



Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting of the Life Sciences Section of the Royal Microscopical Society which was held on Thursday 6 July at mmc2017 in Manchester

A G E N D A

Present: Dr Claire Wells (Section Chair), Dr Steve Briddon (Section Vice-Chair), Dr Theresa Ward (Section Secretary), Professor Michelle Peckham (RMS President), Dr Peter O'Toole (RMS Vice President), Professor Chris Hawes HonFRMS (RMS Executive Honorary Secretary), Professor Maddy Parsons (RMS Honorary Secretary Biological Science), Dr Simon Ameer-Beg, Dr Kurt Anderson, Professor Mark Leake, Professor Gail McConnell, Dr Noah Russell, Mr Alex Sossick, Professor Tim Watson, Ms Sue Wilson, Ms Allison Winton (RMS Chief Executive).

1. Apologies for Absence
Apologies had been received from Dr William Jackson, Dr Imogen Sparkes and Dr Steve Thomas.
2. Minutes of the 2016 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
“This year seems to have gone incredibly fast. It has also been my first year as Chair of the Life Sciences section – I don’t know if those two statements are correlated.

Last year’s AGM was delivered during the Frontiers in Bioimaging meeting in London. This meeting is jointly organised by the LS and LM section and the 2016 meeting was a resounding success. Many thanks go to Maddy Parsons and Theresa Ward as LS organisers alongside their LM colleagues. The organising committee put together an impressive programme of invited speakers, high quality contributed speakers and abstracts from the 70 registrants. This meeting was well supported by the companies, with 16 exhibiting and/or sponsoring; a big ‘thank you’ to those companies too.

Frontiers in Bioimaging also features here at MMC2017 and is going from strength to strength as the go to meeting for cutting edge microscopy. We have already started planning Frontiers in Bioimaging 2018 which will take place in Glasgow this time. Many thanks to Imogen Sparkes from the LS committee for agreeing to help with the organisation.

Staying with MMC as you are all very aware a huge amount of organising goes into MMC and members of the Life Sciences committee have been involved in all aspects of the meeting. Myself and Steve Briddon were members of the MMC2017 organising committee, whilst many of our section members are involved with organising conference sessions. Thanks go to Theresa Ward, Maddy Parsons, Steve Briddon, Jan Faix, Nick Read and Peter Rosenthal for bringing in a great selection of speakers. In addition Section members are also giving talks, judging posters, and helping in the Learning Zone.

Beyond MMC2017; the rest of this year and into next continues to be busy for the LS committee. In September Maddy (along with Dr Guillaume Charras and Dr Kurt Anderson) will host the Abercrombie meeting in Oxford. Further ahead, plans are firmly in place for RMS involvement with the German Society of Cell Biology meeting in 2018; to be orchestrated by Michelle and Jan Faix.

As a committee, we have also been keen to promote the work of the RMS by supporting prizes and sponsorship of sessions at non-RMS meetings. For instance, we again sponsored a prize for the best use of microscopy in a talk at the Actin Meeting, presented by myself in Bristol in December 2016. The winner contributed an article to *infocus Magazine* on their winning entry and we plan to support this event again in December 2017.

Taking over from Steve as chair of the LS committee was a daunting task. Steve was an excellent section chair with a clear vision; but always prepared to listen to all members and ensure that taking part in the LS section committee was a fun and rewarding experience. We are very grateful for his efforts as chair and he left me a great legacy to take forward. That task has been made much less scary by the support I have received from the committee members. I am privileged to chair a vibrant, active committee that engages with all aspects of the RMS portfolio. Members of committee are incredibly generous with their precious time to engage with RMS activities. Susan Brooks continues her work as Wiley Book Series Editor as well as helping run the RMS Diploma programme. Stephen Thomas will be the LS representative on the training interest group. Members of the committee are also acting as mentors on the RMS Diploma programme. Whilst I continue to represent the LS committee on the Outreach committee. Beyond the RMS we are fortunate to have Jason Swedlow as a committee member providing a direct link to the EuroBioimaging initiative, European representation from Jan Faix and commercial input from Ian Baldwin (GT Vision). We are also delighted to have recruited an early career researcher to the committee; William Jackson. Emily Eden and Jacqui Bond have also recently joined committee and we extend them a warm welcome.

As is often the case as we welcome new members we also say goodbye. I would like to pay particular thanks to Peter Rosenthal who has come to the end of his committee term. Peter has played an active part in the RMS and we really appreciate all his efforts over many years of service. Additionally, one of our members is moving on to higher things. Congratulations to Maddy Parsons on her appointment as Honorary Secretary Life Sciences. We thank her for all her contributions to the LS committee and wish her the best of luck in her new role - although obviously we hope she will continue to attend LS committee meetings as often as possible.

Last but by no means least I would like to thank the RMS office for their fantastic support. As a new chair they have patiently and expertly guided me through the process making the transition much easier. My particular thanks go to Allison and Zu, for their key role in supporting our committee, as well as Debbie, Tor and Cecile and other RMS staff who manage our events and make everything run so smoothly.

To conclude I would therefore like to thank the committee and the RMS office once again, and look forward to a busy and rewarding 2017/18.”

5. Election of Officers

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

Chair: Dr Claire Wells, King’s College London

Secretary: Dr Theresa Ward, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine

6. Election of Ordinary Members (8)

There being no other nominations, the following Ordinary Members were duly elected:

Mr Ian Baldwin, GT Vison Ltd, Haverhill
Dr Jacquelyn Bond, University of Leeds
Dr Susan Brooks, Oxford Brookes University
Dr Emily Eden, University College London
Professor Jan Faix, University of Hannover
Professor Nick Read, University of Manchester
Dr Imogen Sparkes, University of Exeter
Dr Steve Thomas, University of Birmingham

In addition to the above nominated Committee Members, Dr Steve Briddon and Professor Jason Swedlow have been co-opted onto the Committee. Dr Will Jackson has been co-opted as the Early Career Representative.

7. Any Other Business – there was none.