

Education report 2019

State of play for Education in Scotland:

The three Universities in Scotland provide under-graduate and post graduate courses in Diagnostic Imaging and Radiotherapy & oncology as well as post graduate provisions at all 3 universities. Undergraduate and newly graduate numbers are of particular interest as there is still a national workforce shortage of diagnostic Radiographers.

Student issues were prominent at this year's Annual Delegate Conference, including 3 motions from Scotland <https://www.sor.org/eazines/studenttalk/issue-132/students-call-relief-financial-burdens> Claire Currie spoke on motion 27, asking that the value of radiography bursaries are increased to be in line with nursing. She pointed out that there is a 22% Band 5 vacancy rate for radiographers and an increase in the bursary would have a positive impact on recruitment. The motion also called for the bursary to be introduced in all four countries of the UK.

Motion 28, proposed by Nichola Jamison from Northern Ireland, called for a review of the costs associated with courses in the UK. She told delegates that mandatory uniform, vaccinations and checks for students amount to over £300. With covered costs differing between the four countries in the UK, Nichola argued that the same support must be provided for all students, so that regions and countries are not subject to additional fees.

Motions 29 and 30 both focussed on the expenses students incur while on placement. Kate Shrewsbury-Gee from the North West Region proposed motion 29 and Will Woods from Scotland, motion 30. Both called for expense forms to be processed more efficiently. Will also asked for an investigation into placement costs across the UK and for students to receive financial education to help them manage expenditure.

William Woods spoke to composite motion 1 on student placement experiences, asking for a UK-wide campaign to address training needs. The campaign would remind radiographers of the oath they took to 'understand the importance of participation in training, supervision and mentoring' to 'enthuse and inspire' students.

All of the above motions were carried.

GCU – information supplied by Claire Currie, Elaine Gardiner and Margaret Spalding

BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Imaging information available here

<https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/details/index.php/P01640>

This programme has a total of 240 students with a large cohort of Level ones at 70, 59 level twos, 61 level threes and 50 level fours. 52 graduated in the summer, anecdotally all are working, presumably as radiographers with one international student progressing to MSc DI. One of the students won Imaging, Therapy and Practice student papers prize, with 1st place. Both UG programmes are currently working towards re validation this month.

MSc Diagnostic Imaging information available here

https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/details/index.php/P02406/Diagnostic_Imaging

Recruits international students to the full time programme. Recruits home students to individual modules within the suite of modules, such as MRI principles and practice and CT principles and practice. Students can take modules as stand alone CPD or combine with other modules in the suite towards PgC, PgD or MSc Advanced Practice. There are 17 international students on the FT

programme and a healthy number of Scottish Radiographers at various stages with a small number progressing to full Masters.

MSc Medical Ultrasound information available here

https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/details/index.php/P01014/Medical_Ultrasound

There are 42 students on the programme this year, the majority (57%) are NHS radiographers. The programme also attracts students from private practice and the 3rd sector. This includes the largest cohort of gen med students yet (38%) – from 8 different NHS boards and also 5 students from 3 sites in Belfast. An example of the modules offered are obstetrics and gynaecology, general medical ultrasound and defined area of practice, where the content is tailored to the individual needs, such as breast, MSK or vascular imaging. The majority of students step off at PgC, however there is a trend to progress to PgD or MSc (12% of current cohort).

BSc Radiotherapy and Oncology information available here

<https://www.gcu.ac.uk/study/courses/details/index.php/P01641>

The BSc (Hons) RT&O programme has 29 level ones, 24 level twos, 28 level threes and 20 level fours. In the summer 16 graduated and at least 12 of them are employed as Radiographers. One student won 4th place in this year's Imaging & Therapy Practice student papers.

RGU – information supplied by Lesley Leishman

BSc (hons)Diagnostic Radiography information available here

<https://www.rgu.ac.uk/study/courses/975-mdrad-diagnostic-radiography>

Current numbers are 35 level ones, 29 level twos, 33 level threes and 35 level fours.

This year there were 26 students complete the course; all but 1 have jobs within the profession (the 1 outstanding took some time out but has an interview lined up next week). Of the 25, all but 3 stayed in Scotland – 2 went to England and 1 went home to Hong Kong.

Post graduate offerings in Pg Cert Diagnostic Image Reporting (blended learning). Minor injuries assessment and discharge (online modules), contract learning for professional discharge (bespoke module), certificate of competence in IV administration. RGU also offer a DipHE Radiographic Studies course for assistant practitioners. www.rgu.ac.uk/health-development

QMU – information supplied by Catherine McClintock

BSc (Hons) Diagnostic Radiography

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate-study/2020-undergraduate-courses-folder/bsc-hons-diagnostic-radiography/>

Current numbers: 40 Level ones; 26 Level twos; 24 Level threes; 23 Level fours.

In the session 2018/19 20 students completed the programme; all have work within the profession. One student is still to complete. The majority of students stayed in Scotland, however a few returned to England and Ireland.

This programme is working toward re validation in May 2020.

BSc (Hons) Therapeutic Radiography

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate-study/2020-undergraduate-courses-folder/bsc-hons-therapeutic-radiography/>

Current numbers: 14 Level ones; 15 Level twos; 5 Level threes; 8 Level fours.

In the session 2018/19, 6 students completed the programme, 5 have work within the profession in Scotland.

This programme is working toward re validation in May 2020.

MSc Diagnostic Imaging (pre-registration)

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2020-postgraduate-courses/msc-diagnostic-radiography-pre-registration/>

Current numbers: 14 Year one; 9 Year two.

Eleven students are due to complete the programme in November 2019.

In the session 2018/19 12 students completed the programme; all have work within the profession.

PG Dip Radiotherapy and Oncology

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2020-postgraduate-courses/pgdipmsc-radiotherapy-and-oncology-pre-registration/>

There was no intake in 2019/20, an intake is planned for September 2020.

There are currently 6 students due to complete the programme in October 2019.

PG Dip/MSc Advancing Practice in Medical Imaging

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/2020-postgraduate-courses/pgdip-msc-advancing-practice-in-medical-imaging-advancing-practice-in-health-framework/>

The Advance Practice in Health Framework was validated during 2018/19. The framework is a collaborative multidisciplinary approach enabling Radiography specific modules alongside advancing competencies in an area specific to the student, education, research and leadership skills. All modules are delivered by distance learning.

Core diagnostic modules include CT and MRI; therapeutic specific modules will be available shortly. There are over 20 students currently studying the CT and MRI modules, there are further student completing additional modules and the dissertation.

For further Framework information:

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/postgraduate-study/postgraduate-subject-overviews/advancing-practice-in-health-framework/>

Venepuncture and IV Cannulation for Radiographers

<https://www.qmu.ac.uk/study-here/continuing-professional-development-cpd-courses/cpd-courses-folder/venepuncture-and-iv-cannulation-for-radiographers-single-module/>

This course is specifically designed for radiographers. The theoretical component can be delivered at QMU or at the hospital base depending on student numbers. The completion of a log book is completed at the student's place of work; to evidence competency.