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BSGAR Annual General Meeting

Thursday 2nd February 2012, Cardiff

The President, Dr Simon Jackson, welcomed members to the meeting. 65 members were present.

Apologies were received from Dr H U Laasch

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held in Manchester on 3rd February 2011 were accepted as a true record.

2. President's Report

Dr Jackson reported on the Society activity over the previous year, including reports from committee members with specific responsibilities. Dr Jackson thanked the committee members for their hard work during the year, and in particular Dr Roberts and Dr Lowe who had now completed their terms of office.

The committee for 2011 was:-

- President – Simon Jackson
- President-Elect – Andrea Phillips
- Secretary – Ashley Guthrie
- Treasurer – Ashley Roberts
- Liaison Officer – Mac Armstrong
- Standards Officer – Peter Wylie
- Education Officer – Andrea Philips
- Research Officer – Damian Tolan
- Audit Officer – Andy Lowe

(i) General activities

The society membership was stable and proactive. Activity for BSGAR during the year again included involvement with multi-centre research studies, NCRI Upper GI Cancer Group, NICE, NHS Connecting for Health, BSG, ESGAR and UK Digestive Federation.

BSGAR still has full affiliation as a Royal College Radiology SIG. Tony Higginson continued as chairman of FRCR MCQ Panel. BSGAR continues to be a recognised Subspecialist Society in the ACCEA Award process. Dr Jackson thanked Dr Clive Kay for his work in co-ordinating the ACCEA application process.

(ii) Annual conference 2011

The BSGAR 2011 meeting in Manchester had been very successful. The development of the annual meeting programme for 2012 reflected comments made by members from the 2011 event:

- Length of the meeting remains unchanged at 1.5 days
- Welcome reception and Annual Dinner maintained
- Trial of Camtasia at BSGAR 2012 –to make lectures available to BSGAR members on BSGAR website after the meeting
- Generous coffee/lunch breaks retained to allow interaction with exhibitors

For sponsors, the price structure for 2012 had been changed to reflect the allocation of space. The meeting brochure again provided additional advertising opportunities for sponsors. Bayer had maintained their sponsorship of the Annual Dinner, and Dr Jackson expressed thanks on behalf of BSGAR for their continued generosity.

(iii) Research

Dr Damian Tolan was the Research Officer

Involvement in research continues to be an important part of the society strategy, and central to the development of a BSGAR national profile. BSGAR continues to support various national trials, such as FOxTROT, CReST, FIAT and ISAAC, and BSGAR members sit on management committees for trials. BSGAR members are increasingly engaged by trial PI's for expert advice. The society maintains a seat on NCRI Colorectal Surgical Subcommittee.

Future Developments:

- Funding application by BSGAR Members led by Prof Stuart Taylor –
 - Trial of small bowel imaging in Crohn's Disease
- Research Sub-committee – established as a sub-committee of the management committee to provide advice and assistance for members who wish to set up research projects

(iv) Audit

Dr Andy Lowe was Audit Officer. The following projects had been active during the year

National RIG Audit

- Data collection from Oct 2008 - Sept 2010, involving 17 centres – 685 cases
- Largest multicentre prospective RIG study performed.
- Presented BSGAR 2011, RCR Annual Meeting 2011
- Accepted for publication: Clin. Rad. 20/12/2011

National Colonic Imaging Provision Audit

- BSGAR led with agreement of RCR, involving 90 centres across the UK
- Looking at Radiologist experience and training, Radiology manager's perspective, and Service changes to accommodate increased demand
- Planned : Presentation of results at RCR Audit Committee Meeting May 2012
- Publication of findings

(v) *Standards*

Peter Wylie was the Standards Officer.

A major part of the role of Standards Officer is collecting, collating and disseminating BSGAR's views in response to requests for comments and contribution to consultation documents, such as NICE Colorectal Guidelines and other NICE announcements.

Other involvements in the year were with:-

- RCR Guidance update ultrasound for non-radiologists
- Map of Medicine
- Connecting for Health – Clinical Imaging Procedure Codes
- Link between National CTC and BCSP CTC committees
- NCIN / RCR Cancer Imaging Reporting and Audit

(v) *Education*

Dr Andrea Phillips was Education Officer. The main activities for the year were

(a) Establishment of **National CTC Committee**

The aims of the committee were:-

- To promote and support the provision of CTC services in patients throughout the UK, including the implementation of national CTC standards
- To represent the best interests of patients by improving the safety, experience and quality of national CTC practice
- To develop and enhance UK CTC research, education and audit
- To use the BSGAR web site as a source of information and advice on CTC

- Committee members:
 - Damian Tolan Chair (3 year appointment)
 - Peter Wylie Standards
 - Mac Armstrong Training and Audit
 - Andy Lowe Education
 - Steve Halligan Research
 - David Burling BCSP Radiology lead (3 year appointment)
 - Giles Maskell DGH representative
 - Andrea Phillips Co-opted

(b) **Membership and Advertising:**

Increasing the membership was important for the future of the society, and several promotion actions had been taken during the year

- BSGAR banners for display at meetings:
- BSGAR Stand at ESGAR 2012 in Edinburgh
- BSGAR promoted at SRT meeting in July 2011

(c) **BSGAR Website:**

The Committee had previously decided to re-vamp the website, and this was agreed at the AGM in 2011. Five different website company quotes were obtained, and advice sought from a website Consultant.

Priorities for the redesign of the web site were:

- Use of open access software: future-proofing, ability to change hosting provider
- Retain discussion board facility
- Easy to add new pages and update information

Calm Digital had been contracted to do the redevelopment work, and the project commenced in Oct 2011, with the aim to have the new web site ready for launch at the conference in 2012.

The web site features were

- Homepage: with Hot topics/News, Upcoming events
- Online membership registration / renewal
- Annual Meeting details, programmes, booking link
- Members Forum
- Sections:
 - Society: About BSGAR, Membership, Committees
 - Education: Courses, Books, Journals, Lectures, Interesting Cases
 - Research: Trials, Audit, Registries
 - Standards, BSGAR, RCR Standards, NICE guidelines
 - Liaison: Other related societies, news and events
 - Juniors: Curriculum, Fellowships, Grants and Prizes, Courses
 - Patients: Patient information leaflets
 - Members: Discussion forum, database

(vi) *Liaison with other groups*

Dr Mac Armstrong was Liaison Officer. Links have been maintained with the following groups

BSG via the Radiology Section committee

ACPGBI – the radiology representative is Dr Shaun McGee. The Council is proposing a restructuring, with radiology / pathology / oncology members to contribute to virtual MDT

UK “Digestive Federation” (UKDF) - The first combined UK Multidisciplinary GI Meeting “Digestive Diseases Week”, was held in Liverpool in June 2012. BSGAR had contributed to scientific content of the meeting, but had no financial commitment. BSGAR participation will be reviewed for the next DDF event due to be held in 2015.

4. Secretary’s report

Ashley Guthrie presented his report

(i) *Committee elections*

Dr Guthrie reported the results of the recent elections for committee members as follows:

- Treasurer – Andrew Thrower
- Education Officer – Ian Zealley
- Audit Officer - this was still to be decided because a problem with the election process meant that the election would have to be held again.

(ii) *Amendments to BSGAR constitution*

The details of the proposed changes had been circulated to BSGAR members before the meeting. The changes related to the inclusion of a grade of Junior member, and the removal of the requirement for new member applications to be sponsored by an existing BSGAR member.

(i) Junior Membership - It was proposed that there would be a new category of Junior membership. This should be open to radiologists holding a UK training post who intend to pursue a career in GI radiology. Membership fees would be half that of full members, and they would have all the rights of full members with the exception voting rights. Upon obtaining a consultant post membership should be transferred to full membership or lapse.

This was accepted unanimously.

(ii) New member applications – the proposal was to remove the requirement for member applicants to be sponsored by an existing BSGAR member.

This was accepted unanimously.

5. Treasurer's report

Dr Ashley Roberts presented the Treasurer's Report.

- Bank balances at January 1st 2012 (2011)
 - Current Account £13,476.12 (£20,941.09)
 - Reserve Account £41,009.81 (£25,945.01)
 - **Total funds** **£54,486.78 (£46,886.10)**

The income and expenditure accounts showed income of £19857.39 (£15,942.44) and expenditure of £12384.75 (£6330.81). Bank interest was still small due to the low interest rates. Expenses for committee meetings were slightly increased over 2010 due to the changes in locations of committee members resulting in increased travel costs. The major item of expenditure had been the initial instalment payment for the web site redevelopment.

Dr Roberts reminded the meeting that this was his last report as Treasurer, and he thanked Mrs Gittins for preparing the account figures, and Drs Frost, Shorvon and Kay for reviewing the accounts.

6. BSGAR 2013 and 2014

The BSGAR Conference in 2013 will be held 6-8 February at the Hilton Hotel in Gateshead, and Rob Holmes and David Richardson were the Local organisers.

No decision had yet been agreed for the BSGAR 2014 conference, and the committee had previously suggested venues as Cambridge, and south coast (Southampton, Brighton or Winchester). Other suggestions from the members were invited.

7. ESGAR 2012

This will be held in Edinburgh on 10-13 June 2012 at the EICC, and Prof Steve Halligan was the Conference President.

From the floor Prof Halligan reported that the final programme for the conference would be available at the end of May. The number of abstracts submitted had dropped from previous years, noticeably from European countries, reflecting the current difficult economic climate. There were concerns that the economic situation could also adversely affect delegate numbers for the

conference, with a reduction of commercial sponsorship for individuals to attend events generally. Dr Kay suggested extending the deadline for reduced rate attendance to try to attract more people.

8. Other business

(i) **SIGGAR** - in response to a query from the floor, Prof Halligan said that the SIGGAR1 report would be published sometime during 2012.

(ii) **BSGAR/ESGAR link** - From the floor Dr David Breen suggested that BSGAR could consider a closer link and a joint membership agreement with ESGAR, similar to that between BSIR and CIRSE. Dr Jackson pointed out that the BSIR arrangement also involved a journal, and that a link with ESGAR would not be as beneficial for BSGAR members.

9. New President.

Dr Jackson said that it had been a great honour for him to serve as BSGAR President, and he thanked all the committee members who had served with him in his term of office for their hard work and unfailing support. He then invited Dr Andrea Phillips to take over as the President of BSGAR, and wished her well for the future.

Dr Phillips said also that it was a great honour to serve as BSGAR President, and she thanked the committee members for their encouragement to her to take on the role. She proposed a vote of thanks to Dr Jackson for his hard work and commitment both as President and also as a long standing member of the management committee in other roles, and this was unanimously endorsed by the members present.

There being no other business, Dr Phillips thanked the members for attending and she then closed the meeting.