



RCSI

MILLIN  
MEETING <sup>14</sup>NOV <sup>'25</sup>

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# SHAPING FUTURE SURGICAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING

CPD ACCREDITATION  
6 CPD POINTS

MILLIN MEETING 2025

**DRAFT PROGRAMME – SUBJECT TO CHANGE.****FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2025**

Venue: RCSI, 123 St Stephen's Green

TIME	EVENT DETAILS	
07.15	<b>REGISTRATION</b>	Front Hall, York Street
07.30 – 08.45	<b>FELLOWS AND MEMBERS NETWORKING BREAKFAST</b> Hosted by the RCSI President and Council	College Hall
09.00	<b>PRESIDENT'S WELCOME</b> Professor Deborah McNamara	O'Flanagan LT
09.05	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE</b> <b>BETTER TRIALS, BETTER EVIDENCE: INNOVATIONS IN TRIALS METHODOLOGY</b> Professor Declan Devane Professor of Health Research Methodology and Deputy Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, University of Galway	
09.35	<b>SYMPOSIUM I</b> <b>RCSI NATIONAL SURGICAL RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE (NSRSC)</b>	
	<b>SESSION I:</b> Shaping the Future of Surgical Research and the RCSI National Surgical Research Competition	
11.05	<b>REFRESHMENTS &amp; EXHIBITION</b> including poster viewing	Exam Hall
11.45	<b>SESSION II:</b> Developing Surgical Academic Careers	O'Flanagan LT
13.00	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE</b> <b>THE FUTURE OF THE CLINICIAN SCIENTIST</b> Professor Shirley Potter Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon, St James's Hospital & Blackrock Clinic; Clinical Professor, School of Medicine, University College Dublin; National Training Programme Director, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, RCSI	
13.30	<b>LUNCH &amp; EXHIBITION</b> including poster viewing	Exam Hall
14.30	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE</b> <b>EVIDENCE-BASED SURGICAL TRAINING</b> Professor Jennifer Cleland Lee Kong Chian (LKC) School of Medicine, Singapore and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, UK	O'Flanagan LT

15.00	<b>SYMPOSIUM II SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN SURGICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>	O'Flanagan LT
16.00	<b>LAUNCH: RCSI SUPPORTING SURGEONS AND TRAINEES</b>	
16.15	<b>ORAL AND POSTER AWARD PRESENTATIONS</b>	
16.30	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH TO IMPROVING AND INNOVATING IN SURGERY</b> Professor Mary Dixon-Woods Director of The Healthcare Improvement Studies (THIS) Institute, University of Cambridge	
17.30	<b>48th MILLIN LECTURE</b> followed by a reception	College Hall

# RCSI MILLIN MEETING PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

**DRAFT PROGRAMME – SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**

FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2025

Venue: RCSI, 123 St Stephen's Green

TIME	EVENT DETAILS
07.15	<b>Registration</b> Venue: Front Hall, York Street
07.30 - 08.45	<b>FELLOWS AND MEMBERS NETWORKING BREAKFAST</b> Hosted by the RCSI President and Council Venue: College Hall
09.00 – 09.05	<b>PRESIDENT'S WELCOME</b> Professor Deborah McNamara Venue: O'Flanagan LT
09.05 - 09.35	<b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>  <b>BETTER TRIALS, BETTER EVIDENCE: INNOVATIONS IN TRIALS METHODOLOGY</b>  <b>Professor Declan Devane</b> <b>Professor of Health Research Methodology and</b> <b>Deputy Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health</b> <b>Sciences, University of Galway</b>  Introduction by Professor David Healy RCSI Council Member; Consultant Cardiothoracic and Transplant Surgeon, St Vincent's University Hospital and Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin; Editor-In-Chief, The Surgeon

<b>SYMPOSIUM I RCSI NATIONAL SURGICAL RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE (NSRSC)</b>	
Session organisers:	<p>Professor Stewart Walsh Clinical Lead National Surgical Research Support Centre &amp; Professor of Vascular Surgery at Galway University</p> <p>Dr Anne-Marie Byrne Operations Director, National Surgical Research Support Centre</p>
09.35 – 11.00	<b>SESSION I: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SURGICAL RESEARCH AND THE RCSI NATIONAL SURGICAL RESEARCH COMPETITION</b>
Co-Chair:	Professor Kevin Conlon RCSI Council Member; Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Trinity College Dublin
Co-Chair:	Professor Helen Heneghan Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, St Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin; Professor of Surgery, University College Dublin
09.35 – 10.00	<p><b>Part I: THE NSRSC's ROLE IN SHAPING SURGICAL RESEARCH IN IRELAND</b></p> <p>Dr Anne-Marie Byrne Operations Director, National Surgical Research Support Centre</p> <p>Introduction by Professor Stewart Walsh Clinical Lead National Surgical Research Support Centre &amp; Professor of Vascular Surgery at Galway University</p>
10.00 – 11.00	<p><b>Part II: RCSI NATIONAL SURGICAL RESEARCH COMPETITION PRESENTATIONS</b></p> <p>The winner of the best overall presentation in this session will receive the RCSI National Surgical Research Medal.</p> <p>The call for abstracts will open at the end of July and close the second week in September.</p> <p>Five presenters will be selected to present at this session.</p>
11.05 – 11.45	<b>Refreshments &amp; Exhibition</b> including poster viewing Venue: Exam Hall

11.45 – 13.30	<b>SESSION II: DEVELOPING SURGICAL ACADEMIC CAREERS</b>
Co-Chair:	Professor Niall Davis Consultant Urologist, Beaumont Hospital and RCSI
Co-Chair:	Professor John Reynolds Emeritus Professor of Surgery, Trinity College Dublin
11.45 - 12.00	<b>TAKING THE FIRST STEPS IN DEVELOPING A CAREER IN ACADEMIC SURGERY</b> Dr Suzanne Murphy Department of Neurosurgery, Beaumont Hospital and Department of Surgery, RCSI
12.00 - 12.15	<b>DEVELOPING A SURGICAL RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE</b> Ms Nikita Bhatt Consultant Urologist, St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin
12.15 - 12.30	<b>STRUCTURED TRAINING FOR AN ACADEMIC SURGEON – WHAT IS THE ROLE OF ICAT?</b> Professor Michael Conall Denny Principal Investigator of the ICAT-2 Programme; Consultant Endocrinologist, Galway University Hospital, Galway
12.30 -12.45	<b>ESTABLISHING A RESEARCH PORTFOLIO AS AN EARLY CAREER ACADEMIC SURGEON</b> Professor Jarlath Bolger Consultant Upper GI Surgeon and Associate Professor of Surgery, Beaumont Hospital and RCSI
12.45 - 13.00	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
13.00 - 13.30	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE:</b>  <b>THE FUTURE OF THE CLINICIAN SCIENTIST</b>  <b>Professor Shirley Potter</b> <b>Consultant Plastic &amp; Reconstructive Surgeon, St James's Hospital &amp; Blackrock Clinic; Clinical Professor, School of Medicine, University College Dublin;</b> <b>National Training Programme Director, Plastic &amp; Reconstructive Surgery, RCSI</b>
13.30 - 14.30	<b>LUNCH &amp; EXHIBITION</b> including poster viewing Venue: Exam Hall
14.30 - 15.00	<b>KEYNOTE LECTURE:</b>  <b>EVIDENCE-BASED SURGICAL TRAINING</b>  <b>Professor Jennifer Cleland</b> <b>Lee Kong Chian (LKC) School of Medicine, Singapore and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, UK</b>  Introduction by Mr John Caird RCSI Council Member; Consultant Paediatric Neurosurgeon, Beaumont Hospital and CHI Temple Street/OLCHC

<b>SYMPOSIUM II SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN SURGICAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>	
Co-Chair:	Professor Carmel Malone Council Member and Chair of the Faculty of Surgical Trainers, RCSI; Consultant General and Breast Surgeon, University Hospital Galway
Co-Chair:	Professor Paddy Kenny RCSI Council Member; Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Connolly Hospital Blanchardstown and the National Orthopaedic Hospital at Cappagh, Dublin
15.00 - 15.15	<b>BUILDING THE EVIDENCE-BASE FOR SURGICAL TRAINING IN IRELAND</b> Mr Conor Toale Specialist Registrar in General Surgery, Department of Surgical Affairs, RCSI
15.15 - 15.30	<b>HANDS-ON TRAINING – CARE OF THE CRITICALLY ILL SURGICAL PATIENT 20 YEARS ON</b> Professor Peter Murchan Consultant General and Gastrointestinal Surgeon, Tipperary University Hospital and University Hospital Waterford
15.30 - 15.45	<b>PROFESSIONALISM FOR SURGICAL TRAINEES</b> Professor Denis Harkin Chair of Professionalism and Consultant Vascular Surgeon, Centre for Professionalism at RCSI and Belfast Health and Social Care Trust
15.45 - 16.00	<b>DISCUSSION</b>
16.00 - 16.15	<b>LAUNCH: RCSI SUPPORTING SURGEONS AND TRAINEES</b>  <b>Introduction</b> Professor Kilian Walsh RCSI Council Member and Chair of the RCSI Short Life Working Group on Supporting Surgeons; Consultant Urological Surgeon, University Hospital Galway  <b>Overview of Supports for Surgeons and Trainees</b> Ms Caroline McGuinness Associate Director of Postgraduate Training, Surgical Affairs, RCSI
16.15 - 16.30	<b>PRESENTATION OF AWARDS</b>  <b>NSRSC AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN A SURGICAL CLINICAL TRIAL</b> The award for outstanding achievement in a surgical clinical trial, supported by the NSRSC will be presented to the investigator/clinical research team in recognition of their contribution to a clinical trial's success.  <b>SURGICAL RESEARCH POSTER PRESENTATION AWARDS</b> Certificates will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.  <b>AWARD OF RCSI NATIONAL SURGICAL RESEARCH MEDAL</b> The RCSI National Surgical Research Medal will be awarded to the best overall oral research presentation.

## RCSI MILLIN MEETING PROGRAMME

16.30 - 17.00	<p><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b></p> <p><b>AN EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACH TO IMPROVING AND INNOVATING IN SURGERY</b></p> <p><b>Professor Mary Dixon-Woods</b>  <b>Director of The Healthcare Improvement Studies (THIS) Institute, University of Cambridge</b></p> <p>Introduction by Professor John Quinlan  RCSI Council Member;  Consultant Trauma &amp; Orthopaedic Surgeon,  Clinical Professor Trinity College Dublin;  Tallaght University Hospital, Blackrock Clinic and UPMC Kildare Hospital</p>
17.30 - 18.15	<p><b>48th MILLIN LECTURE</b>  Venue: College Hall</p> <p>The opportunity to deliver this prestigious lecture is open to all surgical specialties via an application process. To find out how to apply visit <a href="https://www.rcsi.com/surgery/training/fellowship-opportunities/millinlecture">https://www.rcsi.com/surgery/training/fellowship-opportunities/millinlecture</a></p> <p>The 48th Millin Lecturer will be announced in September 2025.</p>
	<p><b>RECEPTION</b>  Venue: Atrium</p>



**Professor Jennifer Cleland**

Lee Kong Chian (LKC) School of Medicine, Singapore and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, UK

Professor Jennifer Cleland is an internationally recognised medical educator and researcher. She is currently President's Chair in Medical Education and Director of the WHO Collaborating Centre for Digital Education and Digital Health, Lee Kong Chian (LKC) School of Medicine, Singapore. She is also Wade Professor of Surgical Education, the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. She is Editor-of-Chief of the journal, Medical Teacher.

Scottish by heritage and birth, she worked at the University of Aberdeen for 20 years, latterly as the inaugural John Simpson Chair of Medical Education Research (2011-2020). She was Vice-Dean of Education, LKC Medicine 2020-2024.

She has been honoured with honorary professorial/external faculty appointments from seven universities across four continents. She is a Fellow of the Faculty of Surgical Trainers (FST) and a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh. She received the Ian Hart International Award for Innovation in Medical Education (2022) and the Karolinska Institutet Prize for Research in Medical Education (2024). She has supervised 20+ PhD students to successful completion, many of them surgical fellows.



**Professor Declan Devane**

Professor of Health Research Methodology and

Deputy Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences, University of Galway

Professor Declan Devane (PhD, MSc, PgDip(Stats), BSc, DipHE, RGN, RM, RNT) is an Established Professor of Health Research Methodology and Deputy Dean of the College of Medicine, Nursing, and Health Sciences at the University of Galway, Ireland. With over twenty years of experience in clinical trials and evidence synthesis, Declan focuses on improving healthcare interventions, enhancing clinical trial methodology, advancing evidence synthesis methods, and promoting patient-centred research.

He is the founder and director of Evidence Synthesis Ireland, Cochrane Ireland, and the Health Research Board-Trials Methodology Research Network, initiatives aimed at enhancing the quality and impact of health research nationally and internationally. His research spans multiple clinical areas, including diabetes, maternal health, critical care, and infectious diseases, emphasising methodologies that actively involve patient perspectives.

Declan has published over 310 peer-reviewed papers, including more than 30 influential Cochrane systematic reviews (h-index: 54 Scopus; 64 Google Scholar), and has secured over €20 million in research funding as Principal Investigator and over €100 million as co-applicant/collaborator. He has led numerous clinical trials with participant numbers ranging from 100 to over 3,000, serving on various national and international Trial Steering Committees and Data Monitoring Boards.

His work has informed global healthcare guidelines, including those by the World Health Organization, and he continues to train and mentor researchers, contributing actively to the field of health research methodology.



**Professor Mary Dixon-Woods**

Director of The Healthcare Improvement Studies (THIS) Institute, University of Cambridge

Mary Dixon-Woods is Director of THIS Institute and The Health Foundation Professor of Healthcare Improvement Studies in the Department of Public Health and Primary Care at the University of Cambridge.

A Professorial Fellow at Homerton College, Cambridge, she is also a fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences and the Academy of Medical Sciences, an honorary fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of General Practitioners, and the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists. She was an NIHR Senior Investigator 2017-2022.

Mary served on England's National Advisory Group on the Safety of Patients in England, which produced the Berwick report in 2013. She also served on the review of information technology in the NHS led by Professor Bob Wachter, which reported in 2016. She was a Wellcome Trust Senior Investigator 2012-2019. Mary was the Harveian Orator for the Royal College of Physicians in 2018, the 500th anniversary of the College's founding. She is a member of the BMJ's international advisory board.

Mary's programme of research is concerned with generating a high quality evidence-base to support improvement in the organisation, quality and safety of healthcare. Characteristically using mixed-methods approaches, her work focuses on evaluation of quality and safety improvement interventions and programmes, culture and behaviour in health systems, and regulation and governance of health research and care. She has a special interest in methodological innovation in the study of healthcare improvement.



**Professor Shirley Potter**

Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon, St James's Hospital & Blackrock Clinic;  
Clinical Professor, School of Medicine, University College Dublin;  
National Training Programme Director, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, RCSI

Shirley Potter is a Consultant Plastic & Reconstructive Surgeon at St James Hospital, Dublin, and Clinical Professor at the School of Medicine, UCD. Prof Potter graduated from NUI, Galway with both a medical degree and an intercalated BSc in Anatomy. Following basic surgical training, she completed her PhD in tumour biology under HRB Clinician Scientist scholarship. She completed her specialist training in Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in Ireland and spent three years on fellowship training in Australia (Peter MacCallum Comprehensive Cancer Centre, St Vincents Hospital and The Alfred Hospital, Melbourne) and Taiwan (Chang Gung Memorial Hospital). Her sub-specialist interests are head and neck microvascular reconstruction, melanoma and cutaneous oncology.

Prof Potter is a principal supervisor for the Irish Clinical and Academic Training programme and Co-Chair of the Irish Melanoma Forum. She is the national Principal Investigator for the MelmarT surgical melanoma trial with Cancer Trials Ireland, and is the surgical chair for the melanoma DSSG in Cancer Trials Ireland. She is also the National Training Programme Director for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery at RCSI.



**Ms Nikita Bhatt**

Robotic, Reconstruction and Female Urology Fellow, Newcastle Upon Tyne

Ms Nikita Bhatt is Fellow in robotic, Reconstructive and Female Urology at Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital, United Kingdom. She has recently been appointed as a Consultant Urologist at St. Vincent's University Hospital, Dublin. She is The Urology Foundation Malcolm Coptcoat Fellow for 2025. She completed her Urology training residency in the East of England deanery in 2023. She has a Masters in Medical Education with the University of Dundee and a Masters in Surgery with the National University of Ireland, Galway.

Ms Bhatt has recently been appointed as the Associate Surgical Specialty Lead for RCSEng/BAUS. She was the co-Chair of the British Urology Researchers in Surgical Training BURST collaborative 2021-23, co-Vice-chair 2019-21 and current active member. Through BURST she has an interest in collaborative research and has been a part of several international collaborative studies. She has been a part of the European Association of Urology Guideline panels as an associate in the paediatric urology panel 2019-2022 followed by the Male LUTS and the Female LUTS panel currently. She is also a member of the EAU Dissemination committee, which focuses on dissemination of the guidelines through various platforms. She is one of the panel members of the BAUS Functional Robotics group. Ms Bhatt was selected by the British Association of Urological Surgeon for the AUA inaugural global leadership retreat in 2023.



**Dr Anne-Marie Byrne**

Operations Director, National Surgical Research Support Centre

Dr Anne-Marie Byrne undertook her PhD in RCSI within the Dept of Surgery under Prof David Bouchier-Hayes, focused on angiogenesis in cancer. Alongside this she was involved in training surgeons conducting their MCh /MD projects. She spent over 12 years as a postdoctoral researcher and research fellow in Trinity College Dublin focused on clinical research in gastrointestinal disease. During this time, she delivered lectures on multiple health sciences postgraduate and undergraduate courses. The importance of her research was recognised, being awarded Researcher of the year, first place oral and poster presentations at clinical and scientific conferences, receipt of a research fellowship from the Irish Cancer Society and funding from Science Foundation Ireland and Enterprise Ireland.

Dr Byrne joined Cancer Trials Ireland where she gained experience in managing a large portfolio of clinical trials before transitioning to her current role in RCSI as the Operations Director of the RCSI-National Surgical Research Support Centre (NSRSC).

Her role involves developing the National Surgical Trials and Research network strategy to support and coordinate surgical research activity in Ireland. Since its establishment in 2021, together with the Clinical Lead Prof Stewart Walsh, the NSRSC have supported surgeons at all stages of their careers, in opening both national and international multi-centre surgical trials across many specialties. Her remit within the department of Surgical Affairs also includes development of training modules and courses in clinical trials and research in order to produce the next generation of academic leaders in surgery.



**Professor Jarlath Bolger**

Consultant Upper GI Surgeon and Associate Professor of Surgery, Beaumont Hospital and RCSI

Jarlath graduated from RCSI in 2009 with a gold medal in surgery. Having completed his internship in Beaumont Hospital, he undertook a PhD under the supervision of Prof Arnold Hill and Prof Leonie Young. He was awarded his FRCSI in 2020, and completed the national surgical training scheme with a focus on upper GI surgery in 2021. He then undertook a combined research and clinical fellowship in University Health Network and the University of Toronto in Canada, under the supervision of Prof Jonathan Yeung. He was appointed as a consultant upper GI surgeon and associate professor of surgery in Beaumont Hospital and RCSI in 2024. His translational research interests are in investigating responses to neoadjuvant therapies in oesophagogastric cancer, and the development of metastatic pathways. He also has an interest in harnessing and promoting collaborative research, and served as the first chairperson of the Irish Surgical Research Collaborative.



**Professor Michael Conall Dennedy**

Principal Investigator of the ICAT-2 Programme; Consultant Endocrinologist Galway University Hospital, Galway

Michael Conall Dennedy received the B.Sc. degree in pharmacology in 2000, the M.B., B.A.O., B.Ch. degree in 2002, the MD degree in obstetrics in 2007, and the Ph.D. degree in medicine in 2013. He is currently a Consultant Endocrinologist with Galway University Hospital, Galway, Ireland, and a Senior Lecturer in therapeutics with the National University of Ireland (NUI) Galway, Galway, Ireland. He trained through the HSE/HRB National SpR Academic Fellowship Programme, an integrated academic clinician scientist programme. Following this, he completed a fellowship in endocrinology with the University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K., and Addenbrooke's hospital. He assumed his current post in February 2014. His research interest focuses on the pathogenesis and treatment of functional adrenal tumors, both benign and malignant. He is a member of the European Network for the Study of Adrenal Tumour working Groups for adrenocortical carcinoma, aldosterone producing adenomas, phaeochromocytoma and non aldosterone producing adrenocortical adenomas. He retain links with the Institute of Metabolic Science, University of Cambridge, and has forged collaborations with Centre for Endocrinology, Diabetes and Metabolism, University of Birmingham, Birmingham, U.K. He is also affiliated with the CURAM programme, NUI, Galway and the Translational Medical Device Laboratory, Galway, Ireland., Dr. Dennedy is the Director for the Wellcome/HRB Irish Clinical Academic Training (ICAT) Programme and the coreceptient of this award. He is also the Director of the undergraduate MB/Ph.D. programme with NUI, Galway. He is the Specialty Director of endocrinology with the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland's, International Clinical Fellows Programme.



**Professor Denis Harkin, MB MD FRCS FEBVS**

Consultant Vascular Surgeon and Professor and Chair of Medical Professionalism, RCSI

Professor Denis Harkin is a Consultant Vascular Surgeon and Chair of Medical Professionalism and leads the Centre for Professionalism in Medicine and Health Sciences at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland University of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dublin, Ireland. As Chair, our vision is to advance medical professionalism, to benefit our patients, in research, education and clinical practice. He has extensive experience of curriculum design, teaching, assessment and educational research. He has published over 150 articles (Citations 4825, h-index 31, i10-index 61) on areas of interest in vascular surgery, professionalism and education. He is the host of the popular RCSI Professionalism Matters Podcast series.

He is a Consultant Vascular Surgeon with an international reputation in research and practice in vascular trauma and complex endovascular aneurysm care. He has experience of medical management Clinical Lead, Training Programme Director and Assistant Medical Director at Belfast HSC Trust, the largest integrated Health and Social Care Trust in the UK. He has been a founding member of the Specialty Advisory Committee for Vascular Surgery, and elected Council and Chair of Audit and Quality Improvement on the Council of the Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland. He is an Examiner for Intercollegiate FRCS Vascular and European Board of Vascular Surgery.

# RCSI MILLIN MEETING SPEAKER

**Professor Peter Murchan**

Consultant General & Gastrointestinal Surgeon, Tipperary University Hospital & University Hospital Waterford



**Dr Suzanne Murphy**

Department of Neurosurgery, Beaumont and Department of Surgery, RCSI

Suzanne completed a BSc in General Nursing in Trinity College Dublin in 2011. Following this she worked as a nurse in several different roles and completed a post graduate diploma in tissue viability and wound management in the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 2014.

In 2015, she returned to RCSI to study medicine as a mature student. During this time, she served as senior editor, editor in chief and director of the RCSI student medical journal.

In the summer of 2018, she started the RCSI student chapter of the Association of Women Surgeons, an international organisation that aims to promote and encourage women in surgery. It was the first Irish chapter of the organisation and received enormous support in RCSI, winning the best new society at the RCSI student awards in 2019.

She graduated in 2020 and completed academic track intern in the Mater Misericordiae University hospital. Her research looked at developmental outcomes following an antenatal diagnosis of ventriculomegaly.

She went on to complete my CST in general surgery and then neurosurgery in Beaumont hospital and began working as a neurosurgical registrar position in December 2022. In July 2023 she began an MD through the StAR MD programme in RCSI, completing research into novel therapeutics for GBM with Prof. Annette Byrne's group.

During this time, she worked in the Hermitage clinic where she became the lead NCHD and went on to become the Hermitage medical site lead for the electronic health record programme.

She is currently a full-time lecturer in the department of surgery in RCSI, while still maintaining on-call work with the department of Neurosurgery in Beaumont. She is also the co-founder and co-president of the Association of Women Surgeons Ireland first NCHD chapter.



**Mr Conor Toale**

Specialist Registrar in General Surgery, Department of Surgical Affairs, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland

Conor Toale is a Higher Specialist Trainee in General Surgery and a 2016 graduate of Trinity College Dublin. He recently completed a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Surgical Science and Practice at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, undertaken through the RCSI's Strategic Academic Recruitment (StAR) Programme.

Conor's academic work is centred on surgical education, with particular interests in the assessment of operative competence, simulation-based training, and selection science. His research explores the development and validation of objective, reproducible methods for evaluating technical performance in surgery, as well as the integration of simulation into high-stakes assessment and trainee development. He has presented his findings at national and international conferences and has published with *Annals of Surgery*, *JAMA Surgery* and *Surgical Endoscopy*.

Conor currently serves as Co-Chair of the Irish Surgical Research Collaborative and has previously sat as the National Irish Representative for the Association of Surgeons in Training of the United Kingdom and Ireland. Through his combined clinical and academic practice, he aims to advance the standards of surgical education and contribute meaningfully to the evolution of training and assessment frameworks in Ireland and internationally.

# RCSI MILLIN MEETING TERENCE JOHN MILLIN 1903-1980



Born in Helen's Bay, Co. Down, he was the only son of Samuel Shannon Millin (barrister) and Ella Catherine Millin. He was initially schooled in Tipperary but finished his secondary schooling in St. Andrew's College in Dublin. There he demonstrated not only his intelligence, but also his sporting prowess, playing on the side that won the prestigious Leinster Schools Senior Cup in rugby union in 1921 and in later years was selected to play for Ireland in an international match against Wales. He achieved numerous academic achievements and was awarded a scholarship to Trinity College. Here his remarkable career continued and after a period in Arts and Mathematics, he enrolled as a medical student.

After a stellar undergraduate career, he undertook a house surgeon post at Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital in Dublin, and from there travelled to London to continue his surgical career. After various posts undertaken to increase his experience, he undertook the examination for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and passed it on the first attempt. He then took up a position in London's All Saint's Hospital becoming assistant to Canny Ryall, a Trinity graduate who had set up this 11-bed, purely urological hospital. Here Millin developed his interests in matters of the genito-urinary tract.

In 1945, Millin published his landmark paper 'Retro-pubic prostatectomy: a new extra vesical technique', in the Lancet. The new operation for removal of the prostate gland was a huge advance on existing methods and reduced death from open prostatectomy from perhaps 15 per cent to 3 per cent. Millin became world famous almost overnight.

His contribution to male health was recognized in 1955 with the receipt of the prestigious Francis Armory Prize, awarded by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Further honours included the Saint Peter's Medal, the British Association of Urological Surgeon's highest award in 1951, becoming that society's first Irish President in 1954. He was also made an Honorary Fellow of the Australasian College of Surgeons in 1968 and was appointed as Honorary Fellow of the American College of Surgeons.

Upon his retirement, he returned to Ireland and was elected President of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland for an unprecedented two terms 1963-1966. He was instrumental in rejuvenating the undergraduate part of the college.

Sadly, Millin developed a rare tumour of the vocal cords and passed away in 1980. However, he lives on in RCSI through Millin House, a student residence for which he had obtained the funds, and the annual Millin Lecture.

**MILLIN LECTURE**  
2025 MILLIN LECTURER

RCSI MILLIN MEETING  
**MILLIN LECTURES 1978 - 2025**

YEAR	DELIVERED BY
48 <sup>th</sup> 2025	
47 <sup>th</sup> 2024	Christina Fleming
46 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Michael Eamon Kelly
45 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Shirley Potter
44 <sup>th</sup> 2022	Joseph Butler
43 <sup>rd</sup> 2021	Colin Pierce
42 <sup>nd</sup> 2019	Orla McCormack
41 <sup>st</sup> 2018	Padhraig F. O'Loughlin
40 <sup>th</sup> 2017	Helen Heneghan
39 <sup>th</sup> 2016	Niall Davis
38 <sup>th</sup> 2015	Aoife Lowery
37 <sup>th</sup> 2014	James Paul O'Neill
36 <sup>th</sup> 2013	John P. Burke
35 <sup>th</sup> 2012	J. Calvin Coffey
34 <sup>th</sup> 2011	Fraser M. Smith
33 <sup>rd</sup> 2010	David G. Healy
32 <sup>nd</sup> 2009	Ronan Cahill
31 <sup>st</sup> 2008	Conor Sheilds
30 <sup>th</sup> 2007	Malcolm Kell
29 <sup>th</sup> 2006	Kevin J. Mulhall
28 <sup>th</sup> 2005	Deborah McNamara
27 <sup>th</sup> 2004	Fergal Fleming
26 <sup>th</sup> 2003	Desmond Winter
25 <sup>th</sup> 2002	Deirdre M. O'Hanlon
24 <sup>th</sup> 2001	Conor P. Delaney
23 <sup>rd</sup> 2000	Rowan W. Parks
22 <sup>nd</sup> 1999	Mary Claire Barry
21 <sup>st</sup> 1998	Arnold D. K. Hill
20 <sup>th</sup> 1997	Cathal J. Kelly
19 <sup>th</sup> 1996	Michael J. Kerin
18 <sup>th</sup> 1995	H. Paul Redmond
17 <sup>th</sup> 1994	Kenneth Mealy
16 <sup>th</sup> 1993	Peter Gillen
15 <sup>th</sup> 1992	James G. Geraghty
14 <sup>th</sup> 1991	Austin L. Leahy
13 <sup>th</sup> 1990	John R. T. Monson
12 <sup>th</sup> 1989	Thomas N. Walsh
11 <sup>th</sup> 1988	Ralphael Keane
10 <sup>th</sup> 1987	M. Kevin O'Malley
9 <sup>th</sup> 1986	Oscar Traynor
8 <sup>th</sup> 1985	Patrick J. Broe
7 <sup>th</sup> 1984	Thomas F. Gorey
6 <sup>th</sup> 1983	James M. Fitzpatrick
5 <sup>th</sup> 1982	Gerald C. O'Sullivan
4 <sup>th</sup> 1981	Gregor Shanik
3 <sup>rd</sup> 1980	William O. Kirwan
2 <sup>nd</sup> 1979	David Bouchier Hayes
1 <sup>st</sup> 1978	James M. Smith

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