

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

**held at the Education Centre, Marlborough Street, Bristol BS2 8AE,
on Friday 6 September 2002, commencing at 17.30h.**

1 Quorum

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, Professor Metin Avkiran, 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 2001 to March 2002 had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and would be submitted to the Charities Commission in October 2002.

Past meetings:

Rescheduled Autumn 2001 meeting: Dr Kieran Clarke and Dr Stefan Neubauer organized a meeting on "Magnetic resonance in cardiovascular research" on 21-23 March 2002 at the University of Oxford.

Spring 2002 meeting: Organized by Dr Gavin Brooks (University of Reading) and Dr Mike Shattock (King's College, London), this meeting was held on 11-12 April at the University of Reading.

Autumn 2002 meeting: This was held on 6-7 September at the University of Bristol and hosted by Dr Saadeh Suleiman and Mr Massimo Caputo. The topic was 'The developing heart: biology and protection'.

Future meetings:

The following meetings had been approved by the Committee:

Spring 2003 meeting: This meeting on the subject of 'Molecular Therapy for Cardiovascular Disease' would be held at the Kelvin Conference Centre in Glasgow under the direction of Dr Andrew Baker (University of Glasgow) and Dr Sarah George (University of Bristol).

Autumn 2003 meeting: Dr Gillian Gray and colleagues would organize a meeting at the University of Edinburgh. Further details would be announced soon.

Workshops:

There have been no workshops held during the past year and none scheduled or proposed.

British Cardiac Society:

A BSCR symposium entitled "Heart failure research from bench to bedside: focus on magnetic resonance techniques" took place on 15 May 2002 at the BCS annual scientific conference held at the Harrogate International Centre. The organizer was Dr Stefan Neubauer (University of Oxford).

A proposal to organize a symposium on the 'Genetics and mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias' from Dr Andrew Grace had been approved by the BSCR Committee for the May 2003 BCS meeting to be held in Glasgow.

Travel bursaries for postgraduate students:

Rescheduled Autumn 2001 meeting (University of Oxford) - 1 bursary (student from London).

Spring 2002 meeting (University of Reading) - 10 bursaries (4 students from Bristol, 5 from London and 1 from Glasgow).

Autumn 2002 meeting (University of Bristol) - 4 bursaries (3 students from Reading and 1 from Hull).

Sponsorship:

Core sponsorship of £20,000 had been received from Aventis for BSCR activities in 2002 and further sponsorship would be sought for 2003.

5 Treasurer's Report

Presentation of accounts:

In presentation of the accounts by the Chairman (on behalf of the Treasurer, Dr Mike Curtis) it was reported that the total reserves were in good shape, amounting to almost £80,000. This had resulted from the continued core sponsorship from Aventis and the support by charities and other organizations of the main BSCR meetings in recent years. In the audited accounts for the year ended 31.3.02, the funds carried forward (£79,072) were approximately £16K more than for the last financial year. In the detail of expenditure, the only significant increase was in the cost of insurance which had doubled.

Membership:

The figure taken at September 2002 had declined by 47 (to 376) compared to the figure taken exactly a year ago, but there were approximately 20 new applications to be processed. Of the total membership, 321 were ordinary members and 55 student members.

Subscription rates:

Fluctuation in numbers occurs mostly as a result of some individuals obtaining membership to attend a particular meeting, paying only the annual subscription, which is not renewed. To counteract this, it was agreed that an extra charge of £5 (noted as an administration cost) would be levied for an annual subscription by cheque, with the hope that individuals would be encouraged to pay yearly by standing order. The basic subscription rates, which were £15 / £40 (ordinary membership - BSCR / BSCR & ISHR), £9 / £34 (student membership - BSCR / BSCR & ISHR), would not be increased.

6 Secretary's report

Committee membership and office bearers:

In January 2002, a number of changes took place on the Committee. Dr Barbara McDermott took up the position of Secretary for three years and Dr Mike Curtis was re-elected as Treasurer for the same period. Dr Saadeh Suleiman was re-elected as an ordinary member and three new members, Dr Gavin Brooks, Dr Gillian Gray and Professor Ajay Shah, were welcomed, all of which would serve until December 2004. Dr Nicola Smart remained as Bulletin Editor and Dr Helen Maddock as co-editor.

In December 2002, a number of committee members would retire, firstly, the Chairman, Professor Metin Avkiran, who had done magnificent work for the BSCR over the last three years especially in relation to raising significant external sponsorship, most recently from Aventis, and fostering links with the British Cardiac Society. Mindful of the need for a new Chairman to take up the post in January 2003, this was discussed at the meeting of Committee held last April in Reading, and Professor Mike Marber was nominated. This was based on his obvious commitment to the Society and also that such an appointment would maintain the traditional basic scientist / clinical scientist rotation for this post. The nomination was supported unanimously by Committee members and was put to the membership at this AGM and approved.

At the end of this year, three ordinary members of committee would finish their term of office, namely Dr Adrian Brady, Dr Sarah George and Dr Lip Bun Tan, who were thanked for their work in support of the Society. A call for nominations for new committee members to take up the four vacant positions (including that left by Mike Marber) was made in April and five individuals expressed interest. The results of a postal ballot, in which 52 members voted for up to four people, came through in August, and indicated the following for election: Professor Keith Channon – 35 votes, Professor David Eisner - 31 votes, Professor Nilesh Samani – 38 votes; Dr Peter Weinberg – 32 votes. This was put to the members present at the AGM and approved.

The composition of the Committee from January 2003 was demonstrated to have a reasonable balance of clinical (4) /non-clinical scientists (9), and the number of clinicians required by the constitution was exceeded by 1. For the next two years, a solid position should be maintained. However at the end of 2004, 6 members would finish their terms of office, so nominations would be required mid 2004 for positions to be taken up in January 2005.

7 Bulletin Editors' Report

Publication of the BSCR Bulletin was progressing well, four issues per year being sent out, in January, April, July and October. There was a request for members to provide (further) contributions, especially research reviews and laboratory profiles. Any suggestions with regard to companies that could be approached to take up advertising space in the Bulletin would be gratefully received. The Bulletin in pdf format could now be accessed through the BSCR Website. Issues published since July 2001 were available and further issues would be posted in due course.

8 Any other business

There were no items raised.

9 Date of the next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM would be held at the autumn meeting to be held of the University of Edinburgh at the beginning of September 2003. The exact date had yet to be confirmed.

Maddock 8/9/13

BSCR Treasurer report 06 September 2002**CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION**

(at 23/8/02)

Current account	£2,375.36
Business reserve	£76,678.17
<u>Harley Street</u>	<u>£272</u>
TOTAL	£79,325.53

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2001**TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD**

March 2002	£79,072
(March 2001)	£63,249)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Total subscriptions received less ISHR payments	£5,914
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INCOME 2001

(to March 2002)

Subs (Net of ISHR payments)	£5,914
Bank interest	£803
<u>Aventis Sponsorship</u>	<u>£20,000</u>
TOTAL	£26,517

EXPENDITURE 2001

(to March 2002)

Secretarial costs	£2,340
Bulletin expenses	£3,492
Scientific meetings	£630
Insurances	£788
Committee meeting expenses	£1,837
Printing, stationery, postage	£377
Travel bursaries	£374
Bank charges	£203
Independent examiner's fees and expenses	£515
Other expenses	138
<u>Depreciation of office equipment</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL	£10,694

BSCR MEMBERSHIP

September 2001 compared with 2000

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
Total number of members	423	376
Ordinary members	362	321
Students	61	55
Joint ISHR/BSCR	167	160

SUBSCRIPTIONS

	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</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 2002)**

Chairman	Prof Metin Avkiran	Jan 00 – Dec 02
Secretary	Dr Barbara McDermott	Jan 02 – Dec 04
Treasurer	Dr Michael Curtis	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Adrian Brady	Jan 00 – Dec 02
	Dr Gavin Brooks	Jan 02 - Dec 04
	Dr Sarah George	Jan 00 – Dec 02
	Dr Gillian Gray	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Prof Michael Marber	Jan 00 – Dec 02
	Prof Ajay Shah	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Saadeh Suleiman	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Lip Bun Tan	Jan 00 – Dec 02
Bulletin Editors:	Dr Nicola Smart	co-opted Jan 00
	Dr Helen Maddox	co-opted Sep 01



BSCR COMMITTEE ELECTIONS – Aug 02

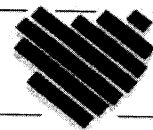
52 members voted for up to 4 candidates

	No. votes
Dr Keith Channon	35 *
Prof David Elener	31 *
Dr Chris Jackson	25
Prof Nilesh Samani	38 *
Dr Peter Weinberg	32 *

**** elected***

**BSCR COMMITTEE (from Jan 03)**

Chairman	Prof Mike Marber	Jan 03 – Dec 05
Secretary	Dr Barbara McDermott	Jan 02 – Dec 04
Treasurer	Dr Michael Curtis	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Gavin Brooks	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Keith Channon	Jan 03 – Dec 05
	Prof David Eisner	Jan 03 – Dec 05
	Dr Gillian Gray	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Prof Nilesh Samani	Jan 03 – Dec 05
	Prof Ajay Shah	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Saadeh Suleiman	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Dr Peter Weinberg	Jan 03 – Dec 05
Bulletin Editors:	Dr Nicola Smart	co-opted Jan 00
	Dr Helen Maddox	co-opted Sep 01



Annual Report 2001/2

This Annual Report covers the activities of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research (BSCR) for the period 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002.

Main Meetings

There was only one meeting which fell within the period of this report, which was the Autumn 2001 meeting, scheduled originally for 14-15 September. Because of the terrorist attacks in the United States on 11 September and the immediate difficulties of air travel, the organisers, Dr Kieran Clarke and Dr Stefan Neubauer, had little option other than to postpone the meeting. This was re-scheduled for 21-23 March 2002, again in Oxford and conjoint with the 6th International Magnetic Resonance in Cardiovascular Research meeting. The opening lecture, delivered by Sir George Radda (Oxford), set the scene for an impressive array of international speakers, including Joanne Ingwall (Boston), Theo Wallimann (Zurich), Matthias Spindler (Würzburg), Renée Ventura-Clapier (Chatenay-Malabry), Arend Heerschap (Nijmegen), Hugh Watkins (Oxford), Charles Springer (Upton), Saul Myerson (London/Oxford), Matthias Friedrich (Berlin), Frank Rademakers (Leuven), Udo Sechtem (Stuttgart), Ulrich Decking (Dusseldorf), Robert Weiss (Baltimore), Frank Wiesmann (Würzburg), Gerald Pohost (Birmingham, Alabama), Frank Kober (Marseille), Meinrad Beer (Würzburg), Hildo Lamb (Leiden), Wulf-Ingo Jung (Buehl), Paul Bottomley (Baltimore), Stefan Neubauer (Oxford), Marcus Schwaiger (Munich), Robert Balaban (Bethesda), Jürgen Schrader (Dusseldorf), Cees van Echteld (Utrecht), Pamela Garlick (London), Anne-Marie Seymour (Hull), Adrian Banning (Oxford), Peter Morris (Nottingham), Udo Sechtem (Stuttgart), David Greaves (Oxford),

Keith Channon (Oxford), Robin Choudhury (New York / Oxford), Shawn Wagner (Bad Nauheim), Paul Hockings (Welwyn), Michael Jerosch-Herold (Minneapolis), Paolo Camici (London), Markus von Kienlin (Basel), David Firmin (London), Thomas Voigtländer (Mainz), Jürgen Hennig (Freiburg), Christine Lorenz (Erlangen) and Axel Haase (Würzburg). A report of this meeting will be published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Vol. 15, No. 4).

Workshops

Dr Susan Coker and Professor George Hart ran a workshop at the University of Liverpool on 3 May 2001 on the subject 'QT prolongation and Torsade de Pointes', which attracted the set maximum of 40 participants. The keynote speaker was Milou-Daniel Drici (Nice, France). A report of this workshop was published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Vol. 15, No. 2).

A workshop organised by Dr Elinor Griffiths and Dr Saadeh Suleiman was held on 25 September 2001 at the University of Bristol. This involved a number of core speakers from the UK who addressed the topic 'Mitochondria and myocardial protection - from single cells to cardiac surgery'.

British Cardiac Society Symposium

A symposium held under the auspices of the BSCR at the British Cardiac Society annual conference, which took place at the GMEX Centre in Manchester, was organised by Professor Ajay Shah on 22 May 2001. The subject was 'Cardiovascular signalling by reactive oxygen species and free radicals' and visiting speakers were Kaikobad Irani (John Hopkins University, Maryland) and Bradford Berk (University of Rochester, New York).

Committee, Officers and Elections

In the 2001/2 period, the Committee met on two occasions: on 11 April 2001 at the headquarters of the British Cardiac Society, Fitzroy Square, London and on 2 November 2001 at the Rayne Institute, St Thomas Hospital, London (postponed from 14 September at the University of Oxford). At the end of 2001, the tenure of a number of office bearers and ordinary members of Committee was completed: Gary Baxter (Secretary), Mike Curtis (Treasurer), Paul Barton, Barbara McDermott, Saddeh Suleiman and Ian Zachary. From 1 January 2002 and for a period of three years, Barbara McDermott took up the position of Secretary, Mike Curtis was re-elected as Treasurer, Saadeh Suleiman was re-elected as an ordinary member and three new members, Gavin Brooks, Gillian Gray and Ajay Shah, were welcomed. Nicola Smart has remained as Bulletin Editor and in September 2001, Helen Maddox agreed to act as co-editor and was co-opted onto the Committee.

Annual General Meeting

An extraordinary AGM was convened after the postponement of the Society's Autumn meeting in Oxford, at which the scheduled AGM was to be held. The quorum for this meeting was set at 20 members and took place at the Rayne Institute, St Thomas Hospital, London on 2 November 2001.

Sponsorship

A healthy state of finances at least in the immediate future has been guaranteed by major sponsorship from Aventis, who have continued to fund BSCR activities, to a total of £20,000 in 2002. The British Cardiac Society and the National Heart Research Fund have pledged amounts of £2500 and £2000, respectively, for support of keynote speakers at the main meetings

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in 2002. This will ensure and contribute enormously to our ability to run high quality meetings and symposia. Furthermore, meeting organisers have been particularly diligent in obtaining additional funding and we are grateful to the Wellcome Trust, British Heart Foundation and many commercial companies for generous support.

The Bulletin

In 2001/2, four issues of the BSCR Bulletin were published under the direction of Nicola Smart and also, latterly, Helen Maddox.

B J McDermott – BSCR Secretary
Queen's University Belfast
Whitla Medical Building
97 Lisburn Road,
Belfast BT9 7BL

BSCR Committee 2001/2

Chairman:

Professor M Avkiran (1/00 -)
King's College, London

Secretary:

Dr GF Baxter (1/99 – 12/01)
University College London

Dr BJ McDermott (1/02 -)
Queen's University Belfast

Treasurer:

Dr MJ Curtis (1/99 – 12/01
and 1/02 -)
King's College London

Committee Members:

Dr PJR Barton (1/99 – 12/01)
Imperial College London

Dr AJ Brady (1/00 -)
Glasgow Royal Infirmary

Dr G Brooks (1/02 -)
University of Reading

Dr SJ George (1/00 -)
University of Bristol

Dr GA Gray (1/02 -)
University of Edinburgh

Professor MS Marber (1/00 -)
King's College London

Dr BJ McDermott (1/99 – 12/01)
Queen's University Belfast

Professor AM Shah (1/02 -)
King's College London

Dr M-S Suleiman (1/99 – 12/01
and 1/02 -)
University of Bristol

Dr L-B Tan (1/00 -)
Leeds General Infirmary

Dr IC Zachary (1/99 – 21/01)
University College London

Bulletin Editors:

Dr N Smart (9/99 -)
University College London

Dr H Maddox (9/01 -)
Coventry University