

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Charing Cross Hospital, London Friday 27th November 1998

1 The Minutes of the AGM held on 29 November 1997 were agreed.

2 Secretary's Report

In November 1997 we met in London at a Symposium on Endocrine Disease. The programme was devised by Dr Tim Stephenson with the guest speaker Professor LiVolsi from Philadelphia together with contributions from notable members of the British Division. The Saturday morning seminars were again well attended with workshops on Liver Pathology (Professor P Anthony), Breast Pathology (Drs C Wells and S Shousha) and Renal Pathology (Dr P Furness).

In the spring Professor Mihm from Boston was our guest and was supported by lecturers from our Division at a meeting hosted by Professor Ruiter in Nijmegen on Neoplastic Skin Disease. The programme featured sessions on Melanocytic Lesions and Special Clinico-Pathological Problems. Approximately 150 members attended from the Division. There were several changes to Council this year. Peter Furness took over the role of Divisional Editor and set up the Web Site. Drs Benbow, Ellis and Shepherd and Professor Corrin were successful in Council elections and will serve on Council until November 2000.

The first meeting of the Organising Committee for Amsterdam 2002 were held. Professor Van den Tweel (Utrecht) Chairs the committee. Drs Alec Howat, Nick Rooney, Sibrand Poppema and Hans van der Linden represent the members of the British Division of the IAP. The meeting is scheduled to be held in October 2002 in Amsterdam.

Links with Overseas divisions continue. In October 1998 Drs D Variend (Sheffield) and A Charles (Bristol) ran a workshop on Paediatric Pathology in Alexandria at the Arab Division meeting. During the year we established bursaries to enable trainee pathologists from developing countries to attend a British Division meeting and spend a short period at a centre in one of the member countries. Each bursary will be of the order of £500-£1000, depending on the circumstances of the applicant and the institution they come from.

The International Congress was held in Nice this year and the British Division was again well represented in the programme.

3 Treasurer's Report

INCOME

i) Subscription income and share of profit from Histopathology
Subscription income was £76,250 compared with £76,232 for 1997. Share of profit from Histopathology was £65,923 compared with £59,902 for 1997. Total income was therefore £142,173 compared with £136,134 for 1997.

ii) Meetings
These resulted in a loss of £10,105 compared with a profit of £9,122 for 1997. This reflects the Division's new policy of paying full expenses for speakers and presenters at meetings, and heavy subsidisation of the dinners.

iii) Investments and bank deposit interest
This amounted to £8,124 compared with £7,247 for 1997.

EXPENDITURE

i) Payment to Publishers for members Histopathology at £45 each member
This amounted to £51,768 compared with £53,820 for 1997.

ii) Dues to parent IAP at \$4 each member, plus Laboratory Investigation and Modern Pathology costs
This amounted to £6,068 compared with £5,146 for 1997.

iii) Administrative costs
Secretarial assistance, Council expenses and other expenses amounted to £34,359 compared with £25,751 for 1997. A one-off cost was the site visit by the IAP Officers to Amsterdam for the 2002 Congress (£7,885).

BALANCE

The overall surplus was £49,184 compared with £49,542 for 1997.

Subscription rates for 1999

Because of increasing costs for publication of Histopathology, together with continuing loss on the meetings, and projected decreased income from investments, Council has recommended increasing the cost of Histopathology to members up to £70.00 per annum. This is similar to market rivals. Modern Pathology and Laboratory investigation will continue to cost £60.00 each to members.

Payment by Belgian, Netherlands and Overseas members

The Treasurer is in the process of reviewing methods of payment. Non-UK members should either pay by credit card, or by sending a Eurocheque for the appropriate amount in Sterling to Administrative Secretary. The bank accounts in Belgium and the Netherlands have been closed as indicated.

Administration

Carol Harris, our Administrative Secretary, has proven a huge help to the Secretariat. Any correspondence regarding changes of address etc should be directed to Carol, whose address is in the back of Histopathology.

Fees

The following fees will apply for 1999

		£ p.a.
Ordinary membership	+ Histopathology	70.00
	+ Histopathology + Laboratory Investigation	130.00
	+ Histopathology + Modern Pathology	130.00
	+ Histopathology + Modern Pathology + Laboratory Investigation	190.00
Senior membership	(excludes Histopathology)	10.00
Honorary	(excludes Histopathology)	-----

Handbook

This will be reprinted and any changes of address etc. should be sent to the Administrative Secretary, Carol Harris.

Membership

Total membership is 1186, 17 of whom are Senior members and 15 Honorary members. There are 784 members from the UK, with 110 from the Netherlands, 112 from Belgium, 32 from Eire and 97 from other countries.

4 Editor's Report - Histopathology

Professor Underwood reported that institutional and individual subscription numbers for Histopathology are buoyant, particularly when set against the attrition rate in subscription numbers for medical and scientific journals generally during the last 5 years. However, this will be affected by the financial crisis in SE Asia. There is potential for expansion in the USA, and this will be a major feature of the promotion of the journal in 1999, with a view to encouraging more submissions and subscribers from North America.

Further improvements to the format of the journal will be made from July 1999. The journal receives approximately 450 submissions annually, and the acceptance rate for publication as a full paper is c.35%. "Expert Opinion" a new feature, was launched in an editorial in the July 1998 issue, and two articles for 1997, based on articles published in 1995 and 1996, shows a decline for Histopathology and most of its direct competitors; the effect on the impact factor, of editorial changes introduced in 1997 will not be evident until the SCI listing published in 2000.

The Editor concluded his report by thanking those members of the British Division who help the journal by refereeing papers.

5 Any Other Business

Dr David Ansell said that it was his last day as President and Professor James Underwood was nominated and elected as President Elect of the Division.