

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

held in the Govenors' Hall, St Thomas' Hospital, London
on Friday 16 September 2005, starting at 12.00h

1 Quorum

The quorum for this meeting was set at 30 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

In introducing his report, Professor Marber stated the purpose of BSCR was "to contribute to the progress and understanding of biomedical and allied sciences in relation to the cardiovascular system and the detection, prevention and treatment of disease, disability and malfunction of the cardiovascular system". He went on to highlight a number of developments that particularly addressed these objectives, specifically: (i) encouragement of student participation through free membership and award of prizes; (ii) publication of meeting abstracts in a citable source (*Heart Online*); (iii) contribution to NICE Health Technology Appraisals; (iv) enhanced interaction with other professional organizations involved with cardiovascular research.

Annual Report:

The accounts had been prepared and were being looked at by an independent examiner. The Annual Report covering the period April 2004 to March 2005 had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and would be submitted along with the audited accounts to the Charities Commission in October 2005.

Past Meetings:

Spring 2005 meeting: Professor Nilesh Samani and Dr Alison Goodall organized a meeting on 'Emerging concepts in atherosclerosis' on 21-22 April 2005 at the University of Leicester.

Autumn 2005 meeting: Organized by Professors Michael Marber and Metin Avkiran, this meeting on 'Stress signals in the cardiovascular system' was held on 15-16 September 2005 at St Thomas' Hospital.

Future Meetings:

The following meetings for 2006 had been approved by the Committee:

Spring 2006 meeting: A meeting on the subject of 'Cardiovascular Genomics' would be held at the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridge under the direction of Drs Andrew Grace, Jane Rogers and Willem Ouwehand on 27-28 March.

Autumn 2006 meeting: Drs Richard Heads and Rita Jabr would organize a meeting focused on 'Inflammation in the cardiovascular system' in mid-September at St Thomas' Hospital, London.

Workshops:

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

British Cardiac Society:

A BSCR symposium organized jointly by the BSCR and British Atherosclerosis Society (BAS) and entitled 'Oxidative stress and cardiovascular disease' took place on 24 May 2005 at the BCS annual scientific conference in Manchester. A 'How-to' session, chaired by Professor Michael Marber, addressed the setting up of: (i) a stem cell trial; (ii) a gene therapy trial.

Because of the large number of affiliate groups, 'Teach-in' sessions were now allocated in rotation and BSCR will have another opportunity in 2006.

Suggestions for symposia made jointly by affiliate groups would be looked on most favourably with preferential access being given to the British Society of Echocardiography (BSE), British Cardiovascular Intervention Society (BCIS), and British Pacing and Electrophysiology Group (BPEG).

Travel Bursaries for Postgraduate Students:

A total of £1429 had been awarded in bursaries for the two main meetings in 2005.

Sponsorship:

Aventis announced in December 2004 that the company could not continue support into 2005. Fortunately, Professor Marber was able to report the recent agreement by Pfizer to provide an educational grant of £15K for the period Oct 2005 - Sept 2006. Meeting organizers obtained additional funding and generous awards were obtained from the British Heart Foundation, Astra-Zeneca and other commercial companies.

The journal, Clinical Science, initiated sponsorship in April 2005 of a Young Investigator Award of £250 for each main meeting.

5 Treasurer's Report**Presentation of Accounts:**

The financial position was particularly sound, as demonstrated by total funds of £102,449 (at 19.8.05). The total carried forward in the audited accounts at end March 2005 was £111,804 and in the preceding year income had exceeded expenditure by approximately £10K.

Membership:

Membership had fluctuated throughout the year, the total currently increased to 422 (from 401 in September 2004), arising mostly from student applications (98 vs. 72, respectively).

Subscription Rates:

Subscription rates would remain as in 2005: £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

Over the past year the Committee had met on two occasions: 21.4.05 (University of Leicester) and 15.9.05 (St Thomas' Hospital).

Committee Membership and Office Bearers:

The current committee membership was considered and note taken that 5 members, to include the Chairman and 4 ordinary members, would finish their current 3-year terms at the end of 2005. Considering the need for a new Chairman to take up post in January 2006, this was discussed at the meeting of Committee held last April. Professor David Eisner, one of the retiring ordinary members, 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 general membership and approved. Professor Barbara McDermott and Dr Mike Curtis would continue as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

A call for nominations for 4 new committee members produced expression of interest from 5 individuals, which were Drs Barbara Casadei, Andrew Grace, Cathy Holt, Nicola King and Chris Newman. In the interim period, however, there had been exchange of ideas about setting up a formal connection with the BAS. Agreement was made to create an additional position on the BSCR committee, specifically for a BAS representative, which was accommodated within the constitution. In filling the new committee place, Chris Newman, as current BAS Secretary, was the obvious choice. Since only 4 other nominations for the 4 vacancies remained, all candidates were put forward for election by the general membership and agreed. The composition of the Committee from January 2006 was demonstrated to have the required number of clinical scientists (3). A solid position should be maintained for the coming year, but at the end of 2007, 6 members would finish their terms of office, so nominations would be required mid 2007 for positions to be taken up in January 2008.

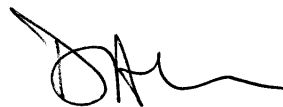
In concluding this report, particular mention was made of individuals retiring from the committee. Firstly, Michael Marber, in completing his term as Chairman, was praised for seeing the Society through a period of significant growth helped enormously by his success at attracting core sponsorship. Sincere thanks were also extended to Nilesh Samani, who had done so much recently in running an excellent meeting in Leicester and contributing extra funds to the Society, and Keith Channon and Peter Weinberg for their sterling input to current developments and plans for the future.

7 Bulletin Editors' Report

The Bulletin editors, Drs Nicola Smart and Helen Maddock, reported that difficulties causing delays in meeting publication dates had been mostly resolved. The Editors planned to take a more proactive approach to obtaining articles, including making specific calls for travel reports and targeting prize winners at the scientific meetings to write review articles. It was suggested, also, that prospective meeting organizers could be asked to take the opportunity to showcase their research in a department / laboratory report.

8 Any Other Business

None



9 Date of the Next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM would be held at the Autumn meeting in 2006.

BSCR Treasurer report September 2005

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CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

(at 19/08/05)

Current account	£12,111
Harley Street	£450
Business reserve	£90,888
TOTAL	£102,449

Funds carried over at the end of the financial year (31 March):

TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD

March 2005	£111,804
March 2004	£102,255
March 2003	£100,666
March 2002	£79,072
March 2001	£63,249
March 2000	£59,172

INCOME (excluding meeting sponsorship) 1/4/4 to 31/3/5

Subs	£4,919
Bank interest	£1,757
Sponsorship income (AstraZeneca; excl. mtg)	£22,641
TOTAL	£29,317

EXPENDITURE (meeting sponsorship in -£) 1/4/4 to 31/3/5

Secretarial expenses	£2,880
Bulletin expenses	£3,273
Scientific meetings (incl. speaker)	£8,391
Meeting sponsorship	£-7992
Insurance	£1,050
Committee expenses (excl. secretarial)	£1,354
Printing, stationery, postage	£74
Travel bursaries and prizes	£1,929
Bank charges	£154
Independent examiner's fees and expenses	£550
Other expenses	£113
TOTAL	£19,768

Note, some differences in way data presented this year, e.g., meeting sponsorship and expenditure now in same section (expenditure)

BSCR MEMBERSHIP
September 2005 compared with 2004

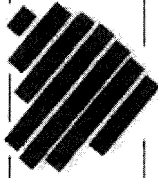
	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Total number of members	401	422
Ordinary members	185	187
Students	72	98
Joint ISHR/BSCR	144	137

SUBSCRIPTIONS

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Ordinary membership	£15*	£15*
Student membership	£9*	Free
Ordinary membership BSCR/ISHR	£40*	£40*
Student membership BSCR/ISHR	£34*	£12*

* £5 surcharge levied on cheque payments for administration costs

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH



BSCR COMMITTEE (Jan - Dec 2005)

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer

Prof Michael Marber
Prof Barbara McDermott
Dr Michael Curtis

Jan 03 – Dec 05
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 05 – Dec 07

Prof Andrew Baker
Dr Katrina Bicknell
Prof Keith Channon
Prof David Eisner
Dr Gillian Gray
Dr Chris Jackson
Prof Nilesh Samani
Dr Peter Weinberg

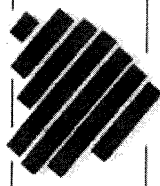
Jan 05 - Dec 07
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 03 – Dec 05
Jan 03 – Dec 05
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 03 – Dec 05
Jan 03 – Dec 05

Bulletin Editors:

Dr Nicola Smart
Dr Helen Maddock

co-opted Jan 00
co-opted Sep 01

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THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH

BSCR COMMITTEE ELECTIONS – August 05

Nominations

Dr Barbara Casadei - Oxford

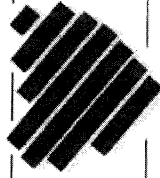
Dr Andrew Grace - Cambridge

Dr Cathy Holt - Manchester

Dr Nicola King – Bristol

Dr Chris Newman - Sheffield

THE BRITISH SOCIETY FOR CARDIOVASCULAR RESEARCH



BSCR COMMITTEE (from Jan 2006)

Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer

Prof David Eisner
Prof Barbara McDermott
Dr Michael Curtis

Jan 06 – Dec 08
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 05 – Dec 07

Prof Andrew Baker
Dr Katrina Bicknell
Dr Barbara Casadei
Dr Andrew Grace
Dr Gillian Gray
Dr Cathy Holt
Dr Chris Jackson
Dr Nicola King

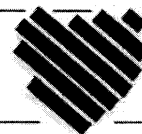
Jan 05 - Dec 07
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 06 – Dec 08
Jan 06 – Dec 08
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 06 – Dec 08
Jan 05 – Dec 07
Jan 06 – Dec 08

BAS Representative
Bulletin Editors:

Dr Chris Newman
Dr Nicola Smart
Dr Helen Maddock

co-opted Jan 06
co-opted Jan 00
co-opted Sep 01

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Annual Report 2004/5

This Annual Report covers the activities of the British Society for Cardiovascular Research (BSCR) for the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

Main Meetings

There were two meetings which fell within the period of this report. The first was the Spring 2004 meeting, held on 1-2 April at the University of Manchester. Organized by David Eisner and Cathy Holt, the meeting focused on 'Frontiers in Cardiovascular Signalling' and was composed of three symposia: calcium; phosphorylation signalling pathways; signalling out of control. The proceedings started with a keynote lecture delivered by local speaker, Arthur Weston, on 'EDRF and vascular function'. Later, an invited lecture 'Calcium signalling in the heart: basic mechanisms to heart failure' was given by Johnathan Lederer (Baltimore). On the following day, the National Heart Research Fund lecture was given by Robert Wilensky (Philadelphia) who spoke on the subject 'Targeting signalling for restenosis'. The final part of the meeting was devoted to another keynote lecture 'NO in heart failure' given by Jean Luc Balligand (Louvain). A report of this meeting will be published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Vol. 18, No. 3). The Autumn 2004 meeting organised by Ajay Shah and Alison Cave was held at King's College London on 9-10 September. The subject of the meeting 'Integrative cardiovascular pathophysiology in gene-modified models' had wide appeal, covering applications to both cardiac and vascular disease, and aspects of imaging. The keynote lecture on the first day was given by David Kass

(Baltimore) who described 'State-of-the-art assessment of murine haemodynamics'. Karen Svenson from the The Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor) gave the The National Heart Research Fund lecture on the subject 'Identification of murine models of cardiovascular disease using mutagenesis'. A report of this meeting was published in the BSCR Quarterly Bulletin (Vol. 18, No. 1).

Workshops

There were no workshops held during this period.

British Cardiac Society Symposium

A symposium held under the auspices of the BSCR at the British Cardiac Society annual conference held at G-Mex, Manchester was organised by Ajay Shah on 25 May 2004. The subject was 'Repairing the broken heart - the promise of stem cells'. Speakers were Christine Mummery (Utrecht), Philippe Menasche (Paris), Stephanie Dimmeler and Andreas Zeiher (Frankfurt), Ajay Shah, Sian Harding and Philip Poole-Wilson (London) and Stefan Neubauer (Oxford).

Committee, Officers and Elections

In the 2004/5 period, the Committee met on two occasions, on 1 April 2004 at the University of Manchester, and on 9 September at King's College London.

At the end of 2004, the tenure of two of the office bearers and four ordinary members of Committee was completed: Barbara McDermott (Secretary); Michael Curtis (Treasurer); Gavin Brooks; Gillian Gray; Ajay Shah; Saadeh Suleiman. From 1 January 2005 and for a period

of three years, Barbara McDermott and Michael Curtis were re-elected to these positions. Michael Marber continued in the position of Chairman. Five nominations were obtained for four vacant positions as ordinary members. Andrew Baker, Katrina Bicknell and Chris Jackson were elected, and Gillian Gray was re-elected. Nicola Smart and Helen Maddock continued as Bulletin Editors.

Annual General Meeting

An AGM took place on 10 September 2004 at King's College London. The quorum for this meeting was set at 25 members.

Sponsorship

Aventis continued to sponsor the Society in 2004 with a grant of £15,000, but no commitment was made for 2005. The National Heart Research Fund pledged £2000 for 2004 to support keynote speakers at the main meetings. Further funding was sought for the next 3-year cycle. Meeting organisers obtained additional funding and we are grateful to the British Heart Foundation and commercial companies for their generous support.

The Bulletin

In 2004/5, four issues of the BSCR Bulletin were published under the direction of Nicola Smart and Helen Maddock.

**B J McDermott – BSCR Secretary
Queen's University Belfast**

BSCR Committee 2004/5**Chairman:**

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 AH Baker (1/05 -)
University of Glasgow

Dr KA Bicknell (1/05 -)
University of Reading

Professor G Brooks (1/02 - 12/04)
University of Reading

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

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

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

Dr CL Jackson (1/05 -)
University of Bristol

Professor NS Samani (1/03 -)
University of Leicester

Professor AM Shah (1/02 - 12/04)
King's College London

Dr M-S Suleiman (1/02 - 12/04)
University of Bristol

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