



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at The Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, 10 Union Street, London SE1 1SZ  
Friday 18 November 2022

### 1 Minutes of previous AGM

The minutes of the last AGM, held on Friday 5 November 2021, were agreed as a correct record of events.

### 2 President's Report

New, regular virtual bitesize education sessions have been established. These are primarily for trainees but also for younger consultants and focus on subspecialties. The first session was delivered in October with the next taking place in December, to be delivered by Professor Ian Roberts. Dr Nafisa Wilkinson is scheduled to deliver a session in January 2023. The intention is that these will become a permanent feature in our educational offering.

Pathology Alliance meetings have been attended, which is a meeting of Presidents of the various pathology societies along with the Royal College of Pathologists. A Pathology Portal has been established and the BDIAP's contribution to the portal will be to offer recordings from the bitesize educational sessions.

A welcome was given to Louisa Coulthurst who has joined the administrative team alongside Sam Kiely.

### 3 General Secretary

The General Secretary sent his apologies. The President spoke to the report and welcomed questions. It was noted that the Constitution was amended last year to allow allied scientists to become full members of the division. There has been interest in this membership category and a welcome was given to allied scientists in attendance at the meeting. An Allied Scientist Councillor position will be created to ensure representation on Council.

### 4 International Subcommittee

The International Secretary sent his apologies. The President spoke to the report. The division has been successful in continuing to deliver international educational work. The Sri Lankan School of Pathology was due to go ahead in person however due to political unrest, the school was moved online and was a successful meeting. The Kristin Henry School has not

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<b>Divisional Editor:</b>	Dr Paul Craig	<b>Education &amp; Divisional Manager:</b>	Miss Sam Kiely
<b>General Secretary:</b>	Professor Michael Osborn		
<b>Meetings Secretary:</b>	Dr Lisa Browning		

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taken place. The Bryan Warren School of Pathology took place online and thanks were given to Dr Thavaraj and Dr Sandison.

Funding has been awarded to Dr Richard Byers in relation to the African Strategies, to develop online pathology content in Africa.

Thanks were given to Innovative Science Press and Dr Elizabeth Montgomery for donating free books, pathology survival guides, to BDIAP Schools. These have been dispatched and have been successfully received by the Bryan Warren School so far.

## **5 Finance Subcommittee**

The Treasurer sent his apologies. The President spoke to the report. Two things to highlight from the report:

1. A new contract with Wiley has been signed. This guarantees income from Histopathology over the next seven years. The royalties will decrease incrementally as part of the contract.
2. Historical VAT liability. The amount owed to HRMC was £1 million. A loan was taken out to pay the liability. It is planned that the funds will be recovered from Wiley, and Wiley will recoup the funds from HRMC. The ultimate result is that this has not been a hugely costly exercise for the division.

Consideration will need to be given to our finances in the medium term as income from Wiley slowly decreases.

## **6 Meetings Subcommittee**

The Meetings Secretary sent her apologies. The President Elect spoke to the report. The Cut-Up and Molecular Pathology study days in March were delivered online and were very well attended. The joint meeting with Path Soc in June had to be postponed at a late stage due to being let down by the professional congress organiser. It is now scheduled to take place from 27-29 June 2023 at the University of Liverpool. The program will be similar to that planned for 2022. This will be the first in-person joint meeting since the pandemic and members were encouraged to prime colleagues and trainees. The Cut-Up and Molecular Pathology study days will take place in person in March 2023.

## **7 Innovation Subcommittee**

The Divisional Editor spoke to her report. Uptake of bursaries is low and members were encouraged to spread the word and apply for bursaries that are available.

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New, innovation grants are being launched, with up to six grants available at £5000 each. They are targeted at more senior trainee members who want to gain experience in subspecialist areas.

## **8 Nominations and Membership Subcommittee**

### **i. Election of Councillors**

The Chair of the Subcommittee gave a verbal report. Upcoming changes to Council were reported. There is a change in Officers, with Divisional Editor Dr Nafisa Wilkinson succeeded by Dr Paul Craig. Professor Ian Roberts is the incoming President and Dr Jan von der Thüsen President Elect. The Subcommittee Chair and Past President, Professor Ray McMahon, will remain on Council in a co-opted position representing the Central IAP where he is Secretary. Professor Alastair Burt will be succeeded by Professor Teresa Marafioti. Professor Kieran Sheahan will be succeeded by Professor Aurelie Fabre as Irish Representative and Dr Nicky D’Haene will be succeeded by Professor Mieke Van Bockstal as Belgian Representative. It was agreed that membership be opened up to allied scientists. The Chair stressed the importance of allied scientists in clinical practice and welcomed biomedical scientists, advanced practitioners, molecular pathologists to join the division and to put themselves forward for a position on Council. Until recently the division was a nominating body for the Clinical Excellence Awards. Following a review by the awards panel, the division is no longer a supporting body and all nominations have to be made through the Royal College of Pathologists.

## **9 Engagement and Collaboration Subcommittee**

One of the outcomes of the recent strategy day was to create a new subcommittee focusing on engagement and collaboration, to enhance collaboration with member countries and with allied scientists and to develop equality and diversity for the organisation.

The Engagement and Collaboration Secretary spoke to his report. Two committee meetings have been held so far to engage and develop the committee’s agenda and scope. Activities include establishing terms of reference and drafting a memorandum of understanding to improve cooperation and educational exchange between member country societies. Member country society activities will be linked to from the BDIAP website. An equality and diversity policy, including action plan, has been draft and was presented at the most recent Council meeting. Further work will be undertaken, and legal approval sought. To promote collaboration of allied scientists across member countries, a meeting is being planned regarding delivery of genomic services for pathological diagnosis, realising that they are delivered in different ways across member countries. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and learn from each other. This will likely be tied to an existing BDIAP meeting.

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## **10 Report from the Editor of Histopathology**

The Editor sent his apologies. The President spoke to the report. Histopathology has done extremely well, and the Impact Factor is above 7. The annual reviews continue with the 2023 issue on Breast Pathology. We welcome a new publishing manager, Tony Aburrow.

## **11 Questions**

None arose.

The handover of Chain of Office for the President took place. Professor Andrew Nicholson gave thanks to Council, the administrative team and in particular the Trainee Councillors, who have been very active. Incoming President, Professor Ian Roberts, gave thanks to Prof Nicholson for being a great innovator and President of the division especially through difficult times.

The meeting was concluded by the President.

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