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Press Release

New President and Vice-Presidents for The Royal College of Pathologists

On 13 November, Dr Suzy Lishman will become The Royal College of Pathologists' second female and youngest president in its 52-year history. Dr Lishman was the first president to be elected by College fellows, previous presidents having been elected by Council.

Dr Lishman is a consultant cellular pathologist working in Peterborough. She specialises in gastrointestinal pathology, particularly colorectal cancer diagnosis.

Dr Suzy Lishman said: "It is an honour to have been elected President of The Royal College of Pathologists, particularly as this is the first time that all Fellows have had the opportunity to vote.

One of my key aims as president is to support academic pathology and to promote the role of pathologists in the rapidly expanding field of molecular diagnostics. I am also keen to increase engagement with medical students to ensure that they appreciate the vital role of pathology in all patients' healthcare.

I am looking forward to working collaboratively with colleagues at fellow medical royal colleges and other specialist societies for the benefit of patients. By working together, we are best placed to meet the many challenges and opportunities that will face healthcare over the coming years.

I would like to thank my colleagues and the Trust Board at Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust for their encouragement and support."

As an officer of The Royal College of Pathologists for the last nine years, Suzy has led the College's public engagement programme, introducing National Pathology Week and, for the first time in 2014, International Pathology Day. Over two thousand pathology-related events have been held around the world, helping to dispel some of the myths about the speciality.

Dr Lishman was named one of the fifty most inspirational women in healthcare in 2013 by the *Health Service Journal*, which described her as the "public face of pathology" and "the most outward facing person from that specialism."

Dr David Bailey - Vice-President for Communications

Dr Bailey is a cellular pathologist based at Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust.

Over the last six years Dr Bailey has held a number of key positions at the College including most recently, as Director of Training and Assessment. In his NHS consultant role, David has been head of cytopathology, clinical governance chair and cervical screening programme coordinator. He has also worked to raise awareness of pathology amongst colleagues and the public, delivering presentations to GPs and other allied health professionals as well as patient groups.

Dr Bailey said: "I am delighted to be elected as vice-president for Communications. Increasing understanding of pathology and the role it plays in healthcare will be a major part



of my work and I am keen to continue building on successful initiatives such as National Pathology Week to help meet this aim. Another area I am also particularly keen to focus on will be the development of the College's engagement with policy makers and politicians.

Twenty per-cent of the College's membership is based outside of the UK. My remit as Vice-President will also include working alongside the College's international department to continue its work with numerous projects worldwide, helping tackle some of the health inequalities that are still all too common in many parts of the world."

Professor Timothy Helliwell - Vice-President for Learning

Based at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, Professor Helliwell is a cellular pathologist with a broad clinical academic experience in research, undergraduate medical and dental curricula and in postgraduate pathology training and assessment. He is also associate editor for head and neck pathology for the journal *Histopathology* and currently works as Clinical Director in [Liverpool Clinical Laboratories](#), merging two laboratories in Liverpool.

Professor Helliwell has served The Royal College of Pathologists in variety of roles over the last 18 years including Chair of the Cancer Services Working Group, elected member of Council and education lead for the Cellular Pathology Speciality Advisory Committee. He has also developed programmes for College conferences and symposia.

Professor Helliwell said: "Learning is vital to the sustainability of pathology. Challenges arise from the changing environments for education and training and the increasingly sophisticated technologies at our disposal. These challenges will be effectively met through a strong College and the ability of the different specialist areas to collaborate effectively and learn from each other. As Vice-President for Learning, I am looking forward to meeting these challenges during my term."

Dr Lance Sandle - Vice-President for Professionalism

Dr Lance Sandle is a chemical pathologist at Central Manchester University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust. Dr Sandle has held a number of roles at the College over 25 years, initially as College Tutor, then Regional Specialist Advisor and more recently as Director of Professional Standards. At Trust level Dr Sandle has worked as Deputy Medical Director, and for an interim period as Medical Director.

Dr Sandle said: "I will face new challenges in my role as vice-president, in particular the [Pathology Quality Assurance Review](#), which will affect the pathology profession in the way it approaches individual and collective performance and I am pleased that the College has already taken ownership of this agenda. Completing the operational detail of a working system will be a big task and one I look forward to.

I am proud to have been honoured by the Fellowship in being elected vice-president. I am looking forward to working with the President and my vice-president colleagues to improve pathology services for the public."

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For further information/photos please contact The Royal College of Pathologists' Press and Communications Office on 020 7451 6752. Mobile; 0757 834 9018 or email: samantha.jayaram@rcpath.org.

Notes for editors

- The Royal College of Pathologists is a professional membership organisation committed to setting and maintaining professional standards and to promoting excellence in the practice of pathology. As well as medically qualified members, the College has scientists amongst its membership and represents 19 pathology specialties. It has over 10,000 members who are senior staff in hospital laboratories, universities and industry, worldwide.
www.rcpath.org and www.ilovepathology.org
- The College is a registered charity and is not a Trade Union. It does not negotiate the terms of employment of its members.