



GLOBAL LEADERSHIP CONSULTANCY

DR MICHAEL SHANNON



PROFESSOR MICHAEL SHANNON

HIS appointment as Dean at the of Nursing Midwifery, Royal College of Surgeons (RCSI) University of Medicine and Health Science is the latest milestone in the career of Sligo native Professor Michael Shannon. Having been nominated to become the first male Dean ever appointed to the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Professor Shannon is hopeful that his tenure can help bring about a greater number of males entering nursing education.

A native of Enniscrone, but now based in Drumcliffe, Professor Shannon has had a long and varied career working in healthcare, which all started from his training as a nurse in Sligo Hospital in the early 1980s.

Since then, he has worked in a variety of different nursing roles across Ireland and abroad and has also engaged in significant academic work. His expertise has been used by a number of state agencies, including the Department of Health and Children, the HSE and World Health Organisation, while in 2019 he established his own Healthcare and Educational Consultancy business, Global Leadership Consultancy.

Appointed to his RCSI role in March 2020, Professor Shannon says "it was a gradual progression to becoming Dean of the Faculty".

"I was a fellow of the College of Surgeons Faculty of Nursing," he explained to The Sligo Champion, "and then I was nominated as Vice Dean which I did for two years. Then I was automatically nominated as the Dean."

Detailing his own working background, Professor Shannon outlines his exploits in a variety of different clinical areas, including mental health and orthopaedics.

Having assumed his Deanship with the RCSI, Professor Shannon set out four goals that he wanted to achieve during his tenure. One is the increased recruitment of male professionals to work in nursing.

His own formative years and journey into nursing highlights the possibilities and opportunities the career presents.

"When I took on my Deanship, I wanted to complement our strategy by advancing my own unique four



targets," he says.

"The number of men going into the nursing and midwifery professions, is still quite low.....As of December 2019 less than 9.3% of the total nursing population is male"

"How I was attracted into nursing was, even though my mother was a nurse, I have two sisters' nurses and midwives, but it was actually the Principal Tutor from Sligo General Hospital many years ago visited the Convent of Jesus and Mary in Enniscrone on a careers night, his name was Joe Mullen,

and I was really struck by his passion for nursing and the many career opportunities"

"I hadn't thought of nursing, even though it was in my family, but the fact that Joe was a man and promoting nursing for both genders was inspirational. Nursing and midwifery can open up so many opportunities for both men and women and I believe it is a very privileged and unique career."

The career of Professor Shannon himself is a good example of the varied path one can take in nursing.

"I trained as a general nurse in Sligo Hospital in 1981, and then I completed my training in psychiatric nursing in Dublin in John of Gods Hospital and then undertook orthopedic nursing in England.

"I was a staff nurse and clinical nurse in Ireland and England, and then I progressed up the career ladder. I became Director of Nursing in Sligo and Letterkenny hospitals, and the Chief Nurse in Dublin, thereafter I was head of the HSE for Nursing and Midwifery and then progressed into education following my PhD and MBA and worked with the Royal College of Surgeons in Bahrain for a few years. Thereafter I established my own leadership consultancy business.

Regarding the Nursing profession "It's a very, very rewarding career, and it's full circle.

"Even though I do a lot of leadership consulting both here and abroad, I'm actually going back to work as a clinical nurse in the Irish Cancer Society. Nursing as a career is a very unique privilege"

So what exactly can the RCSI provide to aspiring nurses and midwives?

The renowned college Medicine and Health Sciences University, which has a worldwide reach, provides quality courses that can help those seeking to advance their education and gain employment in healthcare.

Professor Shannon says: "The RCSI is a very unique university.

"The Royal College of Surgeons as a Medicine and Health Sciences University focuses uniquely on healthcare professionals and their education as compared to other universities that have other departments and faculties. It also has a strong international reach, because it has campuses in a number of

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jurisdictions all over the world. It's specifically focuses on the undergraduate and postgraduate education of interdisciplinary healthcare professionals including nurses and midwives. The faculty of Nursing and Midwifery was developed constituted in 1974 and is the longest established provider of Higher education for Nurses and Midwives in Ireland.

"Our role is focussed on transformative learning experiences, leading impactful research and contributing to health and social care in Ireland and internationally. Specifically we focus on postgraduate education, so for nurses and midwives who are already qualified, that's where our market it. We have a whole suite of education programmes, we also provide a unique professional Fellowship, professional events and leadership events." For the first time in Irish Nursing history the Faculty is also launching a professional academic membership programme from September 2021.

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GLOBAL LEADERSHIP CONSULTANCY (GLC) IS AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY WHICH FOCUSES ON LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT ACROSS HEALTHCARE, EDUCATION AND SERVICE INDUSTRIES

The company prides itself on creating trusting relationships with clients so as to increase their opportunities to learn and grow to their full potential.

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THE NUMBER OF MEN GOING INTO THE NURSING AND MIDWIFERY PROFESSIONS, IS STILL QUITE LOW.....AS OF DECEMBER 2019 LESS THAN 9.3% OF THE TOTAL NURSING POPULATION IS MALE

Fellowship of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery (FFNMRC SI)

› Ranked joint second globally for Good Health and Well-being in the Times Higher Education (THE) University Impact Rankings 2021, RCSI University of Medicine and Health Sciences is an international not-for-profit university, with its headquarters in Dublin. RCSI is exclusively focused on education and research to drive improvements in human health worldwide. It is among the top 250 universities worldwide.

› Established in 1974, the RCSI Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery plays a pivotal role in leading and supporting the development of the nursing and midwifery professions nationally through the delivery of transformative learning experiences, impactful research in the areas of professional development and supporting the contribution of nurses and midwives to healthcare and societal well-being.

› RCSI's Fellowship of the Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery is one of the most prestigious professional qualifications awarded to nurses and midwives in Ireland and across the world. The Fellowship enables a candidate to link their contribution to their profession, society and in the case of nursing/ midwifery to patients, service users, colleagues and students.



Professor Michael Shannon, Dean, RCSI Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery with Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General, WHO in Geneva, Switzerland.

› Fellows of the Faculty join an extensive professional network of nursing and midwifery professionals, both nationally and internationally, and can also avail of a suite of exclusive benefits and educational resources.

› The Fellowship is open to any nurse or midwife, from any scope of practice or speciality. Applicants must possess a Master's degree in nursing, midwifery or related/applied field and be a registered nurse/ midwife with a minimum of five years' experience. In recognition of nurses and midwives exceptional commitment, dedication and contribution to the delivery of care to patients, clients and service users during the pandemic, the Faculty is delighted to show our support by reducing the cost of Fellowship

for 2021. The Faculty appreciates your work, your professionalism and your expertise in these challenging and unprecedented times. Your work has never been more vital or more valued.

› Join Ms Catherine Clune Mulvaney, Operations and Education Manager and Ms Áine Halligan, Faculty Administrator, us for an **INTERACTIVE INFORMATION SESSION** at 12.30-1.30PM on **TUESDAY, 22 JUNE 2021** <https://bit.ly/3tRlAsq>

› Visit the Faculty's webpage for more information <https://www.rcsi.com/dublin/about/faculty-of-nursing-and-midwifery/fellowship>

RCSI.COM