



Consortium for the
Accreditation of
Sonographic Education

ANNUAL REPORT

2016 - 2017

(1st October 2016 to 30th September 2017)



THE SOCIETY FOR
VASCULAR TECHNOLOGY OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

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CASE Accreditor Day, 7th November 2016

Introduction from the Chair



Simon Richards, March 2018

CASE has had a very busy and productive year! We've had the opportunity to accredit a number of innovative and exciting programmes, providing educational opportunities to a range of health care professionals.

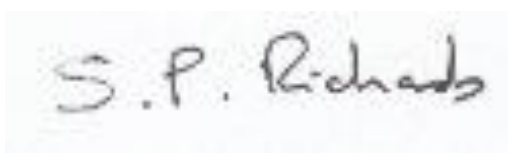
The CASE Committee has set up a number of subgroups to ensure their processes are effective and so they can be proactive to educational change. There are now subgroups for:

- Strategy
- APMR (Annual Performance Monitoring Review)
- Accreditation
- Third Trimester Growth and Short Courses
- Accreditor Education and Training
- The CASE Handbook

The APMR subgroup received returns from all accredited institutions and I'm pleased to say all programmes had successful reviews.

Members of CASE committee have taken an active role in all of the groups and workshops which have taken place to inform the proposed changes to the sonographic career structure. This engagement is vital to ensure CASE can deliver on its new mission statement, "*to be the provider of choice for advice on the development and delivery of ultrasound education and training and to be the only recognised Accreditor for ultrasound courses*". The CASE Committee is made up of numerous experienced educators and clinicians who, along with the accreditors, are ideally placed to guide and inform on the necessary change required.

Exciting and challenging times are ahead for ultrasound practice and education; I don't remember a time so much change lay ahead. The proposed changes to the career structure will mean significant alterations to the delivery of ultrasound education and CASE are well prepared to lead, advise and accredit any educational model presented.



About CASE

CASE was established in 1993 to allow organisations with a shared interest to come together to provide appropriate and relevant oversight of all aspects of sonographic education.

It is operated on a not-for-profit basis and is not formally incorporated as a company or a charity.

It relies on volunteers to commit their time to ensure that students who graduate from its accredited courses do so with the best in education, mentor support and clinical competency; thus preparing the sonographic workforce of the future.

About the Member Organisations of CASE

Member Organisations (MOs) are normally those which have direct responsibilities and interest in the practice of sonography and its education and training. They are independent bodies with their own professional concerns in relation to the research, education and practice of medical ultrasound.

Member Organisations share in common the concern that education must continue to develop to meet changing technology, clinical practice and service requirements. They recognise the need to collaborate to set and maintain standards, optimise education and training development and provision, and make validation and accreditation procedures as robust as possible. They understand the need to do this in conjunction with the relevant external bodies, including statutory bodies.

In 2016/17, the MOs of CASE were:



The British Medical Ultrasound Society



The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy



The College of Radiographers



IPEM

The Institute of Physics and Engineering in Medicine



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The Society for Vascular Technology of Great Britain and Ireland

How CASE works

The primary role of the Consortium is to accredit high quality training programmes and focused courses that promote best ultrasound practice and ensure that ultrasound practitioners are safe and competent to practise, whilst taking into account informed views of service needs.

The strategic direction and policy of CASE are decided by the Member Organisations which make up the Consortium. The MOs meet twice a year, and set a financial and business plan for the Consortium.

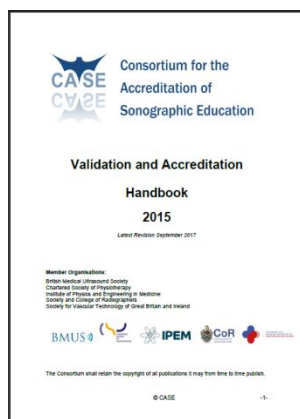
Each MO nominates three appropriately qualified representatives from amongst its own membership to serve on the CASE Committee, with two out of the three attending each meeting.

The CASE Committee is responsible for implementing CASE policy. The Committee normally meets three times a year to:

- ensure, via a co-ordinated programme of validation and monitoring, that standards of education and training in sonography are being set, maintained and enhanced
- establish a co-ordinated approach to setting, maintaining and enhancing standards of education and training in sonography, ensuring that the standards are and remain approved by the Consortium
- undertake validation and periodic review of individual education and training programmes and focused courses in sonography, and to accredit programmes and focused courses in the name of the Consortium.

A comprehensive CASE Handbook guides the CASE Committee in its work, and regular CASE training days help to keep assessors' skills up to date.

Support services are provided by an MO (currently IPEM) who is responsible, under contract, for allocating staff to the roles of CASE Co-ordinator and CASE Finance Officer.



Achievements in 2016 – 2017

During this year:

- 1 new MSc programme received CASE accreditation
- 3 MSc programmes received CASE re-accreditation
- 2 new focused courses received CASE accreditation
- 7 focused courses received CASE re-accreditation
- 4 changes to existing courses were approved
- 4 new Accreditors were approved to join the team (plus 1 resignation and 2 retirees)
- 4 new members joined the CASE Committee (plus 1 retiree)
- 51 requests for help and information via the website were dealt with, with an average response time of 2.7 days
- All accredited universities submitted a satisfactory return to the CASE annual monitoring performance review (APMR)
- A dedicated 'Strategy Day' was held with the MO's in June 2017
- 1 new policy was introduced to remove the requirement for courses eligible for CASE accreditation to be at Masters level only
- The first CASE Annual Report was published
- The Accreditor Day in November 2016 had 20 attendees including Accreditors (new and existing), Course Leaders and others with an interest in sonographic education
- We continued talks with the College of Podiatrists about becoming a Member Organisation of CASE, and explored options with the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Midwives
- CASE led a session at BMUS 2016 in December
- CASE was involved in contributing to policy discussions about sonographic education with Health Education England (HEE)
- CASE continued to work with HEE and other stakeholders on issues relating to the sonography workforce crisis
- **We were delighted to welcome the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy as a new member of CASE from 1st October 2016**

In 2017, the Consortium changed its mission statement and aims:

Our New Mission Statement is:

To be the provider of choice for advice on the development and delivery of ultrasound education and training and to be the only recognised accreditor for ultrasound courses.

Our Aims:

1. To accredit high quality clinical* ultrasound education and training programmes (including focused courses, stand-alone modules and CPD) that promote best ultrasound practice and provide assurance that ultrasound practitioners are safe and competent to practice.
2. To identify the current and future needs of service providers with respect to clinical* ultrasound education and training and advise on education and training to meet the changing service and workforce needs.
3. To evaluate new and innovative training and education pathways at all academic levels and to accredit when appropriate to do so.
4. To monitor CASE accredited programmes of ultrasound education and training to ensure they continue to meet appropriate standards.
5. To assist with the development of ultrasound education and training programmes.

**The term 'clinical' recognises the multi-disciplinary nature of the workforce; in other circumstances the word 'medical' may be used.*



CASE Finances

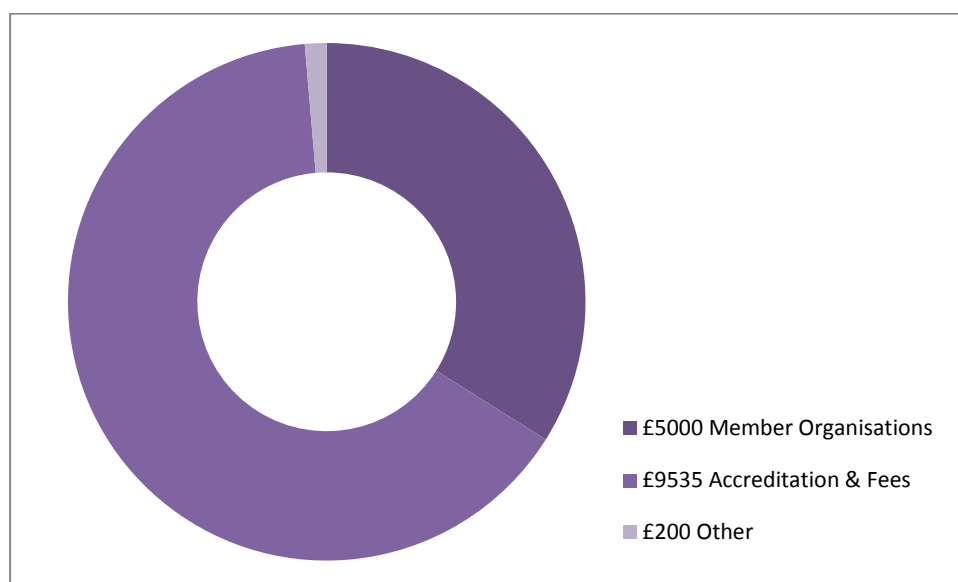
CASE's activities are funded through two main sources: fees paid by Member Organisations to be part of the Consortium; and fees charged to course providers for accreditation services.

Total income for the year to 30th September 2017 has risen to £14,735 (£12,350 in 2016), the main factor being the addition of a new member organisation from October 2016.

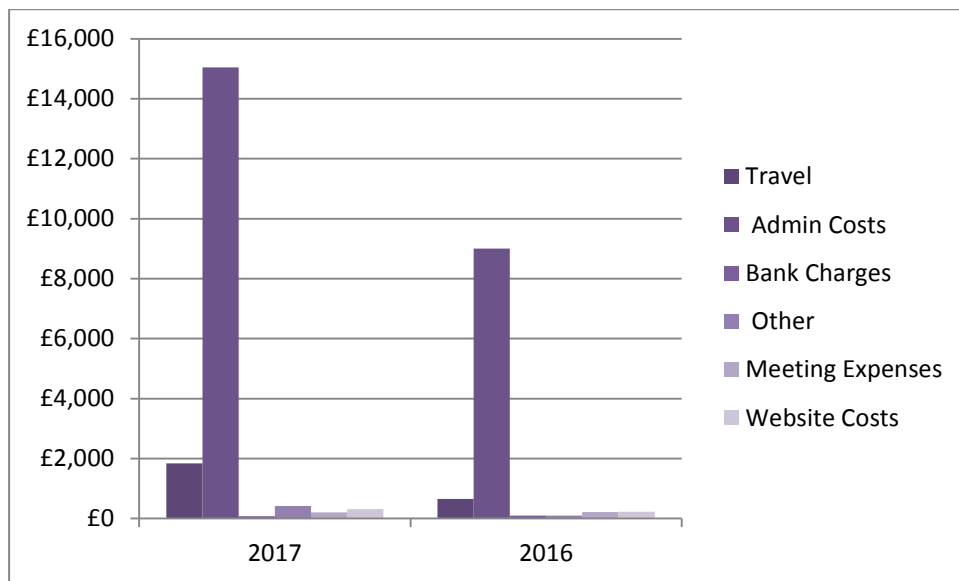
Total expenditure has also risen due to increased administration costs at £15,046 (£9,000 in 2016), the administrative time has not significantly changed but the contract for support services now reflects the actual cost, and is no longer subsidised by the organisation providing the services. Travel costs have also increased to £1,834 (£653 in 2016) as a result of additional expenses for the Chair, now that he is required to attend an increasing number of sub-groups to represent CASE, and for the strategy day. This has led to a deficit for the year of £3,158 (surplus of £2,144 in 2016), shown in the balance sheet, with reserves increasing to £8,051.

Of particular importance this year was a contract renewal with IPEM to October 2019 for providing the support services. This resulted in an amended Budget for 2018 which was agreed by the member organisations in May 2017.

CASE Income 2017



CASE Expenditure 2017



Looking Forward

Plans for 2017-18 include:

- Signing up the College of Podiatrists as a new Member Organisation
- Working with the 'Trailblazer group for the Sonographer Apprenticeship' to support and provide input to the development of a level 6 sonographer degree apprenticeship.
- Work with HEE to advise on the education requirements for the new sonographic career structure
- Begin work on a revised version of the CASE Handbook



CASE Accredited Courses 2016-2017***MSc Programmes***

AECC/University of Bournemouth	MSc Medical Ultrasound
Birmingham City University	MSc Medical Ultrasound
Canterbury Christ Church University	MSc Medical Ultrasound
City, University London	MSc Medical Ultrasound
Glasgow Caledonian University	MSc Medical Ultrasound
King's College London	MSc Medical Ultrasound/ MSc Vascular Ultrasound
Sheffield Hallam University	MSc Medical Ultrasound
Teesside University	MSc Medical Ultrasound
University of Cumbria	MSc Medical Imaging (Ultrasound)
	MSc Medical Ultrasound (Direct Entry)
University of Derby	MSc Medical Ultrasound
University of Essex	MSc Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Imaging
University of Leeds	MSc Diagnostic Imaging
University of Salford	MSc Ultrasound Imaging
University of the West of England	MSc Medical Ultrasound
University of Ulster	MSc Advancing Practice in Medical Ultrasound

Postgraduate Certificate

University of East London	PgC Musculoskeletal Ultrasound
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Focused Courses

AECC/Bournemouth University	3 rd Trimester Pregnancy Growth Ultrasound Basic Gynaecology & Early Pregnancy Ultrasound Lower Limb Muscle Ultrasound Musculoskeletal Ultrasound Podiatry Musculoskeletal Ultrasound
Birmingham City University	1 st Trimester Screening 3 rd Trimester Fetal Surveillance Early Pregnancy Ultrasound Obstetric Ultrasound Dating for Family Planning Transvaginal Ultrasound for Infertility
Canterbury Christ Church University	3 rd Trimester Ultrasound Scanning Hands, Wrists & Feet in Rheumatology
Glasgow Caledonian University	3 rd Trimester Obstetric Ultrasound Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening Synovitis Sonography Course
Public Health England	Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening

CASE Committee 2016-2017

Chair: Simon Richards BMUS
Vice-Chair: Gill Dolbear SCoR

Members:

Heather Venables	BMUS	Prof Neil Pugh	IPEM
Catherine Kirkpatrick	BMUS	Dr Vivien Gibbs	SCoR
Mike Smith	CSP	Gill Harrison	SCoR
Stuart Wildman	CSP	Dr Valda Gazzard	SVT
Carolyn Mason	CSP	Anna Jerram	SVT
Crispian Oates	IPEM	Mary-Ellen Williams	SVT
Dr Adam Lovick	IPEM		

CASE Accreditors 2016-2017

Thank you to all our accreditors for volunteering their time in support of CASE

Jane Arezina	University of Leeds
Katherine Barton	University of Portsmouth
Gareth Bolton	University of Cumbria
Dr Mhairi Brandon	Glasgow Royal Infirmary
Peter Cantin	Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust
Elizabeth Chapman	Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline
David Cole	Birmingham City University
Gillian Coleman	University of Derby
Diane Dickson	Glasgow Caledonian University
Gill Dolbear	Canterbury Christ Church University
Theresa Fail	Health Education West Midlands
Jan Forster	Leeds General Infirmary
Dawn Fraser	Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh
Ben Freedman	Kings College Hospital, London
Elaine Gardiner	Glasgow Caledonian University
Dr Valda Gazzard	Treliske Hospital, Truro
Dr Vivien Gibbs	University of the West of England, Bristol
Sue Halson-Brown	Kings College London
Allison Harris	City, University of London
Gill Harrison	City, University of London
Dr Bob Jarman	Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead
Gerry Johnson	University of Salford
Dr Adam Lovick	Sandwell General Hospital, West Bromwich
Frith Noble	Dr Gray's Hospital, Elgin
Dr Crispian Oates	Freeman Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne
Dr David Oxborough	Liverpool John Moores University
Prof Neil Pugh	Cardiff University
Simon Richards	University of Teesside
Jacquie Torrington	City, University of London
Heather Venables	University of Derby
Wendy Williams	Llandough Hospital, Penarth
Jean Wilson	University of Leeds
Rachel Wilson	Hull & East Yorkshire NHS Hospital Trust



Consortium for the Accreditation of Sonographic Education

CASE March 2018

Contact: Sally Hawking

Case Coordinator

case@ipem.ac.uk

www.case-uk.org

 [@CASE_news](https://twitter.com/CASE_news)



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