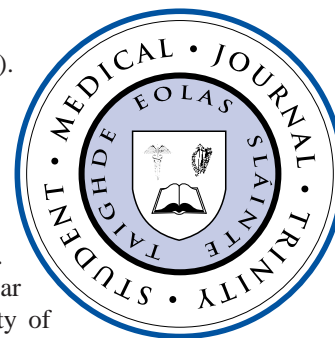


Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the sixth edition of the Trinity Student Medical Journal (TSMJ). I have had the pleasure of directing the journal this year and it has been a wonderful experience being part of the team involved in its publication.

The Trinity Student Medical Journal is entirely run by the medical students of Trinity College, Dublin. The aim of the journal is to provide a forum for presentation, discussion and publication of research and personal experience. In addition to publishing the work of medical students, this is the fourth year that we have accepted submissions from other students within the Faculty of Health Sciences and Biomedical Faculties at Trinity. Thank you to all the various schools for their interest and support.



This year we are proud to introduce a new gold medal, the “Dean’s Gold Medal for the Best Article in the TSMJ”. I would sincerely like to thank Dean Diarmuid Shanley for this prestigious medal. Dean Shanley has given tremendous support to the journal over the past number of years and I would like to acknowledge this on behalf of the committee and our predecessors.

The Advisers to the 2005 Journal include Professor Conleth Feighery, Professor Hilary Hoey and Professor Moira O’Brien. We are very much indebted to them for their advice, time and support.

This year the TSMJ committee comprised of twenty medical students working on the editing, finance, marketing, production, sponsorship sourcing, website development and conference organisation for the launch of the journal. From the outset last October when we advertised for committee members the volume and calibre of student applications were phenomenal and selection proved a very difficult task. Regrettably due to number restrictions we could not offer committee places to all applicants on this occasion. Likewise an unprecedented number of high quality articles were submitted to our editors. However, due to space constraints, unfortunately many articles could not be included. The committee would like to express its thanks to all the applicants and to the authors who gave valuable time and energy researching and writing applications and articles for submission. As has been said before, there would be no journal without you.

Sponsorship is vital for the survival of the journal. With this in mind we would like to gratefully acknowledge the financial support of our Sponsors – Medical Protection Society, TCD Medical Alumni, Servier, Allied Irish Bank, Leo Pharma, Wyeth, GalaxoSmithKline and NovoNordisk. We would also like to thank the numerous Consultants who sponsored us by becoming Patrons to the journal.

This is the third year Dublin University Publications have given us access to their superb production facilities on campus. We are most appreciative of the assistance provided by Conal Bolger and all the team at DU Publications.

I would like to thank Brenda Rice, the previous Director, for her advice and making the task of taking over the running of the journal a smooth transition. I wish her every success with her recent appointment as Intern in the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio.

Having worked on the TSMJ for the past three editions, I would like to pay tribute to all the fantastic committee members I have worked with over that time. I would especially like to thank Ciaran, Melissa, Ann, Tim, Peter, Sean, Aparna, Deborah, Jarushka, John, Ivan, Sandeep, William, Claire, Rachel, Oksana, Niamh, Ruth and Audrey for their tremendous work and support this year. The standard of professionalism, commitment and attention to detail has made my job as Director a pleasure.

*Go raibh míle maith agaibh a chairde agus go n-eirí an bóthar libh.*

Rebecca O’Rourke B.Comm.  
TSMJ Director 2005.