

# Vesalius Clinical Training Centre



University of  
**BRISTOL**

**Vesalius Clinical  
Training Centre**

# Our vision

A centre and philosophy for exciting and stimulating learning that shares and develops knowledge and skills related to clinically relevant anatomy in the advancement of clinical practice.

# Mission statement

To be a world-class centre that combines the understanding of anatomy and development of clinical skills and procedures, through multi modular simulation, in order to be a leader in the improvement of the quality and delivery of healthcare in the 21st century.

# Our objectives

- To provide the highest quality surgical and non-surgical clinical training in a safe environment through our expertise, care and facilities as a world leader in the field.
- To encourage and facilitate the development of high quality, sustainable learning through Continuing Professional Development and postgraduate training.
- To develop partnerships with other external providers, from within the healthcare professions and from industry.
- To seek out and respond to opportunities for research and development.

# Welcome to the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre at the University of Bristol.

Through this unique facility and partnerships with academia, the NHS, Severn Deanery, medical device industry, professional organisations and our donors we deliver our vision of practically-based understanding of anatomy for clinical practice.

The centre reflects the ethos of Vesalius, who utilised dissection of bodies and observations of anatomy to change the doctors' attitudes relating to the use of anatomical observations in advancing medicine. Immediately after gaining his doctorate in 1537, Vesalius was made Professor of Surgery and Anatomy at the University of Padua, showing the relevance of anatomy to advancing clinical practice. In the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre at University of Bristol, we accommodate exciting and inspirational courses in anatomy and clinical training to lead life-long learning for medical professions and professions allied to medicine.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the many individuals who have bequeathed their bodies for use in progressing knowledge and its application to advance medicine, ensuring the highest levels of professional competence in surgery and related medical disciplines. Also to the relatives who, in the difficult period of bereavement, facilitate these valued donations.

Our dedicated and professional team are committed to the highest standards in the development of this world-class facility and life-long learning partnerships for ongoing professional development.

We hope to engage you and your colleagues in sharing our vision and joining this exciting venture in medical education and look forward to seeing you in Bristol.



## **Allen Goodship**

Professor of Orthopaedic Sciences  
Director and Head of the Centre  
for Comparative and Clinical Anatomy  
University of Bristol

## **Rob Longman**

Consultant Colorectal and General Surgeon  
Associate Clinical Director,  
Vesalius Clinical Training Centre  
Chair Surgical Skills and Course Committee,  
Severn Deanery School of Surgery

## **Derek Telling**

Director of Resource and Planning Anatomy (Ret),  
CEO Vesalius Clinical Training Centre

# Facilities

The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre is an extension of the University's Centre for Comparative and Clinical Anatomy (CCCA). With first-class facilities and extensive provision for safe and secure donor storage, the centre is the optimum space to host specialist courses.



## Surgical training

The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre is self contained and is equipped with 12 operating tables which are height and tilt adjustable, supported with fully adjustable theatre lights, irrigation and portable suction machines.

The room can accommodate courses of up to 30 delegates with sufficient space for specialised equipment, including three Storz laparoscopic stacks and six Ethicon Harmonic scalpel units.

A full range of basic surgical kit, for open or laparoscopic procedures including retractors, scalpels, forceps and scissors is available along with a range of suture material. An extensive range of personal protective gear is available along with 24 lead aprons approved for radiographic work.

Five large screen HD monitors allow demonstration from a front table mounted camera, with the ability to flip to computer presentation at the touch of a button.

Photographic and video capture services are available along with an onsite burn to disc option.

Wi-Fi facilities operate throughout the centre to complement any sessions within the lab.

Video links from lab to presentation room and lecture theatres allow total flexibility for courses.

## Presentation room

Attached to the centre's surgical training facilities is a presentation room, which comfortably sits 30 people, with full AVA facilities. To complete the autonomy of this room there are changing rooms and toilet facilities.

## CCCA medical and veterinary dissecting rooms

Should you wish to offer a course with a larger number of delegates, then we have two other dissecting rooms with a much larger capacity which also offer facilities for training in human and veterinary surgical techniques. We also offer revision courses in Anatomy. Each of the dissecting rooms is equipped with superb audiovisual facilities, including live video links and touch-screen monitors. Each monitor is connected, remotely, to an individual computer and can thereby function independently of the others. This makes it possible for delegates to proceed at their own pace and for instructors to run different teaching sessions simultaneously.

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**“ETHICON was delighted to host an expert panel meeting at the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre. The meeting was a huge success and feedback was excellent. I have no doubt the success of the event was largely down to the superbly equipped facilities and experience of staff on hand. The centre provided the perfect environment in which to experience innovative technologies and advanced surgical techniques and teaching skills. The University's team were on hand to help with any questions or additional support required around equipment or set up which made the event run seamlessly.”**  
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**Miranda Miller**, Professional Education Manager,  
Ethicon Products Division, Johnson and Johnson Consultant

**“All the courses I have been involved with at the centre have been extremely well received by the delegates. Excellent teaching facilities which certainly compete with any international cadaveric facility.”**

**James Murray,**  
Avon Orthopaedic Centre, Southmead Hospital



# Current courses

The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre offers taught courses in human anatomy and we support a wide range of surgical skills courses, designed for clinicians in various specialities, including orthopaedic, minimally invasive and reconstructive surgery.

## Continuing Professional Development and Surgical Training

- Reconstructive surgery
- Trauma and orthopaedics
- Dental surgery
- Colorectal and minimally invasive surgery
- Anaesthesia
- Ophthalmology

## Postgraduate courses with the Severn Deanery

### Taught revision courses

In addition to hosting advanced and specialist courses in surgical skills and Continuing Professional Development (CPD), the centre also offers taught revision courses in human anatomy. Run by our team of professional anatomists and clinicians, courses can be tailored to the requirements of undergraduate, postgraduate and professional groups. The courses mainly utilise our fixed human cadaveric specimens, expertly dissected to show precise anatomical structures. To accompany these specimens we hold an extensive range of osteological and pathological specimens, radiological images and the latest models and atlases to aid teaching and learning. These demonstrated courses have been running for a number of years, with many groups returning year on year to use our unique services. Groups already using the centre for taught anatomy courses include qualified anaesthetists, nurse practitioners, osteopaths, and undergraduate physiotherapy, radiography, chiropractic and sports science students.


### Human anatomy refresher course

The centre also offers a human anatomy refresher course each summer. This one-week taught revision course is open to anyone over the age of 18 registered on a clinical or allied healthcare university programme including medicine, dentistry, physiotherapy, chiropractic, osteopathy and radiography. The course takes students on a comprehensive tour of regional anatomy: thorax, abdomen and pelvis, upper and lower limbs, head and neck, and neuroanatomy. Clinical applications are emphasised to help students to understand how the body works, to examine patients effectively, and to recognise abnormalities. The course is taught by medically qualified demonstrators using dissections, models and medical imaging.



“An excellent team to work with and great auditorium and anatomy facilities.”

**David De Berker,**  
Consultant



**“I have led a number of courses here. All were superbly run with great facilities and perfect conditions for postgraduate surgical training.”**

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**Andrew Porteous,**  
Avon Orthopaedic Centre, Southmead Hospital

# Developing partnerships



Developed in the mid '90s, the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre has grown into an essential resource for consultants and students to learn and share knowledge on all aspects of clinical training. The centre is now supported by several industrial associates including, Smith and Nephew Orthopaedics Ltd, Ethicon and Stryker UK, and has developed a vital link with The South West Surgical Training Network (SWSTN), a collaborative venture that aims to provide high quality training opportunities for surgeons and allied healthcare professionals across the South West of England.

## The South West Surgical Training Network

The SWSTN develops, delivers and monitors training courses across an increasing number of surgical specialties in a number of centres in the region and since 2009 has run several, highly rated specialist surgical training courses at the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre. Delegates using the Vesalius Clinical Training facilities through the SWSTN have been impressed with the centre's supportive atmosphere and its excellent operation facilities and specimens.

### 'The cadaveric suite was excellent.'

Delegate from the SWSTN

### 'Cadavers are treated with the greatest respect and dignity.'

Delegate from the SWSTN

The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre values the SWSTN's input and support and is keen to build on the developments they have already established.

**'The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre provides an excellent learning environment where the donated cadavers are cared for in a sensitive, professional and appropriate manner. Our common goals result in a highly collaborative relationship which we look forward to developing in the future.'**

Dr Fiona Carter, South West Surgical Training Network

## The Severn Deanery School of Surgery

The Vesalius Clinical Training Centre and the Severn Postgraduate Deanery School of Surgery have developed a collaborative venture that aims to provide high quality surgical skills training opportunities for trainee surgeons. The development of such training is enhanced by the excellent facilities, the provision of human and animal cadavers, the availability of senior clinical faculty, and the ability to provide anatomy teaching. This collaboration has supported the School of Surgery in excellent anatomy and skills teaching for surgical core trainees and specialty trainees across the Deanery, as recognised by GMC/PMETB\* trainee surveys. Feedback from course trainers and trainees include comments on the enhancement of courses due to the excellent provisions of fresh cadavers.

*\*General Medical Council/Postgraduate Medical Education Training Board*

**'Fresh cadavers and a hands-on element, this was an excellent course.'**

Foot and Ankle Trauma Course for T&O core trainees; 1 March 2012

**'Best course I have ever been on.'**

Paediatric Trauma Course for paediatric T&O specialist trainees; 6 May 2012

**'I have never taught on a cadaver course before... this is a fantastic opportunity for trainees... such amazing facilities.'**

Faculty member – Laparoscopic Colorectal Course for senior trainees and consultants; 14-15 April 2010

*\*General Medical Council/Postgraduate Medical Education Training Board*





### Organisations that use the Vesalius Centre

- AOTrauma
- Biomet
- British Association of Dermatologists (BSDS)
- British Small Animal Veterinary Association
- Corin Ltd
- Covidien
- Ethicon (a division of Johnson and Johnson)
- Great Western Hospitals
- KCI Europe Holding B.V The Netherlands
- North Bristol NHS Trust
- Orthovita UK Limited
- Royal College of Ophthalmologists
- Royal College of Surgeons of England
- Severn Deanery
- Smith and Nephew Orthopaedics Ltd
- Sonosite UK
- Southwest Surgical Training Network (SWSTN)
- Stryker UK
- Stuart Orton Jones Institute
- Synthes
- University Hospitals Bristol (UHB)

# Research, innovation and development



Top left and bottom right: A new approach to attach tendons to metal prostheses

An important additional aspect to the use of this facility is for research and development related to surgical techniques, devices and implants. The fresh frozen cadaveric material we have available at the centre is ideal for surgeons and research staff to develop and trial these new advancements to ensure the pre-clinical design feasibility, efficacy and safety of procedures in the operating theatre.

We wish to develop partnerships with industry to advance surgical science for translation to clinical practice. The ability to use material in the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre in this way also fulfils the wishes of our donors. Once the techniques and devices have been developed, the centre can then assist again in a rapid implementation of new techniques and devices for patients by training surgeons at all levels from consultants to junior trainees.

Continual advancement and improvement in clinical practice also demands partnerships between industry, NHS, universities and patient groups. The role of the centre in enhancing these interactions, and developing ideas through to effective and safe techniques and implants, is key to providing patients with the latest and most effective treatments.

To ensure these are delivered by staff trained in the best environment and best practice, courses can be held to train and inform not only surgeons but also all professions allied to medicine that form the teams delivering modern healthcare.

All research-based projects are approved ethically to ensure appropriate use of the material, guaranteeing that the training surgeons receive in newly developed techniques or the use of new devices is instilled with best practice.

## Developing for the future

The facilities at the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre are excellent and have a capacity to develop and adapt to allow additional training in clinical environment simulation. By providing an operating theatre for surgical simulation, aligned with new Department of Health initiatives for the education and training of healthcare workers, we envisage a facility aptly suited for simulated teaching from high fidelity virtual-reality to wet lab skills training.

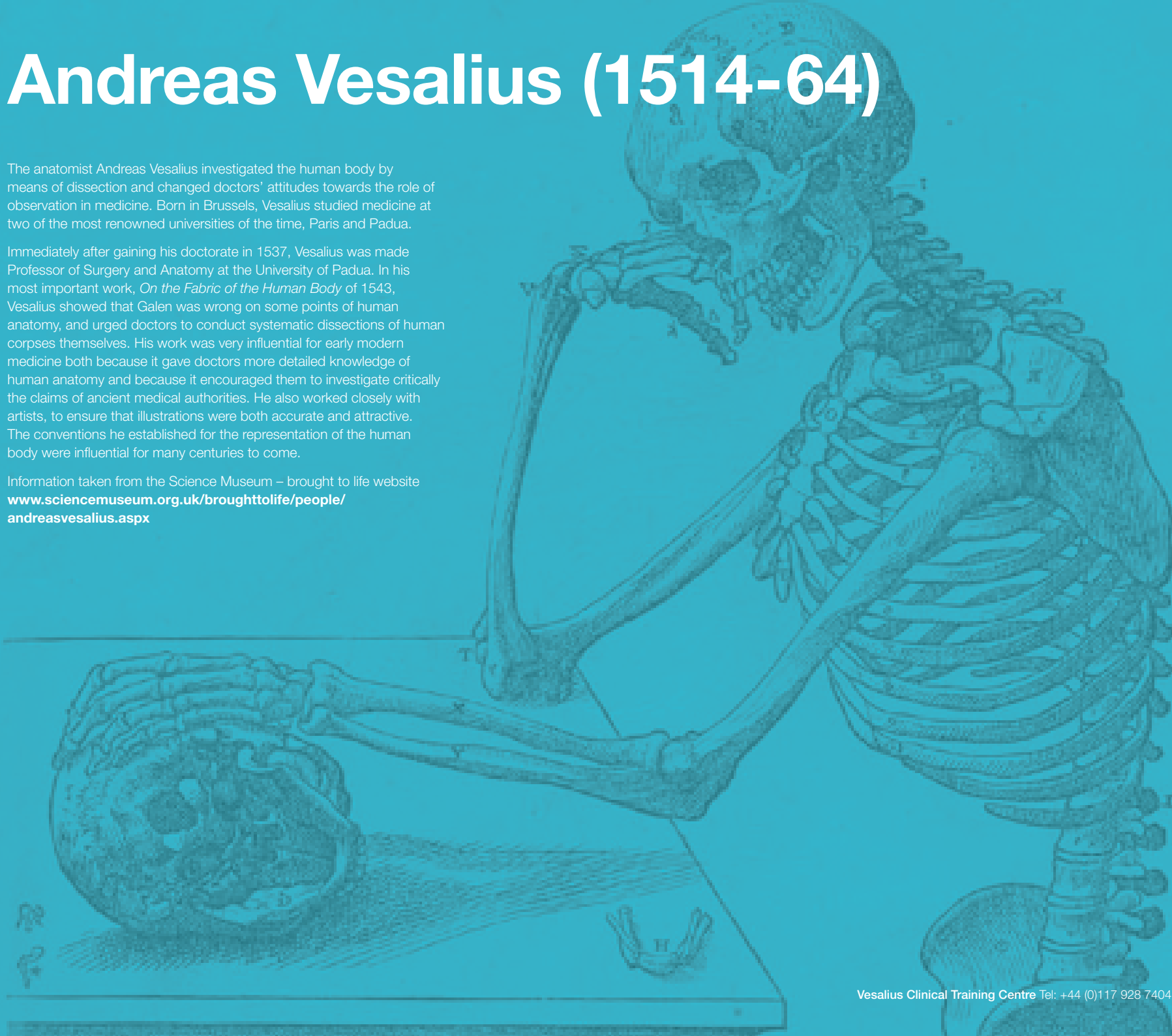
# Andreas Vesalius (1514-64)

The anatomist Andreas Vesalius investigated the human body by means of dissection and changed doctors' attitudes towards the role of observation in medicine. Born in Brussels, Vesalius studied medicine at two of the most renowned universities of the time, Paris and Padua.

Immediately after gaining his doctorate in 1537, Vesalius was made Professor of Surgery and Anatomy at the University of Padua. In his most important work, *On the Fabric of the Human Body* of 1543, Vesalius showed that Galen was wrong on some points of human anatomy, and urged doctors to conduct systematic dissections of human corpses themselves. His work was very influential for early modern medicine both because it gave doctors more detailed knowledge of human anatomy and because it encouraged them to investigate critically the claims of ancient medical authorities. He also worked closely with artists, to ensure that illustrations were both accurate and attractive. The conventions he established for the representation of the human body were influential for many centuries to come.

Information taken from the Science Museum – brought to life website

[www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/broughttolife/people/andreasvesalius.aspx](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/broughttolife/people/andreasvesalius.aspx)



# For more information

Please visit our website [bristol.ac.uk/vesalius](http://bristol.ac.uk/vesalius)

If you wish to book on a course or discuss running one of your own, please speak to a member of the administration team on +44 (0)117 928 7404 or email [vesalius-courses@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:vesalius-courses@bristol.ac.uk)

## Our Donors

Our ability to teach, carry out key professional development and postgraduate training and do research is dependent upon the generosity of those persons who bequeath their bodies to us and the specific instructions that they, and their relatives, give in regard to how the body will be used.

If you would like information on body donation please contact +44 (0)117 954 6203 or e-mail [anat-bequestoffice@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:anat-bequestoffice@bristol.ac.uk)

## Travel to the Vesalius Clinical Training Centre

### By bus

#### Bristol Bus and Coach Station

Marlborough Street, Stokes Croft, BS1 3NU

### By train

#### Bristol Temple Meads Station

Bristol, BS1 6QF

### By plane

#### Bristol Airport

Bristol Flyer link takes you to Bristol Bus and Coach Station

Visit the University of Bristol website to find out how to get here. Maps of the precinct are available to download, we are number 39 on the printable version.

[bristol.ac.uk/maps](http://bristol.ac.uk/maps)



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