



Annual General Meeting 2012

23 July 2013: 13:00 – 14:00

Theatre, Hall 7, ICC, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2EA

1. **AGM 2012 Minutes held in Keble College, Oxford:** approved.
2. **Scientific Meetings**

Report of YIS 2013

Melissa Gammons reported that the recent Early Career Investigators Symposium on 'Advances in Microcirculation' held at Warwick University on the 13th April, was host to numerous outstanding talks and scientific discussions and showed that there was an exciting future for microcirculation research in the UK. This one day Symposium, also included a workshop "Shaping your career in Vascular Research" led by Dr Andy Salmon which was extremely well received.

The symposium covered topics ranging from angiogenesis to inflammation and vessel permeability, investigating physiological and pathological aspects of the functioning microvessels. Selected oral communications were given by early career investigators ranging from first year PhD students to young post-docs. Not only were the talks well-paced and informative, the scientific questions that followed demonstrated a clear understanding and thirst for knowledge in a seemingly relaxed atmosphere. This was also evident in the poster session where discussions continued and collaborations began to form, the high standard making prize selection a difficult process. Registration costs were kept to a minimum by generous support from the British Heart Foundation, the British Pharmacological Society, the Company of Biologists, the Physiological Society, and the Richard Bright VEGF Research Trust, complementing core support by the BMS and the exhibitors (Moor Instruments and PromoCell). The meeting was a financial success and the organisers could return a profit to the BMS.

Numerous travel grants and prizes were awarded. In total 18 travel grants were awarded to the 46 young investigators that attended, including two international travel grants to attendees from Moscow and Germany. Furthermore, 7 prizes were awarded throughout the day including one for 'Best Abstract' (awarded to Patricia Kelley, University of Ulster).

In a post symposia poll 100% of attendees who took part said there was a need for more Young Investigator events like this one and that it was beneficial to them as researchers. MG, with the approval of the BMS committee asked AGM to consider a biannual YIS event, either stand-alone or preceding annual meetings. BMS will support a YIS and contribute towards the costs of such a symposium.

Report of ESM/EVBO hosted by BMS at IUPS, 2013

Professor Giovanni Mann, President of ESM presented a report on behalf of ESM and EVBO (Organisers: Professor Giovanni Mann and Professor Jeremy Pearson). The report is copied below:

Background

At the 25th ESM meeting held in Paris in 2008, the BMS was selected as the host for the 27th ESM. Shortly afterwards, discussions were held with Jeremy Pearson to consider holding a joint meeting of the 27th ESM and the 7th EVBO meeting at Imperial College in London in July 2013. Both the ESM/BMS and EVBO Committees approved holding a joint meeting at Imperial College in London either before or just after the 37th IUPS Congress in Birmingham, 21-26 July 2013.

During the initial planning of this joint ESM and EVBO meeting, we realised that it would be difficult to secure sponsorship from exhibitors, who would already be committed to the IUPS Congress in Birmingham. Secondly, we were concerned that delegates with interest in microcirculation and vascular biology may not be willing to attend both conferences. Following detailed discussions with Jeremy Pearson (EVBO), I contacted the organisers of the Physiological Society (IUPS Congress) to enquire whether we could integrate our joint ESM-EVBO meeting with the IUPS Congress.

David Eisner, Bridget Lumb and IUPS scientific programme committee were enthusiastic and invited Jeremy and me to join the IUPS scientific programme committee as representatives of ESM and EVBO, respectively. I negotiated very generous financial support (see below) from the Physiological Society and their full support for securing exhibitor sponsorship, handling registrations and abstract submission and online publication.

Selection of ESM-EVBO Symposia at IUPS

On behalf of ESM-EVBO, Jeremy and I sent out a call for symposium proposals to our members, including BMS and other national societies. Each symposium proposal was designed to have 3 established speakers and 2 early career speakers. We received over 50 symposia proposals which were subsequently ranked by an international scientific committee. The top 28 symposia proposals were submitted to the IUPS scientific programme committee, which met in February 2012 to review over 300 symposium proposals. At that meeting, we were able to secure financial support for 18 ESM-EVBO symposia, noting that a total of 102 symposia were selected for the IUPS programme. Moreover, we secured full support for 4 Keynote speakers.

Financial support for ESM-EVBO Symposia and Keynote Speakers

The Physiological Society supported each symposium with £3000 and also waived registrations for the invited speakers, amounting to £54,000 for the 18 symposia and £26,100 for registrations. We also received support for the 4 Keynote speakers, amounting to ~£10,000.

Thus, joining IUPS has provided BMS with £90,100 to host the ESM meeting. In addition, the BMS was provided with a free exhibitor booth, registrations and abstracts and printing of the programme.

Support for ESM-EVBO Poster Abstract Awards

I contacted national and international microcirculation societies and EVBO to seek their support for poster abstract prizes (£100 each). I obtained the following support: BMS (4), MCS-Microcirculation (5), Japanese (5), Italian (2), Dutch (2), EVBO (5), Karger (2). ESM have supported 4 ESM Travel Awards (£350 each). I then asked all early career investigators to register their interest for these awards and then circulated all relevant abstracts to an international scientific committee who ranked all abstracts on a scale 1 (low) to 5 (high). The assessors were Makoto Suematsu and Mayumi Kajimura (Japan), Sarah George and Jeremy Pearson (EVBO), Marco Rossi (Italian), Angela Shore, Akos Koller and Giovanni Mann (ESM), and Stuart Egginton and Lopa Leach (BMS).

ESM Malpighi Lecture and Reception

The ESM placed a call for nominations for the Malpighi Lecture and an international committee evaluated all nominees and selected Prof Steven S. Segal, who will give his lecture on Wednesday 24 July. His lecture will be followed by a Malpighi Reception kindly sponsored by the BMS and ESM (and SoB).

Profile of BMS and ESM at IUPS

The Physiological Society has provided both BMS and ESM with extensive exposure/marketing at the conference, including full page in programme book, entrance banner, introductory slides with our logos in each theatre, free exhibitor booth for BMS and ESM, logos for ESM and EVBO at footer of each of our 18 symposia in the programme book.

Summary and future ESM Meetings

On a personal note, I feel our "union with EVBO and IUPS" has been successful on several levels. Firstly: a 'competitively' selected scientific programme by an international scientific committee and not just the local organising committee. Secondly: joint meetings provide valuable cross-fertilisation between different societies. Thirdly: organisation and sharing of fund raising is critical in today's economic climate to ensure the continued success of our meetings. Fourthly: high marketing exposure of BMS, ESM and EVBO to delegates worldwide.

Based on my experience with this ESM meeting, it may have been more strategic to involve the BMS committee in some of the 'hands-on' activities, e.g. call for symposia, abstracts, collation of symposium and abstract scores, etc. I would strongly encourage that national microcirculation societies "buy in" to future ESM meetings, e.g. Pisa 2015. By establishing an international Scientific programme committee, comprised of representatives from each national society, we can underpin scientific and financial support for ESM.

Giovanni E. Mann
ESM President
22-07-2013

Professors Mann and Pearson were thanked by AGM and the Committee for all the hard work and time they put in to make this ESM at IUPS such an outstanding success.

3. Future Meetings

2013. There will be a dedicated Symposium on Microcirculation, sponsored by the BMS at the British Pharmacological Society Meeting this December, 2013.

BMS 2014 at University of Bristol. Andy Salmon presented plans for this meeting. The chosen themes would be Development, Disease and Therapy. The dates: April 10 & 11, 2014. The meeting would be located in two venues at the university which were 90 seconds apart. The second venue would also contain trade exhibits, teas coffees and poster demonstrations. Invited speakers include Professor Sussan Nourshargh (London) and Caroline Savage (GSK). There would be a Trade Workshop where delegates would sign up to see how instruments work at different bays. There could be a Young Investigator Symposium on 9 April which could accommodate 40 to 50 delegates.

BMS 2015. University of Manchester. Dr Andrea Murray was organising this – the theme of the meeting will be **Imaging the Microcirculation**. Venue: Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. Dates : 16th/17th April 2015

BMS 2016. This will be at Newcastle, organised by Dr Helen Arthur.

BMS 2017. LL was willing to host this in Nottingham. This is also a year where a joint BMS and MCS meeting may be arranged in USA.

Possible venues for BMS 2018 – Leeds, 2019- Sheffield.

4. Society Grants and Awards.

Honorary Secretary (LL) tabled the grants awarded by the Society for 2012-2013:

a) BMS Early Career Investigator Symposium at University of Warwick

International Travel Grant Awardees

Muhammad Aslam (Justus Liebig University, Germany)

Anastasia Shchendrygina (I.M. Sechenov First Moscow State Medical University, Moscow)

Travel Grant (SAS) Awardees

Azlina Rasak (University of Nottingham)

Srijana Rai (University of Exeter)

Tahanver Ahmed (University of Exeter)

Olivia O'Leary (Queens University Belfast)

Amy Russell (University of Bristol)

Patricia Kelly (University of Ulster)

Debayan Mukherjee (University of Sheffield)

Hanna Zielinska (University of Bristol)

Naveed Akbar (University of Dundee)

Xi Ye (University of Bristol)

Uzma Reem (University of Sheffield)

Bijal Patel (Kings College London)

Andy Salmon and Olivia Di'Silva (University of Bristol)

Aisah Aubdool (Kings College London)

Katarzyna Kuliga (University of Southampton)

Tom Morton (University of Manchester)

Prize Winners

Best Abstract: Patricia Kelly (University of Ulster) "Improved vascular morphology in a mouse model of alzheimer's disease treated with Liraglutide."

Best Oral: Naveed Akbar (University of Dundee) "Cholesterol exacerbates cardiovascular disease in a model of chronic inflammation."

BMS Poster Prize 1: Nikita Ved (University College London) "VEGF165b reduces blood vessel permeability in diabetic retinas"

BMS Poster Prize 2: Salil Srivastava (Kings College London) "Time-dependent changes in spatial distribution of NRF2 in rat brain after stroke and brain endothelial cells in vitro"

Richard Bright VEGF Trust prize: Muhammad Aslam (Justus Liebig, University, Germany). "AMPK-independent anti-angiogenic effects of AMPK inhibitor Compound C on HUVEC"

Terence Ryan Clinical Poster prize: Katarzyna Kuliga (University of Southampton). "Coherence between tissue blood flux and oxygenation measured using a novel combined laser doppler flowmetry and white light spectroscopy probe"

Moor Instrument prize for Technology and Innovation: Kai Betteridge (University of Bristol). "Direct imaging of endothelial glycocalyx surface layer depth in vivo: modifications with enzymatic degradation, and with proteinuria."

b) BMS Travel Awards (SAS) for attending ESM/EVBO at IUPS

- Naveed Akbar (University of Dundee)
- Jennifer Castle-Miller (University of Bristol)

- Damilola Adingupu (University of Exeter)
- Joe Robinson (University of Birmingham)
- Rebecca White (University of Birmingham)
- Katarzyna Kuliga (University of Southampton)
- Amy Russell (University of Bristol)

c) Laboratory Visit Grant

Patricia Kelly (University of Ulster). For travel to Prof M Jucker's lab in Tuebingen, Germany to learn technique of Open-cranial window chamber

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer asked AGM to approve changes in the wording related to Young Investigator Awards. Whilst not applicable to SAS awards, applicants must be a member of BMS for a year before they can be eligible for the Laboratory Visit Grant and Terence Ryan Conference Travel Award. This change was approved.

5. Officers Reports

a) Presidents Report (SE)

Because of shortage of time, the Presidents report was emailed to membership after the AGM :

Dear all,

With the inevitable time limits imposed upon the AGM while holding it in a large meeting such as the IUPS, I decided against a formal President's Report to allow more urgent business so this email is a substitute. I wanted to alert members to the large amount of BMS activity this last year, often involving a lot of effort that is not immediately evident to those not directly affected. I'm particularly grateful to the enthusiastic involvement of those committee members who have helped push the publicity material and develop the website/blogs etc - do check them out. I have written elsewhere about the successful joint meeting with MCS last year in Oxford (which I hope we can repeat before too long), and the great Young Investigator Symposium in Warwick (which we are committed to repeat on a regular basis). We are continuing to be outward looking in an attempt to foster relations with those having complimentary interests, and raise the profile of microvascular research among colleagues who are not yet BMS members, but we all need to work on this - it is not just a job for committee members! Our support of activities within the IUPS is evidence of this activity, and I believe the substantial investment of time and money will reap rewards by encouraging more inter-society cooperation. It was, for example, a nice gesture that so many sponsors clubbed together to present a large number of poster awards (in addition to our own travel awards), at the reception we organised after the ESM Malpighi lecture (co-sponsored with the ESM and SoB). The next joint venture is with the BPS in November, and other opportunities for further activities of this nature are under discussion. It is, however, important that we do not lose sight of our core business, and allow any part of the membership to feel less well served than another. Your committee have been discussing ways in which our main meetings can be more responsive to current needs and attractive across the board; if you have any suggestions, do let us know! I'm grateful to those who have agreed to host future meetings, and we now have a healthy calendar with venues identified for the next 4 years. In order to expand our activities we do, of course require sponsorship, and a number of negotiations are taking place to that end. We all know, however, that it is a difficult financial climate for such discussions, so if you have any contacts that may be helpful do please get in touch. The financial health of your society reflects the efforts of many who have raised support for meetings, but in large part to the skilful handling of often conflicting demands on funds by our Hon Treasurer, Jackie Whatmore. The effort put in to making the society run smoothly by our retiring Hon Secretary, Lopa Leach, has been tremendous and much appreciated by all who have directly benefitted from her time and advice; next time you see her, please say 'thanks'. We are very fortunate to have an a new

Hon Secretary (Neena Kalia), who brings previous experience of committee membership and organising an annual meeting, and to welcome the President-elect (Nicky Brown) who will take over the reigns at the next AGM. The future is looking bright!
Stuart Egginton (BMS President)

- b) Membership Secretary's Report. DR Andy Salmon reported that BMS membership stands at 222. He is setting up a database that allows more efficient online management.
- c) Proceedings Editors Report. In the absence of Professor Alan Stitt, LL reported that abstracts from the YIS meeting will be published in Microcirculation.
- d) Treasurer's Report (tabled). Dr Jackie Whatmore stated that the Society had £18K in reserves and advised that they should not go below £15K in any financial year.

6. Appointment of New Auditors

AGM approved change of Auditors from Reeves to Francis Clark Chartered Accountants.

7. Committee elections

Professor Nicola Brown was welcomed as the new President-Elect. Dr Neena Kalia was approved as the new Honorary Secretary.

Melissa Gammons was elected on Committee.

Professor Christopher Garland was thanked for his time and effort on the committee. Dr Leach was thanked for her service to the Society as Honorary Secretary.

Professor Giovanni Mann (President, ESM) also thanked Dr Leach for all the help she has given towards organising the ESM/EVBO at IUPS. Drs Leach and Whatmore were thanked for helping organise the ESM abstract prizes, Malpighi Reception and BMS/ESM exhibition stall and banners.

- 8. Any other business. None

New 2013 BMS Committee

President, Dr Stuart Egginton (until 2014)

Honorary Secretary, Dr Neena Kalia (until 2018)

Honorary Treasurer, Dr Jacqueline Whatmore (until 2016)

Editor of Proceedings, Prof Alan Stitt (until 2015)

Membership Secretary, Dr Andy Salmon (until 2015)

Ordinary Members: Professor Donald Singer (until 2014), Dr Richard Siow (until 2014), Dr Carolyn Staton (until 2014); Dr Melissa Gammons (until 2016).

From: Lopa Leach [mailto:Lopa.Leach@nottingham.ac.uk]
Sent: 05 August 2013 10:57
To: Stuart Egginton
Subject: President's Report

Dear all,

With the inevitable time limits imposed upon the AGM while holding it in a large meeting such as the IUPS, I decided against a formal President's Report to allow more urgent business so this email is a substitute. I wanted to alert members to the large amount of BMS activity this last year, often involving a lot of effort that is not immediately evident to those not directly affected. I'm particularly grateful to the enthusiastic involvement of those committee members who have helped push the publicity material and develop the website/blogs etc - do check them out. I have written elsewhere about the successful joint meeting with MCS last year in Oxford (which I hope we can repeat before too long), and the great Young Investigator Symposium in Warwick (which we are committed to repeat on a regular basis). We are continuing to be outward looking in an attempt to foster relations with those having complimentary interests, and raise the profile of microvascular research among colleagues who are not yet BMS members, but we all need to work on this - it is not just a job for committee members! Our support of activities within the IUPS is evidence of this activity, and I believe the substantial investment of time and money will reap rewards by encouraging more inter-society cooperation. It was, for example, a nice gesture that so many sponsors clubbed together to present a large number of poster awards (in addition to our own travel awards), at the reception we organised after the ESM Malpighi lecture (co-sponsored with the ESM and SoB). The next joint venture is with the BPS in November, and other opportunities for further activities of this nature are under discussion. It is, however, important that we do not lose sight of our core business, and allow any part of the membership to feel less well served than another. Your committee have been discussing ways in which our main meetings can be more responsive to current needs and attractive across the board; if you have any suggestions, do let us know! I'm grateful to those who have agreed to host future meetings, and we now have a healthy calendar with venues identified for the next 4 years. In order to expand our activities we do, of course require sponsorship, and a number of negotiations are taking place to that end. We all know, however, that it is a difficult financial climate for such discussions, so if you have any contacts that may be helpful do please get in touch. The financial health of your society reflects the efforts of many who have raised support for meetings, but in large part to the skilful handling of often conflicting demands on funds by our Hon Treasurer, Jackie Whatmore. The effort put in to making the society run smoothly by our retiring Hon Secretary, Lopa Leach, has been tremendous and much appreciated by all who have directly benefitted from her time and advice; next time you see her, please say 'thanks'. We are very fortunate to have a new Hon Secretary (Neena Kalia), who brings previous experience of committee membership and organising an annual meeting, and to welcome the President-elect (Nicky Brown) who will take over the reigns at the next AGM. The future is looking bright!

Best wishes,

Stuart Egginton (BMS President)