

ACB AGM minutes 2004
Wednesday 17th March 2004
Loch Lomond Shores, Balloch

- 1. Apologies for absence**
Dr Peter Ashby, Dr Simon Walker, Miss Heather Stevenson, Dr Mike Wallace, Professor Ian Broom, Professor Jim Shepherd, Professor Gemmill Morgan
- 2. Minutes of the previous meeting**
Item 6 first line should read "Spooner". The Minutes were otherwise agreed as a correct record.
- 3. Matters Arising**
Nil not dealt with below.
- 4. Chairman's Report**
Alan Hutchison tabled his report and summarised the region's activities over the previous year. There have been three successful scientific meetings, and thanks were expressed for the work put into these by local organisers. The next meeting will be held on 22nd June in Perth and will be devoted to members' papers. Plans are in hand for a meeting in November covering new laboratory technologies and laboratory re-organisation. These meetings now incorporate time for audit reports and a business meeting in order to keep the membership fully informed of matters of interest. This year the John King Award went to Susan Knox for an excellent talk presented at the meeting in Stobhill. Finally, Alan recorded his thanks for the committee.
- 5. Report from Regional Member on Council**
Dennis O'Reilly has recently taken over as the Regional member on Council and reported back from the most recent council meeting. The main issue discussed was Pathology Modernisation (which is not relevant to Scotland). Other issues included registration of clinical scientists, and the role the ACB plays for medical graduates.
- 6. Report from Regional Member of Federation of Clinical Scientists**
Richard Spooner tabled his report and discussed progress on "Agenda for Change". He emphasised that everyone should be writing their own job descriptions, emphasising responsibility and freedom to act. Richard has asked for some help in writing some model job descriptions.
- 7. Report from Regional Treasurer**
Heather Stevenson was unfortunately not able to be present. The statement of accounts was tabled and Dr Nelson was thanked for kindly auditing them. We have been well served by sponsorship from a number of companies over the past year. The accounts were proposed by Dennis O'Reilly and seconded by Jan Knepil.
- 8. Report from Trainee Committee Member**
Rachel Edwards tabled her report. The trainees intend to increase communication by e-mail with an objective for the coming year being regular updates on the trainees website. Another recent issue for discussion has been paediatric training.
- 9. Report from Regional Tutor**
Unfortunately, Peter Ashby was unable to be present but had provided a written report. An important development is the extension of the Grade A training scheme in Scotland for a further year as pre-registration Clinical Biochemists in supernumerary Grade B posts. These are intended to provide a further programme of structured training leading to state registration and the part I examination for the MRCPPath.
- 10. Report from the Audit Co-ordinator**
Anne Pollock tabled a paper describing the activities of the audit group over the past year.

11. Scottish ACB Website

The ACB has approved regional websites and it is essentially up to each region what this is used for. Examples might include – audit, information about laboratories, and details of forthcoming meetings. Ian Godbar has been the person driving this forward, both UK-wide and at a Scottish level and has set up a blank template. He asked for volunteers to help him take this forward, and then eventually to take over from him. In addition, he requested a brief word document from each laboratory in Scotland describing their department.

12. Membership of the Regional Committee

Mike Wallace (regional member for Greater Glasgow), Peter Ashby(regional tutor) and Heather Stevenson (honorary treasurer) have all served two terms of office on the committee and were therefore not available for re-election. Mike Wallace was the sole nomination for regional tutor, proposed by Peter Ashby and seconded by Alan Hutchison. Frank Finlay was the sole nomination for honorary treasurer, proposed by Heather Stevenson and seconded by Peter Rae. These individuals are accordingly elected to the committee. There were no nominations for the Greater Glasgow post and Peter Rae will circulate the Glasgow membership asking for nominations. Simon Walker (member for Lothian), Alasdair McBain (member for Fife) and Peter Rae (secretary) have all served one term of office. There were no nominations for these positions. These individuals were all willing to serve for a further term and are therefore re-elected.

13. Future Scientific Meetings

The summer meeting will be held on June 22nd in Perth. Further information will be circulated shortly. This meeting will be a members' papers meeting and members from all parts of Scotland are encouraged to present a paper on recent research, audit or an interesting case. The following meeting will be in Edinburgh in the autumn.

14. AOCB

Peter Rae reported that an increasing proportion of ACB regional communication with the membership will be by e-mail rather than paper.

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