## The future

As we look to the future, our course will adapt to ensure our students have the knowledge, skills and experience to succeed in dental practice in an ever-challenging environment. We have moved into the era of 'digital dentistry' and it is vital that we prepare our graduates with the requisite skills in this area. In collaboration with our regional postgraduate medical and dental training agency (Northern Ireland Medical and Dental Training Agency), our students now have access to haptic 3D virtual reality dental training simulators, providing standardised cases, objective assessment and interactivity, while enhancing learning and psychomotor skill acquisition. Fully digital workflows in dentistry, such as incorporating intraoral scanners and computer-aided treatment planning and design, has also increased dramatically in recent years and we will ensure our graduates have experience in these new technologies.

We have also begun the process of decolonisation of our curriculum and will ensure that equality, diversity and inclusivity is fully embedded in our degree programme. Similarly, we have taken initial steps to ensure students are aware of the importance of sustainability in dentistry, in line with United Nations goals. A strong student voice is central to our approach to developing our course and, with the significant involvement of our students, these areas will be a major focus moving forward.

## **Conclusions**

As the dates above indicate, the Dental School in Queen's University marked its centenary in October 2020. Unfortunately, because of the pandemic and the restrictions in place at that time, we were unable to celebrate that milestone. Over those 100 years, the Dental School has undergone many changes. Continued development and enrichment of our curriculum content and delivery, most

recently driven by the pandemic, will ensure our graduates are fully prepared for their transition into the workplace.

Ethics declaration

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

Author contributions

Chris Irwin, Wendy Turner, Amanda Willis, Amanda Beresford and Chris Johnston contributed to the development and completion of this manuscript.

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The journal would like to publish a minor clarification to this review, that it is the authors' royalties which will be donated to the two charities named. In addition, the correct pricing information is £95.50 (eBook); £119.99 (hardcover).