



Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Outreach and Education Committee of the Royal Microscopical Society which was held on Friday 30 September 2016 at The Geological Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BG

Present: Dr Susan Anderson (Chair, Honorary Secretary Education), Professor Michelle Peckham (President), Professor Pete Nellist (Vice-President), Dr Debbie Stokes (International Secretary), Dr Lynne Joyce (Honorary Treasurer), Dr Peter O'Toole (Honorary Secretary Science – Life), Professor Rik Brydson (Honorary Secretary Science – Physical), Dr Helena Aegerter, Dr Simon Ameer-Beg, Mr Paul Balas, Mr Eric Bennett, Mr Steve Cham, Ms Hong Chang, Mr Savvas Christofi, Dr Lucy Collinson, Mr Leslie Franchi, Dr Robert Francis, Dr Richard Grenfell, Dr Pippa Hawes, Professor Beverley Inkson, Mr Chris Kennedy, Dr Roland Kröger, Mr David McCarthy, Ms Denise McLean, Mr Stephen Metcalfe, Mr Jean-Yves Mugnier, Mrs Niga Nawroly, Dr Chris Parmenter, Professor Maddy Parsons, Mr Alan Poole, Professor Klaus Qvortrup, Dr Natalie Reznikov, Mr Peter Sainsbury, Mr Ralf Schniersmeier, Mr Leslie Stump, Dr Nadezda Tarakina, Professor Paul Verkade, Dr Claire Wells, Mrs Kate Wooding (RMS staff), Ms Allison Winton (RMS staff) and Dr Zdravka Dragnevska FRMS (RMS staff).

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from Dr Peter Evennett, Mr Owen Green, Dr Chris Hammond, Professor Rob Kessler, Dr Andrew Scott, Ms Alanna Stanley and Dr Kerry Thompson.

2. Minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting

The Minutes were signed and approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Report from Section Chair

"Once again it has been a busy year for our Committee. I will report separately on our 3 themes: School's Outreach, Professional CPD and Public outreach.

1. Schools Outreach

Microscope Activity Kits (MAK):

The MAK continues to be a success and I can report that over 50,000 (51,643) children have now engaged with science via microscopy in primary schools using this resource. It is helping to develop interest in science and also helping teachers to develop cross curricular activities linking science to other areas in the curriculum in imaginative and creative ways. We are gauging the impact of the kits at present with a PG student, Aaron Horsey, undertaking a 3 month placement with the Society.

We have also maintained and strengthened our links with the Primary Science Teaching Trust (PSTT), having supplied kits to their national learning hubs. And presented at their international conference this year. We continue to link with international societies

including MSI and ISM. In Ireland the MAK scheme has received follow on funding and I attended the launch of our toolkit to enable microscopy researchers to link with schools: basically allowing researchers to demonstrate their electron microscopes to primary school kids via live link up after the kids have had the kits in schools to give them the basics. In an exciting new development, we will shortly be sending some kits to University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus (UoNMC).

Congratulations to Kerry on the birth of her gorgeous baby Sebastian

2. Professional CPD

Learning zone at MMC 2015, 340 attendees.

RMS Diploma:

The Education Sub Committee has been established to oversee the DipRMS. Many thanks to Susan Brooks and the other Sub-Committee members for their input in ensuring the smooth running of this qualification.

It gives me great pleasure to report the successful completion of 2 further candidates Peter Eaton and Pascal Lorentz. They are not here today but I think we should applaud their dedication, perseverance and success at completing this while at work-this is never easy. We now have microscopists who have completed their DipRMS in 4 countries- UK, Portugal, Germany, and Switzerland!

Our next steps will be to reach out to ACEM and to evidence impact of the Diploma on careers and development of our candidates. I am also beginning to look at the possibility of getting the DipRMS certified.

Other exciting potential Professional CPD initiatives include investigating possibilities to fund a secondary school kit and apprenticeship schemes with NHM.

3. Public Outreach

We attended ASE in January which is always a success and we also had a number of public engagement activities including one at Lyme Regis Fossil Festival organised by Owen Green and to the Eden Project organised by Pippa Hawes. These events are important to engage the general public in science via microscopy and are rewarding for our microscopists. They take a lot of hard work by the organisers, volunteers and office staff and I would like to sincerely thank everyone involved in making these events a success.

Linking all these things together, I had the pleasure of being invited to give the keynote lecture at the ISM 50th Anniversary meeting in Israel this year talking about our 3 themes in Education and Outreach. Next year I have been invited to do something similar at the joint Ireland and American Anatomical Society meeting.

Finally, none of this would be possible without the generosity of time and spirit from our dedicated committee members and the fantastic support from the Office staff, too many to mention individually. Sincere thanks to each and every one of you.

Thank you"

5. Election of Members

There being no other nominations, the following committee members were duly elected:

Chair: Dr Susan Anderson, University of Nottingham

Vice-Chair: Mr Owen Green, University of Oxford

Dr Alex Ball, National History Museum

Dr Susan Brooks, Oxford Brookes University

Dr Pippa Hawes, The Pirbright Institute

Professor Rob Kessler, University of the Arts London

Ms Niga Nawroly, ACEA Biosciences

Dr Noah Russell, University of Nottingham

Mr Peter Sainsbury, Primary Science Teaching Trust

Dr Andrew Scott, University of Leeds

Ms Alanna Stanley, Under the Microscope (while Kerry Thompson is on maternity leave)

Dr Claire Wells, King's College London

Dr Neil Wilson, University of Warwick

Honorary Members (invited to attend):

Dr Peter Evennett, University of Leeds

Dr Chris Hammond, University of Leeds

6. Any Other Business – there was none.