

Joint Surgical Colleges Meeting

Intercollegiate Agreement

1. In order to ensure that those acting on behalf of intercollegiate committees uphold the highest standards, and to ensure that those who are under investigation for regulatory matters or criminal charges are treated consistently and fairly across the four Surgical Royal Colleges of the United Kingdom and Ireland, the Joint Surgical Colleges Meeting has agreed that the following process will be applied to those who sit on intercollegiate committees, irrespective of nature of role.
2. Intercollegiate roles include any individual acting in a professional capacity for any intercollegiate committee, including (but not confined to):
 - JCST
 - ICBSE
 - JSCFE
 - JCIE
 - any other intercollegiate appointment, including without limitation any committee or group reporting to any intercollegiate entities or any appointment to represent the joint Colleges on an external body

but for the avoidance of doubt do not include those members of the JSCM who are Officers of the four parent Colleges, who will be subject to their own College's procedures and rules. Employees working for the intercollegiate entities or the four parent Colleges will be subject to their host College's HR procedures and are not covered by this policy.
3. A person in an intercollegiate role must notify the Chief Executive of the host College operating the intercollegiate group, promptly and in writing if he or she:
 - is under investigation by the GMC/IMC/NHS Trust/Employing body; and/or
 - has been suspended from clinical practice for whatever reason; and/or
 - is under investigation for, or has been charged with, a criminal offence.
4. On receipt of a notification under 2 above, the Chief Executive will inform the Officers of that College. The Officers (or alternatively a committee of three Council Members appointed by the Officers) shall have delegated authority to resolve on behalf of the joint Colleges that the person concerned should either:
 - continue in the relevant intercollegiate role pending the outcome of the regulatory investigation, disciplinary proceedings or criminal charge; or
 - be suspended from their intercollegiate role pending the outcome of the regulatory investigation, disciplinary proceedings or criminal charge;

in each case on the grounds that in their reasonable opinion this course of action would be in the best interests of the intercollegiate entities and the four parent Colleges and intercollegiate groups, and provided always that in reaching any decision under this agreement, the Officers or committee (as applicable) have invited the views of the person concerned and considered the matter in the light of any such views.

Each such decision, whatever the outcome, must be reported to the Secretary of the JSCM, to be noted at the next meeting.

5. The said person in an intercollegiate role shall inform the Chief Executive of the host College of the outcome of any regulatory investigation, disciplinary procedure, or criminal charge within 14 days of a decision being made. The Chief Executive will notify the Officers (or alternatively the committee appointed as detailed in 3 above) of the outcome. The Officers or the relevant committee (as applicable) shall have delegated authority to resolve on behalf of the joint Colleges that the person in an intercollegiate role concerned should be:
 - restored to their role, with no further action being taken on the matter;
 - restored to their role subject to such sanctions as the Officers or committee may see fit to impose; or
 - removed from their role;

in each case on the grounds that in their reasonable opinion this course of action would be in the best interests of the intercollegiate entities and the four parent Colleges and provided always that in reaching any decision under this Standing Rule, the Officers or committee (as applicable) have invited the views of the person concerned and considered the matter in the light of any such views.

Each such decision, whatever the outcome, must be reported to the Secretary of the JSCM, to be noted at the next meeting.

6. The Officers reserve the right to terminate the term of office of any person in a role who fails to notify the Chief Executive as required under 2 and 4 above, and on such occasion the decision must be reported to the Secretary of the JSCM. The expectation, however, is that if the host College becomes aware of such an investigation or criminal charge, the Chief Executive will proceed to follow the process outlined in 3 above, including seeking the views of the individual involved.
7. The term of office of any person in a role will terminate automatically if he or she:
 - is removed by resolution of the Officers (or a committee of three Council Members appointed by the Officers) in accordance with 4 above; or
 - is removed by resolution of the Officers in accordance with 5 above;
 - resigns by written notice to the appropriate body.

Agreed on behalf of the JSCM by:

Professor Michael Griffin
President
RCS Edinburgh

Professor Derek Alderson
President
RCS England

Professor Jackie Taylor
President
RCPS Glasgow

Mr Kenneth Mealy
President
RCS Ireland