

Liaison officer - Dr Simon Jackson
Research officer - Dr Stuart Taylor

Prof. Halligan welcomed them both to the BSGAR Committee.
Dr Clive Kay was the Chairman Elect.

Future BSGAR Annual conferences - the committee was planning ahead to secure suitable venues for the conference. In February 2008 the conference would be at the Royal York Hotel in the centre of York. Planning was also in hand for the 2009 conference to be held in Harrogate and to include the ESGAR CT colonography course. For 2010 the proposed venue was Bristol.

4. Treasurer's report

Dr Jobling presented the preliminary accounts figures for 2006-7 which showed a balance of around £20,000. Expenses for the year had been reduced, but the surplus from the annual conference was also reduced. The reserve figure was not large when compared to the expenditure commitment for the annual conference, and this was a matter for concern in the event of any problems with the conference.

The committee had previously approved an increase in subscription fees to £50.00 per annum for Full members. These new subscription rates came into effect from 1 April 2006, and members had been contacted to top up payments for 2006 and to set up new standing orders for 2007. However there had been a poor response to this and members' arrears would be followed up during the coming year.

5. Secretary's Report

Dr Rodgers presented the Secretary's report.

Constitution amendments – the committee proposed some amendments to the BSGAR constitution to clarify the committee roles and responsibilities, and to allow for electronic voting in the future.

Dr Rodgers explained the changes, which also included amendments to the terms of office for committee members. Elections for committee posts in the future would be staggered so that not all committee posts changed at the same time, to allow some continuity.

6. ESGAR UK Conference

Prof. Halligan outlined various points for consideration if BSGAR intended to put forward a proposal to ESGAR for a future conference to be held in UK.

- ESGAR was last in the UK 1991, Oxford
- Any venue must accommodate 1000+, the 2006 attendance was 1054.
- Lisbon, Istanbul, Valencia in the pipeline, UK venues were expensive by comparison
- Prague, Venice, Munich, Maastricht, France, Salzburg – all on the agenda for consideration at some point.
- UK are *BY FAR* the biggest contributor to ESGAR
 - *Most members as a group within ESGAR*
 - *Most attendees to ESGAR events once host country attendance was excluded*

- The ESGAR has substantial reserves. Could they be persuaded to use this to offset some of the costs of a UK meeting?
- Any meeting becomes affordable if there are sufficient registrants – could BSGAR guarantee this?
- Is there a desire within BSGAR to proceed with a proposal?

From the floor several comments were made, including:-

- the ESGAR surplus was in large part due to the UK/BSGAR attendance at events
- study leave budgets had been cut, reducing the opportunity for overseas attendance
- if ESGAR was held in UK there would be no BSGAR conference, what would be the effect of this on BSGAR finances
- BSGAR should put forward one strong proposal, and not include options.

The members present voted in favour of BSGAR preparing and presenting a proposal to hold a future ESGAR conference in the UK. The committee would bring together a working group to prepare the proposal.

7. Other Business

Dr Breen reminded members about the forthcoming Workshop on RF Ablation.

Dr Shona Campbell asked about putting the Richard Farrow Lecture given by Prof Stevenson on the BSGAR web site. Prof Halligan agreed to investigate if this was possible.

There being no other business Prof Halligan thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting.