



**College of Psychiatrists  
of Ireland**

Wisdom • Learning • Compassion

# Postgraduate Training Annual Report

TRAINING YEAR 2020-2021



# Dr Aoibhinn Lynch

DEAN OF EDUCATION



## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the first annual report of activity in the Postgraduate Training Department of CPsychI. While we have previously reported these activities through our committee structures, we hope that it will be helpful and informative to present this information in a more accessible way. Particular thanks must go to the managers of each of our training departments who have summarized and presented their data here and to Ms Kellie Myers for creating this amalgamated report.

With the Covid-19 pandemic, the training year July 2020- July 2021 has been a particularly difficult one for all of us. I must commend Trainees, Supervisors, Tutors, Vice deans and HST Mentors, as well as our College staff, for maintaining their focus on training despite the personal and professional pressures involved. In the Postgraduate Training department, our main priority has been to support trainees in continuing their progress through the training programme while maintaining training standards. Each of our College officers (Dr Fiona Crotty, Head of Continuous Assessment; Dr Edwina Barry, outgoing Chief Examiner; Dr Martin Mahon, incoming Chief Examiner; Professor Anne Doherty, Head of E-Learning and Courses) and Dr Kieran Moore, Chair of PTC, deserve special mention for their leadership and support throughout this period.

We hope that the year to come will be less challenging and wish everyone an interesting and productive year ahead.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Aoibhinn Lynch', on a light-colored background.

Dr Aoibhinn Lynch  
Dean of Education

# Postgraduate Training Committee

Dr Kieran Moore, Chair of PTC

Ms Kellie Myers, Operations Manager PGT

## THE POSTGRADUATE TRAINING COMMITTEE HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND ONGOING MONITORING OF PSYCHIATRY POSTGRADUATE TRAINING PROGRAMMES IN IRELAND

### KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- The Medical Workforce Planning Report for Psychiatry was finalised with HSE NDTP early in 2021 identifying the need for an increase in consultant and training numbers over the next 10 years.
- HSE NDTP
  - There has been a small increase in our training SLA going forward which is very welcome
  - The College were successful in a bid for development funding for FY and BST E-Learning materials which will be free of charge and mandatory for trainees
  - Psychiatry received funding for five Post CSCST Fellowships for recruitment July 2021
  - Specialist Training Funds and Course refund schemes remained in place and available to trainees
- The Medical Council undertook an Accreditation process of all four speciality training programmes in Psychiatry, General Adult Psychiatry, Psychiatry of Old Age, Learning Disability Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry 10th - 13th May 2021. The PTC thanks all involved for their time in contributing to the process.
- The Regulations and the Curriculum are updated annually. Of note two new policies have been included in the Regulations document for July 2021, a Grievance Policy & Procedure and Non-Discrimination Policy Statement
- A process to formalise trainee research projects using the College database has been put in place and agreement has been reached to set up an 'Educational Research Group' with members of the trainee committee and the College officers of postgraduate training
- Collaboration with ICGP to establish special interest sessions for HSTs in GP practices
- Graduation Ceremonies took place for CSCST and Examination recipients at the Winter Conference Thursday 5th November 2020.

### IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Establish the Educational Research Group
- Develop training materials for Educational Supervisors at BST and HST level.
- Consider development of Fellowship programmes for International Medical Graduates
- Await Medical Council Accreditation report
- Plans to seek further development funding from HSE NDTP to develop E-Learning for HST
- Continue to review training requirements, the curriculum and regulations for training
- Developing structures and supports where trainee remediation is required.
- Develop supports for trainees around patient suicide.

*Postgraduate Training Committee meetings*

*10th September 2020*

*12th November 2020*

*4th February 2021*

*20th May 2021*

# Specialist Training Recruitment

Ms Kellie Myers / Ms Caroline Keyes, Manager  
Ms Emma Lindsay, Senior Administrator (BST)  
Ms Jennifer Kavanagh, Senior Administrator (HST)

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

### BASIC SPECILIST TRAINING

- Recruitment to Basic Specialist Training in Psychiatry successfully completed, offering 76 places across all Deaneries for July 2021
- Interviews took place online via zoom across 13 panels over two days 28/29 January 2021
- There was a significant increase in the number of applications to BST due to the revision of the Medical Practitioners Act 2007, allowing greater eligibility for the Trainee Division of the Register

### HIGHER SPECIALIST TRAINING

- Recruitment to Higher Specialist Training in Adult Psychiatry and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry successfully completed, offering 35 places in total, four of which were non-streamlining candidates.
- Interviews took place online via zoom across 5 panels on 24th February 2021
- The allocations process for all HST trainees was completed successfully for July 2021



### ASPIRE / POST CSCST FELLOWSHIPS

- Successful recruitment to six Post CSCST Fellowships for training year 2021- 2022





## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- It is expected that for recruitment for July 2022 BST interviews will remain online using a new electronic marking system. HST interviews will hopefully revert to a face to face format from February 2022.
- Work is continuing with HSE NDTP to identify intake numbers for July 2022 in both BST and HST and to identify where the gaps are and further posts may be required.
- The College will continue to work with the Vice Deans to identify suitable BST posts as part of our ongoing work to increase intake numbers at BST level.
- With the Vice Deans we are developing information on each Deanery to be included on the College website / recruitment section
- Online recruitment video for Psychiatry training is in development
- Advocacy for continued funding for Aspire / Post CSCST Fellowships for July 2022

### BST Recruitment July 2021

Applicants	177			87	90
Eligible	157				
Shortlisted	139				
Interviewed	133				
Appointed	76	42	34		
Reserve	48				
EU Nationals appointed	64				
Non EU Nationals appointed	12				

### HST Recruitment July 2021

	Adult			CAP		
Applicants	30	17	13	14	8	6
Eligible	27			13		
Shortlisted	27			13		
Interviewed	26			12		
Appointed	23	14	9	12	7	5
Reserve	0			0		
EU Nationals appointed	17			12		
Non EU Nationals appointed	6			0		

# BST Clinical Examination



Dr Martin Mahon, Chief Examiner

Ms Caroline Keyes, Manager

Ms Emma Lindsay, Senior Administrator

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completion of three online examinations with 100% of candidates successfully completing each sitting. This involved accommodation of the postponed Summer sitting to Autumn 2020 as well as running the Winter 2021 as planned
- Minimal number of online examination reruns on exam day despite the technological complexity required (average of 266 zoom calls per exam sitting).
- Minimal changes to the structure of the examination; ability to preserve 12 station OSCE and 2 CFMEs despite migrating to online format due to Covid 19 pandemic
- Increased flexibility of application dates for the Winter 2020 examination to account for postponement of the RCPsych membership examinations
- Standard setting of OSCEs changed to Borderline Regression method from Angoff method since Summer 2021 exam
- In-house development of online training and Webinars for examiners and candidates [i.e. Mock online OSCE, video demonstrations for examiners, invigilation process etc].
- Involvement of HSTs with a special interest in education in supporting examination development
- New Examiner Induction Training, 15th April 2021.
- Refresher Examiner Training 12th November 2020
- Standard Setting meetings took place on 10th September 2020 & 11th March 2021

	 <b>PASS RATES</b>	<b>EXAMINERS</b>	 <b>APPEALS</b>
<b>AUTUMN 2020</b> 35 candidates	OSCE 65% CFME 74%	29	3 - 1 upheld
<b>WINTER 2020</b> 29 candidates	OSCE 77% CFME 75%	40	2 - 0 upheld
<b>SUMMER 2021</b> 33 candidates	OSCE 90% CFME 86%	38	1 - 0 upheld

## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Appointment of new Chief Examiner, Dr Martin Mahon in late Spring 2021.
- Regular statistical input for exam data analysis.
- Using feedback from examiners, candidates and actors to enhance the exam process for all stakeholders.
- On-going development of exam OSCE material and recording of new CFME interviews.
- Consideration of further development of the examination structure.

# Continuous Assessment / ePortfolio

Dr Fiona Crotty, Head of Continuous Assessment

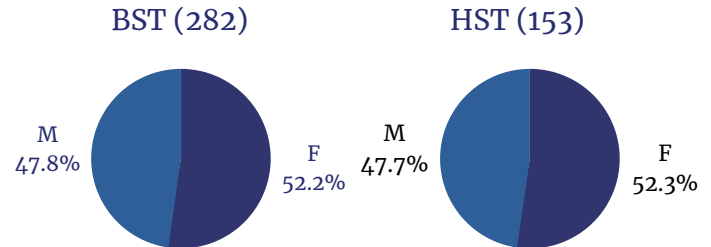
Mr Kevin Costello, Manager

Ms Meg Kennelly-Murphy, Administrator

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Completion of three ARP processes with the largest number of portfolio reviews in any training year to date.
- Introduction of new ARP report forms for BST and HST to improve feedback to trainees and provide detailed rationale for ARP Outcomes.
- A new e-portfolio was introduced for FYs in July 2020.
- Training webinars were provided for new users of the e-portfolio and are available on Moodle
- The first ARP process to review trainees using the e-portfolio was conducted in May 2021. In total, 49 e-portfolios were reviewed by ARP panels.
- Revisions to portfolio items were applied to both paper-based and electronic portfolios.
- Extension of the HST curriculum with addition of learning outcomes for new sub-specialty posts in Perinatal Psychiatry and Eating Disorders Psychiatry
- Development of Covid19 contingencies for continuous assessment and monitoring of impact on portfolio completion
- Induction for new Educational Supervisors, also available on Moodle.
- ARP Panel members
  - Total number trained to date = 257
  - Trained in 2020-2021 = 122 (4th March 2021 via Zoom)

## CURRENT TRAINEES



## ARP REVIEWS



## ARP APPEALS



## PROGRESSION (AFTER APPEALS)



## TRAINING COMPLETIONS CSCST



- General Adult 9
- GA & Learning Disability 2
- GA & Old Age 4
- Old Age 1
- Child & Adolescent 7

*SCCAARP Meetings*

*22nd October 2020*

*10th December 2020*

*13th May 2021*

# Continuous Assessment / ePortfolio

Dr Fiona Crotty, Head of Continuous Assessment

Mr Kevin Costello, Manager

Ms Meg Kennelly-Murphy, Administrator

## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Three ARP processes scheduled for 2021-2022. There will be a significant increase in the number of ARP reviews in October owing to an increase in training numbers
- E-portfolio will be introduced for new HSTs in July 2021. ARP reviews using the e-portfolio will take place in May 2022
- Training webinar in late January/early February 2022 for new users of the e-portfolio.
- The SCCAARP sub-committee is planning a comprehensive curriculum review
- Ongoing review of learning outcomes and assessment methods via SCCAARP
- Development of code of conduct / guidance for educational supervisors

# Courses & E-Learning

Dr Anne Doherty, Head of Courses & E-Learning  
Ms Aideen Butler, Courses & E-Learning Coordinator

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- CAP HST courses continued, moving to an online delivery via Zoom webinar where possible.
- Foundation Year Induction 2020 also moved online using a live stream over 3 days.
- A significant Moodle upgrade took place in June/July 2021
- Received funding from NDTP to develop a suite of emodules for Foundation Year and Basic Specialist Training. This also supported the appointment of Prof Anne Doherty as Head of Courses and E-Learning in March 2021
- Commenced development of a suite of FY emodules with a view to launching in Autumn 2021

## COURSES/WEBINARS (JULY 2020 - JULY 2021)

- Personal Effectiveness and Time Management Webinar - 9th October 2020
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy Webinar - 16th October 2020
- Personal Effectiveness and Time Management Webinar - 22nd October 2020
- ADHD - 19th November 2020
- HST Career Development - 13th November 2020
- Personal Effectiveness and Time Management Webinar - 3rd November 2020
- ADHD Webinar (BST) - 14th January 2021
- Service Provision One - 21st January 2021
- Anxiety Disorders One - 14th May 2021
- Law One - 10th June 2021

## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Re-establishment of Adult Courses & E-Learning SC
- BST emodules are currently in development, with a number of module developers already confirmed
- Application submitted for development funding for HST emodules for the next training year
- Upcoming Webinars (September – December 2021)
  - Recovery Training in Psychiatry - 10th September 2021
  - Suicide Assessment and Mitigation – 15th September and 4th October 2021
  - Affective Disorders - 23rd September 2021
  - Eating Disorders (CAP) - 26th November 2021
  - ADHD - Across the Ages - 2nd December 2021

### *CAP CEL SC meetings*

*25th June 2020*

*24th September 2020*

*3rd December 2020*

*22nd April 2021*



# Training Programme Accreditation

Dr Aoibhinn Lynch & Prof Greg Swanwick  
Mr Kevin Costello, Manager

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Membership of the Accreditation sub-committee was renewed and updated to include a more representative membership
- 12 new HST (10 clinical and 2 lecturer) posts were approved for the July 2021-2022 training year, of the clinical posts 5 are on the Adult programme and 5 on the CAP programme
- The BST Deanery inspections process commenced for the first time and was implemented online in the context of the Covid19 pandemic. Inspections of the NUIG/RCSI and TCD Deaneries have been completed. The UCC Deanery inspection has concluded and the report is being finalised.
- Approved Deanery inspection reports are now available to trainees and supervisors on moodle.

## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- UL Deanery inspection is scheduled for September 2021 and the UCD/MMUH Deanery inspection is planned to be scheduled in late 2021.
- EAF application/renewal process will commence in September 2021 through to November 2021.
- Review of post appraisals from newly-approved HST posts approved for the July 2020-2021 training year.
- Structuring HST programme accreditation process.
- Consideration of a new Head of Accreditation position.
- Consider options for enhanced trainee feedback on training posts

### *Accreditation SC Meetings*

*3rd September 2020  
12th November 2020  
18th February 2021  
30th June 2021*

### *Accredited Psychiatry Training Posts*

<i>BST</i>	<i>351</i>
<i>HST Adult</i>	<i>130 (126 funded)</i>
<i>HST CAP</i>	<i>42 (33 funded)</i>

# Trainee Committee

Dr Sarah Casey, Dr Aoife O'Callaghan Co-Chairs  
Ms Vivienne Keeley, Administrator

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Deanery Liaison Officers obtained feedback on training opportunities during the Covid-19 pandemic and successfully advocated to ensure training activities such as journal clubs, reflective practice and case conferences were continuing on each site.
- Organised three well-attended, online Recruitment events in Cork, Dublin and Galway from 25th – 27th August 2020 to encourage medical students and interns to consider a career in psychiatry.
- Worked closely with the College to address the needs of trainees in transforming the Irish Clinical Exam in November 2020 to an online format in a matter of weeks.
- Represented the trainee voice on the Dying with Dignity Bill and proposed changes to the current Mental Health Act 2001
- Organised the 12th annual NCHD Conference on 26th February 2021 online for the first time with fantastic attendance and feedback. Attendance covered a wide spectrum of NCHDs with a poll on the day showing 43% of attendees were BST, 31% HST, 22% non-training NCHDs and 4% interns or medical students.
- The inaugural Think Tank Book Club ran successfully, with three well-attended sessions with Prof Henry O'Connell, Prof Brendan Kelly, and Prof Elizabeth Barrett
- Established a Trainee Committee Twitter account to keep trainees more regularly updated on training and opportunities in Psychiatry (@CPsychITrainee).

## IN DEVELOPMENT / ONGOING ACTIVITIES

- Currently planning the 13th Annual NCHD conference which will take place in webinar format on 25th February 2022.
- Strongly advocating for more resources and supports for trainees who wish to pursue research and have set up a subcommittee along with representation from the Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine to work on this area. We have some exciting plans underway including increased mentorship and ties to the IJPM; work on e-modules with Prof Anne Doherty, and enhancing communication between trainees and interested supervisors.
- Liaising with Dr Aoibhinn Lynch in developing the Education and Research group (ERG) to provide a pathway for early-stage research mentorship within the College.
- Identified a clear need for more supports for trainees who have been involved with adverse events. We have advocated for this through our role on PTC and two of our members continue to liaise with the National Office for Suicide Prevention to develop these supports.

### *Trainee Committee meetings:*

*11th August 2020*

*22nd September 2020*

*3rd November 2020*

*15th December 2020*

*26th January 2021*

*9th March 2021*

*20th April 2021*

*15th June 2021*

# CPsychl Trainee Awards

JULY 2020 - JULY 2021

## **BST CLINICAL EXAMINATION - THE SWANWICK MEDAL**

Summer 2021 - Dr Patrick Fitzpatrick

Winter 2020 - Dr Brian O'Mahony

## **CPSYCHI CONFERENCE AWARDS**

IJPM Ada English Medal 2019 – Dr Nuala Murray

Winter Conference 2020 NCHD Oral Presentation Winner – Dr James McLoughlin

Winter Conference 2020 NCHD Poster Presentation Winner – Dr Caoimhe Ni Lonargain

Spring Conference 2021 NCHD Poster Presentation Winner – Dr Nuala Murray

Highly Commended – Dr Ena Jordan & Dr Sonn Patel

## **RICHARD STEEVEN'S SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2021**

Dr Mary Butler - Fellowship in Nutritional Psychiatry and Novel Treatment Strategies for Mood and Anxiety Disorders, Melbourne Australia.