

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR MATRIX BIOLOGY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

Minutes

Hulme Hall, University of Manchester

Monday 29th March 2010

Present: Ray Boot-Handford, John Couchman, Graham Riley, Ann Canfield, Gillian Murphy, Christoph Ballestrem, Hideaki Nagase, Tim Hardingham, Emma Blain, Linda Troeberg, Mike Grant, Sarah Howat, Yoshifumi Itoh, Jennifer Potts, Clair Baldock, Tim Cawston, Alison Reith, Andy Pitsillides, Mandy Plumb, Jennifer Veevers, Helen Rajpar, Gareth Hyde, Andrew Marson, Ewa Mularczyk, Louise Kung, Tanja Torbica, Colette Inkson, Aileen Crawford, Martin Humphries, Cay KIELTY, David Young, Jelena Gavrilovic, Eleanor Jones, Dave Buttle, Drew Rowan, Ian Clark, Philippa Hulley, Wael Kafienah, John Scott, Donald Salter.

1. The minutes of the last AGM

The meeting was convened at 5.30pm by the Chairman, Ray Boot-Handford. 40 members were in attendance including officers of the Society. It was reported that the minutes of the 2009 BSMB AGM held at University College London on Tuesday 16th June 2009 have been published on the BSMB website. These were accepted by general acclamation as an accurate and true record of the meeting.

2. Matters Arising (Ray Boot-Handford)

No matters arising.

3. Secretary's report (John Couchman)

John Couchman reported that the BSMB remain in a sound financial position, in spite of the drop in membership during 2009. The Society continues to experience decreasing student membership. John Couchman encouraged members to ensure that their students become members. It was noted some members continue not paying their subscriptions in full and have to be chased for payment. There were two BSMB newsletters circulated by email during the past year. Connective Issue No. 74 in July 2009 and Connective Issue No. 75 in January 2010. These are available for download from the BSMB website.

BSMB held just one meeting last year which was a joint meeting held at University College London with the Bone Research Society. Meeting title: Bone and Cartilage Biology - lessons from development, vascular interactions and dysplasias. The meeting was very well attended, and by common consent the science was excellent. We would like to give our gratitude to Dr Andy Pitsillides and Dr Tonia Vincent for organising this very successful meeting. The abstracts and meeting report were published in the February 2010 issue of Int. J. Exp. Path. (IJEP).

Eleven bursaries were awarded as follows:-

Conference presentation bursaries:

Joanna Sherwood, Sophie Ainsworth, Giovanna Nalesso, Sophie Gilbert, Natalie Young, Eleanor Jones

Conference reporter bursaries:

Karen Brakspear, Kirsty Culley, Rosemary Davidson, Nidhi Sofat, Simon Tew

Bursaries awarded by the BSMB for outside meetings are as follows:

Elena Okina (to attend Harden Conference on PGs, Cambridge, March 2009); £150

Rose Davidson (to attend OARSI, Montreal, Sept 2009); £300

Kirsty Culley (to attend OARSI, Montreal, Sept 2009); £300

Karen Brakspear (to attend ASBMR, Colorado, Sept 2009); £300

Rebecca Williams (to attend ECM X: Stem cells for musculoskeletal regeneration, Davos, June 2009); £300

We will also be awarding bursaries for this year's FECTS meeting.

4. Proposed change to the Constitution

To modernise the Constitution and to conform to the changing requirements of The Charity Commission, a BSMB subcommittee, drawn from the current Committee, headed by Ray Boot-Handford, were charged with updating the BSMB Constitution in September 2009. In the January newsletter the proposed revised constitution was circulated to the members by email. The members were asked to vote for or against this revision by post as required by the current constitution, but no postal votes were received by the BSMB Administrator, Jane Lohmann.

The proposed new Constitution, as well as the current version, were both available to view on the website. Notice was also given in the January newsletter (Connective Issues #75). The changes have been endorsed by the entire BSMB Committee. In order to take effect, the AGM must approve the new Constitution by a two thirds majority. Proposed by the Honorary Secretary, Professor John Couchman and Seconded by the Honorary Treasurer, Dr. Graham Riley. A vote was taken and a majority vote was recorded in favour of the new constitution.

This new constitution will now appear on the BSMB website.

5. Future planned BSMB meetings

2010 Autumn Meeting - 6th & 7th September 2010

University of East Anglia

"Inflammation meets Matrix Biology"

Organised by: Dr. Jelena Gavrilovic

Sessions to include:

- Vascular roles in cartilage/bone development
- Cancer and bone
- Extraskelatal Matrix Development
- Hypoxia
- Skeletal Development/Dysplasias
- Calcification

Satellite Meeting - 8th September 2010
"Tendon Biology and Pathology"

2011 Spring meeting - 11th and 12th April 2011
University of Bristol
Advances in Musculoskeletal Repair & Regeneration
Organised by Dr. Wael Kafienah

2011 Autumn Meeting - 8th & 9th September 2011
Newcastle University
Matrix degradation and signalling from matrix cleavage products (provisional title)
Organised by Dr. David Young

6. Treasurer's report (Graham Riley)

Graham Riley reported that the BSMB has an increase in income during 2008 i.e. £8,065 compared with £3,767 in 2007. This figure reflects the higher subscription. Our current membership stands at 290 members (216 full, 66 student and 8 honorary). IJEP (International Journal of Experimental Pathology) donated £2090 (£900 in 2007), comprised of the Fell Muir Award and poster prizes. Graham gave a full account of the BSMB finances, which can be found on the BSMB website. The accounts have been approved by Lachman Livingstone, Chartered Accountants, Northwood HA6 1BP.

The website update has cost some extra funding. The amount held in Charity Bonds will remain static as income interest stays the same.

7. Committee Membership (John Couchman)

The new BSMB Committee is composed as follows:

Officers:

Chairman: Professor Ray Boot-Handford (University of Manchester)

Honorary Treasurer: Dr. Graham Riley to be replaced by Dr David Young (University of Newcastle)

Honorary Secretary: Professor John Couchman agreed to extend his position as Secretary for one more year.

Elected Members: Dr. Jelena Gavrilovic (extended for one year) Dr. Mandy Plumb, Dr. Wael Kafienah, Dr. Tonia Vincent, Dr. Emma Blain, Dr Chris Murphy, Dr Philippa Hulley

Co-opted Members: Prof. Anthony Hollander, Prof Bruce Caterson

Postdoctoral representative: A call will be going out for a new Postdoc representative.

Student representative: Eleanor Jones

Since Jelena Gavrilovic is organising the BSMB autumn meeting in 2010, her term of office has been extended for one more year.

Dr Ann Canfield and Dr David Young have now reached the end of their terms of office on the Committee. Ann was thanked for her work on the Committee and for coordinating the Bursaries and the organisation of this successful BSMB meeting.

In Connective Issues #75 a call was made for two new Committee members, and two nominations for election onto the Committee were received.

Dr. Emma Blain (Cardiff University)

Dr. Philippa Hulley (Oxford University)

No election was required - the two candidates are therefore elected to the Committee for three years.

Graham Riley will end his two three-year terms of office in 2010 and a new treasurer was to replace him. A call went out in the January 2010 newsletter for nominations. Dr David Young was the only nominee and therefore he will take over from Graham Riley this year. The Committee acknowledged Graham Riley's great work over the past six years.

Professor John Couchman agreed to stay on as Secretary of the Society for one more year.

The meeting closed.