

SHAPING THE FUTURE
OF PODIATRY

COUNCIL ELECTIONS 2021

CANDIDATES' BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS AND ELECTION STATEMENTS

VOTING TO BE
SUBMITTED BY
1PM ON
23 MARCH
2021



Election of Members to the Council 2021

Please read carefully before casting your vote

Disclaimer:

The election statements and opinions expressed in them are those of the candidates and do not necessarily reflect the official policy or position of The College of Podiatry. The statements are published under the provisions of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

Candidates marked with an asterisk * are members of Council standing for re-election.

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NICOLA E BURT

BSc (Hons), MSc, MFPM RCPS(Glasg), AMRSM

EXPERIENCE

- Specialist Podiatrist at East London NHS Foundation Trust
- Clinical Assistant in Podiatric Surgery at The Ramsay Woodlands Hospital
- Affiliate Member of the Royal Society of Medicine, 2020 to the present
- Member of the Faculty of Podiatric Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, 2020 to the present
- Member of the College of Podiatry, 2015 to the present
- CEO letter of compliment and recognition in patient care and investigations, 2019
- Dean's Award of Outstanding Achievement, 2014
- Academic Present for Podiatry years 1-3, 2013



PUBLICATIONS: published two academic journal papers in preprint
 Reilly, I.; Burt, N.; Reilly, R.; Swami, A. An Update on the Chemistry, Pharmacology and Dose Calculations of Mepivacaine Hydrochloride for Podiatrists in the United Kingdom. *Preprints 2020*
 Flanagan, G.; Burt, N.; Reilly, I. Intralesional fenestration and corticosteroid injection for symptomatic Ledderhose disease of the foot: two case reports. *Preprints 2020*

STATEMENT

“ This statement will demonstrate my involvement in private practice, general podiatry, academia, and podiatric surgery and how my experience in each of these areas would make me a valuable member of the Council. In the last year, the College has made significant progress in developing the platforms to engage with its members with website redevelopment and the magazine. There has been a strong focus on progression of the profession for which I am a strong advocate.

By way of introduction, I have worked as part of a general podiatry team and as part of the NHS since 2013 on an honorary term until my graduation in 2015 at the University of Southampton. In addition to this, I work in private practice and have worked across thirteen podiatric surgery departments. Recently, I have been working towards my Independent Prescribing Certification at the University of Coventry and have completed my MSc in the Principles of Podiatric Surgery at the University

of Brighton. This experience demonstrates that I have a broad view and understanding of the needs of the different areas of podiatry.

Covid-19 has been immensely challenging for each of these areas alike. Most members have faced a year of considerable challenge, and many will have demonstrated real resilience, adaptability and innovation in response. It has provided both challenge and opportunity to expand our scope, develop new ways of working and develop resilience and perseverance to meet the needs of our patients and the wider health landscape. Certainly, our profession comprises a diverse group, offering a wide range of perspectives and skills. I have, like many, had to prioritise the needs of high-risk caseloads within the NHS throughout my redeployment, and appreciate the demands of the restructure of both private practice and NHS, engaging with CPD in different ways along the journey. As we move forward into 2020, these changes continue to require a dynamic proactive Council member to meet and support your individual podiatry needs and investing

in our collective future.

I believe in developing skills of others and would value the opportunity to do this on the Council. In the last year, considering the nature of this pandemic and utilising the power of online platforms, I have created a couple of forums for research-minded cohorts to come together and build on the competencies required to drive forward the evidence-based scope of podiatry. Creating networks in collaboration and integration is something I am passionate about as this is a key vehicle of driving change and something I can bring to the Council.

In voting for me, you are choosing someone who is determined to drive change in every area of podiatry. I have been immensely privileged to benefit and learn from the hard work of others in the profession and feel this is my time to contribute to see further progress for our profession. My voice on Council will be strategic and collaborative, with a particular interest in seeing wider funding opportunities open for podiatrists. Thank you.”

SKILLS: I am diplomatic and innovative by nature, with the ability to listen to understand, and have a keen eye for detail. I elicit these traits in private practice and NHS units with a pragmatic approach to areas of complaint and careful consideration when resolving these issues. I lead by example and not fearing to voice an opinion based upon the evidence, as practiced within my research forums and publications for the beneficence of forward-thinking and development. I am proactive in CPD and encouraging others to do the same, while supporting those in need of reassurance and understanding for their situations.

*GEORGE DUNN

BSc (Hons) DPodM MCPod MFPM RCPSG

EXPERIENCE

- Advanced Podiatric Specialist (High Risk/Wound care), East Cheshire NHS Trust
- Past Chairman of Council 2020 to the present
- Chairman of Council 2018 to 2020
- Member of the following Boards and Committees prior to becoming Chairman: Finance and Establishment Committee; Employment Relations Committee; Public Relations Committee; Strategic Planning and Implementation Board; Awards Committee; Selection Committee; Trustee of The College of Podiatry (COP educational charity now transferred to The College of Podiatry Trust)
- Prior to being a Trustee: a Voting Member of The College of Podiatry
- College representative to Fédération Internationale des Podologues (FIP)
- College representative to the All-Party Parliamentary Lower Limb Loss Group (APLLG)
- COP Council Liaison Officer to North West Region
- COP Council Liaison Officer to Midland Region



STATEMENT

“It was my honour to serve you as Chairman of Council from 2018 until 2020 and I can wholeheartedly say it has been the highlight of my career. However, now is not the time to look to the past when we consider the challenges we are facing.

No one could have predicted COVID-19 and its effects upon the world, yet I feel the College faced those challenges and excelled in its performance, both in communicating to the members and how we advised Government Agencies and Departments of Health during this time. We still excel in this function but must bear in mind the struggles

our members have at this time, which I shall continue to support, advise and challenge the College via Council as I have done before.

Yet during this time our members and Branches developed new and more novel ways of communicating and working together. The College developed training modules available online via the new website, and Branches working together have increased the availability of lectures, courses and interactive discussion on all matters podiatric and medical. The College supports these new ways and as a member of Council, I will ensure as one of the Council Champions for

Membership Services, that we continue to use and promote cutting-edge communications ensuring all members gain access to quality Post-Graduate education and training to keep our skills to the top of our licence.

It is an uncomfortable truth that podiatry is under tremendous pressure and we will be without sufficient podiatrists to provide care for many who are developing long term conditions. Both the College and the HEE funded SIHED/I See the Difference programme have reaped many benefits for us in bringing more students into our profession, but we need to consider all avenues to ensure we have a profession for the future.

As a member of Council, I will devote my attentions to ensure we continue to have a sustainable future in all service provision sectors and are best placed to remain the best provider of services to our members

and to be the premier source to advise outside agencies as to the efficacy and excellence in podiatry.

While leaving the European Union may not seem to have a large effect upon podiatry, the ongoing ramifications include changes to working terms and conditions, therefore we need to be cognisant of this change and I continue to fully support our Union in fighting for members across the board in maintaining and improving our working environment. In addition, we need to continue to further our influence across the political spectrum, from Whitehall to industry, and to the HCPC, acting in the best interests of our members and for the benefit of the public.

Many thanks for reading my statement and I hope I can continue being part of modernising the College as a Council member representing you.”

SKILLS: Leadership; strategic; communications; and organisational. I led the College as Chairman of Council between 2018 to 2020 during a period of considerable modernisation to improve its organisational structures, governance, financial position, and offerings to members. Advised and supported the College Executive Team and staff during a review of the members' journal, implemented a new website and provided comprehensive communications during the Covid-19 pandemic. Have presented at national conferences and used persuasive and empathic skills to present and speak with DH officeholders, HEE and PHE to engage in podiatry as a career. Written and co-authored articles in peer-reviewed journals.

*MARTIN FOX

FCPodM, FFPM RCPS (Glasg)

EXPERIENCE

- Vascular Specialist Podiatrist, Manchester Local Care Organisation (NHS), Manchester
- Member of Council, 2018 to present
- Chair of Clinical Senate, 2020 to present
- Committee Member/Expert Advisor for NICE, 2010 to present
- Vascular Lead (project), The College of Podiatry, 2017-2020
- Professional Executive Committee Member, Tameside & Glossop PCT, 2007-2009
- Member of Foot in Diabetes UK Executive Committee, 2004 to present
- Vascular Podiatry Representation at various UK, European and Indian Conferences
- Chair of session, College of Podiatry Conference, 2019



PUBLICATIONS: Chapter 13, Cardiovascular Risks in People with Diabetes Foot Complications, in Management of Diabetic Foot Complications, Shearman C (ed), 2015

Chapter 5, Circulatory Disorders, Neale's Disorders of the Foot and Ankle, 2020

STATEMENT

“After a term on Council, I have learned that to function as a Company Director, I have to read, absorb, question, listen, form ideas, and contribute actively to debates and issues and votes brought to the table, to help ensure I work in your best interests, as our members.

I joined Council in time for the proposed change of name to The College of Podiatry. Respecting our past, I strongly feel this re-branding focussed on the future heart of our organisation as an evidence-led, clinical, outward-looking, leading light in foot and lower-limb health. I have actively supported, promoted,

and pushed it, via conference presentations, speaking at a College of Podiatry policy launch in the Houses of Parliament, multidisciplinary meetings and on social media. I believe it builds positively on our 'Society' heritage and our trade union foundations.

I feel the battle is only half-won. We still need to promote public, colleague and stakeholder understanding of the words, “podiatry” and “podiatrist” and our full scope of practice in the lower-limb; from providing skin and nailcare, to musculoskeletal, skin or vascular diagnosis and treatments,

prescribing, surgery and limb protection. As current Chair of our Clinical Senate, I think patient-focused outcomes around reducing pain, improving mobility, facilitating wound-healing, preventing amputations and prolonging lives, are at the core of what we all collectively do. These patient outcomes bring us together, unify us and demonstrate value to our public and key clinical and strategic healthcare partners, whether we work in independent or NHS practice, management, teaching, research, or the healthcare industry.

The huge challenges thrown up by the Covid-19 pandemic has been the toughest test of our resilience, adaptability, compassion and leadership as podiatrists and I'm hugely proud of how we responded and what we have achieved. Whether personally, with colleagues on the NHS front-line in Manchester, in the many accounts cited from around the UK on social media streams and in Podiatry Now/The Podiatrist, and as the College, supporting members at every step, with timely, supportive

communications and guidance.

Perhaps the biggest challenge and real threat to our profession is the ongoing lack of recruitment into universities of our next generation. This is possibly still rooted to a degree on the key perception of what podiatry is or isn't, and how well we, the current guardians of our profession, do or don't sell it effectively, at scale, to our future potential workforce (e.g., why do college leavers still want to be physiotherapists, not podiatrists)?

If you elect me to Council, there is much to be done and I feel informed, inspired and ready to build on my first term and work on the challenges and opportunities ahead. I'm passionate that we be recognised and respected as the 'go-to' professional organisation for foot and lower limb healthcare. I'd suggest that to do this successfully, we all need be involved, actively supporting the College in small or large ways, whatever we can offer, enhancing the profile and perception of podiatry, every day, at every opportunity.”

SKILLS: My clinical skills, as an experienced NHS practitioner, are my main foundation. I have also developed expertise in the high-risk lower-limb, wound care, diabetes, and vascular disease. Clinical leadership, lobbying, negotiation and teaching are all additional skills I have developed via committee work, clinical writing and conference presentations, which had led to national roles representing podiatry issues for the College, Foot in Diabetes UK, NICE, and All Party Parliamentary meetings, as well as at nursing and vascular conferences. My goal is to support the College to be an inclusive, safe, and progressive clinical organisation, leading on lower-limb healthcare.

SALLY GATES

BSc (Hons) BA (Hons) MCPod

EXPERIENCE

- Contributor to Age Care Technologies Caring for the Older Person training programme with The College of Podiatry
- Chair of Graduate Network 2020-present (member since 2019)
- Chair of Student Network 2018-19 (member since 2018)



STATEMENT

“ I am standing for election to Council as I am proud of my profession and find my membership of The College of Podiatry to be hugely beneficial. I want to help make sure that this is the case for every member.

As a recent graduate, I have been privileged to see the immense changes taking place within the College over recent years. If elected to Council I intend to maintain this momentum and ensure that the College continues to listen to its members and evolve in line with current thinking. In order to do this, we need a mix of fresh ideas and sound practical knowledge. My experience as Chair of the Student and Graduate Networks provides me with a grounding in College practice and policy, combined with the new ideas and enthusiasm that abound in the early stages of a career. This balance is what places me in the ideal position to support the College in this period of transformation.

My priorities at this time are towards recruitment and retention as I am

aware of the pressure placed on the profession due to the ageing population and increase in conditions such as diabetes and vascular insufficiency due to increasingly sedentary lifestyles.

Recent developments regarding bursaries and apprenticeships should substantially improve recruitment, and I will await the results of this with interest. Retention is a more complex problem due to the myriad reasons leading to people leaving the profession, and one of my goals during my term, should I be elected, would be to better understand some of these reasons and what changes could be made to support members in this position. Making the profession accessible and inclusive is a high priority for me, to support both the individual members and the profession as a whole.

My first degree is in linguistics, providing me with a background in communications. I believe that the majority of the world's problems stem

from communication breakdown, and as such I consider it very important to listen with an open mind and discuss issues with a view to finding a solution that can work for everyone. If elected I would bring this approach to Council in the hope of supporting utilitarian solutions that will have the widest possible benefit to the membership.

In conclusion, I would bring the fresh ideas and enthusiasm of someone new

to the profession combined with the skills and experience of a life before podiatry to join the Council in healthy conversations that will benefit as wide a range of members as possible. I want to help the profession to grow and find new ways to support members in order to improve retention. I am open to ideas, discussions and solutions, and hope that I can help you to get what you need from The College of Podiatry.”

SKILLS: I have experience in serving on and chairing committees including university and community organisations, as well as The College of Podiatry Student and Graduate Networks and the College's Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Working Group.

I have undertaken The College of Podiatry Leadership Programme, as well as having community leadership experience through Girlguiding and other voluntary organisations. This includes budget holding and management, risk assessment, recruitment, and strategic thinking.

I hold a BA (Hons) in Linguistics, which provides a basis for my excellent communication skills.



USAMAH KHALID

BSc (Hons) MCPod

EXPERIENCE

- Podiatrist in Independent Practice
- Chair of The College of Podiatry Students Association 2016 to 2017
- National representative on behalf of The College of Podiatry to the BAME Strategic Advisory Forum for Chief Allied Health Profession Officers
- Vice Convenor for The College of Podiatry's Clinical Senate Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion BAME Task and Finish Group
- Affiliate Member of The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons Glasgow



STATEMENT

“Running for Council has long been an ambition of mine as I strongly believe in effecting change across the whole profession.

I am incredibly passionate about our profession and the future direction of Podiatry. In the midst of a pandemic that has swept the world and this profession, the need to be heard and the need for unity has never been greater.

As a professional body, The College of Podiatry exists to represent you, our members, but it can only do this effectively by ensuring those elected to Council are prepared and equipped with the necessary skills, enthusiasm and passion to drive our profession forward that meets members' needs. I believe I can bring energy, enthusiasm and a voice to all members of the profession that is loud, clear and unified; paving a way forward for a progressive, modern and

fit-for-purpose organisation that serves its members well.

As the national representative on behalf of The College of Podiatry to the BAME Strategic Advisory Forum for CAHPO, and as Vice Convenor for the Clinical Senate EDI BAME Task and Finish Group, it highlights my skills in communication to bring matters of the utmost importance to the forefront, ensuring members of all backgrounds, races and ethnicities feel supported and listened to, especially vital in light of the global events and the Black Lives Matter movement. Our world is changing rapidly, and we need our Council to be reflective of the very members it serves.

Having previously served as a Chair of The College of Podiatry Students Association, I understand members' concerns regarding matters related to student recruitment, the

apparent division in independent practice between podiatrists and the unregulated sector and the reduced retention of new graduates within the NHS; this is why listening to our members is key and necessary to ensure I can create a membership organisation that we can all relate to and be proud to be a part of.

If voted onto Council, I hope to be the voice of our members at the Council table and when chairing committees, to support the College and steer it with strategic goals and to work tirelessly to reduce the health inequalities that exist today. Moreover, I am passionate about getting this profession to be the best it can be by helping the College develop yet more

services for you, so that you too can feel connected, knowing that your professional body is there to support you and your interests, ensuring the College is more transparent, accessible and approachable. Where we are recognised by the public and AHP colleagues, united in our goals, and uncompromising in our values.

The challenges we face are many, but the future is bright; with your support, I trust that we can build a better tomorrow and a better organisation that supports your vision.

I look forward to the opportunity to serve your interests and visualise a membership organisation that is built on delivering results for our patients and you, our members. ”

SKILLS: My skills include chairing meetings and roundtable discussions, effectively communicating to stakeholders and implementing strategic plans which puts me in an ideal position to be a voice for the unheard.

Moreover, I have a proven track record of lobbying for change for special resolutions; and successfully navigating and implementing the strategic plan for increasing student recruitment by way of PR drives for both the College and Health Education England via videos, talks and outreach work.

I aim to utilise these skills to ensure the College continues working hard to serve our members and raise the profile of podiatry.

DR JANE McADAM

PhD, BSc (Hons), FCPodM, FFPM RCPS (Glasg), FHEA

EXPERIENCE

- Director Allied and Public Health, School of Health and Society, University of Salford 2019 to the present
- Director Prosthetics & Orthotics and Podiatry, School of Health Sciences, University of Salford 2014 to 2019
- Member of University of Salford Senate 2016 to 2020
- Dean of the Directorate of Podiatric Medicine 2016 to the present
- Member of Clinical Senate 2016 to the present
- Member Committee of the Directorate of Education 2015 to the present
- Assessor for Canonbury Fellowship 2016, 2017
- Assessor for College of Podiatry Fellowship awards 2017
- Deputy Chair Greater Manchester AHP Faculty 2019 to the present
- Member of Greater Manchester AHP Council 2019 to the present
- Honorary Treasurer Healthy Footwear Group, UK 2012 to the present
- College Awards: Fellow of the College of Podiatry in Podiatric Medicine - 2018



PREVIOUSLY: Principal Podiatrist - Biomechanics, Orthotics & Footwear, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, Salford, UK 2000-2014 • Clinical Specialist Podiatrist - Orthotics, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust, Salford, UK 1998-2000 • Chief IV Podiatrist - Residential Homes, Barnet Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK 1994-1998 • Senior II Podiatrist, Barnet Healthcare NHS Trust, London, UK 1992-1994 • Locum Senior II Podiatrist, UK 1990-1992 • Private practice, Queensland, Australia 1987-1990

STATEMENT

“Despite significant progress in recent years, the profession continues to face challenges. We have moved forward in terms of our status as vital and unique members of the healthcare workforce, across all sectors, but new issues are firmly on the horizon, as we continue to deal with those we are already addressing. Our skills are essential to serve a growing number of people with health issues, and we are key in solving the need for a larger, more flexible healthcare workforce.

Your Council, as the main governing and decision-making Board of the College, needs to be able to respond to each new challenge; identifying these early and working effectively with others to bring about solutions which continue to ensure the profession has a bright future. The role of the Council is critical in agreeing strategic goals within the context of a firm understanding of the needs of the membership and the patients they serve. Further, the

Council should guide the College to focus on achievable objectives via realistic use of our resources given, as in any organisation, these are finite.

I believe I have the necessary decision-making and strategic thinking skills, developed in over 20 years of NHS practice and honed more recently as a senior manager in Higher Education, to inform the strategic direction of the College. In my role as Dean, I have already used these skills to benefit the College, evidenced by a more robust approval process for accreditation of CPD courses, as well as development of business cases for projects focusing on MSK and Public Health, in line with national healthcare policy and agendas.

As a member of Council, I would pledge to bring my knowledge, experience and abilities to focus on supporting podiatrists in all areas of healthcare, including new opportunities. New pathways into the profession are key in increasing the supply of graduates and ensuring patients benefit from podiatric care. I have been involved in developing both apprenticeship and pre-registration

MSc courses with my team at Salford, which have successfully attracted more students to the profession. Training and support are integral to the development of members pursuing specialist areas of practice, leadership posts and roles using their transferrable skills, thus highlighting the valuable contribution podiatrists make to the wider healthcare sector. Your College is key in ensuring support and guidance is accessible for colleagues working in new fields and representing podiatry at a growing number of forums. Our focus should include growing well-rounded, strategically able members ready for leadership positions across the healthcare sector and economy.

I have always been mindful when contributing to the work of the College, of the diverse needs of the membership, and the importance of ensuring that every opinion is heard. I would be delighted to continue to serve our profession as a member of Council. I would work hard to ensure our interests are promoted and the role podiatrists play in providing excellent healthcare and ensuring the well-being of the public is not overlooked.”

SKILLS: Strategic leadership of diverse interests, leading multiple projects and ensuring delivery of key performance indicators within a large organisation. Development and delivery of strategy in response to competing internal and external drivers and national agendas and policies. Networking across organisations to achieve system-wide change. Control of large expenditure streams within budget. Workforce planning, staff management, development and performance review, implementation of human resources policies and procedures. External funding bid and capture. Action learning set facilitator. Risk management. Operational management. Clinical service management. Committee chair and membership, focusing on delivery of projects against agreed plans and timescales.

ADAM SMITH

BSc (Hons) MCPod

EXPERIENCE

- Private practitioner
- Trustee Harlawhill Day Centre
- Committee member Edinburgh South Cricket Club
- Former Committee member Preston Village Cricket Club



STATEMENT

“I wish to join the Council for The College of Podiatry and stand on a commitment to ensure podiatry is seen as a significant contributor to health and wellbeing of the public across the UK.

To ensure we are the forefront in healthcare we must focus on ways we can improve the profession, heal divisions created between colleagues and increase our visibility to the public.

KEY AREAS TO BE ADDRESSED:

Raise Profile:

- Make the public and healthcare colleagues aware of the vast array of skills and expertise in podiatry
- Ensure public are assured of our safety, competence, and knowledge
- Promote podiatry as the first point of contact for, suitable, lower limb and foot conditions across NHS, acute and private settings
- Build stronger interprofessional links and enhance the understanding of our role in health and wellbeing

Foot Health

- It is crucial for foot health that there is regulation and robust training at all levels, this means from Foot Health Practitioner (FHP) to advanced podiatrists. I will urge COP to only accept a framework which includes standardised training, regulation, and a remit for FHP's
- The growing number of short foot health courses shows a need in the UK for qualified foot care. Supporting working podiatrists is fundamental to the profession.
- We must address the decline in podiatry student numbers. Existing training schools must be supported, and the development of distance podiatry and apprenticeships is encouraging. We must support delivering these courses with integration in developing and mentoring our existing professionals, creating a safe and advanced workforce to meet the challenges of a post-Covid world.

Communication pathways

- Unfortunately, many podiatrists feel excluded and powerless in supporting the current direction of COP and the profession. We must engage our colleagues' valid concerns and work towards a more unified profession. All COP members must feel valued in their roles and supported by the organisation. This is of key importance to me.
- Build upon existing mentorship and training programs to ensure our colleagues feel supported and are part of a well-established community. We must end our colleagues feeling isolated and give them opportunities to develop and/or have places and colleagues to discuss issues with and best practice.
- Guidelines from COP, such as current best practice techniques, must be easily accessible and available to members.

Cross professional working

- We see a dichotomy between many in NHS and private practice. COP must bridge this divide and assess the areas where NHS and private practice colleagues can work in harmony for better patient care.
- Podiatry students should be given greater insight into post-graduation working life. Where possible this should include NHS and private settings.

I feel I am in a fortunate position having worked in the NHS, acute sector and having my own private practice.

I have worked tirelessly to forge links, support colleagues, and raise the profile of podiatry. I hope I am afforded the opportunity to continue this work and contribute further as part of the COP Council. ”

SKILLS: I graduated in 2009, now running a successful practice which has grown from domiciliary to a four chair podiatry clinic with six podiatrists. I run and manage our team, multitask daily, budget, plan and promote our profession.

I have presented in a professional capacity on podiatry and treatment outcomes to colleagues and the public, engaging with suppliers and a diverse group of professionals.

I was involved in professional discussions around future course structure of the podiatry degree and assisted colleagues in numerous ways since graduation. I am open, honest, and work with integrity to further podiatry.

MICHAEL STEPHENSON

BSc PGCert MCPod

EXPERIENCE

- Private practice
- Deputy Professional Editor, The Podiatrist, 2020 to the present
- Chair, Glasgow Branch, 2020 to the present
- Treasurer, Scottish Regional Committee, 2019 to the present
- Founder, Tomorrow's Podiatry, 2018 to the present



PREVIOUSLY: Member of Council, 2015-2018 • Vice-President CoP, 2017-2018 • Chair, Editorial Committee, 2016-2018 • Scottish One-Day Conference Committee, 2014, 2019 • CoP Glasgow Branch Student representative, 2012 to 2014 • CoP Glasgow Branch Secretary, 2015 to 2016 • CoP Glasgow Branch Chair, 2016-2018 • Scottish Regional Committee, Student representative, 2012 to 2014 • Member of CPSA, 2012 to 2014

STATEMENT

“ I have been involved with the College as a student and I have always been proud to be part of a profession that is full of such passion, enthusiasm, and commitment. I continue to be inspired by members who have pushed the scope of practice, developed service models, and those unsung heroes who, on a daily basis, demonstrate a commitment to patients, helping each other develop and keep our branch networks running.

We face a challenging external landscape with the impact of Covid-19 affecting many private practices, public service provisions and an ever-expanding population requiring podiatric interventions. I believe we have a responsibility to promote professional progression, job creation

and provide clear structures for the up-skilling of members. We must ensure that across the profession we have podiatrists with a skill set to deliver strong clinical outcomes and flourish as practitioners with the confidence to develop the profession.

Over the past year, it has been my privilege to work with colleagues from the Manchester and Northern Ireland Branches to develop the Back to Basics and Ask the College online series during the COVID pandemic. This has involved utilising online resources, technology and collaborating to provide more than 20 online CPD sessions covering a wide range of subjects. If you have not yet had a chance to check them out, you can find them at:

www.facebook.com/COPGLASGOW/ videos.

Furthermore, I am proud to have worked with fellow editors to re-launch the membership magazine, The Podiatrist, with a new look and improved content. The next challenge is looking at how we compliment the print version with a variety of digital content.

I am a fervent believer that building a stronger and more pro-active podiatric community starts by developing a firm foundation within our student population. Over the past three years I have worked with fantastic students and podiatrists to develop Tomorrow's Podiatry, a student-led community focused on developing resources for students.

Together, we have launched an annual set of student focused awards, a weekly Facebook live stream and our research communication strand Podiatry in 3 minutes. The most exciting aspects of the Tomorrow's Podiatry has been watching the students take ownership of their projects and expressing their passion for the profession.

I am passionate and committed to our profession, I would be very grateful if you would consider me to represent you and cast a vote for me during this election.

Warmest regards

Michael Stephenson ”

SKILLS: Strong verbal communication skills in person and online. Chaired at board level, with strategic, budget, project oversight and implementation responsibilities. Overseen strategic plan development, organisational re-branding, membership engagement strategies and grant applications. Experience at group facilitation and organisation with a focus on leadership development. Passionate about advocating for podiatry within the profession, the medical community, political bodies and the general public.



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