



## **Annual General Meeting 2011.**

18 April, 2011: 17.00 – 18.30; Lecture Theatre, John Vane Science Building, William Harvey Institute, Charterhouse Square, London EC1M 6BQ

Chair: President Professor Giovanni Mann

**Minutes of the AGM 2010** at St Luke's Campus, University of Exeter were approved.

**Matters arising:** None

### **Web update**

The size of the existing website was beginning to be a limiting factor, especially if the society wanted historical archives to be maintained on the BMS website. Plans for a membership database and online submission of abstracts and registration to future meetings were also underway and would require extra space. Daniel Fraser (web manager) has advised the committee to change hosts from Power Group to Just Host, in order to facilitate this. AGM agreed that Hon Secretary should take this further.

### **BMS History Matters**

Professor Laurence Smaje (Honorary Member, BMS) gave a presentation on the History of BMS which was to be posted on the British Microcirculation website. The archives included a History of Members, History of Past officers of the Society and Honorary members. It contained a scientific meetings database which included International Meetings, Symposia and Lectures and Publication of Society Proceedings. The archive also included AGM minutes. Professor Smaje was thanked for his hard work and time (freely given over the last year) in producing such an important document for the Society.

### **Scientific Meetings**

A report was given by Professor Mauro Perretti (MP), one of the organisers of the 61<sup>st</sup> BMS Meeting at the William Harvey Institute, London (18-19 April, 2011). MP reported that at the meeting there were 8 invited lectures, 20 selected orals (selected by the local organising committee and approved by the BMS President, Secretary and Proceedings Editor) and 56 posters. In addition the prize lectures were the PromoCell Clinical Lecture given by Prof. Carlo Patrono (*Catholic University School of Medicine, Rome*). '*Platelet activation and inhibition in diabetes mellitus*' and the Wiley-Blackwell Basic Science Lecture given by Professor Neil Granger, (*Louisiana State University, USA*). '*Platelet recruitment in inflamed microvessels: mechanisms and consequences*' (introduced by Professor M Spyer, President Physiological Society).

There were 171 delegates registered. The breakdown was BMS members 40, non-BMS 43, BMS student members (at reduced registration) 67. The venue for all posters, trade exhibits, tea, coffee and conference dinner was the elegant white marquee in the gardens of the William Harvey Institute. Sponsors for the meeting included the British Heart Foundation, the Physiological Society and the Pharmacological Society. The trade exhibitors were: Hamamatsu, Abcam, Life Technologies, Moor instruments, PromoCell, BITPLANE, Stratech Scientific Ltd. Congratulations were given to Professors M Perretti and T Warner for organising an excellent meeting.

### **BMS 2012/62<sup>nd</sup> Annual Conference (Joint meeting of MCS and BMS)**

Meeting Theme: 'Intra-cellular and Intercellular Signalling in the Microcirculation'. Organiser Professor Chris Garland (CG, Oxford).

Honorary Secretary (LL) presented for CG who sent his apologies. Organisation and planning were proceeding smoothly. Keble College, University of Oxford has been booked from Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July, 2012. A joint committee consisting of members from the two societies had been set up. This

committee would meet at the Experimental Biology Meeting in States later in the year. Distinguished speakers has accepted their invitations to speak to themes spread over 4 half-day symposia which included: Myogenic mechanisms in the microcirculation; Conducted responses in the microcirculation, Regulation of the microcirculation by perivascular cells, Endothelial cell biology in health and disease and a Young Investigator session. The PromoCell Prize Lecture will be given by David Gutterman, MD Milwaukee, USA on Mechanisms of Flow-Induced Dilation in the Human Coronary Microcirculation: A Novel Pathway Linking TRP Channels, Reactive Oxygen Species, and Potassium Channels. The Wiley-Blackwell Prize Lecture will be given by Dorian Haskard, FMedSci London, UK on Fine tuning the regulation of inflammation and thrombosis at the blood-tissue interface.

This meeting overlapped with the annual meeting of the Physiological Society meeting in 2012 and would be attractive to delegates from USA wishing to attend both meetings. An advert will be placed in the journal Microcirculation, BMS and MCS websites and emailed to all BMS/MCS members.

### **BMS 2013/ESM 2013.**

The UK will be hosting both the ESM/EVBO and IUPS meetings in 2013. Professor Giovanni Mann informed the committee that if ESM/EVBO would hold the meeting jointly with IUPS, the meeting would attract 450-650 delegates. Moreover IUPS will provide £3K towards the cost of each symposium within the meeting. This would make it very attractive to have numerous ESM/BMS badged symposia. There would also no outlay for the BMS. The meeting would be in Birmingham rather than London. Agreed dates were 21-26 July, 2013. The organisers, Professor Mann and Professor Jeremy Pearson would report back about the success of the negotiations. [Post Meeting Note: ESM/EVBO have now agreed to hold their joint meeting under the auspices of IUPS in Birmingham, 21-26 July 2013 and a call for symposia proposals has been sent to ESM and EVBO members (see <http://www.microcirculation.org.uk/27esm7evbo/index.html>)].

Given the timing of this meeting and the UK location, discussions ensued about the advisability of holding a BMS annual meeting in April. The BMS committee had addressed this and the issue of continuity of the BMS meetings calendar and suggested that there could be a 1 day Young Investigator driven meeting in April of 2013. Venue and topic to be decided by a committee set up by the early career scientists. This was approved by AGM.

### **BMS 2014**

Bristol and Nottingham have shown an interest in hosting this meeting.

### **ESM Munich 7-10 October 2011**

Professor Giovanni reported that the BMS committee agreed to support the symposium '**MicroRNAs in the microcirculation: 'From cellular mechanisms to clinical biomarkers'**', organised by **Dr Richard Siow (King's College London)** and **Prof Geraldine Clough (University of Southampton)** for the sum of £500 which would be paid back if the organisers found alternate funding.

### **Society Grants and Awards**

LL reported there were 9 applications for the Student assistance Scheme (SAS) to attend the 2011 meeting. 6 were awarded. They were: James Atherton (University of Southampton); Donna Buckley (University of Manchester); Shilpa Dasari (University of Belfast); Peter Rae (University of Birmingham); Adrian Yemm (University of Birmingham); Katarzyna Wolanska (University of Exeter).

The Microcirculation Conference Grant was given to Ellen Hughes, Microcirculation Group, Department of Medicine, Imperial College London, to attend and present (2) at Experimental Biology 2011.

#### Laboratory Visit Grant

There was one application this year. It was not successful.

#### Early Career Investigator Award.

There was 1 application for this. However, there will not be a Young Investigator Symposium at the ESM in Munich and the applicant was advised on this.

#### BMS Poster Prizes and Moor Instrument Award.

There would be 2 poster prizes and 1 Moor Instrument award selected by a panel of judges at the scientific meeting.

#### Terence Ryan Award

This would continue as a best clinical presentation. However, given the financial climate Professor Ryan has agreed to donate £20,000 (£1K per annum) to the society. He was warmly applauded for this gift.

### **Election of Treasurer**

Following a general call for nominations for the office of Treasurer, members of the BMS committee voted on the nominations received and unanimously agreed to recommend Dr Jackie Whatmore as the next Treasurer of BMS. This was approved by AGM.

### **Officers Reports**

Professor Jim Middleton (membership secretary) reported that there were 270 members of which 90 were students. Outgoing Proceedings Editor, Dr Neena Kalia reported she will edit all the accepted abstracts according to Microcirculation guidelines.

### **BMS Treasurers report (ZB/JW)**

A jointly authored report (Zoe Brooks and Jackie Whatmore) and final accounts was sent to all BMS members and presented at the AGM. JW reported that whilst the Society's finance was in good stead, income needs to be actively increased in order to maintain prizes and sponsorship of future meetings.

### **Committee elections**

There were 3 vacancies on the committee. There were 4 nominees. Votes were counted and Professor Donald RJ Singer (Warwick); Dr Richard Siow, Kings College London and Dr Carolyn Staton, University of Sheffield were duly elected.

Dr Sally Stringer and Dr Neena Kalia was thanked for their hard work and excellent contributions to the Society during their term of office as members of the committee and presented with fountain pens inscribed with the BMS logo.

### **Appointment of Auditors**

Continued appointment of Reeves and Co was approved.

### **Welcoming of New President.**

Professor Giovanni Mann (2008 -2011) was thanked for all his hard work, enthusiasm and motivation during his term as the President of the British Microcirculation Society. He handed over this important office to Dr Stuart Egginton (University of Birmingham).

**Any other business** None

Meeting ended at 18:15.

Signed

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President BMS

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Honorary Secretary