



ACADEMY NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NATIONAL IMAGING ACADEMY WALES



WELCOME

TRACY NORRIS, ACADEMY MANAGER

I am thrilled to bring you this edition of our newsletter, packed with exciting updates and news from the Academy.

Firstly, we have the pleasure of welcoming several new faces to our team. Their fresh perspectives and enthusiasm bring great energy to our Academy. At the same time, we bid farewell to some familiar faces who have been integral to our journey. We wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

In other exciting news, we have embarked on some refurbishment work to enhance our facilities and create an even better environment for all Academy users.

Lastly, I am proud to announce that we have achieved ISO 9001 certification, a testament to our commitment to quality and continuous improvement.



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ACADEMY TEAM NEWS

WE WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST TEAM MEMBERS. WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE THEM ON BOARD!

LEA OWEN

We are pleased to welcome Lea, who joined the Academy as our new Receptionist in February 2024. Lea brings with her 5 years of experience in Event Management & Customer Service and in April 2024, Lea was successfully appointed to the position of Academy Administrator. In her new role, she oversees course, meeting room, and event bookings as part of the administration team.



HENRY JOSEPH-BIRD

We are excited to introduce Henry, who joined us as the new Academy Receptionist in July 2024. Henry manages the reception desk and serves as the first point of contact for all staff, trainers, trainees, and visitors at NIAW.

Before joining our team, Henry gained valuable experience in the hospitality industry and has a keen interest in photography. Shortly after his appointment, Henry successfully interviewed for an administrator vacancy. He is now responsible for managing course bookings and the website, as well as training the new receptionist when they join our team.



MAIR DAVIDSON

Mair started at NIAW in March as our new Quality Manager. She began her NHS career over 16 years ago in Radiology and brings with her experience in Project Management and Research Governance. Mair is responsible for ensuring that NIAW's culture is maintained through ongoing improvement, ensuring our quality standards are consistently met.

Since starting in post, Mair has reviewed NIAW's controlled documentation and has continued to establish an e-Quality Management System on iPassport. NIAW successfully gained ISO:9001 Certification after ISO audit at the beginning of May.



LYNNE FRANCIS

Lynne started as an Academy Sonographer in August 2024 and is primarily involved in providing hands-on clinical training and teaching of Ultrasound skills. Prior to joining us, Lynne was the Superintendent Sonographer managing the Royal Glamorgan Hospital and Ysbyty Cwm Rhondda Ultrasound services for 28 years and previously worked in UHW for 12 years. Lynne has extensive experience in a wide range of ultrasound imaging and reporting, and is looking forward to participating in training future cohorts of Ultrasound practitioners from a variety of clinical backgrounds.



ACADEMY TEAM NEWS

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DR KIERAN FOLEY

Kieran is an Academic Consultant Radiologist with a specialist interest in abdominal imaging, oncology and clinical trials. He works between Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board and Velindre Cancer Centre, and is a Clinical Senior Lecturer at Cardiff University, after completing his PhD in oesophageal cancer during his Wales Clinical Academic Training (WCAT) Fellowship. Kieran is now Chief Investigator of several research studies and was Research Officer for the British Society of Gastrointestinal and Abdominal Radiology (BSGAR). He is the new Clinical Lead for Research at the Academy and will be working to progress research and audit at the Academy, including the evaluation of AI technology, and promotion of research activity including the Clinical Radiology trainees.

DR EUGENE TABIOWO

Eugene is an Acute Physician dedicated to maximising patient interactions through the use of Point of Care Ultrasound (PoCUS) to enhance diagnostics, risk stratification, and clear decision-making. He has collaborated with NIAW for years, successfully leading PoCUS and US Simulation Training Courses. Since January 2024, Eugene has served as the PoCUS Lead at NIAW, providing leadership and implementing PoCUS training for the multidisciplinary hospital team. Notably, Eugene brings his experience from developing national and in-house accreditation pathways, including his role in creating the Society for Acute Medicine's (SAM) Focused Acute Medicine Ultrasound (FAMUS) accreditation process.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING TOGETHER WITH OUR NEW COLLEAGUES AND CONTINUING TO ACHIEVE.



ACADEMY DEVELOPMENTS

EXCITING BUILDING UPGRADES AT THE ACADEMY!

We are delighted to announce some fantastic upgrades to our Academy building that will enhance both security and comfort for everyone. These improvements have been eagerly anticipated, long in the preparation and we are delighted to share the details with you.

NEW FRONT DOOR

One of the most significant upgrades to our building is the installation of a brand-new front door. This improvement was identified as necessary when the building was originally repurposed in 2018. This long-awaited improvement significantly boosts the security of the building, markedly reduces energy use and stops the recurring puddles due to incoming rain during the winter. The update also improves the building's appearance, as well as its functionality.

The new entryway features advanced access control systems, ensuring that only authorised personnel can enter the premises. Additionally, it keeps the reception area much warmer and drier. This upgrade provides peace of mind for staff, and visitors, knowing that their safety and comfort are our top priorities. It is amazing to finally achieve this after the considerable effort and support from many, which has been much appreciated.

BEFORE



AFTER



REFURBISHED TOILETS

In addition to the new front door, the first floor toilets have been refurbished. These upgrades are part of our ongoing commitment to providing a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere for everyone at the Academy.



ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

As our team continue to grow, the former 'breakout room' has been repurposed to the new Administration Office. Our administration team is now more conveniently located on the ground floor, adjacent to Reception. We encourage everyone to stop by with any questions, queries, or simply to say Hello! Our team is always here to assist and they look forward to welcoming you.

WE ARE CONTINUOUSLY WORKING ON ENHANCING OUR FACILITIES TO ENSURE THE BEST POSSIBLE EXPERIENCE AT NATIONAL IMAGING ACADEMY WALES.



LIFT PROGRAMME

NATIONAL IMAGING ACADEMY WALES HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY HOSTING A LIFT (LONGITUDINAL INTEGRATED FOUNDATION TRAINING) PROGRAMME WITHIN RADIOLOGY SINCE 2021 AND WE HAVE SEEN 9 TRAINEES COMPLETE THE PROGRAMME IN THE PAST THREE YEARS.

This Radiology LIFT Programme has provided F1 doctors with regular service training sessions in various settings, offering one day per week of Radiology experience over the year-long rotation at Cwm Taf Morgannwg UHB Radiology Departments and NIAW. This is integrated with their primary rotations in Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, and General Medicine. Designed by the NHS, the programme aims to evolve training models to equip future doctors with a more diverse skill set, enabling them to meet the ever-changing healthcare needs of society. F1s receive training at both NIAW and Radiology Departments within CTM UHB Hospitals during their placements. The goal of the Radiology LIFT Programme is for F1s to develop an understanding of Radiology, including appropriate referral and patient pathways, as well as basic image interpretation skills.

We have asked one of our former LIFT trainees, Dr Megan Simpkins, to share her insights and experiences from the LIFT programme hosted by NIAW. We are also delighted that Megan has successfully applied and been accepted into the South Wales Radiology Training Programme and started in August 2024.



I completed the LIFT (Longitudinal Integrated Foundation Training) programme in Radiology during my FY1 year (2022-2023) in Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board, which meant spending one day a week in Radiology across the year over the 3 rotations (with the exception of when on-call). The reasons behind choosing this was due to not getting much exposure to the specialty during medical school and knowing how radiology is involved in most areas of medicine and plays a key role in the majority of patient journeys both in hospital and in the community. I was fortunate to be able to attend registrar teaching sessions at the National Imaging Academy Wales which were matched to the current rotation, for example MSK teaching during my time in A+E which helped with my understanding of imaging particularly in minor injuries. These sessions also gave me an insight into life as a trainee. I was lucky to be able to get involved in projects including audit work and case studies, where I attended the BIR congress in London following a poster submission. As well as this, I was able to observe various aspects of the roles in radiology including interventional lists, vetting or reporting sessions, US lists, Fluoroscopy, MDTs and time spent with radiographers. This variety of exposure and experience in the speciality and talking to different radiologists about their training and role made me want to apply to the Radiology training programme. I feel privileged to be starting the South Wales training scheme in August and I would highly recommend this LIFT programme to any future foundation doctors.



AUG 2021 LIFT
TRAINEE

I enjoyed the exposure to radiology and the CT teaching sessions at The Academy, I found these very useful in my working life. This also made me more confident in (at least trying to!) interpret scans while working in surgery and emergency medicine. I thoroughly enjoyed the radiology training days at The Academy, these were very nicely organised and I learned a lot at them. The structure of these days were excellent and the info packs/food/lanyards being prepared and of high standard made it all very professional.



ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION

NIAW ACHIEVES ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION: A MILESTONE IN QUALITY EXCELLENCE

We are pleased to share that NIAW has successfully achieved ISO 9001 certification, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to quality and excellence in education and training. This certification reflects our dedication to continuous improvement and sets a solid foundation for the future of our institution.



THE ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION PROCESS

Achieving ISO 9001 certification is no small feat. It involves a rigorous evaluation process that examines an organisation's quality management systems (QMS). At NIAW, this journey began with a comprehensive review of our existing processes and practices.

We undertook the following steps to ensure compliance with ISO 9001 standards:

1. Gap Analysis: Identifying areas where our current practices differed from ISO 9001 requirements.
2. Process Documentation: Documenting all procedures, ensuring they were clear, comprehensive, and aligned with the standard.
3. Implementation of Quality Management System: Establishing and refining a QMS that emphasises continuous improvement, customer satisfaction, and consistent delivery of high-quality services.
4. Internal Audits: Conducting thorough internal audits to assess the effectiveness of our QMS and address any areas for improvement.
5. External Audit: Undergoing a formal audit by an accredited certification body, which validated our adherence to ISO 9001 standards.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ISO 9001 CERTIFICATION

For us, ISO 9001 certification signifies our unwavering commitment to providing top-tier education and training in the field of imaging. This certification assures our students, partners, and stakeholders that we adhere to internationally recognised quality standards and are dedicated to maintaining a culture of continuous improvement.

THE FUTURE OF QUALITY AT NIAW

Looking ahead, ISO 9001 certification is not just a milestone but a stepping stone for ongoing development. This includes our focus on Research at NIAW, with quality management and record keeping an essential for success. We are proud of this accomplishment and look forward to the continued journey of excellence and quality at NIAW. This certification is a testament to our whole team's hard work, dedication, and passion for delivering outstanding educational experiences.

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ACHIEVEMENT. TOGETHER, WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST STANDARDS AND MAKE NIAW A BEACON OF QUALITY IN IMAGING EDUCATION AND ITS OTHER ENDEAVOURS.



TRAINING NEWS

FOND FAREWELLS

In recent months, we have bid farewell to our respected consultant trainers, Dr. Robert Bleehen, Dr. Jane Pollitt and Dr. Dawn Howes.



DR. ROBERT BLEEHEN



DR. JANE POLLITT



DR. DAWN HOWES

Rob (Oncological Radiology), Jane (Women's Imaging) and Dawn (Musculoskeletal Radiology) have been integral to our Academy Training since we opened in 2018. Their contributions have been invaluable, as evidenced by the consistently positive feedback from trainees over the years. We are deeply grateful for their dedication and wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

We are also grateful to Dr Ibrahim Kanbour, one of our senior trainees who helped us deliver training in July. He did an excellent job and we wish him the very best for his future, having left Wales to start a post qualification fellowship at the National Orthopaedic Hospital at Birmingham.

Looking ahead, we have been successful in recruiting a Consultant Radiologist with Nuclear Medicine and Consultant Radiologists with Gynaecology subspecialty interests. Applications for the Musculoskeletal Radiologist Trainer position are being considered currently.

WARM WELCOMES

We are happy to announce the recruitment of Dr. Carys Jenkins (Consultant Radiologist, CTMUHB), Dr. Adam Williams (Consultant Radiologist, CAVUHB) and Dr Patrick Fielding (Consultant Radiologist, CAVUHB & PET Imaging Centre (PETIC)) to the NIAW team.

Carys and Adam bring a wealth of expertise & experience and we are excited to welcome them to our Academy as Trainers in Gynaecology Imaging.

Patrick has already been one of our Consultant Trainers and we are delighted to welcome him back. He starts in January, delivering training on all aspects of Nuclear Medicine imaging including PET, a still rapidly growing service in Clinical Radiology.

TRAINEE UPDATE

In August 2024, we welcomed 18 new ST1 trainees to the Welsh Training Schemes, two trainees in North Wales and sixteen based in South Wales, regularly attending NIAW. We also bid farewell to seven trainees who achieved their CCT in August 2024 and embark on their careers as Consultants or further training in Radiology.

We look forward to the contributions of our new trainees and wish our departing colleagues all the best in their future endeavours.





COURSES AND EVENTS

COURSE/EVENT NAME

EM Image Interpretation Course

DATE

Saturday 7th December 2024

Tuesday 10th December 2024

2025 COURSES

We're planning our 2025 course schedule. If you'd like to be among the first to know about our new course dates at NIAW, please visit our website or scan the QR code to sign up for our course interest form.



NATIONAL IMAGING PROGRAMME ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024

NIAW are pleased to be hosting the 2024 National Imaging Programme Annual Conference on FRIDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2024.

This year's conference will:

- Introduce a varied line up of speakers, including a keynote address from Dr Chris Turner, who will present on how civility can save lives
- Update on national and regional initiatives
- Includes a small exhibition, refreshments and a hot buffet lunch, providing networking opportunities with colleagues from across Wales and much more to be announced...

Poster Presentations:

If you would like to submit a poster presentation to be on display on the day please email imaging.academy@wales.nhs.uk for more information. All posters will need to be submitted by Friday 25th October 2024.



[REGISTER HERE](#)