.

# Microbiology

## Members:

- Nicola Boran (Chair) **Rotunda Hospital**
- Orla Donoghue **St Vincent's University Hospital**
- Denise Drudy **TU Dublin**
- Niamh O'Connell **Cork University Hospital**
- Louise Doherty **Letterkenny University Hospital**

## General Updates re Changing Microbiology Environment

- In June the ECDC called for the Enhanced surveillance of severe avian influenza virus infections in hospital settings in the EU/EEA. Avian influenza virus outbreaks are continuing during the summer months, causing mass mortality in sea breeding bird colonies, including gulls. A larger exposure of human population to sick or dead birds and mammals expected to occur. To date all indicators of influenza activity were at low levels in Ireland during weeks 34-37, 2023.
- There has been an increase in notified invasive Group A Streptococcus (iGAS) infections in Ireland since October 2022, carrying through to 2023. In a normal year, iGAS infections typically peak during the first six months. The increase observed towards the end of 2022 is the first time a peak has been reported outside this usual peak period. During the pandemic, normal social mixing patterns were interrupted which led to changes in how diseases such as iGAS presented. Between 2nd October 2022 and 10th June 2023, 384 cases of iGAS were notified in Ireland. Of these, 155 (or 40%) were in children aged <18 years, of whom 136 were aged 0-9 years. This contrasts with the pre-pandemic years when approximately 25% of iGAS infections were in children aged <18 years.
- There has been an increase in hepatitis of unknown cause in children. The common viruses that cause hepatitis (hepatitis viruses A, B, C, and E) have not been detected in any of the cases. Ireland is liaising closely with ECDC, UK and WHO colleagues in efforts to identify the cause of this illness. The UK investigations suggest that the recent cases of hepatitis may be linked to adenovirus infection; however this theory is still under investigation. The Irish cases have no links to the UK cases.
- Overall there has been Increased STI notifications in Ireland since the COVID-19 pandemic
  - Early Infectious Syphilis cases increased by 14% since 2019.
  - The increase in the total number of STIs in 2022, compared to 2019, is mainly due to an increase in gonorrhoea (45%) and chlamydia (20%)
- In Q1 Norovirus rise noted - In the first 10 weeks of 2023 there have been 394 cases of norovirus recorded. This is almost four times the number of cases recorded in the first 10 weeks of 2022 (109). Young children and elderly people have been the most affected with half of cases (50%) aged over 65 years and (28%) of cases aged under 5 years.

### **BioMedica 2023:**

- Acute hepatitis of unknown aetiology in children by Dr Christine Campbell and Dr Jonathan Dean
- NVRL Emerging Viral infections: The diagnostic challenges by Dr Jeff Connell, Assistant Director, NVRL
- C. difficile, new national reference service by Dr Anne Carroll, C. difficile National Reference Laboratory
- Detection of Environmental CPE from an Acute Hospital with CPE by Conor Mulchrone, Medical Scientist, University Hospital Limerick.

### **Webinar's:**

- Epidemiological typing of MRSA recovered in Ireland: Thursday 31st August, '23 by Dr Gráinne Brennan
  - Quidel webinar on Respiratory viruses.
    - Talk 1; Title: Case studies (Respiratory cases) from Letterkenny University Hospital. Presenter: Louise O Doherty, Medical Scientist, Letterkenny University Hospital
    - Talk 2; Title: iGAS Upsurge in Ireland 2022-23. Presenter: Dr Paul McKeown, acting chair of the iGAS Incident Management Team
- Talk 3; Title: POC in Infection Disease Management, Presenter: Dr Juergen Becker
- Microbiology from the Frontline 24<sup>th</sup> Nov by Dr. Sinead Kilgarriff (Focus on CPE from Ukrainian pts-This cases series described four Ukrainian soldiers who were transferred to an Irish hospital for treatment.)
  - TB or not TB: 5<sup>th</sup> Dec by Dr Darragh Coffey. Case presentation for a patient with progressive neurological symptoms progressive despite broad antimicrobial coverage, with a focus on diagnostic challenges and limitations.

### **MCQ:**

- Clinical Guideline on Asymptomatic Bacteriuria
- The European Committee on Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing. Breakpoint tables for interpretation of MICs and zone diameters. Version 13.1, 2023

### **Other:**

- eMEDICINEimage launched and trialled in several Microbiology laboratories across the country.

## **Point of Care**

1. National Near Patient Testing Consultative Group are currently working on updating the 2021 guidelines - ACSLM representatives Paudy O’Gorman and Bernadette Jackson.
2. A National communications group inclusive of Medical Scientists and Consultant staff working in Near Patient Testing , is currently managed by Bernadette Jackson. This group is facilitating rapid access to advice, support and links to experts in Near Patient Testing.

# Transfusion & Transplantation Science

## Members

- **Paul Fitzsimons (Chair)** University Hospital Limerick
- **Fergus Guilfoyle** Coombe Hospital
- **Fionnuala Ni Chonchubhair (Secretary)** Galway University Hospital
- **Aileen Farrelly** IBTS
- **Edel Scally** IBTS
- **Fabian McGrath** TU Dublin
- **Norma O'Brien** University Hospital Limerick
- **Veronica Teehan** Beaumont Hospital

The TTSAB continues to have a very active membership, with all members attending advisory body meetings and participating in the organisation of CPD events. In 2023 we welcomed back Edel Scally to the group. Barry Doyle & John Quigley resigned from their positions on the board. Paul Fitzsimons took over the chair position of the group.

## Summary of Meetings

The Advisory Body held four meetings in 2023, in January, June, August & November. The main focus of these meetings continued to be the organisation of virtual CPD events & starting a sharing portal on the ACSLM website to share protocols and verifications with other hospitals. There were several interesting discussions about how to use the information shared by the advisory board members and other contributors including the use of Podcasts to discuss topical issues/areas of the profession. Paul Fitzsimons also attended a meeting with other advisory board chairs to give feedback to the ACSLM president.

## BioMedica 2023

The Transfusion & Transplantation Science session for BioMedica 2023 was held online on the 27<sup>th</sup> March 2023 with four speakers. This was another well subscribed event with an interesting line-up of speakers.

- Recent Developments in Blood Components Barry Doyle, Head of Manufacturing and Issuing, Irish Blood Transfusion Service
- Patient Blood Management - the Consultant Haematologist's perspective Dr Joan Fitzgerald, Consultant Haematologist, St Vincent's University Hospital
- Patient Blood Management - the role of the Specialist Medical Scientist Margaret-Ann Connaughton, Specialist Medical Scientist, St Vincent's University Hospital
- The Role of the Specialist Medical Scientist at NHISSOT and Future Directions Louise Walsh, Specialist Medical Scientist H&I, Histocompatibility & Immunogenetics Laboratory, Beaumont Hospital

There was an 'Antibody Identification in Blood Transfusion', Workshop facilitated by Aisling Costelloe, Snr Medical Scientist, IBTS also on the 27<sup>th</sup> March.

A synopsis of the TTSAB session was added to the Summer Converse 2023.

### **HAI Conference 2023**

The Laboratory Session at the Haematology Association of Ireland conference on 13<sup>th</sup> October, co-organised with the Haematology Advisory Body. This event took place in Galway and was very well attended and had the following transfusion and transplantation related talks:

1. *Mitigating the interference caused by anti-CD47 in pre-transfusion serological testing by Julie Long, Medical Scientist, RCI, Irish Blood Transfusion Service*
2. *Emergency O positive use in UL Hospitals Group: benefits & protocols by Paul Fitzsimons, Quality Manager, Blood Transfusion Laboratory, University Hospital Limerick*
3. *Optimisation of an assay to detect CAR T-cells and T-cell exhaustion markers post CAR T-cell therapy by Niamh Casey, Cryobiology Laboratory Stem Cell Facility, National Blood Centre*

An article was put together to give an overview of the conference and is to be published in the Spring 2024 Converse

### **ISBT Conference Gothenburg**

Both Paul Fitzsimons and Aileen Farrelly from the advisory board travelled out to the regional ISBT congress in Gothenburg investigating advancements in the transfusion and transplantation area. An article was subsequently published in Autumn Converse 2023 to cover the topical areas highlighted at the conference.

# Virology

## Members:

- **Karen McGibney (Chairperson),** NVRL
- **Paul Holder** NVRL
- **Emma Stack** University Hospital Limerick
- **Grainne Tuite** NVRL
- **Stephen Reynolds** Coombe Hospital
- **Catherine Dempsey** Cork University Hospital
- **Mary Purcell** University Hospital Waterford

## Overview

- The function of our Advisory Body is multi-fold. Essentially to provide education, clinical and diagnostic advice, by open forum and discussion to all interested parties, on all aspects of clinical and diagnostic virology. We promote and support continuous professional development and exchange of information between practising medical and laboratory scientists.

## Advisory Body membership

The Virology Advisory Body is newly formed with seven members, Karen McGibney (Chairperson) NVRL, Grainne Tuite NVRL, Paul Holder NCRL, Emma Stack, UHL, Mary Purcell WRH, Stephen Reynolds Coombe, and Catherine Dempsey CUH. We make every effort to try and include membership from different geographical regions of the country as such, we have representation in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Waterford. We'd be delighted to have representation from the Northeast (Galway/Sligo/ Donegal/Cavan) if anyone is interested in joining us.

## BioMedica 2023

The joint Virology/Microbiology session at BioMedica on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March was very well attended. We were delighted to have excellent speakers on variety of aspects within the disciplines. Within the session, the virology presentations commenced with a presentation entitled "Acute Hepatitis of Unknown Aetiology in Children" from Dr Christine Campbell and Dr Jonathan Dean. Christine spoke regarding the unfolding of the increased cases, development of the case definition, the distribution of cases worldwide and the initial suspected causes of infection. Jonathan supplemented the presentation with details of how metagenomics identified key viruses circulating at the time of presentation of disease, in wastewater sewage. The third speaker, Dr Jeff Connell, brought us through the practical elements of the challenges of setting up diagnostic assays for novel diseases in a presentation

titled, “Emerging Virus Infections: The Diagnostic Challenges”, with plenty of examples from our recent experience with Sars-CoV-2, but looking forward to other potential pathogens. The session proved very educational for many in the room with numerous questions for all the speakers and very positive feedback. There was a great flow with all presentations across the two disciplines and the session was extremely well received.



# Motions

## Motion 1

That the Academy endeavours to raise the public profile of Medical Laboratory Scientists through greater engagement with print, social and other media, perhaps including the inauguration of a National Hospital Scientists day or similar.

Proposed: Anne Lardner

Seconded: Ann Leonard

## Motion 2

### Clause 4(b) (1a)

4(b) Any applicant for admission as Fellow of the Academy shall hold:

(1a) a post graduate degree in the field of Medical Laboratory Sciences accredited or approved by the Academy

And

Shall have held membership of the Academy for a period of not less than two years

*Proposed Amendment: Irish applicants must have 4 years' experience; I propose the clause is amended to require 4 years' experience from all FACSLM applicants.*

### Clause 4(b) (1b)

4(b) (1b) shall be a fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Sciences by examination or thesis.

*Proposed Amendment: shall be a fellow of the Institute of Biomedical Sciences by examination or thesis prior to 1999*

### Clause 4(c)

*Proposed Amendment: CORU Registration as a Medical Scientist'*

Proposed: Sinead Creagh, Chair Membership Committee

Seconded: ACSLM Council

### **Motion 3**

#### **Article 19**

Article 19: The Council may elect as a Life Member any member who in the opinion of the Council shall have given long and valuable service in the interests of the Academy; providing that not more than four Life Members shall be elected in any one calendar year.

*Proposal:* We propose to suspend article 19 for 12 months in order to facilitate awarding life membership to all past Presidents of the Academy.

Proposed: Sinead Creagh

Seconded: ACSLM Council

### **Nominations to Council**

**Ann Lardner,**

**St. Vincent's University Hospital,**

**Dublin 4**

**Esther Purcell**

**St. Vincent's University Hospital**

**Dublin 4**

**New President**

**Sinead Creagh**