



OSI Secretary's Report 2021

We have had another year of CoVid-19 cause continuing challenges for the OSI and its members. Since the last AGM in January 2021, our first virtual AGM, we provided a series of online lectures in both May and June 2021. This was organised by our Scientific Secretary, Dr Finn Geoghegan. Dr Angus Burns, our Consultant Representative, has coordinated virtual study group sessions in 2021, which were found to be very successful, and these have continued into 2022. We continue to offer access to the Journal of Orthodontics and Journal of Clinical Orthodontics as a benefit of membership, and other orthodontic content can be found on our website and social media sites. Instructions on how to access these journals can be found on our website.

The council have attended 9 virtual meetings throughout 2021; one per month with the exception of June, October and November. During these meetings, we have discussed issues relating to our members, the CoVid pandemic, updates to our website and social media sites, organisation of future meetings and speakers, to name but a few topics.

Over the past year, the society has welcomed 12 new members - 2 orthodontists, 3 postgraduate students, 6 orthodontic therapists and 1 orthodontic laboratory technician. We have 202 members in our society which is a decrease of 6% on 216 members in 2020

The overall membership currently comprises of 150 orthodontists, 41 orthodontic therapists, 11 orthodontic laboratory technicians. The 150 orthodontists are made up of 101 full members in private practice, 23 full members exclusively in HSE, 15 international members, 1 special member/life member and 10 student members.

We in council wish to thank all members of the society for their continuing loyalty during this past year. We hope to increase membership going forward, and we are optimistic that the keen interest in our recent call for entries for the Seamus Keating Award might encourage postgraduate students from Ireland, UK and abroad to join us at upcoming meetings. We look forward to welcoming the finalists for The Seamus Keating Award 2022 at the Spring Meeting in April in Sligo.

Our aims for membership in 2022 include an endeavour to increase membership of our public sector colleagues by providing content in the upcoming meetings which is more inclusive of this group. Our HSE representative, Catherine Crocker, has recently surveyed our members regarding how the OSI might better support our public sector members.

In addition, the council would like to recognise the persistent hard work and support which Aideen McCallum provides daily. On a personal note, I would like to thank Aideen for continually being available, being a fountain of knowledge and always helpful throughout my entire time on council in all my various roles.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow council members for all of the time and effort that they have given to the society, especially our President Dr Ciara Scott and Scientific Secretary Dr Finn Geoghegan, who have worked so diligently over the past year.

Wishing you all a safe and happy 2022 and look forward to welcoming you to our Spring Meeting in Sligo in April.

Dr Claire Higgins

Honorary Secretary 2021 - 2022

5th March 2022