

Meet the new Vice Presidents of your College



TIM DRAYCOTT
Clinical Quality

The five new Vice Presidents combine wide-ranging knowledge and experience with a passion for improving patient and workforce wellbeing

FOLLOWING AN ELECTION process that began in June 2019, Saturday 21 September saw the announcement of our five new Vice Presidents who will take office on Friday 13 December 2019 at a ceremony at the Royal College of Physicians. Those elected to the roles – Tim Draycott, Jo Mountfield, Pat O'Brien, Raneer Thakar and Susan Ward – are based across the UK and bring to their roles a huge amount of knowledge and experience, to help them lead the College over the next three years.

TIM DRAYCOTT – Clinical Quality

Tim is a clinician in Bristol, specialising in obstetrics. His main interests are focused on intrapartum care, specifically for obstetric emergencies, obstetric birth and strategies to improve the experience of women undergoing labour/obstetric interventions. He has a rich history with the RCOG, having sat on many committees including the Lindsey Stewart Committee, MRCOG Part 1 Exams Committee, the Global Health Board and the Joint Patient Safety Committee. Tim

Tim has a rich history with the RCOG, sitting on many committees

has been a Council member for the RCOG for the past five years, is a special advisor to the Department of Health and Social Care, the Care Quality Commission and is the maternity lead for NHS Resolution.

He is also currently serving as the National Director for The Tommy's National Centre for Maternity Improvement, jointly formed by the RCOG and the Royal College of Midwives (see page 7 for more on this). Tim is leading a team to harness digital technology, national data and behavioural insights to seek improvements to maternity care in the UK.

Tim's priorities as Vice President include improving the wellbeing of the O&G workforce, particularly looking at rota gaps, further integrating with our specialist societies and developing a better relationship with our overseas Fellows and Members.

JO MOUNTFIELD – Workforce and Professionalism

Jo is a consultant obstetrician in Southampton also working in medical education. Her specialisms include supporting women negotiating substance misuse in pregnancy and she is also Director of Education and Workforce at her hospital. This wide-ranging role has led to significant changes, including the prioritising of funding for education and other initiatives that have led to recognition from national bodies like the *Health Service Journal*.

Jo has significant experience within the

Jo's goals include ensuring the workplace is safe and secure

RCOG, including serving as the Workplace Behaviours Advisor, linked closely with the work she had been engaging in within her Trust. Within this role, Jo also participated in invited reviews, focusing on workplace behaviour, and developed toolkits to better improve respect and communication. Jo remains chair of the Speciality Education Committee, beginning in June 2016, coordinating a full review of the previous curriculum and creation and implementation of the new curriculum. Jo has also served as an education associate for the GMC.

Jo's goals as Vice President include ensuring the workplace is as safe, secure and accommodating for clinicians as possible and that education is of the highest calibre. Jo wishes to achieve this through building strong relationships with other related organisations, to allow obstetricians and gynaecologists to thrive and maintain the best standards of care for girls and women.

RANEE THAKAR – Global Health

Raneer has been a consultant in O&G in the NHS for the past 17 years and is now the lead



JO MOUNTFIELD
Workforce & Professionalism



PATRICK O'BRIEN
Membership



RANEE THAKAR
Global Health



SUSAN WARD
Education

for the urogynaecology service at her Trust. Rane has experience across a wide range of areas within O&G including psychosexual medicine, female genital mutilation (FGM) and the prevention and management of obstetric anal sphincter injury (OASI).

Most recently, Rane has worked as the International Fellows Representative for South Asia on the RCOG Council in which she has fostered improved relations and paved the way for closer and more effective collaboration. Alongside this, she is the lead for the OASI Care Bundle project which has been developed and rolled out alongside the Royal College of Midwives. Rane is also currently the President of the International Urogynaecological Association and has previously served as the secretary of the British Society of Urogynaecology (BSUG).

As Vice President, Rane's priorities will be to support the membership of the College to deliver high quality healthcare to women by honing in on recruitment, attrition, rota gaps and consultant burnout. It is also important to Rane that the entire membership, across the world, is engaged and empowered.

SUSAN WARD - Education

Susan has been working as a consultant in O&G in Nottinghamshire since 1998 but has always maintained an interest in education.

Rane has paved the way for more effective collaboration

Susan is determined to develop education at the College

Susan's affiliation with the RCOG began in the same year that she became a consultant, taking on the role of College Tutor.

Susan is now Head of School for Obstetrics and Gynaecology in the East Midlands. This role involves the training of educational supervisors dealing with trainees in difficulty, ensuring good feedback and managing incidences of bullying.

Following Susan's work as College Tutor with the RCOG, she has also served on the DRCOG Committee and as the convenor for the DRCOG exam in Nottingham. Currently, she is the Fellows representative for the East Midlands on Council and the vice chair on the Examination and Assessment Committee. Susan has also been heavily involved in research and has a number of publications to her name.

In her role as Vice President, Susan is determined to develop education at the College – working to manage the selection, teaching and nurturing of the membership in the UK and globally to effect positive change.

PATRICK O'BRIEN - Membership

Pat is a consultant obstetrician and gynaecologist working in London specialising in maternal medicine and high-risk obstetrics with particular interest in medical complications of pregnancy. Pat jointly runs a

multi-disciplinary antenatal clinic involving consultants in fetal medicine, cardiology, haematology, diabetes and anaesthesia. He also lectures in the UK and globally while running courses on fetal monitoring and psychiatric problems and cardiac disorders in pregnancy, among other disciplines.

Outside of his clinical work, Pat served as Clinical Director of Women's Health at his hospital for four years, overseeing 700 staff, earning the CEO's award for leading clinical director. Pat has participated significantly in the RCOG, as a Council member since 2014 and a media spokesperson since 2008. He has been in a number of committees and groups.

Pat feels his blend of skills and expertise will help him to achieve his aims as Vice President which include improving engagement among the membership as we move into our new home and the future and moving to affect government policy change around NHS staffing levels and budgets. He is excited to build on the work of the previous set of Officers and unite with President-Elect Eddie Morris to make the College a better place for all who engage with it. ●

Pat's aims include improving engagement among the membership

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• Learn more about our new Vice Presidents at tinyurl.com/RCOGnewVPs