



BSGAR Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7th February 2008, Royal York Hotel, York

The Chairman, Professor Steven Halligan, welcomed members to the meeting. 55 members were present.

1. Apologies for absence

None were received

2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Oxford on 1st February 2007 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

Professor Halligan reported on the Society activity over the previous year. He thanked the membership for interesting topics for the conference.

BSGAR members had been involved with a number of projects.

- ACCEA – Clive Bartram had co-ordinated the submission procedure
- RCR SIG group – Steve Halligan represented BSGAR
- National Bowel Cancer Audit – Steve Halligan
- Federation of GI societies – Simon Jackson
- SNOMED CT – David Montgomery
- Research - CReST, RIG and FOXTROT
- AUDIT – Alasdair Taylor
- SIGGAR TRIAL

Professor Halligan thanked everyone who contributed to the Society's activities.

ESGAR UK Conference - Following the vote at the last AGM in favour of BSGAR preparing a proposal to hold a future ESGAR conference in the UK, the committee had prepared a business plan to hold the event in Edinburgh in 2012. This would be presented to the next ESGAR meeting for consideration. If the proposal was accepted, the committee had agreed that Professor Halligan would be the meeting President.

4. Treasurer's report

Dr Jobling presented the accounts figures for 2007 which showed a bank account balance of just over £18,000 at the end of the year. Expenses for the year had been reduced, and subscription income increased as the result of the increase in the annual subscription. The reserve figure was still 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 new subscription rate had come into effect from 1st 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 mixed response to this, and members had been contacted to pay their arrears.

5. Secretary's Report

Dr Rodgers presented the Secretary's report.

BSGAR Committee – Following the nomination process the following Committee posts had been elected.

BSGAR Treasurer – Ashley Roberts
Education Officer – Andrea Phillips
Standards Officer – David Burling
Audit Officer – Andy Lowe

Dr Clive Kay, as Chairman Elect, would take over as Committee Chairman after the AGM. On behalf of the Committee Dr Rodgers thanked both Professor Halligan and Craig Jobling who had now completed their terms of office as Chairman and Treasurer respectively.

Dr Rodgers urged other members to consider standing for election during the next round of elections for Committee posts.

Changes to BSGAR constitution - For clarity Dr Rodgers reiterated the changes to the BSGAR constitution that were proposed, recommending a change with regard to the election of the Chair-Elect and the eligibility of candidates, extending the candidacy for Society Chairperson to include Officers who have recently left the Committee.

The motion to accept the changes was carried by all members present except one vote against and one abstention.

6. Future BSGAR annual meetings

Professor Halligan confirmed that the meeting in 2009 would be held in Harrogate and this would be preceded by an ESGAR CT course.

For 2010 Bristol was the selected venue, and Mark Callaway and Nikki Lee had been checking venues for the meeting and the dinner.

The Committee wished to have forward plans in place to ensure that venues were booked in good time. Professor Halligan invited members to suggest venues for the meeting in 2011 and any other comment concerning the annual meeting. Suggested venues were the south coast, Brighton, and South West England. Other comments concerned the cost of the meeting and the need to keep these reasonable in the face of capped study leave allowances.

7. Association of Coloproctologists

From the floor Shona Campbell briefly outlined some of the Society's recent activities. She also reminded members that she would be completing her term as the BSGAR representative at ACPGIB at the end of the year, and BSGAR would need to appoint a new representative.

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