



# RCSI

ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

COLÁISTE RÍOGA NA MÁINLEÁ IN ÉIRINN

## Grant/Fellowship Report Form

<b>Grant Holder Name</b>	Fraser Mc Lean Smith
<b>Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)</b>	MB ChB, Bsc (Hons), MD, FRCSI Year of graduation 2000
<b>Title of Project/Fellowship</b>	One year Colorectal Fellowship in St Mary's Hospital, London Honorary contract St Mark's Hospital, Harrow
<b>Year of Award: Commencement Date: Conclusion Date:</b>	2011-2012 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2011- 6 <sup>th</sup> July 2012

### Summary (no more than 250 words)

This was a one year general/colorectal fellowship in St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London. The head of the department was Professor Ara Darzi, a famous Irish trainee and current world leader in surgery and innovation. My year was split into two halves – July-December 2011 working with Mr Omar Faiz and Mr Paul Ziprin and January-June 2012 working with Professor Darzi and Mr Barry Paraskeva. Although this job was a 'fellowship', my role was essentially still that of an SpR and so involved in ward rounds, theatre planning, out-patient clinics and managing the team. As a 'fellow', however, I was allowed a high level of experience in the operating theatre -managing general surgical lists independently and being the principle operator on many oncological or complex resections. I also attended many unscheduled theatre lists in St Mary's and ( to a lesser degree) St Mark's Hospitals over and above my expected commitment to gain further experience. On call was extremely busy and had a high level of trauma experience as it is a level 1 trauma centre serving a large portion of London. A more detailed synopsis of my experience can be found in the next section of my report.

**Grant Report (in the region of but no more than 500 words)**

Objectives of Project/Fellowship:

To continue my interest in general/colorectal surgery in the innovative environment of St Mary's Hospital in Prof Darzi's Unit.

Did you achieve these objectives?

Yes...and more

In your opinion, what is the value of your award to:

(a) Yourself

This fellowship really provided everything and more. I worked for 4 consultants – the most famous being Lord Darzi. Of the other 3, 2 were previous St Mark's Fellows and of these, Mr Omar Faiz was just appointed consultancy at St Marks starting July 2012. During the year I was involved in over 250 cases including many laparoscopic colorectal resections, extralevator APRs, resections for IBD and pelvic floor procedures. I also got a high level of day-case surgery experience and laterally worked in a new-build Surgical Innovation Centre where there was a focus on high volume lists including lap hernia repairs and short-stay lap colorectal resections (including many SILS cholecystectomies and colon resections). I also did a lot more anal work than previously in Ireland using fistula plugs, complex fistulotomies, many open and THD haemorrhoidectomies, excision of AIN lesions (including plastics reconstruction) and anal mapping.

I was also fortunate enough to attend several operating lists in St Mark's Hospital where I saw re-do pouch surgery and complex IBD surgery.

As St Marys was recently made a level 1 trauma centre, when on call, there was a really high volume of surgical emergencies – particularly RTAs and stabbings which was an invaluable experience and certainly far more volume than in Ireland.

Professor Darzi's operating list was always a great experience. Although he only operated in St Mary's every second Friday, there was always a really complex case on or he was doing NOTES, TEMS, trialling a new technique or instrument – often with an entourage of video cameras and eager onlookers!

There was also an extremely active research and public relations environment in St Marys. During my time I was involved in 2 research projects of my own but also participated in ongoing departmental research including NOTES cholecystectomy on porcine gallbladders. Perhaps the most enjoyable aspect of the public relations aspect was being invited to participate in demonstrating laparoscopic surgery and surgical innovation that the department was involved in to the general public. Here I demonstrated laparoscopic cholecystectomy to the public (of which Prof Harold Ellis and other dignitaries were in attendance) in both The Wellcome Collection and The Science Museum – the attendance at the latter being many thousands of people!

From a personal side of things, both my wife and I hugely enjoyed the vast array of cultural possibilities that London had to offer. We became members of Kew Gardens and went to The Chelsea Flower Show, went to a West End Show and many art galleries and historic houses. I also had the opportunity to do a post graduate diploma in Art History where my thesis topic was about the importance of art and design in hospitals – something which I personally feel is very important to humanise hospitals and is supported at an international level by the WHO and at government level in the UK but is essentially neglected in Ireland.

In summary this was a hugely beneficial, rounded and surgically rewarding year. I have made many new friends and contacts and learned many surgical and even non-surgical things that will be applicable in Ireland. I would like to offer my sincerest thanks for Ethicon for awarding me the fellowship and to Prof Darzi and all of the consultants and staff of St Marys for making my year so rewarding and enjoyable.

(b) The institution in which you worked

As an Irish trainee, I was as actively involved in the department as possible. As my training in Ireland had been to a high standard I was able to provide independent operating support and manage a high volume and complexity of patients.

(c) In the future for Irish patients

As stated above, there were so many positive aspects of this fellowship that will be directly and beneficial for Irish patients.