

NEWSLETTER

UCC Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy
Winter/Early Spring, 2026

Welcome to the inaugural UCC MIRT newsletter. This publication will be released each season and aims to keep you up to date with the activity in the Discipline, including recent publications, student and staff achievements and programme availability. We invite you to stay connected with us at MIRT@ucc.ie or on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/109855032>

The past year has seen the team grow in number – with Dr Laura McLaughlin and Dr Clare Rainey joining in January 2025. This was followed by Kathryn O’Sullivan, John O’Neill, Peter Murphy and Prof Sara Hackett later in the year. Each bring unique skill and experience in diagnostic and therapeutic radiography. You can meet the team on the next page of this newsletter. Our placement coordinator for diagnostic radiography, Rena Young, moved to pastures new this year and we wish her every success in her new position.

Our students continue to be source of great pride and we were delighted to have our Diagnostic Therapeutic radiography students graduate in December! We are looking forward to keeping in touch with their progress! Congratulations everyone.



Dr Andrew England competed his year as Past President of EFRS and we were delighted to learn that Prof Mark McEntee would be stepping up as incoming President this year. It has been a busy time for Andrew and Mark – we are delighted to have representation from UCC in such prestigious and influential positions.



Clare commenced her tenure as Chair of the Society of Radiographers AI Advisory Board and helped establish the EFRS Imaging Informatics Working Group, along with UCC Visiting Professor, Dr Christina Malamateniou as Chair.



We were delighted to welcome our friends and colleagues, Pica Andersen and Jakob Möller from Sygehus Lillebælt at University College Cork. Thank you for presenting at the CUH Grand Rounds

On International Men’s Day, Prof McEntee was presented with the prestigious COMH EDI award for his leadership in advancing equality, inclusion, and student-centred learning across the College of Medicine and Health – congratulations Mark!



The new academic year started off in full swing with additional students in both Diagnostic and Therapeutic radiography streams. The teams are excited to be supporting the radiography workforce in Ireland with this additional intake. We are delighted to be working with new placement providers across the country and look forward to the students benefitting from these additional settings.

The post-registration provision added MRI and mammography to the choices in the MSc Medical Imaging and Radiation Science programme. In the mammography pathway, we are delighted to be working with BreastCheck Ireland and with Dr Noelle Clerkin in Belfast Trust to provide a programme fit for provision both in Ireland, the UK and internationally.



In the MRI pathway we are thrilled to welcome students onto the diploma course, following successful completion of the certificate. These students have completed content provided by expert clinicians and academics in the field.



We were on our travels in 2025, with appearances in ECR in Vienna, UKIO in Liverpool, EFRS in Rome, EuSoMII in Crete, and WHX in Dubai, to name a few. Please look out for our ECR special edition newsletter coming out soon!

M E E T T H E T E A M

Prof Mark McEntee Head of Discipline



Professor McEntee is Head of the Discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy, Chair of Radiography at UCC, and Course Director for the MSCDR and MSCRT. Currently he Serves as the Vice Head for Teaching and Learning in the College of Medicine and Health. He is one of the world's top Medical Radiation Scientists, recognised through Honorary appointments as a Professor at the Faculty of Health Sciences, at the University of South Denmark, and the University of Sydney. His publications explore patient-centred care as well as novel technologies and techniques that enhance the detection of clinical indicators of disease whilst minimising risk to the patient. His research has been disseminated through major international imaging meetings, including the annual meetings of the Radiological Society of North America, European Congress, UK Radiological Congress, International Society of Optical Engineering and Medical Imaging Perception Society. He is the recipient of 10 highly prestigious awards. In total, he has published over 250 original papers in the highest-ranked radiological journals. He has generated \$1.8m in funding from bodies. He is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and a Fellow of the Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy. He was Health Sciences Research Supervisor of the Year at the University of Sydney in 2018 and Australian University teacher of the year 2017 and Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Higher Degree Teaching in 2014.

[Mark McEntee - University College Cork](#)

DISCIPLINE OF RADIOGRAPHY

Dr Andrew England Senior Lecturer



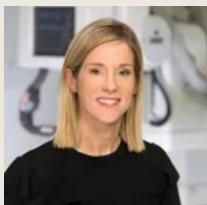
Dr Andrew England is a Senior Lecturer in Medical Imaging & Radiation Therapy working at University College Cork, Ireland. His work focuses upon diagnostic radiography / radiation therapy education and research into the areas of dose optimisation, digital radiography, CT and mammography. Dr England has trained an ever-increasing number of diagnostic radiography students over the years and lectures both national and internationally on a broad spectrum of topics. He has served as an investigator on several large research studies funded by industry and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). He has published over 100 articles and several textbooks on radiography. He acts as External Examiner for two universities in the UK.

Dr Clare Rainey Lecturer



Clare is a diagnostic radiographer by background, with over 20 years' experience in clinical and academic radiography. She holds a PhD in AI for radiographic image interpretation and has particular interest in the impact of advanced technologies on human decision making. She has published in international peer reviewed journals in the area. Clare has developed e-learning resources for the NHS in the UK and has delivered invited talks on AI for both international conferences and for other higher education institutions. She is the Chair of the AI Advisory Board for the Society and College of Radiographers, the Chair and founder of the CHERISH-AI research group and a founding member of the European Federation of Radiographer Societies (EFRS) Imaging Informatics group. Recent publications include research on automation bias/trust in clinical AI and its impact on human decision making.

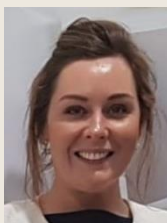
Niamh Moore Lecturer



Niamh Moore is a lecturer in the discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy and is a registered radiographer with a clinical background specialising in CT. Niamh graduated with a BSc (Hons) Radiography in 1997 and spent over 20 years working as a Clinical Radiographer in Cork University Hospital where she held the position of CT Clinical Specialist. She completed a post-graduate certificate in CT in 2002 followed by an MSc in CT in 2009. Niamh has always had a keen interest in education and research and has been involved in developing research, teaching and education opportunities for many years. She was an integral member of a steering group which led to the development of the MSc Diagnostic Radiography programme at UCC, where she commenced in the role of Programme Development Co-Ordinator. Niamh has been a member of CORUs Radiographers Registration Board (RRB) since March 2020 and has recently been appointed Chair of the RRB. She also represents the South as a council member of the Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy. Niamh is keen to contribute to developing, promoting and delivering CPD and is currently the CPD representative for the discipline. In 2020 Niamh completed a Post Graduate Certificate in Teaching and Learning and is currently undertaking a PhD which she commenced in 2020. The focus of her PhD is Low dose imaging in CT of the Chest. Niamh has been actively involved in research for almost 15 years and has a number of publications, particularly in the area of low dose imaging.

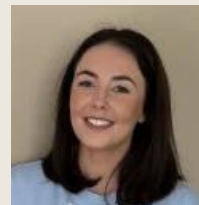
<https://research.ucc.ie/en/persons/niamh-moore/>

Kathryn O'Sullivan Lecturer (RT)



Kathryn joined UCC in September 2025 as a lecturer in the discipline of Diagnostic Imaging and Radiation Therapy. Kathryn has extensive clinical experience across both the English and Irish healthcare systems and brings a strong interest in healthcare clinical operations, quality improvement, and service development through projects and commissioning. She is passionate about using teaching and research as a tool to equip and empower students with the knowledge, skills, and confidence needed for high-quality, evidence based clinical practice.

Dr Laura McLaughlin Lecturer



Dr Laura McLaughlin is a lecturer in the discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy in University College Cork and is a registered radiographer specialised in Magnetic Resonance Imaging. Laura qualified as a diagnostic radiographer in 2015 from Ulster University, before pursuing her passion in research by beginning a PhD. During her PhD studies Laura continued her keen interest in clinical practice by working as a diagnostic radiographer in a range of imaging departments. She also assisted in teaching and practical demonstrations to undergraduate diagnostic radiography students. Following successful completion of her PhD in 2018 Laura began her role as a MRI radiographer and completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Advanced Practice. Laura then began her role as a lecturer and supported this with a Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education Practice. Laura continues to spread her enthusiasm and interest of medical imaging and research, encouraging students to develop technical skills and interests to take forward into their future careers. Laura has completed research in the areas of image interpretation and artificial intelligence. Her recent research investigates the use of checklists in image interpretation on the decision-making process. This included the formation of checklists to encourage decision hygiene and aid the interpretation process. Other research interests include eye tracking technology in clinical decision making, methods to improve patient diagnosis and patient centred care.

[Laura McLaughlin - University College Cork](#)

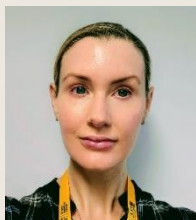
M E E T T H E T E A M

Theresa O'Donovan Lecturer (RT)



Theresa O'Donovan has been a dedicated radiation therapist for over 20 years. She graduated with first class honours from Trinity College Dublin in 2002. She completed her Master of Health Sciences (Clinical Education) and went on to complete a Post Graduate Certificate in Advance Practice in Radiotherapy & Oncology from Sheffield Hallam University, United Kingdom. She is now undertaking a PhD. She has always taken a keen interest in students and nurturing the future generation of radiation therapists. She received the Dean's Award for Innovation in Teaching within the School of Medicine from Trinity College Dublin in 2018 and the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching – Early Career Award from University College Cork in 2023. In 2020 she commenced a program development coordinator role at University College Cork to develop the MSc in Radiation Therapy. She has represented the South region on the IIRRT (Irish Institute of Radiography and Radiation Therapy) national council since 2011 and acted as the president between 2016-2017. She joined the EFRS RTT Committee in 2023. She is a member of the ESTRO AI focus group. She currently sits on the editorial board Journal of Radiotherapy in Practice and the BJR Open WPN Editorial Advisory Board.

Prof Sara Hackett Professor of Medical Physics



Sara Hackett is a Professor of Radiation Oncology Medical Physics at the Cancer Research Centre, University College Cork (UCC), and Cork University Hospital (CUH). She previously worked as a clinical physicist and researcher at University Medical Centre Utrecht in the Netherlands, where she led the clinical introduction of the MR-linac. Prior to this, she held postdoctoral positions at the University of Oxford in the UK and at UCLouvain in Belgium, after completing her PhD in Physics in Perth, Western Australia. Her research focuses on the use of imaging to guide radiotherapy planning and delivery, and her work at UCC and CUH aims to further develop partnerships between radiotherapy and radiology clinical teams, academic staff at UCC, and the wider radiotherapy community in Ireland.

John O'Neill Lecturer



John O'Neill began his career at the Mater Hospital in Dublin, training as an MRI radiographer and later leading the forensic radiography team. He then moved to the South Infirmary Victoria University Hospital, where he worked as a clinical tutor for University College Cork (UCC), supporting student learning in a clinical setting. In 2022, John joined London South Bank University as a lecturer in medical imaging and was promoted to Senior Lecturer in early 2025. Later that year, he returned to UCC, bringing experience from both clinical practice and higher education. John holds postgraduate qualifications in forensic radiography and musculoskeletal radiographic reporting. His research interests include forensic radiography, image interpretation, and wellbeing for both staff and patients. He plans to begin a PhD this year to further explore these areas.

Prof Aisling Barry Professor of Radiation Oncology



In September 2022 Professor Aisling Barry became the first Professor and Chair of Radiation Oncology at University College Cork. She is also a consultant radiation oncologist at Cork University Hospital. Dr Barry returned from Toronto, Canada, where she worked as a radiation oncologist in the Radiation Medicine Program at the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre (PMCC) and Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiation Oncology at the University of Toronto. She was clinical lead of the Palliative Radiation and Oligo-metastatic Program and a member of the breast and gastro-intestinal groups prior to her departure.

Prof. Barry received her undergraduate education at Trinity College Dublin (2005) and completed her radiation oncology specialty training through the RCSI/St. Luke's Radiation Oncology Network. She subsequently completed fellowships in breast cancer radiotherapy (2014-2015) and stereotactic body radiotherapy (SBRT) – specifically for liver and lung cancers, at Princess Margaret Cancer Centre (2015-2016). She has also completed a Masters in Clinical Epidemiology at the University of Toronto on health-related quality of life outcomes in patients with oligo-metastatic disease. Prof. Barry is a recipient of numerous awards including a Dr. Richard Stevens' HSE award which enabled her to complete dedicated SBRT fellowship training at PMCC, a Conquer Cancer Foundation of ASCO Merit Award at GI ASCO for her work on the use of SBRT as a bridging therapy to liver transplant and an Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium Award.

Peter Murphy Lecturer



Peter C Murphy qualified as a radiographer in UCD in 1995. Since that time, he has gained significant clinical and managerial experience over the last two decades and, at the same time, he has specialized in MRI and PET CT imaging. He was awarded his post-graduate Diploma in MRI from TCD in 2003. He was the Unit Manager of MRI & PET CT services in Cork University Hospital for 14 years. In that time, he has overseen a transformation in the delivery of advanced imaging in Cork University Hospital. He has been involved in several research programmes and trials over the years, and he continued to be involved in the education of radiographers. He runs an annual MRI seminar and has presented nationally and internationally on topics such as MRI safety, Artificial Intelligence and advanced PET CT techniques. He was awarded a scholarship from the UCC College of Medicine and Health he commenced a part-time PhD in Radiography in 2021. The focus of his research is the use of Artificial Intelligence in Breast MRI, particularly in the areas of breast composition and breast density. The research will include the development of an AI algorithm to assess breast composition. He is currently a lecturer in radiography in the discipline of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy in UCC where his focus is on research, MRI, Molecular Imaging and Information Management Systems.

Annemarie Devine Practice Education Coordinator (RT)



Annemarie Devine is the Practice Education Coordinator for the MSc Radiation Therapy Programme and a CORU registered Radiation Therapist. Annemarie began her career as a Radiation Therapist in St. Vincent's Private Hospital before moving to Cork University Hospital. In 2021, she took on the role of Programme Development Coordinator in UCC to co-ordinate the CORU programme accreditation process for the MSc Radiation Therapy. Annemarie later took the role of Practice Education Coordinator for the MSc Radiation Therapy. Annemarie has an MSc in Clinical and Translational Research and a PGDip in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education.

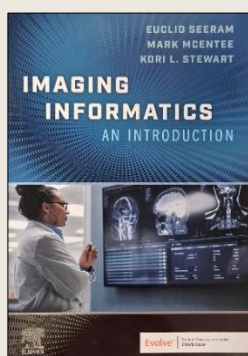
PUBLICATIONS

It has been a busy start to 2026 for the team. Here are some of our most recent publication outputs since Jan 2026. We are now 'Pure@ please check out our profiles by searching **"*name UCC Pure"**

- Hanley, Sarah, Mark F. McEntee, Peter Murphy, Rena Young, Andrew England, Salman Mohammed Albeshan, and Mohammadreza Elhaie. "Radiographers' perspectives on interactions with patients exhibiting cognitive impairment and dementia during magnetic resonance imaging examinations." *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences* 57, no. 3 (2026): 102187.
- Treanor, B., A. England, N. Moore, R. Young, M. F. McEntee, S. M. Albeshan, and M. Elhaie. "Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to Radiology Examinations Among Patients with Parkinson's Disease in Ireland." *Radiography* 32, no. 3 (2026): 103349.
- Nkrumbih, Z., E. Ekpo, A. Jusabani, C. Rainey, A. England, and M. F. McEntee. "Quantitative versus qualitative analysis of breast lesions using mammography and ultrasonography: A systematic review and meta-analysis." *Radiography* 32, no. 2 (2026): 103278.
- Greene, A., R. Young, C. Rainey, C. Greene, A. Gavin, L. McLaughlin, A. England, and M. McEntee. "Computed tomography, ultrasound and fluoroscopy guidance in intra-articular sacroiliac joint injections: A

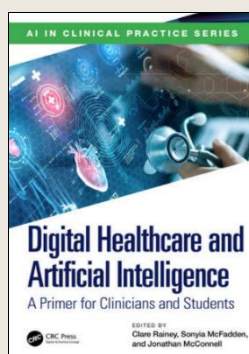
systematic review." *Radiography* (2026): 103332.

- BOOK CHAPTER: Ohene-Botwe, Benard, Bo Mussmann, and Mark F. McEntee. "AI in Computed Tomography." In *Artificial Intelligence for Radiographers: Basic Principles, Clinical Applications and Implementation Considerations*, pp. 119-146. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2026.
- Mohammed, Ahmed, Eimear Mahon, Niamh Moore, Lorna Sweetman, Mary-Jane Murphy, Louise Beagan, Michael Maher, Andrew England, Helle Precht, and Mark F. McEntee. "Ultra-low dose CT for suspected physical abuse." *Journal of Medical Imaging and Radiation Sciences* 57, no. 1 (2026): 102148.
- Rainey, C., A. England, P. C. Murphy, A. A. Mohammad, Y. H. Hadi, and M. McEntee. "Large language models (LLMs) in radiography research: A narrative review." *Radiography* 32, no. 1 (2026): 103244.
- Aqil, Al Abu, Y. H. Hadi, H. M. Ali, A. England, and M. McEntee. "Prevalence of low back pain among Saudi radiographers." *Radiography* 32, no. 1 (2026): 103228.
- Mellor, F. E., A. England, P. Cosson, P. Park, K. Knight, M. A. Mallinson, and B. Snaith. "Comparison of image quality, radiation dose and repeat rates for anteroposterior (AP) pelvic radiography imaging techniques (STOPPAGE study)." *Radiography* 32, no. 2 (2026): 103275.
- Treanor, B., A. England, N. Moore, R. Young, M. F. McEntee, S. M. Albeshan, and M. Elhaie. "Perceived Barriers and Facilitators to Radiology Examinations Among Patients with Parkinson's Disease in Ireland." *Radiography* 32, no. 3 (2026): 103349.
- McFadden, S., A. Karera, E. Greer, L. McLaughlin, C. Rainey, and J. P. McNulty. "Undergraduate education and preparedness of radiographers for interventional radiology and cardiology: An international survey across Europe." *Radiography* (2026): 103342.
- BOOK: Rainey, Clare, Sonyia McFadden, and Jonathan McConnell, eds. *Digital Healthcare and Artificial Intelligence: A Primer for Clinicians and Students*. CRC Press, 2026.
- BOOK CHAPTER: McNally, Ciara, Rainey, C., and Szczepura, K. "AI in Projectional Radiography." In *Artificial Intelligence for Radiographers: Basic Principles, Clinical Applications and Implementation Considerations*, pp. 85-118. Cham: Springer Nature Switzerland, 2026.
- McFadden, S., A. Karera, E. Greer, L. McLaughlin, C. Rainey, and J. P. McNulty. "Professional practice, training, and role development of radiographers in interventional radiology and cardiology: An international survey across Europe." *Radiography* (2026): 103315.



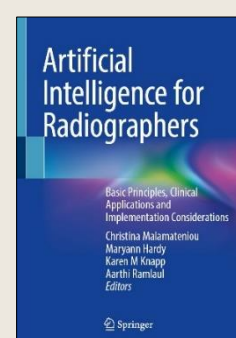
Available at: [Imaging Informatics: An Introduction - 1st Edition | Elsevier Shop](https://shop.elsevier.com/books/imaging-informatics-an-introduction/seeram/978-0-443-22425-6)

<https://shop.elsevier.com/books/imaging-informatics-an-introduction/seeram/978-0-443-22425-6>



Available at: [Digital Healthcare and Artificial Intelligence: A Primer for Clinician](https://www.routledge.com/Digital-Healthcare-and-Artificial-Intelligence-A-Primer-for-Clinicians-and-Students/Rainey-McFadden-McConnell/p/book/9781032709895)

<https://www.routledge.com/Digital-Healthcare-and-Artificial-Intelligence-A-Primer-for-Clinicians-and-Students/Rainey-McFadden-McConnell/p/book/9781032709895>



Available at: [Artificial Intelligence for Radiographers: Basic Principles, Clinical Applications and Implementation Considerations | Springer Nature Link](https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-05080-9)

<https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-032-05080-9>