

## BORS Presidential Report 2015



This was my first year as the president of BORS and I would like to take this opportunity to thank a few people for showing me the ropes. Firstly I would like to acknowledge the help and support from Andrew McCaskie the former president. I would also like to thank Sabina Gheduzzi who has recently retired as treasurer of BORS and who will take up a position on the board of trustees. Sabina has done a marvelous job as Treasurer. Finally I would like to thank Rachel Godfrey for all her support and hard work as the Administrator of BORS

### BORS Annual Meeting

This year the BORS annual meeting was held back to back with the British Orthopaedic Association (BOA) annual meeting in the Liverpool Conference Centre. This was a departure from our regular format and it was felt that a larger number of young clinicians and trainee orthopods would attend BORS because of this.

This was certainly true for the second day where the joint BOA/BORS session was well attended. This was followed by the BORS symposium on Osteoarthritis. Special thanks go out to Mark Wilkinson, James Richardson, Bruce Caterson, Jean-Phillipe St-Pierre and Catriona McDaid who made presentations at this symposium.

The first day of the BORS meeting was associated with BORS presentations and posters. We had a keynote lecture from Matt Dalby on Control of Mesenchymal Stem Cell Growth and Differentiation using Nanoscale Tools. BORS awarded a life-time achievement award to Professor Bentley for his outstanding contribution in the field of Autologous Chondrocyte Implantation. We also gave a young investigators award to Anita Sanghani from UCL for her presentation on Osteoporosis and Stem Cell Migration. Iain Murray from Edinburgh was awarded the prize for best overall presentation for his talk entitled  $\alpha$ V Intergrin Depletion on PDGFR6+ Cells Regulates Skeletal Muscle Fibrosis. Finally, the poster award went to Dr Rob Wallace, Edinburgh University.



Anita Sanghani, UCL



Dr Rob Wallace and Dr Iain Murray, Edinburgh



Professor George Bentley.



In my opinion the only downside was the conference dinner which took place in the Liverpool Maritime Museum which was apt as the soup tasted like sea water! We have complained and have received a small reimbursement.

Overall, despite the initial trepidation, the BORS meeting was successful and we should try and repeat this in the near future.

BORS would also like to thank the Journal of Bone & Joint Research Editor in Chief, Professor Hamish Simpson who will enable free of charge, the publication of the 2 papers that won the best presentation and the young investigator award at the BORS conference provided that they pass a peer review. All members are encouraged to support the JBJR as it is a sister journal to the BBJ and is associated with British Orthopaedic Reserach.

#### Travelling Fellowships

Immediately after the BORS Liverpool we interviewed, those who applied for the BORS Travelling Fellowship 2016. Hamish Simpson, Bruce Caterson, Catherine Pendegrass and myself were on the panel. The standard of applicants was really high and we awarded 6 places, which have all been taken up by the following;

- Iain Murray (Edinburgh)
- Paul Hindle (Edinburgh)
- Wayne Nishio Ayre (Cardiff)
- Harry Hothi (UCL)
- Alisdair Macleod (Bath)
- Sarah Lynn Johnson (Newcastle)

Congratulations to those who gained a place on this fellowship they will be representing BORS on their travels. They will start their Fellowship at the ICORS meeting in China, travel to Australia, Hong Kong and Singapore. Special thanks go to the Bone and Joint Research Journal for making this Travelling Fellowship possible with their generous donation.

#### Trustee Report – Professor Allen Goodship

As Chair of the Trustees of BORS I am pleased that we now are on course as a registered UK charity and the governance and credibility this confers. It is important to review and develop our strategic plan to deliver our charitable objectives. I am sure the executive committee will work with both the membership and trustees to do this on an ongoing basis.

We have added public lectures to some of our general meetings and this is an excellent way to contribute to education on musculo-skeletal health and contribute to improved quality of life and

independent living, especially in the ageing population. I hope we can develop this further and add societal impact to the research we are all involved with.

I am aware of the initiatives to increase the support for young investigators and build our travelling fellow initiatives. These fellows have a unique opportunity to visit leading centres internationally and form research networks and friendships across the world.

The trustees have started a process of formal training, essential to meet the charity and legal responsibilities of being a trustee. We are developing a risk register and risk management strategy, part of this has identified the need to increase the numbers of trustees and put in place a succession plan that will include ensuring a range of appropriate skill sets in the trustee group to facilitate the success of the charity. We thank the membership for agreement to the proposal circulated and will build on this and consult membership on an ongoing basis to ensure compliance.

BORS is a great Society, I gave my first presentation as a PhD student, just a few years ago! I have remained committed to the society as I think it is a very positive constructive group including a wide range of complementary disciplines and delivering research with high societal impact.

Please look at our objectives and engage actively in contributing to delivery of these, feed-back and ideas are welcome.

The objectives of the British Orthopaedic Research Society are to advance education for the public benefit in orthopedic research, to promote all aspects of research for the public benefit and to publish the useful results.

Allen Goodship  
Chair of Trustees – British Orthopaedic Research Society.

#### New Members and Appointments

New members on the committee are;

1. Ian Murray, Young Investigator Representative.
2. Ines Reichart, Committee Member

At present we are in search of new BORS President to take over from myself in September 2016 and a new member representative.

#### ICORS

ICORS is to be held in Xian in China on 21<sup>st</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> September 2016. We have a BORS symposium at this conference which is on Osteoarthritis. Professors Caterson, Wilkinson, Richardson and Molly Stevenson have all been asked to give short talks at this symposium and have agreed to do so which is fantastic!

Treasurer – Dr Sabina Gheduzzi (previous treasurer) Dr Rob Wallace (new Treasurer)

This year the annual BORS conference was held in the ACC Liverpool in the newly redeveloped docklands area. I hope you all agree that this was an excellent venue in a unique location. This year the BORS conference was timed to dovetail with the BOA meeting, allowing us to have a research focussed BORS day and gave BORS members the opportunity to attend the opening day of the BOA conference. The larger scale of the BOA conference provided a good illustration of the wider range of impact that our research can ultimately have on the orthopaedic community, reminding us of the importance of translational research in our studies.

Once again the research presented at our conference was of a very high standard, with a good mix of clinical, scientific and engineering disciplines represented. The original research, a mix of high quality podium presentations and research posters, was complimented by some excellent keynote speakers, who are thanked for giving their time to attend. Many of the researchers presenting had travelled great distances to attend, in some cases from the other side of the world. I hope that they enjoyed the conference as much as those that had considerably less distance to travel!

This year also witnessed the first Presidents Award, with the inaugural recipient the very deserving Professor George Bentley. His presentation outlined his long dedicated career in orthopaedics and demonstrated the importance of translational research, from cells to surgery, which can a beneficial impact on patient's health.

I am looking forward to the BORS conference in 2016, and hope that it can provide the same stimulating nature of presentations and networking opportunities as this year's conference. I would also like to thank our sponsors, their contribution allow us to have such a diverse and interesting meeting. I would like to thank all of you who attended and contributed the meeting and I hope to see you all in 2016. Last but definitely not least, I would like to thank the organisers, without your effort we would not have the opportunity to present, encounter and be inspired by the wide range of research that is carried out by the members of BORS

#### Future meetings

The next annual meeting will be held in Glasgow and will be hosted by Matt Dalby on 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> September. The 2<sup>nd</sup> call for abstracts has recently gone out.

Over the next 6 months we plan to initiate 2 workshops. One of these has been agreed and will be on bone quality, it will be held at Instron in High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, the date is 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016, please see website for more details. The other one to be decided will be held later in the year around Easter time. The idea around these workshops is that these are small focused meetings on a particular subject where interested academics, particularly PhD students and Post Docs can present their work and have informal discussions on the subject of the workshops.

#### Sad news

You've all probably heard that Andrew Sprowson died tragically in a car accident this year. He was a knee surgeon and was extremely active in BORS having set up the last Travelling Fellowship to the US. We plan to commemorate his memory and the work that he did for BORS by awarding an annual prize in his name.

Abutment

The BORS continues to be relatively strong but needs to encourage young clinicians and orthopaedic trainees to become members. Please can all members encourage their colleagues to join and support us?

I would like to finish by thanking everyone involved with the Liverpool meeting.

Professor Gordon Blunn