



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting of the Society of Orthopaedic Medicine took place at the Hilton London Metropole, Edgware Road, London W2 1JU on Saturday 3 December 2005 at 12.50.

### 1. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Jackson Ryan, Gordon Smith, Robert Sadler, John Horner, Christopher Weed, Nicholas Worth, Lucy Purrier, William Enness, Anita Carr, Louise Grant, Michael Flavell, Hugh Hunter, Richard Robinson, Graham Hebenton and Paul Hemsley

### 2. **President's address**

Richard Ellis congratulated the Society in continuing to improve and develop its educational programme, including the excellent Combined Symposium. He indicated that many changes are being experienced in health care provision at present and more dramatic changes may well happen in the UK in the next two or three years.

He continued to say that the Society prepares its members well, to be in the strongest position to benefit from change, by providing objective evidence of excellence – through the teaching and examining routines. Currently we hear that recently qualified physiotherapists are finding competition for jobs is becoming more intense, and thus to gain an extra qualification (and such a practical one) is even more valuable.

This is true also for doctors, and experience at Southampton shows that due to the increased throughput of medical students, adequate teaching of an understanding of musculoskeletal diagnosis is more and more difficult for each student to access.

Thus the need for first-class postgraduate teaching of this subject will increase further indicating a bright future for the Society

### 3. **Minutes of the previous AGM held on 27 November 2004**

Minutes of the previous AGM held on 27 November 2004 were previously circulated and were proposed as an accurate record by Ramesh Vaswani and seconded by Margaret Rees. The motion was carried unanimously and the minutes were signed by the Chairman.

### 4. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

5. **Proposed amendments to the Memorandum and Articles of Association**

Emily Goodlad and Jill Kerr were appointed as vote counters.

**Resolution 1 - amendment to Memorandum and Articles of Association**

It is proposed that sub-clause 7 (1) of the Articles of Association of the Society should be amended to allow all allied health professionals access to Associate membership of the Society.

(1) Associates

Not being Members, but who are fully registered medical practitioners (or practitioners granted limited registration under Sections 22 to 24 of the Medical Act 1978) **or an allied health professional registered with the Health Professions Council**, or a Chartered Physiotherapist or a doctor, medical practitioner or physiotherapist with overseas qualifications recognised by the country which conferred those qualifications and in the United Kingdom by the appropriate authorities and who, having indicated upon application for membership of the Society their interest in Orthopaedic Medicine, apply and are elected to such membership as Associates

Proxy votes had been received with 11 votes for and 5 votes against resolution 1.

The resolution was put to the vote at the meeting, resulting in a unanimous vote **for** the resolution. The motion was therefore carried.

**Resolution 2 - amendment to Memorandum and Articles of Association**

It is proposed that the sub-clause 7 (2) of the Articles of Association of the Society should be amended to allow full members of affiliated organisations to become full members of the Society by completing Module C and passing the membership exam.

(2) Members

Who are fully registered medical practitioners (or practitioners granted limited registration under Sections 22 to 24 of the Medical Act 1978) or being a Chartered Physiotherapist or a doctor, medical practitioner or physiotherapist with overseas qualifications recognised by the country which conferred those qualifications and in the United Kingdom by the appropriate authorities and who, having been an Associate, apply for and are elected to Membership of the Society as a Member, having attended and passed the Society's course of tuition and examination for Members. Provided that in this clause the expression "The Society's course of tuition and examination for members means a course of tuition on Orthopaedic Medicine taught over a period of time by the Fellows of the Society of Orthopaedic Medicine consisting of practical and theoretical study, as approved by the Education Committee and followed by an examination, the whole thing being set and marked by examiners who are Fellows approved by the Council of the Society as examiners". **Members of official affiliated organisations (as approved by Council) may become full members of the Society by completing Module C and passing the membership examination**

Proxy votes had been received with 12 votes for and 4 votes against resolution 2.

The resolution was put to the vote at the meeting, resulting in a unanimous vote **for** the resolution. The motion was therefore carried.

### **Resolution 3 - amendment to Memorandum and Articles of Association**

It is proposed that sub-clause 52 of the Articles of Association of the Society should be amended to allow a maximum of 2 non-member councillors who shall have voting rights.

52. The Council may from time to time appoint **a maximum of 2** Councillors to the Council (from amongst those who have experience of matters relevant to the objects of the Society) as it considers necessary or desirable, as appointed Councillors. Any appointed Councillor shall hold office only until the next Annual General Meeting of the Society but may be appointed from year to year as the Council deems necessary. Any such appointed Councillors may attend Council Meetings **and shall have full voting rights**.

Proxy votes had been received with 14 votes for and 1 vote against resolution 3.

The resolution was put to the vote at the meeting, resulting in a vote of 27 **for** the resolution and 4 **against**. The motion was therefore carried with a majority vote.

### **Resolution 4 - proposal to adopt the revised Memorandum and Articles of Association**

Having incorporated the agreed resolutions 1 to 3 above, a final resolution is proposed to adopt the revised Memorandum and Articles of Association.

Proxy votes had been received with 14 votes for and 1 vote against resolution 4.

The resolution was put to the vote at the meeting, resulting in a unanimous vote **for** the resolution. The motion was therefore carried.

## **6. Secretary's report**

Fiona Ottewell reported on current activities and progress of the Society:

- Fiona thanked SOM members and staff who work tirelessly for the Society; Chairman David Knott, Administrative Director Amanda Sherwood, Newsletter Editor Meg Gilbert, Anne Marie as Treasurer, Graham Hebenton as Education Committee Chair, Elaine Atkins and Paul Hattam for their help in organising this years symposium and to Gordon Smith for all his work in the past as Events Chair.

- Richard Ellis was congratulated on the new cover for the journal and was thanked for his continued support.
- Links have been forged with other societies of orthopaedic medicine; ACPOM, OMI, OMS, ETOM and the Cyriax organisation. Emily Goodlad, Elaine Atkins and Margaret Rees were thanked for their sterling efforts in this direction.
- Another example of forging links was seen in the realisation of a plan to establish a research infrastructure that would provide evidence for our clinical practise. Debbie Cox has been successfully recruited to this post and has started her MPhil at Hull. Special thanks were extended to Angela Clough for her support in making this happen.
- Fiona reported that in line with Council's desire to forge links with our stakeholders we have asked the membership for their views on opening up the society's membership and results of the questionnaire sent out in the last mailing will be reported in the newsletter.
- Council have worked hard on the Society's own internal governance by improving the structure of council and reducing the number of paid tutors who sit on council in line with the Charity Commission Rules and Regulations.
- The SOM web site continues to develop and Amanda Sherwood was thanked for her contributions to its development, especially with the introduction of the on-line membership directory.
- Fiona reported that the Society was proud to announce that Patsy Cyriax has agreed to be the Society's Patron.

## 7. **Treasurer's report**

The Statement of Accounts year ending 31 May 2005 had previously been circulated to members. The Treasurer Anne-Marie Ainscough-Potts outlined the main financial issues for the year:

Membership has increased with a subsequent increase of subscriptions from £37,136.00 to £40,746.00

Courses continue to make a profit for the organisation and demand continues to increase.

£100,000 has been invested, in line with Charity Commission guidelines and the profit gained for the year was £8,157.00. The investment policy will continue to be reviewed by the Trustees of the Society.

A question from the floor queried who was accountable if the investments made a loss for the Society and it was explained that it was the Trustees of the Company who were responsible for the financial decisions and well-being of the Society, in line with other similar organisations.

### 7.1 **Appointment of auditor**

It was proposed to appoint Waterworths as auditor for the next financial year.

Proposed by: Margaret Rees

Seconded by: Ramesh Vaswani

The motion was carried unanimously.

## 8. **Education report**

Elaine Atkins presented the education report in the absence of Graham Hebenton.

- The Education committee has met twice this year to discuss all matters linked to the Society's educational programme. Both these days are very intensive but extremely productive and all those giving their time were thanked.
- The SOM's teaching year has again been very successful. Our Fellows continue to be committed to achieving the highest standards of professionalism in presenting the theory and practice of orthopaedic medicine. Late last year Jill Kerr and earlier this year Angela Clough joined the ranks of course principals and have since then led their courses to the expected high standards.
- In 2005 there have been 36 modules which were attended by a total of 873 students. 134 passed the membership exam to become full members of the Society of Orthopaedic Medicine and were congratulated on their achievement.
- Each year the Saunders prize is provided by the SOM and awarded to the highest scoring medical practitioner and physiotherapist in the examinations. This year the prizes were awarded to Dr Colin Healy (Belfast Oct 05) and Anne Hotton (Milton Keynes Nov 05).
- There have been 25 reflective essays submitted and accepted to entitle these individuals to the award of the SOM Diploma in Orthopaedic Medicine.
- The Fellowship programme is an area that is crucial to the future of the SOM. Angela Clough has taken on the responsibility for overseeing and developing this programme. Ben Ashworth and Rowan Bailey have successfully completed their fellowship in 2005 and are welcomed onto the teaching team. Angela was thanked for all her tireless efforts in achieving this successfully
- The injection module continues to be hugely successful. This year Dr David Knott became a course principal for some of the modules. 51 students attended this year and 43 passed the injection therapy exam. Paul Hattam was thanked for all the time and dedication he puts in to maintaining such a high quality course.

- The Advanced module continues to gather momentum with 21 students attending the 2004/05 period.
- This year the SOM has created the role of a Research Fellow which will enhance the development of the education programme. After advertising and interviewing for this post Debbie Cox was appointed.
- The Teachers Study day is organised the day prior to the AGM and brings all the Fellows together to reflect on their teaching experiences throughout the year, receive updates on education issues and improve their teaching skills. Jill Kerr was thanked and congratulated on the success of this year's day.

- Thanks were also extended to the following individuals:

Dr Richard Ellis, the Society's President, for his continuing support of the Society and its educational aims.

Gill Jordan, the external examiner, for monitoring our courses and giving us invaluable feedback on the educational quality of them.

Hazel Townsley, course administrator, for her commitment throughout the year and the magnificent support she provides.

Amanda Sherwood our Administrative Director, the main stay of the Society whose immense support was acknowledged.

David Knott thanked Elaine Atkins for her tireless commitment to the SOM.

Presentations were made to:

Dr Donald Fraser was presented with honorary membership of the Society of Orthopaedic Medicine in recognition of his long-standing support and commitment.

Monica Kesson has stood down as course principal and a gift was presented in recognition of her tireless work for the Society.

#### 9. **Election of Council**

David Knott reported that there were a maximum of 6 vacancies on Council, which would need to include 3 non-teaching members. Meg Gilbert, Mike Pole-Baker and Gordon Smith were standing down. Anne-Marie Ainscough-Potts and Angela Clough were due to stand down but were willing to stand for re-election. Fiona Ottewell was also willing to stand for election as a non-member following the passing of Resolution 3 above.

Teaching members of Council: Anne-Marie Ainscough-Potts, Angela Clough and Elaine Atkins were put forward for election.

Proposed by: Donald Fraser  
Seconded by: Jonathan Flynn

The proposal was carried unanimously and Anne-Marie Ainscough-Potts, Angela Clough and Elaine Atkins were elected en bloc.

Non-teaching members of Council: Dr Duncan Reid, Dr Nick Shaw and Fiona Ottewell were put forward for election.

Proposed by: Margaret Rees  
Seconded by: Jose Marcelino

The proposal was carried unanimously and Dr Duncan Reid, Dr Nick Shaw and Fiona Ottewell were elected en bloc.

10. **Date of next meeting**

The next AGM will be held on Saturday 2 December 2006.

Signed: -----

Date:-----