

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

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Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held at the John MacIntyre Conference Centre
Pollock Halls of Residence, University of Edinburgh
Monday 8 September 2003 at 17.30h

1 Quorum

The quorum for this meeting was set at 21 Members.

2 Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting

These were approved and signed by the Chairman, Professor Michael Marber, 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 2002 to March 2003 had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and would be submitted to the Charities Commission in October 2003.

Past Meetings:

Spring 2003 meeting: Dr Andy Baker and Dr Sarah George organized a meeting on 'Molecular Therapy for Cardiovascular Diseases' on 27-28 March 2003 at the University of Glasgow.

Autumn 2003 meeting: Organized by Dr Gillian Gray, Dr Ian Megson, Dr Simon Maxwell, Dr Irfan Rahman, and Professor A Shah, this meeting on 'Oxidative Stress: From Measurement to Management' was held on 8-9 September 2003 at the University of Edinburgh.

Future Meetings:

The following meetings had been approved by the Committee:

Spring 2004 meeting: The meeting on the subject of 'Frontiers in Cardiovascular Signalling' would be held at the University of Manchester under the direction of Professor David Eisner and Dr Cathy Holt on 1-2 April.

Autumn 2004 meeting: Professor Ajay Shah and colleagues would organize a meeting focused on 'Integrative Cardiovascular Pathophysiology in Gene-Modified Models' on 9-10 September at King's College, London.

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Workshops:

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

British Cardiac Society:

A BCCR symposium organized by Dr Andrew Grace and entitled 'Genetics and mechanisms of cardiac arrhythmias' took place on 29 April 2003 at the BCS annual scientific conference in Glasgow.

A proposal to organize a symposium on 'Repairing the broken heart – the promise of stem cells' from Professor Ajay Shah had been approved by the BSCR Committee for the May 2004 BCS meeting to be held in Manchester.

Also a Teach-in Session to be organized by the BSCR had been approved. This was to address the 'Importance of myocardial collaterals and their manipulation' and would be chaired by Professor Nilesh Samani and Professor Keith Channon.

Travel Bursaries for Postgraduate Students:

Spring 2003 Meeting (University of Glasgow) – 8 bursaries (2 students from Hull, 3 from Bristol, 2 from Oxford and 1 from London).

Autumn 2003 Meeting (University of Edinburgh) – 1 bursary (student from Oxford)

Sponsorship:

Continued sponsorship had been received from Aventis, £20K in 2002 and £15K in 2003. Additional funding had been granted by the National Heart Research Fund (£2K) and the British Cardiac Society (£2.5K) for BSCR activities in 2003. Further support had been obtained through meeting organisers, the Wellcome Trust, the British Heart Foundation and numerous commercial companies.

5 Treasurer's Report

Presentation of accounts:

In presentation of the accounts by the Treasurer, Dr Mike Curtis, it was reported that the balance of the account at the end of 2002/3 was £93,672, which showed the financial status to be particularly sound.

Membership:

Membership as of September 2003 totalled 346, 30 less than the same period last year. Of the total membership, 300 were ordinary members and 46 student members. It was proposed to use surplus resources to encourage membership and that recruitment of postgraduate students should be a prime purpose.

Subscription Rates:

Subscription rates would remain as in 2002: £15/£40 (ordinary membership – BSCR / BSCR & ISHR), £9 / £34 (student membership - BSCR / BSCR & ISHR) for payment by direct debit or with a £5 surcharge for payment by cheque.

6 **Secretary's Report**

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Five members of committee had retired at the end of 2002 – Professor Metin Avkiran (Chairman), Dr Adrian Brady, Dr Sarah George, Professor Michael Marber, Dr Lip Bun Tan. Professor Michael Marber had been then elected as Chairman for 2003-5 and four ordinary members also elected for this period - Professor Keith Channon, Professor David Eisner, Professor Nilesh Samani and Dr Peter Weinbrg. The following members continued throughout 2002/3 – Professor Barbara McDermott (Secretary), Dr Michael Curtis (Treasurer), Professor Gavin Brooks, Dr Gillian Gray, Professor Ajay Shah, Dr Nicola Smart and Dr Helen Maddock (Bulletin Editors). There would be no retirements at the end of 2003, but a maximum of six replacements would be needed to take up office in January 2005. As such there would be a call for nominations in April 2004.

7 **Bulletin Editors' Report**

Publication of the BSCR Bulletin was running smoothly, with issues being sent out on a quarterly basis. The bulletin can be accessed on the BSCR website. Members were encouraged to continue to provide contributions, particularly on research reviews and laboratory profiles.

8 **Any Other Business**

Student membership Dr Susan Coker asked about the drive to recruit student membership and how this was to be done. It was announced that membership would be made free for postgraduate students, but the mechanism of implementing this change had yet to be worked out in detail.

Publication of meeting abstracts It was confirmed by the Chairman that abstracts of papers presented at BSCR main meetings would be published in 'Heart Online'.

9 **Date of the Next Annual General Meeting**

The next AGM will be held at the Autumn meeting, scheduled for Friday 10 September 2004, at King's College, London.



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THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

**Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31st March 2003**

INCOME & EXPENDITURE		2003	2002
		£.	£.
	Notes		
INCOME			
Grants	3	17000	20000
Subscriptions		5445	5914
Bank interest		605	603
		-----	-----
Total Income		<u>23050</u>	<u>26517</u>
 EXPENDITURE			
Management & Administration of the Charity			
Secretarial costs		2680	2340
Bulletin expenses		3039	3492
Scientific meetings, speakers' fees etc.	4	(2453)	630
Insurance		800	788
Committee meeting expenses	5	1350	1837
Printing, stationery and post		1462	377
Travel bursaries		930	374
Bank charges		92	203
Independent examiner's fee	6	550	515
Other expenses		-	138
Depreciation	1	-	-
		-----	-----
Total Expenditure		<u>8450</u>	<u>10694</u>
 Net Incoming Resources		 14600	 15823
Total Funds brought forward		79072	63249
		-----	-----
Total Funds carried forward		<u>93672</u>	<u>79072</u>

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THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Balance Sheet

As at 31st March 2003

		2003	2002
		£	£
Fixed Assets	Notes		
Office equipment	2	-	-
		-----	-----
Current Assets			
Debtors and prepayments	7	429	22929
Balances at bank:-			
Current accounts		13050	14611
Business reserve account		85176	49571
		-----	-----
		98655	87111
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accruals	8	4984	8039
		-----	-----
Net Current Assets		93671	79072
		-----	-----
Net Assets		93671	79072
		=====	=====
Funds			
Unrestricted Income Funds			
General Purposes		93671	79072
		-----	-----

Represented by:-

Funds

Unrestricted Income Funds
General Purposes

Prof.M.Marber
Chairman

Date

Dr.M.J.Curtis
Treasurer

Date

For and on behalf of the Managing Committee

The notes on page 3 and 4 form part of these accounts

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Notes to the Accounts for the Year ended 31st March 2003

1. Accounting Policies

General

These accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with Applicable accounting standards and the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities.

Depreciation

Provision for depreciation of fixed assets held for use by the Charity is made at annual rates calculated to spread the cost (less any residual disposal value) of each asset evenly over its expected useful life. The depreciation rate currently in use for fixed assets held for use by the Charity is 33.3% on the straight line basis.

2. Fixed Assets

Used by the Charity – computer equipment

		£
Cost	at 31 st March 2002	629
		====
	at 31 st March 2003	629
		====
Depreciation	at 31 st March 2002	629
		====
	at 31 st March 2003	629
		====
Net Book Value	at 31 st March 2002	-
		====
	at 31 st March 2003	-
		====

3. Grants

	2003	2002
	£	£
From public bodies		
Aventis Limited	15000	20000
National Heart Research Fund	2000	-
	-----	-----
	17000	20000
	=====	=====

4. Scientific Meetings, Speakers' Fees & Expenses

	2003	2002
	£	£
Cost of meetings	3984	4048
Speakers' fees and expenses	6963	6282
	<u>10947</u>	<u>10330</u>
Sponsorship of meetings	13400	9700
	<u>(2453)</u>	<u>630</u>

5. Trustees' Expenses

A total of £1350 (2002 £1837) was reimbursed to members of the Management Committee during the year. These payments represented travel, etc. costs incurred in attending meetings. No members of the Management Committee nor any person connected with them has received, or is due to receive, any remuneration for the year, directly or indirectly, from the Charity's funds.

6. Independent Examiner's Costs

	2003	2002
	£	£
Examination fee	550	515
	<u>550</u>	<u>515</u>

7. Debtors & Prepayments

	2003	2002
	£	£
Insurance premium prepaid	250	-
Tax rebate 1998/99	179	179
ISHR 2002 subscriptions prepaid	-	2750
Accrued income – Grant from Aventis Limited	-	20000
	<u>429</u>	<u>22929</u>

8. Creditors & Accruals

	2003	2002
	£	£
a). Mammalian Myocardium Funds		
Funds held on behalf of the above together with interest accrued for the year ended 31 st March 2003, as instructed by the Trustees of the Society	4434	4434
b). Accrual – independent examiner's costs	550	605
c). Sponsorship of meetings received in advance	-	3000
	<u>4984</u>	<u>8039</u>

BSCR MEMBERSHIP

September 2003 compared with 2002

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Total number of members	376	346
Ordinary members	321	300
Students	55	46
Joint ISHR/BSCR	160	144

SUBSCRIPTIONS

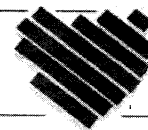
	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Ordinary membership	£15	£15*
Student membership	£9	£9*
Ordinary membership BSCR/ISHR	£40	£40*
Student membership BSCR/ISHR	£34	£34*

* £5 surcharge levied on cheque payments for administration costs



BSCR COMMITTEE (from Jan 03)

Chairman	Prof Mike Marber	Jan 03 – Dec 05
Secretary	Prof Barbara McDermott	Jan 02 – Dec 04
Treasurer	Dr Michael Curtis	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Prof Gavin Brooks	Jan 02 – Dec 04
	Prof 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 2002/3

This Annual Report covers the activities of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research (BSCR) for the period 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

Main Meetings

Three meetings fell within the period of this report, which were the Spring 2002, Autumn 2002 and Spring 2003 meetings.

The Spring 2002 meeting, organised by Dr Gavin Brooks (University of Reading) and Dr Mike Shattock (King's College, London) was held on 11-12 April on the Whiteknights campus in Reading. The topic was 'Ion channels and transporters in cardiovascular cell growth', which attracted nearly 100 delegates. The British Cardiac Society lecture was given by Sir Michael Berridge (Cambridge, UK) and the National Heart Research Fund lecture by Jeffrey Molkentin (Cincinnati, USA). Other speakers from abroad were Bernd Nilius and Karin Sipido (Leuven, Belgium), and Guy Vassort (Montpellier, France). Four free communications were also presented. The official reception and dinner were held on the New Orleans Paddle Steamer as it cruised from Henley-on-Thames to Sonning and back. A report of this meeting was published in the BSCR Quarterly bulletin (vol. 15, no. 3).

The Autumn 2002 meeting was held on 6-7 September at the University of Bristol, hosted by Dr Saadeh Suleiman and Mr Massimo Caputo. The focus was 'The developing heart: biology and protection' with specific objectives to improve understanding of the biology of cardiac development and to compare different techniques of myocardial protection in experimental models and during paediatric open heart surgery. The opening lecture was given by the chairman of the Bristol Heart Institute, Professor

Gianni Angelini. Both the British Cardiac Society Lecture and the National Heart Research Fund lectures were given by US speakers, namely Michael Artman (New York University Medical Center) and Pedro del Nido (Harvard University). Other visiting speakers were Hajime Imura (Nippon Medical School), John Baker (Wisconsin College of Medicine) Jürgen Hescheler (University of Cologne) and Anton Moorman (Amsterdam Academic Medical Centre). Seven free communications were presented. The official reception and dinner were held in 'Bizantium'. A report of this meeting was published in the BSCR Quarterly bulletin (vol. 16, no. 1).

The Spring 2003 meeting was held at the Kelvin Conference Centre in Glasgow on 27-28 March under the direction of Dr Andrew Baker (University of Glasgow) and Dr Sarah George (University of Bristol). The topic was 'Molecular Therapy for Cardio-vascular Disease' and three main areas were discussed: current gene delivery; modifying and improving vectors; disease targets. The British Cardiac Society lecture was given by Lawrence Chan (Baylor Medical College) and the National Heart Research Fund lecture by Paul Reynolds (Adelaide, Australia). Other visiting speakers were Hildegard Buening (Munich) and Erik Biessen (Leiden). Submitted work comprised an important part of the programme, six of the papers being presented as oral communications and the other thirteen as posters. A Scottish dinner was the highlight of the social programme. A report of this meeting was published in the BSCR Quarterly bulletin (vol. 16, no. 3).

Workshops

There were no workshops held during this period.

British Cardiac Society (BCS) Symposium

A symposium entitled 'Heart failure research from bench to bedside: focus on magnetic resonance techniques' took place on 15 May at the BCS annual scientific conference held at the Harrogate International Centre. The organiser was Dr Stefan Neubauer (Oxford) and other speakers were Frank Weismann (Wurtzburg, Germany) Kieran Clarke (Oxford) and Dudley Pennell (London).

Committee, Officers and Elections

In the 2002/3 period, the Committee met on four occasions: on 11 April 2002 at the University of Reading, on 6 September at the University of Bristol, on 17 January 2003 at the British Cardiac Society offices, 9 Fitzroy Square, London and on 27 March 2003 at the University of Glasgow.

At the end of 2002, the tenure of one office bearer and four ordinary members of Committee was completed: Metin Avkiran (Chairman), Adrian Brady, Sarah George, Michael Marber and Lip Bun Tan. From 1 January 2003 and for a period of three years, Michael Marber took up the position of Chairman, with support of the full committee. Five nominations were obtained for four vacant positions as ordinary members and Keith Channon, David Eisner, Nilesh Samani and Peter Weinburg were elected. Barbara McDermott continued as Secretary, Michael Curtis as Treasurer, Gavin Brooks, Gillian Gray, Ajay Shah and Saadeh Suleiman as ordinary members, and Nicola Smart and Helen Maddock as Bulletin Editors.

Annual General Meeting

An AGM was held on 6 September 2002 at the University of Bristol.

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Sponsorship

Continued sponsorship from Aventis, to a total of £20,000 in the calendar year 2002 and £15,000 in 2003, has ensured a healthy state of finances at least in the immediate future. The British Cardiac Society and the National Heart Research Fund pledged amounts of £2500 and £2000, respectively, for support of keynote speakers at the main meetings in each of 2002 and 2003. Furthermore, meeting organisers have been 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

From April 2002 to March 2003, four issues of the BSCR Bulletin were published, in April 2002, July 2002, October 2002 and January 2003.

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

BSCR Committee 2002/3

Chairman:

Professor M Avkiran (1/00 – 12/02)
King's College, London

Professor MS Marber (1/03 –)
King's College, London

Secretary:

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

Treasurer:

Dr MJ Curtis (1/02 -)
King's College London

Committee Members:

Dr AJ Brady (1/00 – 12/02)
Glasgow Royal Infirmary

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

Professor KM Channon (1/03 –)
University of Oxford

Professor DA Eisner (1/03 –)
University of Manchester

Dr SJ George (1/00 – 12/02)
University of Bristol

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

Professor MS Marber (1/00 – 12/02)
King's College London

Professor NJ Samani (1/03 –)
University of Leicester

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

Dr M-S Suleiman (1/02 –)
University of Bristol

Dr L-B Tan (1/00 – 12/02)
Leeds General Infirmary

Dr PD Weinberg (1/03 –)
University of Reading

Bulletin Editors:

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

Dr H Maddock (9/01 -)
Coventry University