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**UK Council Annual Report**

**2017/18**

**Current UK Council Members for Scotland**

* John Burton (Term ends 30/6/19)
* Claire Donaldson (Term ends 30/6/20)
* Ross McGhee (Term ends 30/6/21)

**Council Activities**

In November 2017 John Burton and Claire Donaldson attended the Radiographer of the Year awards; Claire was pleased to be able to collect the award for Scottish Radiographer of the year on behalf of her colleague Margaret Low. No Scottish Team of the Year was nominated unfortunately. This event was very well attended, and Claire Donaldson was pleased to forge a good link with Tracy McInnes, the then Deputy Chief health professions officer for the Scottish Government.

The January Council meeting gave UK council their first opportunity to review the collated information that was gathered during the strategy development days in October 2017, which was attended by John and Claire. This information, along with further input from the President, Staff, UK Council and the College Board of Trustees was used to develop the next 3 year strategy for the organisation.

In February 2018 John and Claire attended the council training day which was focussed on the role of volunteer board members. This gave all council members present an opportunity to reflect on their own individual role, and the role of the board as a whole. This has sparked a lot of debate over the last few months, leading to a review and refinement of the ‘Senior Mangement Team (SMT)’ meetings that occur between council members on the presidential team and the senior managers of the organisation.

The March UK Council meeting was held on the day that the final NHS pay offer was confirmed and published for consultation for members in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. UK Council members debated the merits of the pay deal thoroughly and were very clear that clear, concise and honest communication with the membership was the most important thing. Council approved the collation of an information circular that would be presented to members at ADC, along with an emergency motion seeking approval of a position to support the pay offer. Following the consultation period members voted to accept the pay deal from Westminster. The Scottish NHS pay deal negotiations and consultation followed on from this, and it was very pleasing to see that this resulted in a significant pay uplift for all members in Scotland.

John and Claire both attended ADC 2018. Both moved motions on behalf of UK Council, and both were asked to provide points of information for other motions. As usual the conference was very successful and it was fantastic to see our delegation having an active presence throughout all the debates.

May 2018 saw Ross McGhee elected to the vacant 3rd Council seat. Ross attended his first Council meeting as an observer, as his tenure didn’t start officially until the 1st of July 2018. The May meeting saw council considering a presentation regarding ‘Values Based Practice’. The first draft of this proposal was thoroughly reviewed by council members, with lots of suggestions for improvements. Council approved the new infographic for the 2018-2021 strategy for publication to the membership. As is usual for this meeting the vice president elections took place. Chris Kalinka from Wales was elected as Vice president for 2018/19.

 UKRCO 2018- The conference was slightly later in the calendar than usual this year, running in the 1st week of July. John and Claire attended the conference, and Ross was able to contribute to the marking requirements by marking the e-poster submissions. There were many fantastic examples of work from Scottish radiographers on display.

In 2019 the UKRO and UKRC joint congresses (UKRCO) are formally combining as UK Imaging and Oncology (UKIO), and the organising structure has been reviewed. John was asked to take on the role of Vice President of UKIO for Oncology and agreed to do this. The new UKIO organising committee met in September, and John has established the working party which will develop the radiotherapy and oncology content of UKIO 2019.

The July Council meeting and inauguration of the new president took place on the 11th of July. This was Ross McGhee’s first official council meeting as representative for Scotland. This meeting is traditionally the time where allocations to other boards are made for council members. Below are the additional meetings that the 3 Scottish Council members will attend for the next 2 years:

John Burton – UK Radiotherapy Board, SCoR Equalise, SoR Pension Fund Board of Trustees and representing SCoR on the RCR Clinical Oncology Faculty Board.

Claire Donaldson – Communications Group, Radiographic Informatics Group (RIG), Website editorial Board and Imaging and Therapy Practice Editorial Board. In addition to this Claire will be the delegate lead for UK Council at ADC 2019.

Ross McGhee – Health & Safety Forum

John, Ross and Claire attended council training in October focussed on dealing with public speaking and media interview skills.

**Big Issues**

**Pay**

The SoR led successful consultations on the two pay offers. General feedback has been good on these campaigns, and although not 100% positive there have been few issues with the implementation of the pay deals. Northern Ireland still remain vastly behind as there is still no government and therefore a pay deal has yet to be reached.

**Expert Witness**

This was another area of practice that was highlighted as a risk to professional indemnity insurance, the decision has been made not to cover claims against radiographers who act as an ‘expert witness’. This has been communicated to members.

**IR(me)R**

The newly published updated regulations came into force in early 2018. The new regulations place a greater emphasis on informed consent prior to ionising radiation imaging, with the communication of risk/benefit being of upmost importance. The regulations place the impetus on the referrer for having these conversations with patients, however the organisation has taken the view that practitioners and operators will also need to be able to discuss these with patients before, during and after examinations. A new guidance document focussed on communicating dose to patients has been developed, and will be published following some addition of appropriate Therapeutic examples.