

UCC Discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy

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Newsletter

Senior Lecturer retires

Thank you to the IIRRT for the opportunity to share news from our discipline. We are a small but growing team. A small number of us are on Twitter at the addresses below

- Grainne Curran, UCC Lecturer and Practice Tutor @GrainneCurran6
- Mark McEntee, Professor and Chair of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy @markmcentee
- Niamh Moore, Lecturer @NiamhMoore40
- Theresa O'Donovan, Lecturer @odonovmt

Farewell to Andy Scally

Andy Scally joined UCC in 2018 as our Senior Lecturer, he was a radiographer, a physicist, and statistician. He was a rock, a mind of knowledge, a steady hand, a sure bet! Andy became a Senior Lecturer at the University of Bradford in 2007 and worked there until joining UCC in 2018.

Andy has had an immensely impressive career. Andy has over 120 publications, which have been cited by other scholars over 2,500 times. On ResearchGate alone his work has been read 38,000 times. His work on radiographer reporting in the United Kingdom helped change practice and improved patient outcomes for millions of patients in the NHS. It has been our privilege to work with Andy, and we will be forever grateful for his contribution in Cork.

The UCC prize for the best publication resulting from an MSc thesis will be named in his honour "The Andrew J. Scally award". He will be missed but we look forward to staying connected over the years as he returns to present his eponymous award.



Andy Pictured in the UCC teaching lab with inaugural graduate Stephen and final year student Maebh.

***“ECR showcasing
UCC research”***

UCC at ECR

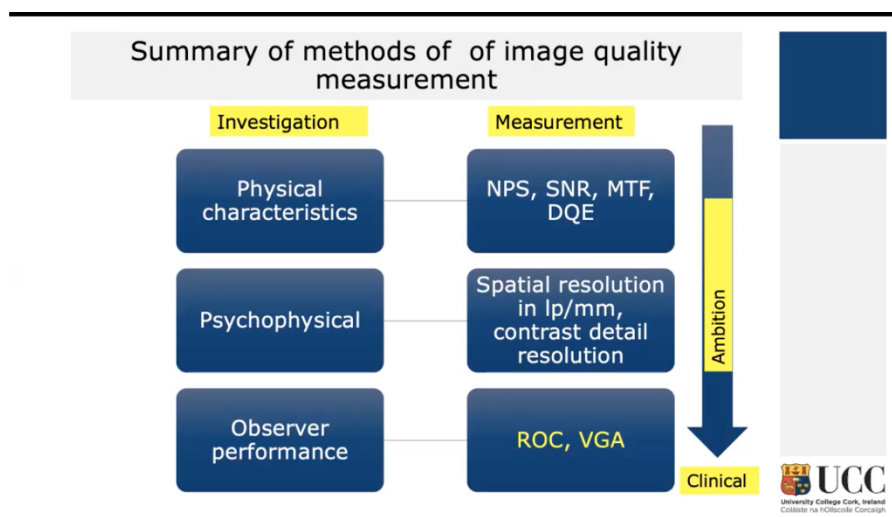
ECR moved online this year and although there were some technical difficulties, overall, it was a world class example of an online conference. Over 5 days there was exceptional content for radiographers and radiation therapists. Attendance by UCC 2nd year diagnostic radiography students was excellent with 100% attending designated session during the conference.

UCC academics and students participated in ECR 2021 in a variety of ways. Professor McEntee presented on “Image quality evaluation methods” and chaired “Quality improvement in radiography” and presented on “Big data tips for radiographer”, the top 10 tips for big data and the summary of the methods of image quality presented are shown below.

Three MSc students ran their online surveys at the EFRS research Hub. There were over 500 participants in the UCC surveys from over 40 countries. Some of these survey are still seeking participants. If you have time you can find the links below.

- Are you an Interventional Radiographer, or have you worked in interventional radiography? Have your say on how COVID-19 has impacted on your wellbeing! Find the link at: <https://tinyurl.com/interventionalradiographers>
- Have your say before it’s too late: Radiographer's opinions toward the suggested new guidance on lead protection. Find the survey at <https://lnkd.in/eutMxhA>

- Please consider participating in 'Evaluation of European Radiographer's knowledge and attitude towards the implementation of AI in Radiography' <https://bit.ly/3824oIv>
- Any #radiographers working in Ireland able to spare 10mins to help out a UCC MSc student thesis? It is a survey on knowledge and attitudes towards patients who self-harm? #thankyou <https://tinyurl.com/RadsOppSelfHarm>



EFRS delivering on education needs

EFRS Education and Research Webinars

UCC presented at the EFRS "Ethical Principles in Research" webinar Tues, March 30, 20:00CET. Over 800 radiographers and radiation therapist registered for the event globally. The Learning Objectives were;

1. To discuss the benefits of developing and implementing radiography research ethics standards across Europe.
2. To understand good principles of radiographic research.
3. To consider methods for and the benefits of involving patients and public in the research process.

The Speakers were Christina Malamateniou, City University, London, UK;

Mark McEntee, University College Cork, Cork, Ireland; and Bev Snaith, University of Bradford, Bradford, UK

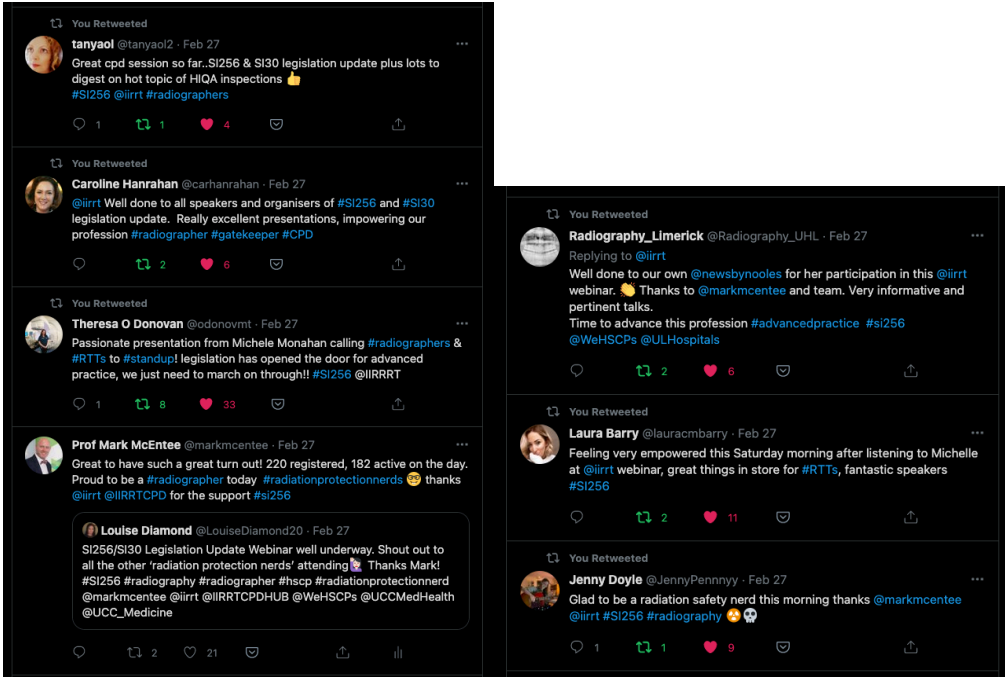
The link to recording can be found at: <https://tinyurl.com/EFRS-EP4-2021>

“Great” UCC SI 256 study morning was “Very Informative”

Over 220 radiographers attended or watched the recording of the IIRRT and UCC study morning on SI 256. Thank you to our speakers for their engaging presentations.

- Andy Scally covered the details of SI 30 and the new legislation on comforters and carers. Andy raised the importance of explain benefits and risks to carers and comforters.
- Prof McEntee covered the new parts of the radiographer's role as set out in SI 256, particularly around the referrer role and the practitioner role. He shared some of the excellent resources from the IIRRT on communication of benefits and risks to the patient.
- John Tuffy from HIQA spoke on inspections and gave a great overview and insight into the process.
- Nuala Lynch for the University Hospital Limerick spoke on the role of the RSO and introduced the important topic of identifying radiographers as RSO for part of their role ana as RPO for others. There is a need for a national conversation about this role. UCC will be organising a follow-on discussion and study day for RPOs with details coming up soon.
- Michelle Monahan gave a *tour de force* on leadership and the opportunities arising from the change in the legislation.

The question and answer session was lively and there was lots of engagement. A selection of the twitter comments is below indicating great engagement and hunger for more.



UCD led collaboration with UCC and others the topic of the global #MedRadJClub March 2021 discussion

One year on, the pandemic has had a significant impact on both student and staff education. This online journal club helped radiographers and radiation therapists reflect on the experiences of students and educators and look at the lessons learned. The paper was “Rainford et al. The impact of COVID-19 upon student radiographers and clinical training. Radiography 2020”. The full article available here <https://tinyurl.com/MRS-Students-and-COVID>

Chat themes included:

1. According to the paper and the blog what are the major issues facing undergrad MRS students in their clinical and academic training at the moment?
2. One of the major factors identified was the importance of clinical staff and their relationship with students. What do you think helps build and strengthen this relationship?
3. A main concern identified by students was achieving clinical competence and completing clinical assessments. What strategies could address this?
4. What else can we do to support student’s clinical and academic learning during the pandemic?

If you missed the chat? Catch up with the Wakelet summary here

<https://tinyurl.com/JournalClubSummaryMar2021>

MSc DR update

MSc Diagnostic Radiography at UCC

It was a great pleasure to convene the inaugural prize giving and conferring of the Masters in Diagnostic Radiography at UCC at the end of 2020. The discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Science is one of the newest in the University and in the College of Medicine & Health and that discipline joined the School of Medicine in September 2020.

Our new graduates have joined the workforce in hospitals throughout the region in a partnership arrangement between UCC and the HSE for which we are very grateful. The HSE SSHG are crucial and solid partners who we are working with to build a better health service. Also, our many sponsors and supporters (seen below), who joined us on the day to recognise some great achievements by our students.



Sponsors and friends of the Discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy.

The work of Professor Mick Maher (UCC and CUH), Professor Helen Whelton, Professor Jeanne Jackson (UCC), Dr Gerry O'Sullivan (HSE), Professor Nicole Muller (UCC) and Anne O'Sullivan Manger of the School of Clinical Therapies (UCC) for their work in getting the programme established.

On the day we got the opportunity to congratulate 15 graduands who we now call colleagues, and got the opportunity to thank all the people that helped them on their journey to this point.

The study and practice of healthcare is an intense, demanding and hugely rewarding experience. Never more than this year. COVID 19 changed life and work for everyone, but in the midst of the turmoil, radiographers in hospital all across the world get going without question, without an end in sight. While millions of students across the globe retreated to their study, or bedroom to continue their education online, our students turned their face into the storm and

walked back in. Every student in the inaugural class has achieved something that will never be repeated. They were the first. The first to bravely step into a new untried programme, the first group of UCC students to go back in the hospital in the first wave of the pandemic.

Student Prizes

Highest Overall Mark - The highest aggregated mark across all subjects over the 2 years of the MSc Diagnostic Radiography.

And

Highest Mark in Physics - This is the highest aggregated mark in the Subjects of Medical Radiation Science, Advanced Imaging and Information Systems.

And

Highest Mark in Research - This is the highest aggregated mark in the Subjects of Research Methods and Research Dissertation.

And

The IIRRT Olive Fleming memorial medal - For submission of the best clinical portfolio reflecting achievements in clinical placement MSc Diagnostic Radiography.

Awarded to: Hazel Murphy.

Hazel is currently working as a Radiographer in Waterford University Hospital.



Highest mark in Professional Practice of Radiography Subjects - This is the highest aggregated mark in the Subjects of Professional Practice of Radiography 1, 2 & 3.

Awarded to: Aisling O'Leary

Aisling is also currently working as a Radiographer in Waterford University Hospital.



Highest Mark in First year - This is the highest aggregated mark in the Subjects of first year MSc Diagnostic Radiography.
Awarded to: Sarah Coakley



MSc RT update

MSc Radiation Therapy at UCC

The MSc Radiation Therapy course has now entered semester two and students are currently in clinical departments on placement.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have contributed to the course especially to our clinical partners Cork university Hospital, UPMC Hillman Cancer Centre at Whitfield Hospital and Bons Secours Radiotherapy Cork in Partnership with UPMC Hillman Cancer Centre for facilitating placements during this unprecedented time.

It has been a challenging period for all clinical staff however everyone has continued to go above and beyond to welcome, teach and guide the MSc Radiation Therapy students during their introduction to clinical practice.

Report on the IV course February 2021

UCC School of Medicine UCC hosted it's biannual IV course for Radiographers and RT's on 5th and 6th February. Despite the restrictions faced with COVID-19 the course was fully booked and was attended by radiographers and RT's from all over the country, which always makes these courses very enjoyable and often a time to catch up with previous classmates or work colleagues. This course as always was very much focused around the hands-on practical session where each participant had access to their own cannulation training arm and had individual supervision during the practical training. The participants consistently enjoy this component of the course as it assists them in leaving the university confident to undertake cannulations when they return to the clinical department.

The next IV course is expected to take place in late June, but the date has yet to be confirmed.

Report on the MRI Webinar March 2021

The IIRRT and Peter Murphy from Alliance Medical in collaboration with School of Medicine UCC hosted an MRI webinar on 13th March which had over 90 people in attendance. This far exceeded the numbers we would expect to attend such an in-person event, which highlights some of the benefits that we have seen with hosting online CPD webinars. This was a hugely successful morning which was well organised which was obvious in the smooth running of the event. There was a wide range of topics covered during this event with talks ranging from Breast MRI, MRI&AI to The Emerging role of MR perfusion. Each of the speakers were outstanding and the presentations on the day were excellent quality and this event provided a great learning opportunity for all of those in attendance.

Spotlight on Students

My name is Maria. I qualified as a Civil Engineer from UCC in 2003 and practiced as a professional engineer for over 15 years. A personal 2-year healthcare journey with my son motivated me to pursue a new direction. The MSc Diagnostic Radiography in UCC is giving me the opportunity to adapt my natural aptitude for technical and scientific fields to work with patients and contribute positively to their healthcare journey.



I am really enjoying 1st year so far, particularly the clinical placement element, where I am getting to put my academic learning from the first semester into practice. Exposure to a wide variety of patients, across multiple placement sites, is giving me a broad base of experience. I have recognised that diagnostic radiography is a multi-faceted profession, combining technical and medical knowledge with patient care, across numerous modalities, in an ever-evolving healthcare environment. This variety is exciting and I look forward to advancing in all aspects throughout the remainder of the MSc Diagnostic Radiography programme and my career thereafter."



I am Rachel Simon one of the recent diagnostic Radiography entrants. We started our clinical placements in January 2021. I had worked as a nurse for over twenty years and I am familiar with the hospital environment, starting out as a student in a new discipline has been both exciting and challenging. Clinical placement is a great method of putting theory to practice and gaining experience of the different imaging work systems, the variety of x-ray equipment and most importantly working with the patients. Good communication with the patients and being able to convey to them clearly, the position you need for the images is an important part of the

patient interaction and it is very satisfying when it works well. As students, we are dependent on the trained radiographers in the different departments to supervise and assist us and they have been fantastic role models – they are so patient and helpful and a great source of information.



My name is Laura and I am twenty-three years old from Cork. In September 2020, I began my journey in MSc Radiation Therapy, a new masters in University College Cork. With a background in General Nursing, I have always had a keen interest in oncology and in the treatment journey for patients with a cancer diagnoses. Radiation Therapy is an exciting and ever evolving branch of medicine that combines my interests in both the field of science and patient care.

Currently, my fellow classmates and I are undertaking our first clinical placement in various Radiotherapy departments. From last September when

each of us commenced our degree mainly online due to Covid-19, to now working alongside the highly professional RT's and multidisciplinary team, the pieces of the puzzle are now coming together. It has been exciting to observe the role of the RT in the care of the patient. Without doubt, clinical placement has been the highlight of the course thus far.

In future, I would like to see more support systems put in place for patients after treatment has finished, living with and beyond cancer. Specifically, I would like to have regular lymphedema clinics for breast patients post treatment. Lymphedema has to be seen as a chronic problem and it can effect a patients ADL's. Therefore, it should remain a concern.

Congratulations

- Congratulations to Dr Jonathan McNulty, UCD on being appointed Editor in Chief for Radiography Journal and on completing his term as President of the EFRS. The Society said “The SCoR is thrilled to announce the appointment of Dr Jonathan McNulty as Editor-in-Chief of the Society’s prestigious international journal Radiography. Dr McNulty will shadow the current Editor-in-Chief Professor Julie Nightingale for six months from summer 2021 before taking up the three-year post in January 2022. He will work with the Council of the Society of Radiographers and Trustees of the College of Radiographers, and the publisher Elsevier, to set out both the vision and the strategy for the journal for the next publishing term.”
- Congratulations to Dr Shane Foley, UCD on being elected to the Executive Board of the EFRS.
- Well done to the President of the IIRRT Dean Harper from UCC for discussing the readiness of [#RTTs](#) and [#radiographers](#) to participate in vaccination administration [@TodaywithClaire](#)
- Recording here <https://www.rte.ie/radio/radioplayer/html5/#/radio1/21923849>
- Congratulations to Theresa O’Donovan on being the IIRRT nominee for the ESTRO RTT Alliance elections. Theresa was an excellent candidate and brings a wealth of expertise to the table. She will be an excellent representative for radiation therapy at any level.
- Congratulations to Radiographer Jill Creedon of Cork University Hospital giving a crucial insight into the experiences of radiographer_ in Ireland with Shane Foley and Anne O’Loughlin at ECR 2021



- Congratulations on one year done to the newest elected members of the Radiographers Registration Board Michelle Sugrue, Ciaran Walsh Bons

Secours, Cork and Niamh Moore UCC. These Radiographers are fulfilling an important role for Radiographers & Radiation Therapists in Ireland.

Upcoming study day

“The Evolution of Practice Education: Sharing the Learning”

Conference will take place virtually

On Thursday, 17th of June 2021. The conference will start at 9.30am.

Registration is **FREE**, please register at

<https://tinyurl.com/PECNET2021>

This conference will explore the recent significant changes in the practice education landscape. It will create opportunities for discussion, with the support of international speakers, on how the lessons learned during the pandemic can be carried forward to positively shape and strengthen the future of practice education among health and social care professions. The speakers will provide practical guidance on how we can optimise the quality of practice education for students, practice educators, and academics, based on the latest research.

Speakers include:

- Professor David Boud, Deakin University: A new perspective on feedback
- Professor Zubin Austin, University of Toronto: Enhancing Resilience in Practice Education

Publication and Grant Success

1. Simelane, T., Ryan, D. J., Stoyanov, S., Bennett, D., **McEntee**, M., Maher, M. M., ... & O'Connor, O. J. (2021). Bridging the divide between medical school and clinical practice: identification of six key learning outcomes for an undergraduate preparatory course in radiology. *Insights into imaging*, 12(1), 1-8.
2. Kanbayti, I. H., Rae, W. I., **McEntee**, M. F., & Ekpo, E. U. (2021). Mammographic density changes following BC treatment. *Clinical Imaging*, 76, 88-97.
3. Joyce, S., Carey, B. W., **Moore**, N., Mullane, D., Moore, M., **McEntee**, M. F., ... & O'Connor, O. J. (2021). Computed tomography in cystic fibrosis lung disease: a focus on radiation exposure. *Pediatric Radiology*, 51(4), 544-553.
4. Hadadi, I., Rae, W., Clarke, J., **McEntee**, M., & Ekpo, E. (2021). Diagnostic Performance of Adjunctive Imaging Modalities Compared to Mammography alone in women with Non-dense and Dense Breasts: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis. *Clinical Breast Cancer*.
5. Crowley, C., Ekpo, E. U., Carey, B. W., Joyce, S., Kennedy, C., Grey, T., **McEntee** M.F.... & O'Connor, O. J. (2021). Radiation dose tracking in computed tomography: Red alerts and feedback. Implementing a radiation dose alert system in CT. *Radiography*, 27(1), 67-74.
6. Del Gante, E., Kumar, M., **McEntee**, M., Sng, L. H., Tan, C. Y. Y., Yeo, C. W. K., ... & Ekpo, E. (2021). Accuracy of radiographer comment following a two-month experiential and blended learning in appendicular skeleton X-ray interpretation: The Singapore experience. *Radiography*, 27(1), 43-47.



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Courses:

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx26/>

<https://www.ucc.ie/en/ckx29/>