As a trainee in the early stages of my interventional training it was fantastic to be selected by BCIS to attend this years SCAI fellows course. The meeting itself has been running for nine years and has an increasingly global audience, with trainees from over 60 countries’ attending this year. The meeting is held in the uniquely ostentatious surroundings of Las Vegas, which is a great location for the all fellows to meet and get to know one another, to develop international networks, whilst also recognising who has the most hardened poker face!

The course itself runs over three and a half days with each day having a different theme, with both coronary and structural intervention being covered. The format is didactic allowing a great deal of information to be covered in a relatively short space of time. One of the most useful aspects of the course was the gradation in complexity over the three days, with the first morning, being very much an introduction to the basic principles of interventional cardiology, including topics such as guiding catheter selection and guide-wire technology. Conversely, by day three, the course changes footing and covers complex structural intervention with an array of case-based discussion with the addition of synopsis lectures supplementing this, with information and lecture slides for all of the course material provided online following the conclusion of the course.

The SCAI faculty who facilitate the course is made up of internationally recognised clinicians and researchers, many of whom are on the ACC/AHA and SCAI guideline panels, which provides a unique opportunity to interact and discuss clinical conundrums with an extremely learned and ‘fellow-friendly’ faculty.

The course provides an excellent learning opportunity in a very well organised format and I would highly recommend future trainees to attend the course. Additionally, I would encourage trainees in their pre-subspecialty training year who are interested in pursuing interventional cardiology, to apply, as the course gives a great grounding in many important aspects of interventional cardiology.

Finally, I would like to thank BCIS for the opportunity to attend the SCAI course this year and commend them on their continued support of trainees seeking to attend this valuable international training course.