

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held at the Rayne Institute, St Thomas' Hospital, London SE1,
Friday 2 November 2001, commencing at 3.30 pm.

1. Quorum

This extraordinary Annual General Meeting was convened after the postponement of the Society's Autumn Meeting (and hence the AGM scheduled to be held during that Meeting) following the atrocities in the USA on 11 September 2001. The quorum for this meeting was set at 20 members.

2. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

These were approved and signed by the Chairman as being a true record of the proceedings.

3. Matters arising

There were no matters arising that were not covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

4. Chairman's Report

Annual Report:

The accounts had been prepared and examined by an independent examiner. The Annual Report covering the period April 2000 to March 2001 would be submitted with the accounts to the Charities Commission shortly and had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Past Meetings

(i) The Autumn 2000 Meeting on "Mediators and mechanisms in myocardial disease" was held at the Queen's University of Belfast on 4 and 5 September 2000, organised by Dr Barbara McDermott and Dr David Bell.

(ii) The Spring 2001 Meeting, on "Apoptosis in the heart: signalling, mechanisms, pathology and protection", was held at St Thomas's Hospital, London, on 22 and 23 March 2001, organised by Dr Richard Heads and Dr Angela Clerk.

(iii) The Autumn 2001 Meeting, a conjoint meeting with the 6th International Symposium on Magnetic Resonance in Cardiovascular Research, organised by Dr Kieran Clarke and Dr Stefan Neubauer, had been postponed and would now take place in Oxford on 21-23 March 2002.

Past Workshops

(i) A workshop on "QT prolongation and torsade de pointes" was held at the University of Liverpool on 3 May 2001, organised by Dr Susan Coker and Professor George Hart.

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(ii) A workshop on "Mitochondria and myocardial protection" was held at the University of Bristol on 25 September 2001, organised by Dr Elinor Griffiths and Dr Saadeh Suleiman.

Future Meetings

The following meetings had been approved by the Committee:

(i) Spring 2002: A meeting on "Ion channels and transporters in cardiovascular cell growth" to be held at the University of Reading, 11-12 April 2002 organised by Dr Gavin Brooks and Dr Michael Shattock.

(ii) Autumn 2002: A meeting on "The developing heart: biology and protection" to be held at the University of Bristol, 6-7 September 2002 organised by Dr Saadeh Suleiman and Mr M Caputo

(iii) Spring 2003: A meeting on "Molecular therapy for cardiovascular diseases" to be held at the University of Glasgow, organised by Dr Andrew Baker and Dr Sarah George (dates to be announced)

British Cardiac Society

On 22 May 2001, the BSCR symposium at the British Cardiac Society's annual meeting in Manchester was on "Cardiovascular signalling by reactive oxygen species and free radicals", organised by Professor Ajay Shah. The Committee had approved a symposium for the British Cardiac Society meeting in 2002. It would be on "Heart failure research from bench to bedside: focus on magnetic resonance techniques" organised by Dr Stefan Neubauer. The British Cardiac Society's acceptance of this proposal was awaited.

Dr Shattock enquired if there was any case for lobbying for allotment of more time to BSCR activities at the British Cardiac Society annual meeting. The Chairman indicated that the BSCR Committee had made repeated overtures to the BCS council about this issue and discussions were ongoing. One possible approach that the Committee had considered, namely the merger of the BSCR Spring Meeting with the British Cardiac Society's annual meeting in May, would ultimately present a number of logistical problems for BSCR organisers but the Committee remained open to this possibility.

Travel bursaries

The Society had continued to award travel bursaries to postgraduate students. A total of 4 had been awarded in the last year to enable student members of the BSCR to attend the Spring 2001 meeting and the September 2001 workshop. The total value of these bursaries was £252.30

Sponsorship

The Chairman informed members that Aventis Pharma had generously agreed to support the Society's activities in 2001. Core sponsorship of £16,000 had been received from Aventis earlier in the year to support the meetings in the calendar year 2001. No confirmed sponsorship was available for 2002 but this was being actively sought by the Chairman.

5. Treasurer's Report

Presentation of accounts

The Treasurer presented the accounts for the Financial year April 2000-March 2001 (attached). The donation of £16,000 by Aventis towards the end of the last financial year had made a substantial impact on the Society's finances. The total income for the year was £24,901. The total of funds carried forward on 31 March 2001 was in excess of £63,000.

Membership

There were 423 members of the Society who were fully paid-up for the calendar year 2001, of which 61 were student members.

Subscription rates

Subscription rates for 2002 would be retained as follows:- ordinary membership £15, student membership £9, ordinary joint membership BSCR/ISHR £40, student joint membership BSCR/ISHR £34.

6. Secretary's ReportCommittee membership

The Secretary reported that the current members of the Committee were Professor Metin Avkiran (Chairman), Dr Gary Baxter (Secretary), Dr Michael Curtis (Treasurer), Dr Paul Barton, Dr Adrian Brady, Dr Sarah George, Professor Michael Marber, Dr Barbara McDermott, Dr Saadeh Suleiman, Dr Lip Bun Tan, Dr Ian Zachary, Dr Nicola Smart (Bulletin Co-editor) and Dr Helen Maddock (Bulletin Co-editor).

Six members' terms would finish at the end of the calendar year, namely Dr Baxter, Dr Curtis, Dr Barton, Dr McDermott, Dr Suleiman and Dr Zachary. Dr McDermott had been elected by the Committee to succeed Dr Baxter as Secretary, and Dr Curtis had been elected to serve another term as Treasurer. Nominations had therefore been invited earlier in the year for four Committee places. Six nominations were received and a postal ballot had been held in the summer. A total 87 ballot papers were returned by the deadline of 17 August 2001. The numbers of votes cast were:

Gavin Brooks	52
Gillian Gray	53
Hugh Montgomery	24
Ajay Shah	59
Saadeh Suleiman	39
Peter Weinberg	33

Therefore Dr Brooks, Dr Gray, Professor Shah and Dr Suleiman were elected to serve on the Committee for the period 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2004. The secretary thanked all the candidates for allowing their names to go forward for election. The Secretary noted that the Chairman and four members of the Committee were due to complete their period of office at the end of 2002 so nominations would be sought next year.

Office bearers

Professor Avkiran's tenure as Chairman would conclude in December 2002. Dr McDermott and Dr Curtis would serve as Secretary and Treasurer respectively until December 2004.

7. Bulletin Editors' Report

Dr Nicola Smart reported that Bulletin production was proceeding smoothly, resulting in mailings in January, April, July and October. She and Dr Maddock, who had been co-opted to serve as co-Editor, had been working successfully together although in different geographical locations. Dr Smart solicited members to continue to contribute articles for publication in the Bulletin, especially profiles of members' laboratories and groups.

8. Any other business

There was no other business

9. Date of the next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM would be held on the first day of the Autumn Meeting in Bristol on 6 September 2002.

The meeting closed at 4 pm

Signed: 
(Chairman)

Date: 6.9.2002

GFB 6.11.01.

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year ended 31 March 2001

Income & Expenditure

		2001	2000
Income	Notes	£	£
Grants	3	16000	-
Subscriptions		7928	6971
Bank Interest		973	1143
		-----	-----
Total Income		£ 24901	£ 8114
		=====	=====
 Expenditure			
 Management & Administration of the Charity			
Secretarial Costs		£ 2200	£ 2600
Bulletin Expenses		3281	3877
Scientific Meetings, Speakers Fees etc	4	11447	9644
Insurances		372	316
Committee Meetings Expenses	5	1855	1891
Printing, Stationery & Postages		155	537
Travel Bursaries		746	307
Bank Charges		273	300
Independent Examiners Fees & Expenses	6	495	475
Other Expenses		-	47
Depreciation of Office Equipment	1	-	219
		-----	-----
Total Expenditure		£ 20824	£ 20213
		=====	=====
Net Incoming Resources		£ 4077	£(12099)
Total Funds brought forward		59172	71271
		-----	-----
Total Funds carried forward		£ 63249	£ 59172
		=====	=====

The Notes on pages 3 to 4 form part of these Accounts.

BSCR MEMBERSHIP

September 2001 compared with 2000

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	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Total number of members	407	423
Ordinary members	358	362
Students	49	61
Joint ISHR/BSCR	140	167

SUBSCRIPTIONS

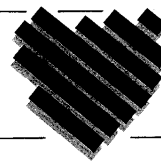
	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
Ordinary membership	£15	£15
Student membership	£9	£9
Ordinary membership BSCR/ISHR	£40	£40
Student membership BSCR/ISHR	£34	£34

BSCR Committee Jan - Dec 2001

Chairman:	Prof Metin Avkiran	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002)
Secretary:	Dr Gary F Baxter	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
Treasurer:	Dr Michael J Curtis	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
Members:	Dr Paul J R Barton	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
	Dr Adrian Brady	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002)
	Dr Sarah J George	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002)
	Prof Michael S Marber	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002)
	Dr Barbara McDermott	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
	Dr M Saadeh Suleiman	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
	Dr Ian C Zachary	(Jan 1999 - Dec 2001) †
	Dr L Bun Tan	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002)
Bulletin editors:	Dr Nicola Smart	(co-opted Jan 2000)
	Dr Helen Maddock	(co-opted Sep 2001)

BSCR Committee from January 2002

Chairman:	Prof Metin Avkiran	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002) —
Secretary:	Dr Barbara McDermott	(Jan 2002 – Dec 2004)
Treasurer:	Dr Michael J Curtis	(Jan 2002 - Dec 2004)
Members:	Dr Adrian Brady	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002) —
	Dr Gavin Brooks	(Jan 2002 – Dec 2004)
	Dr Sarah J George	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002) —
	Dr Gillian Gray	(Jan 2002 – Dec 2004)
	Prof Michael S Marber	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002) —
	Prof Ajay Shah	(Jan 2002 – Dec 2004)
	Dr M Saadeh Suleiman	(Jan 2002 - Dec 2004)
	Dr L Bun Tan	(Jan 2000 - Dec 2002) —
Bulletin editors:	Dr Nicola Smart	(co-opted Jan 2000)
	Dr Helen Maddock	(co-opted Sep 2001)



ANNUAL REPORT 2000/2001

This Annual Report covers the activities of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research (BSCR) during the period 1 April 2000 to 31 March 2001.

Main meetings

In the period covered by this Report, the BSCR held two main meetings.

The Autumn 2000 meeting was held at The Queen's University of Belfast on "Mediators and Mechanisms of Myocardial Disease" and was organised by Dr Barbara McDermott and Dr David Bell. The meeting was attended by around 70 registered participants. The meeting included a grouping of distinguished home and overseas speakers. Those from overseas included Dr David Dostal (Temple, Texas), Dr Ralph Kelly (Boston, Massachusetts), Dr Hiroshi Ito (Tokyo, Japan), Dr Jos Lamers (Rotterdam, Netherlands), Dr Eric Oie (Oslo, Norway), Dr Michael Bohm (Cologne, Germany). The official reception and dinner were held in the Parliament Buildings at Stormont. Poster and oral free communications were presented. A report of this meeting and abstracts of free communications were published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Volume 14, number 1, January 2001).

The Spring 2001 meeting was held at St Thomas' Hospital, London, 22 and 23 March 2001. It was on the topic of "Apoptosis in the Heart: Signalling, Mechanisms, Pathology and Protection" and was organised by Dr Richard Heads (King's College London) and Dr Angela Clerk (Imperial College). The meeting was attended by more than 100 participants. Overseas speakers who contributed to the success of the meeting included Dr Richard Kitsis (New York, USA) who gave the British Cardiac Society Lecture, Dr Lisa-Maria Voipio-Pulkki (Turku, Finland), Dr Marcel Borgers (Beerse, Belgium), Dr Rudiger von Harsdorff (Berlin, Germany), Dr Peter Kang (Boston, USA) and Dr Lorrie Kirshenbaum (Winnipeg, Canada). Oral and poster free communications were presented and

a lively trade exhibition was arranged. A report and abstracts of free communications were published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Volume 14, number 3, July 2001).

Workshops

No workshops were held during the period covered by this Annual Report.

British Cardiac Society Symposium

The BSCR proposal for a symposium on "Nitric Oxide and Cardiac Function", was selected as a Plenary Session at the annual meeting of the British Cardiac Society. The session, organised by Dr Adrian Brady, was held on 17 May 2000 at the Scottish Exhibition Centre in Glasgow. The Symposium occupied a prominent position in the British Cardiac Society meeting and included a list of distinguished speakers from home and overseas: Dr Thomas Hintze (New York), Professor Jean-Luc Balligand (Brussels), Professor Ajay Shah (London) and Professor Patrick Vallance (London). The symposium was generously sponsored by Menarini.

Committee, Officers and Elections

During the period covered by this Report, the BSCR Committee met on two occasions: on 4 September 2000 at The Queen's University of Belfast; and on 12 January 2001 at the British Cardiac Society's house, London. The Chairman, Dr Metin Avkiran, took up his post on 1 January 2000. The Secretary (Dr Gary Baxter) and the Treasurer (Dr Michael Curtis) remained in office, each having been appointed on 1 January 1999 for three years. Dr James Mockridge retired as Co-Editor of the Bulletin in November 2000 and Dr Nicola Smart remained as Editor.

No committee members retired during the period and there were no elections.

Annual General Meeting

The Society's Annual General Meeting was held during the Autumn 2000

meeting at The Queen's University of Belfast on 4 September. The AGM was chaired by the Chairman and was attended by 25 members.

Sponsorship

During the period covered by this report, committee members, led by the Chairman, worked assiduously to secure external financial sponsorship of the Society's activities. The British Cardiac Society's support of BSCR activities during the year (£2500) was gratefully acknowledged. However, in the continued absence of substantive external funding, the Treasurer continued to exercise great vigilance over the expenditure of the Society's reserves and income from membership subscriptions. Furthermore, the net cost of recent meetings (Spring 2000 and autumn 2000) had been minimised by superb fund-raising efforts by the meetings organisers. In January 2001, Aventis kindly agreed to sponsor the society at a total sum of £16000 for the calendar year 2001. This sum will secure the continued high level of BSCR activities for the immediate future. The Society is delighted to be associated with Aventis and grateful to receive this endorsement of its work.

The Bulletin

The Bulletin continues to be the primary medium of communication between the BSCR and its membership. In the period covered by this report, the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin, was published in April 2000, July 2000, October 2000 and January 2001 under the direction of Dr James Mockridge and Dr Nicola Smart (both of King's College London). Dr Mockridge retired as co-editor in November 2000.

G F Baxter
BSCR Secretary
The Hatter Institute
UCL Hospitals & Medical School
London WC1E 6DB

**BSCR Committee
2000/2001**

Chairman:

- Dr M Avkiran (1/00-)
Kings College London

Secretary:

- Dr G F Baxter (1/99-)
University College London

Treasurer:

- Dr M J Curtis (1/99-)
King's College London

Committee Members:

- Dr P J R Barton (1/99-)
Imperial College London
- Dr A J Brady (6/97-12/99
and 1/00 -)
Glasgow Royal Infirmary
- Dr S J George (1/00-)
University of Bristol
- Prof M S Marber (1/97-12/99
and 1/00 -)
King's College London
- Dr B McDermott (1/99-)
Queen's University of Belfast
- Dr M S Suleiman (1/99)
University of Bristol
- Dr L-B Tan (1/00 -)
Leeds General Infirmary
- Dr I C Zachary (1/99-)
University College London

Bulletin Editors:

- Dr J Mockridge (1/99-11/00)
Kings College London
- Dr N Smart (9/99-)
Kings College London