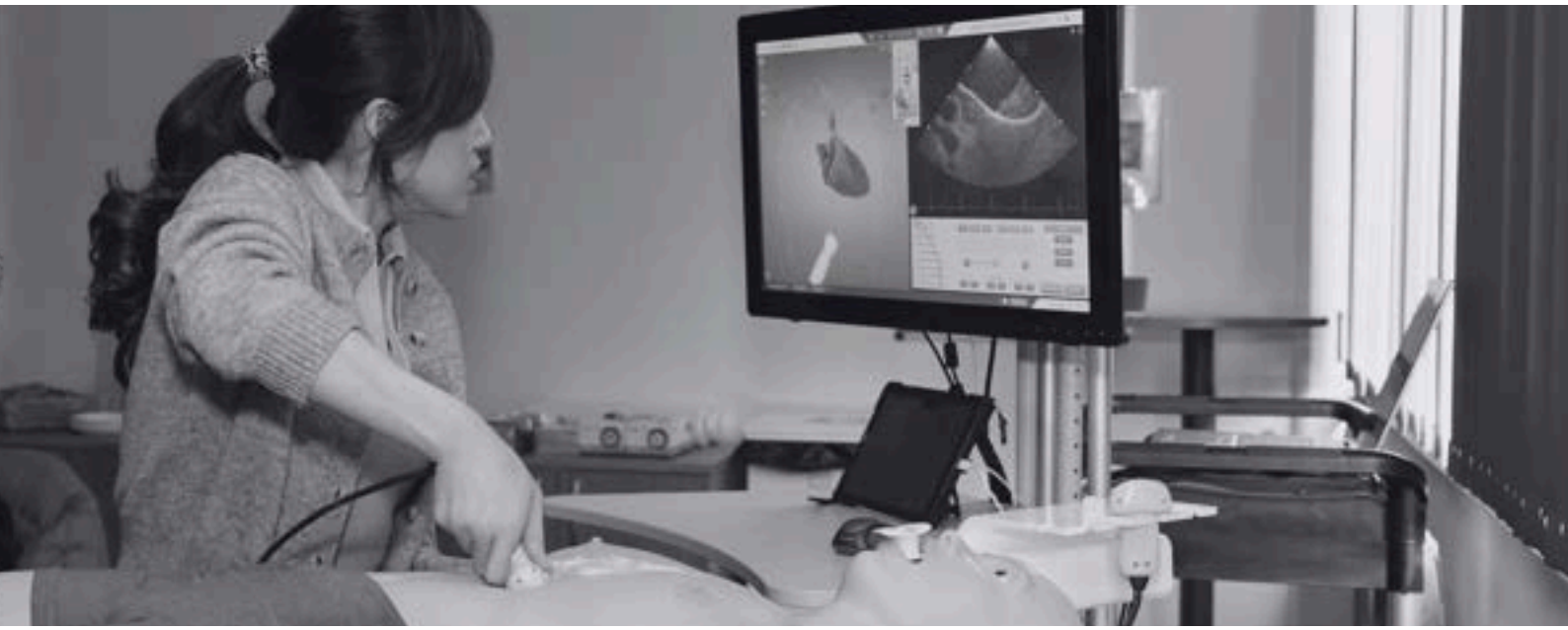
ACADEMY NEWS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF NATIONAL IMAGING ACADEMY WALES



WELCOME

KATIE SMEATHERS
OPERATIONAL SUPPORT MANAGER

Welcome to the latest edition of the National Imaging Academy Wales (NIAW) newsletter. In this issue, I'm pleased to share updates on our recent activities and highlight some exciting events later in the year.

Over the past couple of months, we've had the pleasure of working closely with medical students – including hosting two elective students from Cardiff University, as well as delivering a dedicated Medical Teaching Day for other Cardiff medical students.

In addition, we recently hosted a successful Foundation Day for Sonographers, which we're pleased to say will be repeated later in the year. Building on our commitment to professional development, NIAW has also supported Dr Rory Clark's PhD project over the past four years, which explored the use of digital devices in radiology departments. We'll be sharing an overview of his findings in this newsletter.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY READING THIS EDITION OF THE NIAW NEWSLETTER!

GET IN THE KNOW:

ELECTIVE MEDICAL STUDENTS

MEDICAL STUDENTS COMPLETE FIRST ELECTIVE PLACEMENT AT NATIONAL IMAGING ACADEMY WALES

TABITHA JONES

HENRIK HUMPHRIES

From Monday 17 February to Friday 14 March 2025, National Imaging Academy Wales (NIAW) welcomed two Cardiff University Medical Students, Henrik Humphries and Tabitha Jones, for a four-week elective placement–the first of its kind for the Academy.

During their time with NIAW, the students attended a range of teaching sessions and courses, gaining valuable experience in clinical radiology. Their placement also included clinical placements to both the Royal Glamorgan Hospital (RGH) and Velindre Hospital.

Both students expressed strong enthusiasm for the experience, recommending the elective to future medical students and noting that it had positively influenced their interest in a career in radiology.

HERE ARE SOME REFLECTIONS THEY SHARED ABOUT THEIR NIAW SESSIONS:

> Attending teaching sessions within NAIW gave an insight into what the training process will be like within Wales and also exposed us to the wide range of imaging techniques used within radiology and provided myself with skills in image interpretation that will be useful going forward into Foundation Year 1

> The opportunity to work with the USS machines within the training suite, which provided valuable hands-on experience. I learned basic anatomy and pathology, enhancing my understanding of medical imaging and its practical applications in healthcare

REFLECTING ON THEIR PLACEMENT AT ROYAL GLAMORGAN HOSPITAL, THEY SAID:

> The chance to witness how multidisciplinary teams (MDTs) collaborate effectively to provide comprehensive patient care. Being present at these discussions gave me insight into how radiologists contribute significantly to clinical decision-making

AT VELINDRE HOSPITAL, THEY CONTINUED TO EXPAND THEIR EXPERIENCE:

> Velindre Hospital was an excellent opportunity to broaden my clinical exposure, particularly in areas not covered during the Royal Glamorgan hospital placement. One of the highlights was observing a PET scan. It was fascinating to learn about its role in oncology imaging and how it contributes to diagnosis and treatment planning

THIS SUCCESSFUL PLACEMENT HAS PAVED THE WAY FOR FUTURE ELECTIVES AT NIAW, OFFERING MEDICAL STUDENTS A UNIQUE AND IN-DEPTH INTRODUCTION TO THE WORLD OF RADIOLOGY IN WALES.

SONOGRAPHER FOUNDATION DAY

On April 7th, we welcomed newly registered sonography students to a foundation day at NIAW. The event was organised by Lynne Francis (NIAW) and Gill Lingwood (National Imaging Programme) and was aimed at sonography students from various professional backgrounds in Wales, providing them with fundamental knowledge of ultrasound equipment and hands-on clinical practice under the supervision of experienced sonographers using live models, simulators, and phantoms.

The agenda included:

- Upper Body Stretching Advice for Sonographers with James Farrington (Physiotherapist Sonographer, HDUHB)
- Basic understanding of scanner knobology and ergonomics
- Practical Basic Clinical Practice sessions with the sonographers Laura Macdermott, (Public Health Wales), Sian Richards (HDUHB) and Sophie Wong (ABUHB)
- An introduction to the simulators and phantoms at NIAW with Laura Jenkins from Intelligent Ultrasound

The feedback has been extremely positive, with attendees praising NIAW for being modern, spacious, and well-equipped. They highlighted the helpfulness of the scan simulators and phantoms available. Many comments emphasised the welcoming atmosphere and the practicality of the facilities. Participants found the course content engaging and beneficial, particularly valuing the hands-on experience with simulators and practical sessions. Comments reflected a supportive learning environment facilitated by knowledgeable instructors.

FOLLOWING THE SUCCESS OF THE FOUNDATION DAY, WE PLAN TO REPEAT THE EVENT AGAIN THIS OCTOBER. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER, PLEASE CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATION TEAM.

INVESTIGATIONS OF DEVICE USE IN RADIOLOGY DEPARTMENTS

RORY CLARK, SWANSEA UNIVERSITY

The NIAW sponsored PhD project "Investigations Of Device Use in Radiology Departments" by Rory Clark from Swansea University has been finished and submitted. The collaborative project began as part of Swansea's Centre For Doctoral Training in 2021, and has produced 2 peer reviewed conference publications co-authored with members of the NIAW, 1 poster presented at the European Congress of Radiology, and a prize-winning presentation at the Cwm Taf Morgannwg NHS R&D Day.

Rory's thesis examines the relationship between the radiologist and their digital devices in the wild, referring to real world situations where environmental factors can affect aspects of design and implementation that may not be covered by standardised tests and metrics. Over the course of the PhD, the work examines topics such as the perspectives of radiologists when asked to discuss how they feel about the devices they use as part of a focus group activity, how different preferences and patterns of behaviour impact the communication of results across a hospital site, and how voice based interactive systems can produce mistakes when constructing diagnostic reports, and ways to mitigate them.

This work provided insights into the ways in which radiologists interact and collaborate with digital systems when constructing and communicating their diagnostic opinions. For example, Rory found a high amount of personalised preferences when it comes to interacting with devices: each radiologist has their own way of writing a report, of speaking into a dictaphone and of editing a finished report. This had meant that the devices implemented in these environments have to retain an element of "generic design" to allow for these practitioners to imprint their own techniques and methods on them, as opposed to a highly specific design that encouraged standardised interactions.

In a similar example, the work found up to 10 methods of communicating the result of a medical study with a referring clinician, including ranging from internal landlines, Microsoft Teams or Outlook to physically leaving their office to find the relevant member of staff to discuss it in person. Whilst this may not seem relevant for design, it is important to note that the chosen method of communication was based on the radiologist's preference, their knowledge of the individual they were trying to contact, the nature and severity of the result, and other small tacit and contextual factors; this results in a highly complex and dynamic sociological problem that has to be solved quickly.

Overall, the thesis produced a significant amount of guidance, advice and academic material for radiologists to consider when they are interacting with digital devices in the workplace, and strongly encourages them to not take these interactions for granted.

RORY'S WORK IS AVAILABLE ON THE ACM DIGITAL LIBRARY, OR YOU CAN SPEAK TO HIM ABOUT HIS RESEARCH AT RORY.CLARK@BRISTOL.AC.UK

CELEBRATING OUR AGORED CYMRU PARTNERSHIP

MEG BURGESS (AGORED), SAM HOPKINS (AGORED), TERESA DAVIES-ELVIN (HEIW), MAIR DAVIDSON (NIAW), TRACY NORRIS (NIAW)

We're proud to announce a major milestone at NIAW: as an approved Agored Cymru Centre, our first cohort of learners has successfully completed the Performing Intravenous Cannulation (Level 3) course. Congratulations to all five learners–we commend your dedication and hard work.

Earlier this month, we had the pleasure of welcoming several key partners to the Academy. Tracy Norris, our Academy Manager, and Mair Davidson, our Quality Manager, hosted Sam Hopkins–NIAW's new Agored Business Development Manager–and Meg Burgess, Social Media and Marketing Officer at Agored Cymru. We were also delighted to welcome Teresa Davies-Elvin, Quality Manager at Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW), whose ongoing support–alongside that of the wider HEIW team–has been invaluable in developing this partnership.

During their visit, our guests toured the Academy and shared their enthusiasm for our facilities and the impactful work being carried out.

WE'RE EXCITED TO CONTINUE BUILDING ON THIS SUCCESS BY DELIVERING MORE AGORED-ACCREDITED PROGRAMMES, BOTH CURRENT AND NEW, WITH THE CONTINUED SUPPORT OF AGORED CYMRU AND HEIW.

ASHNR-BSHNI VISITING PROFESSORSHIP

DR MOHIT AGARWAL

The British Society of Head & Neck Imaging (BSHNI), in conjunction with the American Society of Head & Neck Radiology (ASHNR), has established a Visiting Professorship Program. This biannual initiative aims to raise awareness of the specialty and encourage residents to pursue subspecialty training in Head & Neck Imaging.

This year, we are delighted to welcome Dr Mohit Agarwal, a renowned Neuroradiology educator and Fellowship Program Director at the Medical College of Wisconsin, is the first ASHNR-BSHNI Visiting Professor to the United Kingdom

Dr. Agarwal visited NIAW in June 2025 and focused his session on core Head & Neck Imaging topics. His sessions are designed for Year 1-3 Radiology Trainees, covering:

- Emergency Head & Neck Imaging
- Orbits & Sinuses
- Temporal Bone
- Soft Tissue Neck

Additionally, he conducted live film-viewing sessions, with cases shared in advance via PACSBin, specifically tailored for residents preparing for the FRCR 2B exams.

WE WELCOMED NIAW TRAINEES TO THE LECTURE THEATRE, ALONGSIDE CONSULTANTS FROM ACROSS SOUTH WALES. WE WERE ALSO PLEASED TO BE JOINED VIRTUALLY BY SEVERAL RADIOLOGY TRAINEES FROM THE SOUTH WEST DEANERY.

WE ARE ALREADY LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR NEXT TRAVELLING PROFESSOR, DR MARK CALLAWAY, WHO WILL BE JOINING US IN JULY 2025.

UPCOMING COURSES AND EVENTS

COURSE/EVENT NAME	DATE
FAMUS & FUSIC - Abdominal/Renal Course	Monday 30th June 2025 (AM)
FAMUS & FUSIC - Lung Course	Monday 30th June 2025 (PM)
Oncology Study Day	Wednesday 2nd July 2025
Acute Stroke Course	Monday 7th and Tuesday 8th July 2025
Travelling Professor - Dr Mark Callaway	Friday 11th July 2025
FRCR IIb Revision Course	Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th September 2025
Ultrasound Guided Vascular Access Course	Monday 15th September 2025
Travelling Professor - Du Boulay	Wednesday 17th September 2025
Chest X-Ray Course	Thursday 18th and Friday 19th September 2025
Ultrasound Guided Vascular Access Course	Monday 29th September 2025

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