

The Vascular Society of Great Britain and Ireland

**MINUTES OF THE 44th ANNUAL GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING
HELD ON THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2009
AT THE BT CONVENTION CENTRE, LIVERPOOL**

1. DEATHS

Members stood in silence as a mark of respect for Mr Crawford Jamieson, Mr Felix Eastcott, Mr Chee Soong and Mr Gordon Stewart, who had all sadly passed away during the year.

2 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Jonathan Boyle, Mr Jim Clarke, Mr Richard Corbett, Mr Paul Curley, Mr Richard Hedges, Mr Keith Jones, Mr J Mark Scriven, Mr Stan Silverman, Mr Frank Smith, Mr Hero van Urk, Ms Aideen Walsh, Mr Ken Woodburn.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the Annual General Business Meeting on 13th November 2008 were approved as a correct record.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no matters of any other business.

5. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS

The President referred Members to his report in the Society's Yearbook, highlighting the activities of Council during the past year. He reported on the progress with the Society's application for specialty status and advised Members that the first stage application for specialty status had now been submitted to the Department of Health.

6. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Honorary Secretary reported on the various activities of Council during the year. He advised Members of the Society's spring meeting to take place in Nottingham on 11th March, on the subject of 'Saving Legs', and also the tripartite meeting of the VS, BSIR and BSET to take place on 1st/2nd July. He thanked the President for his excellent leadership of the Society, and acknowledged the work of the Chief Executive and the secretariat.

7. HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The Honorary Treasurer reported that the financial status of the Society continued to improve. He informed the membership of the current account balances and gave details of the end of year accounts. The membership was informed that the Circulation Foundation had received a legacy of £300,000 and it was proposed to invest some of this money to attract a higher rate of interest.

The membership was informed that the subscription fees would remain the same for 2010; £185 for Ordinary Members, £100 for Affiliate, Associate and Overseas Members, and £35 for

Senior Members.

8. AUDIT AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Mr Tim Lees reported that there were now over 20,000 entries on the National Vascular Database. Collection of carotid data was currently on the NVD test site and it was planned to go live shortly. It was reported that the Society had signed a contract with the NHS AAA Screening Programme to provide aneurysm data from the NVD.

The Society had obtained a grant of £380,000 from the Health Foundation to look at quality improvement of aneurysm treatments, and work on this would start in the New Year. An audit of acute kidney injury would also shortly commence, and data would be included on the NVD.

The NVD written report had been produced and copies were available from the Society's stand at the meeting.

12 months' additional funding had been provided for the UKCEA audit and Members were encouraged to continue to input data.

9. TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Professor Shearman stated that six post CCT fellowships had been appointed during the year. In addition, the Society had obtained funding from Cook Medical Ltd to provide three endovascular fellowships, and further details of this would be circulated to Members before Christmas.

Work continued on the development of the vascular curriculum and this would soon be submitted to PMETB.

It was noted that Mr Ian Chetter had been appointed Vascular Tutor.

10. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Mr Lamont stated that there had been three requests for an external review during the past year, which had all been resolved satisfactorily.

He indicated that, with the Society's contract with the NHS AAA Screening Programme, data from the NVD may become subject to the Freedom of Information Act and further consideration would be given to this during the year.

Mr Lamont's term of office as Chairman of the Professional Standards Committee had now ended, and Professor Michael Gough would be assuming Chairmanship of the Committee.

11. VASCULAR TUTOR

Mr Waquar Yusuf thanked Society Members for their support of the vascular courses throughout the year, in particular the specialty skills courses. A course on EVAR planning was proposed with the BSIR in 2010, together with an amputations course and vascular ultrasound. The President thanked Mr Yusuf for all his work as Vascular Tutor over the preceding three years.

12. CIRCULATION FOUNDATION

Mr Andrew May reported on the work which had been undertaken by the Circulation Foundation during the year. The Foundation had revised its website, providing an easy link for on-line donations to be made. He encouraged Members to contribute regularly to the Foundation and to help support its cause. A 5 year Business Plan and Fundraising Strategy had been established. It was proposed to establish stronger links with corporate bodies and to raise public awareness through a vascular disease awareness week in March 2010.

13. VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Professor Cliff Shearman reminded Members that the 2010 AGM would be held in Brighton from 24th-26th November.

14. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Professor Ross Naylor's election Vice-President Elect for 2009-2010 was ratified by Members, as was the appointment of Mr Michael Wyatt as Honorary Secretary from 2010.

The President thanked the outgoing Council members for their contribution over the past three years; namely Mr Geoff Gilling-Smith, Mr Prakash Madhavan and Professor Ross Naylor. It was noted that Professor Naylor would remain on Council as Vice-President Elect. The President also thanked Mr Tim Lees, Chairman, Audit and Research Committee, and Professor Cliff Shearman, Chairman, Training and Education Committee, for all their hard work over the previous four years.

The following were elected to the Council for 2009-2012, following a ballot of Ordinary Members of the Society:

Mr John Brennan

Mr Ian Franklin

Mr Issac Nyamekye

The President recorded his thanks to the Honorary Secretary, Society Officers, and Chief Executive for their support during the year.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Thursday 25th November at the Hilton Brighton Metropole, Brighton.