



Grant/Fellowship Report Form

Grant Holder Name	Kieran Power
Brief biography, including qualification and year of graduation (no more than 100 words)	I graduated from UCC in 2000. I did my internship and basic surgical training in Cork University Hospital. I obtained an MSc in Surgical Science at University College London (2005). I was appointed to the Irish Plastic Surgery HST programme in 2008. I have undertaken a fellowship in Microvascular Cancer Reconstruction at the Royal Marsden London in 2011. I was awarded the Dr Richard Steevens scholarship and the Ethicon grant to do a fellowship in Melanoma and Surgical Oncology at the Melanoma (2012) Institute Australia. I am currently working as a Consultant at the Royal Marsden in London.
Title of Project/Fellowship	Fellowship in Melanoma and Surgical Oncology at the Melanoma Institute Australia.
Year of Award:	2012
Commencement Date:	July 2012
Conclusion Date:	July 2013

Summary (no more than 250 words)

I spent the final year of my specialist training in plastic and reconstructive surgery doing a fellowship in melanoma and surgical oncology at the Melanoma Institute Australia. The Melanoma Institute Australia is the world's largest melanoma research and treatment centre. Professor John Thompson is the executive director of the unit which has an internationally recognized faculty. It is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to preventing and curing melanoma through innovative world-class research, treatment and education programs. The institute has over 70 staff including Surgeons, Dermatologists, Oncologists, Radiation Oncologists, Nurse Specialists, Clinical Trials Staff and Researchers.

The Melanoma Institute Australia attracts a large volume of complex cases. As a surgical specialist I spend much of my time attached to Professor John Thompson and Associate Professor Jonathan Stretch. Professor Thompson is a leading surgical oncologist who specializes in surgery for advanced disease such as lymphadenectomies including ilioinguinal dissections, resections for distant metastases and isolated limb infusion. Associate Professor Stretch is a plastic surgeon who specializes in facial melanoma and skin cancer. Surgical treatment of facial skin cancers can result in significant deformity and disfigurement. Plastic surgeons are trained in a variety of reconstructive techniques, which enable them to achieve the best aesthetic and functional outcomes without compromising on clearance of the tumour.

I also had opportunities to gain exposure to the other disciplines within the faculty (Head and Neck Surgery, Dermatology, Medical Oncology, Radiation Oncology and Nuclear Medicine). There is an excellent weekly multi-disciplinary meeting where the entire faculty discuss complex cases. In addition there are regular research meetings with visiting international experts presenting their work in melanoma.

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

Objectives of Project/Fellowship:

- Further develop my skills and knowledge in the management of Melanoma and Skin Cancer.
- Become skilled at lymphadenectomies, sentinel lymph node biopsy, isolated limb infusion.
- Further develop my skills in reconstruction for facial skin cancer.
- Gain experience in the latest medical and radiation oncology treatments for advanced melanoma.
- Improve my diagnostic skills in Melanoma and Skin oncology.
- Undertake a research project.
- Familiarise myself with the public health strategy in melanoma to see how it could be adopted in Ireland.

Did you achieve these objectives?

Yes

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

(a) Yourself

It has been a privilege to work with some of the world experts in melanoma and skin cancer. The working relationships that I have established and the experience gained will be invaluable throughout my career. I believe this fellowship has provided me with the necessary training to take a lead role in the further development of melanoma and skin cancer services in Ireland.

(b) The institution in which you worked

The Melanoma institute was very happy to have an additional senior trainee. The unit is exceptionally busy and there was always lots of training opportunities both in the outpatient clinics and in theatre. In addition to clinical work, I also had the opportunity to do research. The institute maintains the largest patent database and integrated tumour bank in the world and is conducting several research projects. As part of the fellowship I had access to this resource and I have conducted studies into the role of CT surveillance in Stage III melanoma and Conditional Survival Analysis in Melanoma.

(c) In the future for Irish patients

Although not to the same extent as Australia, melanoma represents a significant public health issue for Ireland. The incidence of melanoma in Ireland is increasing at a rate of 5% per year. In 2008 there were 815 invasive and 385 *in situ* cases of melanoma. Ireland has the 4th highest rate in Europe for females and 8th highest for males. It accounts for 113 deaths per year. The National Cancer Control Programme (NCCP) has identified Skin Cancer and Melanoma as an area in need of further development. The skills and experience that I have gained at this centre of excellence will enable me to deliver improved skin cancer services to Irish patients.