

Minutes of Annual General Meeting Tuesday 12th September 2017 • University of Oxford

1. Quorum

There were 70 BSCR members present including members of the current committee, so the AGM was declared quorate.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

These were approved 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. Treasurer's Report

Membership

Total membership numbers have notably increased since 2016 and currently stand at 475 comprising 265 ordinary members and 210 student members. However, this is largely due to increased student members whilst the number of ordinary members has remained similar. Students were therefore encouraged to convert to ordinary membership at the end of their approved free membership period; they will be contacted by the Secretary in this regard. The subscription fees will remain at £25 for ordinary members (£65 joint with the ISHR) and free for students (£20 joint with the ISHR). However, for those ordinary members not selecting the recurring payment option and rather choosing a single one-off payment, the fee will increase to £35 from 1st January 2018.

Gift aid

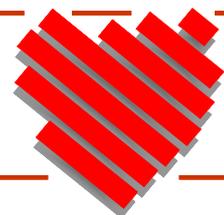
Ordinary members who are UK tax payers were encouraged to select the gift aid option on the application form, thereby giving permission for the society to reclaim 25% tax on all future and retrospective (from 6 September 2011) payments made. This results in valuable additional income to the society.

Current financial situation

Total funds currently stand at ~£235K including the Marshall Prize legacy with a general balance of ~£68K at the end of financial year 2016/17. It was noted that the latter represents a decrease from ~£76K at the end of 2015/16. The importance of ensuring that Autumn meetings are cost neutral, increasing numbers of paying members, and seeking core sponsorship was therefore highlighted. Society finances will be reviewed in January 2018 once the financial report for the Autumn 2017 meeting has been finalised.

Financial summary for Autumn 2016 meeting

The Autumn 2016 meeting reported a significant profit of £7,024 which was largely due to major sponsorship income but also charging of a small delegate fee (£70 for ordinary members, free for student members). It is expected that all BSCR Autumn meetings will be at least cost neutral so to avoid adverse impact upon the society's finances.



The 2016/17 accounts were ratified by the attending BSCR members.

5. Chair's Report (presented by the Secretary)

Meetings

The Chair highlighted 3 BSCR meetings which have taken place since the last AGM: (1) BSCR symposium at Pharmacology 2016: 'Biased agonists at G-protein-coupled receptors' 14 December 2016, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London, Organisers: Sean Davidson, Anthony Davenport; (2) Joint BSCR/BAS/BCS Spring Meeting 2017: 'New frontiers in cardiovascular science' 5-6 June 2017, Manchester Central, Organisers: Pasquale Maffia, David Grieve; (3) BSCR Autumn Meeting 2017 (incorporating Early Career Symposium): 'Cardiac metabolic disorders and mitochondrial dysfunction' 11-12 September 2017, University of Oxford, Organisers: Carolyn Carr, Mike Dodd, Lisa Heather, Andrew Bond, Alicia D'Souza.

Sponsorship

The Chair thanked the BHF for their continued support of the joint BAS/BSCR joint Spring meeting and commercial sponsors for their support of the Autumn meeting. He also advised that core corporate sponsorship would be sought in due course, further to the £5K received from Astra-Zeneca in 2015/16, whilst acknowledging the difficulty in securing such support.

Profile of the BSCR

The Chair highlighted continued links with the British Cardiovascular Society (BCS) and British Atherosclerosis Society (BAS) and an established relationship with the British Pharmacological Society (BPS), which over recent years has comprised a BSCR-organised session at the BPS Winter meeting and a BPS named lecture at the BSCR Autumn meeting.

Bernard and Joan Marshall Awards

The Chair highlighted the names of the 2017 Distinguished Investigator, Research Excellence Prize winner and Young Investigator Prize finalists who were all congratulated on their notable achievements.

Public engagement

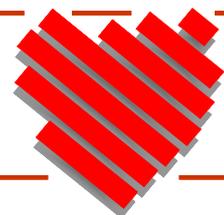
There has been no BSCR public engagement activity over the past year. However, the Chair highlighted its importance and encouraged members to make the committee aware of forthcoming cardiovascular events in their institutions which could potentially be linked with the BSCR.

Heart

The Chair reminded members that Heart is the official journal of the BSCR which includes an agreement to publish abstracts from the BSCR Autumn meeting and a 50% discount on personal subscriptions to the online edition for BSCR members. Recently, Heart has commissioned 4 review articles from BSCR committee members and it is hoped to broaden this out in future to e.g. distinguished researchers nominated by the committee, together with BSCR feature articles focussed on e.g. the annual Marshall Prizes.

Opportunities for Young Investigators

The Chair encouraged eligible BSCR members to apply for the BCS Michael Davies Early Career Award. In addition, student members were reminded of the BSCR travel bursary



scheme to support presentation at main BSCR meetings and the Bulletin travel award scheme to support attendance at relevant (inter)national cardiovascular meetings.

Closing remarks

The Chair encouraged colleagues to join the BSCR and to continue to support and contribute to its' Spring and Autumn meetings; this included a request for proposals for future meetings and early career symposia. The Chair also highlighted the BSCR Ambassador programme whose aim is to encourage increased engagement of the BSCR membership. Finally, the Chair thanked the BSCR committee and membership for their continued support.

6. Secretary's Report

Committee meetings

Over the past year the committee had met on three occasions: 16th January 2017 (Birmingham), 5th June 2017 (Manchester) and 11th September 2017 (Oxford).

Committee elections

The Secretary advised that 7 committee members will reach the end of their 3 year terms in December 2017 – Colin Berry, Carolyn Carr, Sean Davidson, Alicia D'Souza, Derek Hausenloy, Pasquale Maffia, and Sanjay Sinha. Eight nominations for new committee members were received for 5 places which necessitated an election, the result of which was as follows:

Number of voting members: 72

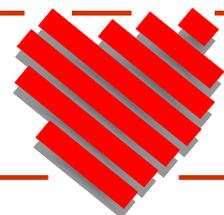
Number of votes received:

Prof Carolyn Carr	40
Prof Helen Arthur	39
Dr Sanjay Sinha	34
Dr Daniel Stuckey	32
Dr Christina Warboys	32
Dr Pasquale Maffia	30
Dr Reza Aghamohammadzadeh	20
Dr Ricardo Carnicer Hijazo	8

It was therefore recommended that Carolyn Carr, Helen Arthur, Sanjay Sinha, Daniel Stuckey, and Christina Warboys are elected to the BSCR committee from 1st January 2018 for a 3-year term. This was ratified by attending members.

New BSCR Chair

The Secretary advised that Prof Colin Berry (clinical) has reached the end of his 3 year term and that convention dictates that the next Chair should be non-clinical with appointment from/by the existing committee. Three nominations were received which necessitated an election, the result of which was as follows:



Number of voting committee members: 17

Number of votes received:

Dr Karen Porter	8
Prof Paul Evans	5
Dr Sean Davidson	4

It was therefore recommended that Dr Karen Porter is elected as BSCR Chair from 1st January 2018 for a 3-year term. This was ratified by attending members.

Committee composition

The committee composition and office bearers from 1st January 2018 will be as follows:

Chair

Karen Porter (Chair)	University of Leeds	Term end: December 2020
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Secretary

David Grieve (Secretary)	Queen's University Belfast	Term end: December 2019
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Treasurer

Melanie Madhani	University of Birmingham	Term end: December 2019
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General committee

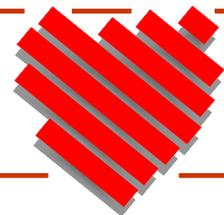
Helen Arthur	University of Newcastle	Term end: December 2020
May Azzawi	Manchester Metropolitan Uni	Term end: December 2019
Andrew Bond	University of Bristol	Term end: December 2019
Carolyn Carr	University of Oxford	Term end: December 2017
Paul Evans	University of Sheffield	Term end: December 2017
Thomas Krieg	University of Cambridge	Term end: December 2019
Daniel Moreno-Martinez	Manchester Metropolitan Uni	Term end: December 2019
Sanjay Sinha	University of Cambridge	Term end: December 2017
Daniel Stuckey	University College London	Term end: December 2020
Christina Warboys	Imperial College London	Term end: December 2020
Sarah Withers	University of Salford	Term end: December 2017

The Secretary highlighted that further to the recent gradual growth of the committee and completion of the terms of several current members, the committee will be reduced from 17 to 14 members from 1st January 2018. Nonetheless, he indicated that a call for nominations would be made again next year for a number of committee places to be decided with the aim of creating more equal spacing of term end dates.

The Secretary thanked outgoing committee members: Colin Berry (Chair), Sean Davidson, Mike Dodd (Bulletin Editor and Webmaster), Alicia D'Souza, Derek Hausenloy and Pasquale Maffia for their significant and valued contribution. He also thanked Gayle Halford (BSCR Administrator) for her critical support of the society.

Forthcoming BSCR meetings

- BSCR symposium at Pharmacology 2017: 'Cardiovascular pleiotropy: fact or fantasy?' 11 December 2017, Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre, London, Organisers: Sean Davidson, Karen Porter.
- Joint BSCR/BAS/BCS Spring Meeting 2017: 'New frontiers in cardiovascular science' 4-5 June 2018, Manchester Central, Organisers: Andrew Bond, David Grieve.



- BSCR Autumn Meeting 2018: 'Inflammation and repair' 10-11 September 2018, University of Sheffield, Organisers: Paul Evans, Endre Kiss-Toth, Victoria Ridger, Heather Wilson

The Secretary advised that further to the success of the Early Career Symposium at the Autumn 2017 meeting, it was hoped to hold a similar pre-meeting in Sheffield in Autumn 2018. Paul Evans encouraged members to attend and to submit an abstract.

7. Bulletin Editors' Report

Mike Dodd reminded members that the Bulletin is now available online only at http://www.bscr.org/bscr_bulletin.html with 3-4 issues published per year.

Further to development of the new BSCR website, it is planned to change the bulletin format to a more integrated online format.

Members were reminded that all contributions to the Bulletin in the form of review articles, opinion pieces/letters, laboratory profiles and travel reports (for which up to £300 travel awards are available) are welcomed. Potential contributors should contact Sarah Withers, s.b.withers@salford.ac.uk.

8. Webmaster's Report

Mike Dodd reported that the BSCR website continues to receive a significant number of page views (~4500 this year), which represents a large increase since its upgrade.

The website is helping to generate additional income for the society, particularly through providing advertising opportunities for Autumn meeting sponsors.

Attending members were encouraged to contribute to the website by providing content relating to e.g. job advertisements, conferences/seminars, articles, and reminded them that this is all free of charge.

Mike Dodd advised that a new BSCR website has now been developed using Wordpress which has enabled increased content and easier editing; this will be launched soon. Daniel Moreno-Martinez will now take over webmaster responsibilities from Mike Dodd and members were requested to provide constructive feedback on the website to him: d.moreno-martinez@mmu.ac.uk.

9. Any Other Business

None.

10. Date of the Next Annual General Meeting

The next AGM will be held in Tuesday 11th September 2018 at the University of Sheffield.