# INTERCOLLEGIATE SURGICAL EDUCATION COMMITTEE for SAS, LED and NON-CONSULTANT HOSPITAL DOCTORS (ISECSN)

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

## Background

In April 2021 the JSCM approved a proposal to create an Intercollegiate SAS Education Committee. This committee will have representation from all surgical Royal Colleges and Specialty Specific Associations. As well as SAS Grades, the committee will have consideration for Locally Employed Doctors (LEDs) in surgical posts, including Trust Grades, Clinical Fellows, Clinical Assistants, and other non-standard posts and Non-Consultant Hospital Grades (NCHGs) who are surgeons working in Ireland in the same grade who have similar issues.

## Vision

It has been agreed that this committee will consider the following issues, and provide coordination of educational and advisory activity in areas which include the following:

* Career advice and support (Colleges)
* Creation of webinars and courses to include generic and specialist topics (SSAs and Colleges)
* Mentor training (Colleges)
* Skills development (SSAs and Colleges)
* Learning tools (ISCP/JCST)
* CESR application advice
* Assessment support (JCIE)
* Credentialling

The new committee will liaise with JCST and JCIE regarding the curriculum, ISCP and exam eligibility. Analysis and interpretation of the curriculum from the perspective of the SAS/LED/NCHG surgeons will facilitate career development.

Changes in evidence for the CESR process, the new FRCS examination criteria, the new Senior SAS Grade as well as simple career progression are all areas for development that the new committee can address.

Communication between the new committee and the JCST regarding any changes to the ISCP will provide a broader less piecemeal approach. All Colleges and SSAs will provide input, and there should be ongoing discussion as relationships build up. The new Joint Committee can provide support and guidance for the CESR assistance presently in place, and the mentorship which is planned.

Overall, this group will be responsible for Surgical SAS educational development. Issues such as funding for education and training, recognition and employment terms and conditions are outwith the responsibility of Colleges, but the Colleges can have influence in these areas. The committee will provide a liaison group for the SAS community in the same way as JCST does for trainees.

## Membership

The Chair of the committee will change every three years. The appointment will be agreed by the JSCM and normally will rotate through the four Surgical Colleges in turn.

The SAS Co-Chair will be appointed from the SAS Representatives on the committee. Representatives will be invited to self-nominate,  and following interview a recommendation for the SAS Co-Chair role will be taken to the JSCM for ratification. The Co-Chair should be holding an SAS, LED or NCHD post at the time of the appointment. The SAS Co-Chair term of office is three years.

Posts that are to be filled will be advertised on the ISECSN website. When recruitment is due within a specialty association, an LED would be eligible and could be appointed instead of an SAS, but that individual would take over the remit of the SAS.

Members will serve for a maximum of three years on the committee.

Membership comprises:

* Chair
* Lead SAS Co-Chair
* Educational Leads from RCSEd, RCSEng, RCPSG, RCSI
* Lead from FSSA
* Leads from ICBSE, JCIE and JCST
* Representatives from SAS/LED/NCHG grades nominated by each Specialty Associations and all Colleges

## Meetings

The committee shall meet three times a year to develop programmes of educational and pastoral content on an annual basis provided predominantly online in the first instance.

## Governance

The committee reports to the Councils of the four Colleges through its Chair.