

# MANCHESTER MEDICAL SOCIETY

## Section of Imaging

The final meeting for the current session for the Section of Imaging was held on **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at 6.00 pm in Theatre 2 of the Stopford Building, University of Manchester, Oxford, Road, Manchester.**

The President of the Section, Dr W St Clair Forbes, welcomed the audience and introduced the evening's speakers and debate as follows :-

**“This house believes that two foundation years gives sufficient clinical experience for a career in radiology”**

For the proposal

**Dr P Dubbins**

(Consultant Radiologist, Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust)

Against the proposal

**Dr D Kessel**

(Consultant Vascular Radiologist, Leeds Teaching Hospital)

The motion was proposed by Dr Paul Dubbins who talked regarding the entry requirements for radiology training in Europe and USA and compared them to UK and Ireland that stand alone in recommending greater than two years of clinical practice prior to radiological training. In some cases this has been anything up to ten years of “non essential” medical and surgical training. It was proposed that the current two foundation years gave enough basic training in medical and surgical tasks and an entry into radiology requires only a basic level of these with more focused radiological training taking place on the training scheme. He pointed out the comparison with both surgical and medical career paths in which one foundation year only is required before commencing in the sub-speciality training.

Dr Kessel opposed the motion and talked about the good reputation of the UK trainees in clinical radiology in having a good clinical understanding of the clinicopathological processes when interpreting radiological data. He felt that adequate experience was required to inform career choice. In addition patients required the best trained doctors and twelve years of training post qualification was probably in the patient best interest, rather than seven, particularly as the European Working Time Directive has decreased training opportunities and therefore increased years of training should really be required to master the basic skills.

A lively question and answer session followed. Prior to the debate the vast majority of radiologists felt that two foundation years was inadequate for a career in radiology. At the end of the debate there had been little change in numbers, although one or two more people in the audience felt that two years might be adequate training.

The debate was followed by dinner at MosoMoso.