

Mass Gen for
Sydney

BRITISH SOCIETY FOR HAEMATOLOGY

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING

held at the Royal Society of Medicine, London

at 2.00pm on Friday 4th January 1985

The meeting was attended by the President, N.K. Shinton (in the Chair), I.D. Fraser (Treasurer), J.F. Davidson (Secretary), A.J. Bellingham (Associate Secretary), M.J. Strevens (Meeting Secretary), D. Catovsky, B.T. Colvin, D.W. Dawson, R.D. Finney, P.T. Flute, F.E. Preston, B.E. Roberts, J.A. Whittaker and J.F. Wilkinson.

Apologies were received from E.C. Gordon-Smith and S.M. Lewis.

The President welcomed the new Committee members.

Minute of Committee Meeting held on 4th October 1984

The Minute was accepted and signed after 84/13(1) line 8 was corrected from "appointed" to "nominated."

85/1 **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

a) President 1988/89

The Committee AGREED to the nomination of Professor G.C. Jenkins as President for 1988/89.

b) Honorary Membership

The Committee AGREED to the nomination of Dr. G.H. Tovey as an Honorary Member of the Society.

c) Standing Intercollegiate Committee on Oncology (84/32(j))

The President reported that the Society's representative, Dr. I.W. Delamore, had attended the Standing Intercollegiate Committee on Oncology on 26th November where the relationship of Haematology to Medical Oncology was discussed. Professor Jacobs is preparing a Report on this topic, and this will be discussed at the next Meeting of the Committee on 2nd May 1985. The Committee also discussed a Report of a Working Group on "Acute Services for Cancer" and Dr. Delamore was concerned that in several sections Haematology was not given its proper standing in relation to Medical Oncology and Radiotherapy. He was able to make clear the point of view of

Haematologists and this was accepted by the Committee.

d) British Institute of Radiology Meeting

The Chairman reported that he had attended the recent meeting of the British Institute of Radiology on Isotope Imaging. This had been a good meeting but was poorly supported by members of the BSH.

e) Manpower (m84/32(g), 84/22)

The President reported that the Manpower position was again unclear, and it seemed the DHSS was again proposing a cut in the number of Senior Registrars in Haematology in England and Wales. He informed the Committee that he expected to be meeting with the President of the Royal College of Physicians and the President of the Royal College of Pathologists to discuss this in the near future. The Society will continue to make representations to maintain the present number of Senior Registrars, but it remains to be seen if the DHSS is still prepared to accept this.

f) Training in Haematology (m84/13(g))

The President had prepared and circulated a document "Implications of GMC Education Committee Proposals on Vocational Training in Haematology" to members of the Committee for consideration. The Royal College of Pathologists was at the present time seeking information on training requirements and it was necessary for the Society to set out its views, as other views on training in Haematology had been submitted from the Association of Clinical Pathologists.

There was considerable discussion on the document and various amendments proposed. It was AGREED that the President should incorporate these points in a further draft of the document, and pass this to the College of Pathologists. This matter would be discussed at the forthcoming meeting of the SAC in Haematology of the College at which the Society was represented.

g) Young Investigator's Prize (m84/34(b))

The President reported that he had received numerous comments on the Young Investigator's Prize - the majority of which had been favourable. It was AGREED that the requirement for extended abstracts should be removed for the regulations for the Prize, and that the views of members of the Society should be sought at the Annual General Meeting.

h) List of Presidents

It was AGREED that when future lists of Presidents were published Dr. A.A. Sharp and Dr. D.G. Chalmers, who had died as Presidents Elect, should be listed under the appropriate year as "President Elect - deceased."

i) JCHMT

It was AGREED that the Society's representative on the JCHMT should be co-opted to the Committee.

85/2 SECRETARY'S REPORT

a) Dr. Mark Paterson (m84/32(i))

The Secretary reported that he had written Dr. Paterson concerning his continuation as a member, but had so far received no response. It was AGREED that the Secretary should send a further letter, this time by Recorded Delivery to Dr. Paterson's home address, and that if a satisfactory response had not been received by the time the papers were being prepared for the Annual General Meeting, the Secretary should act under Rule 23 and make a recommendation at the Annual Business Meeting that he be removed as a member of the Society.

b) Computer Insurance (m84/33(c))

It was AGREED that the Society should take out an all-risks insurance policy on the Society computer.

c) SAC(H) of R.C.Path (m84/33(f))

It was AGREED that Dr. B.E. Roberts should act as Deputy for Professor A.J. Bellingham on the SAC(H) of the Royal College of Pathologists.

d) Committee Meeting Venue (m84/33(d))

It was AGREED that the Secretary should be left to seek the most appropriate location for meetings.

e) Society Debtors - Rule 17 (m84/35(b))

The Secretary reported that he had written letters to the list of debtors and so far had had one response.

It was AGREED the Secretary should report back at the next meeting on the response to these letters.

f) Committee Retirals

The Secretary reported that there was one retiral from the Committee at the Annual General Meeting, namely Dr. D. Catovsky.

g) Archivist

The Secretary reported correspondence with Dr. H. Swan. Dr. Swan was having difficulty in getting detailed information on the run-up to the formation of the Society. Dr. Wilkinson indicated that he had collected papers on this period and would be forwarding these to Dr. Swan in the near future.

h) Private Laboratories (m84/40)

The Secretary reported that there was no formal change in the position but that he understood unofficially that revised contracts were to be offered to the private laboratories in Glasgow in the near future and that these would not require laboratories as part of the contract to participate in the NEQAS Schemes.

i) Publication of Reports

The Secretary reported that Dr. J. England, Editor of the Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Haematology, had offered facilities for the printing of Society Reports in the format of reprints. It was AGREED that when the Secretary was making arrangements for the publication of the next Report, that he should at that time seek proposals from Dr. England, and compare them with the current publisher.

85/3 ASSOCIATE SECRETARY'S REPORT

a) One-day Scientific Meeting

The Associate Secretary reported that the One-day Scientific Meeting in November 1984 had been attended by 180 registered attendants. The next One-day Meeting has been arranged for the 15th November 1985 in the Royal College of Physicians. It was AGREED that as before papers should be of 10 minutes duration with 5 minutes discussion.

There followed a considerable discussion on the starting time of the meeting and it was eventually AGREED that registration should open at 9.30am and that the meeting should start at 10.00am and continue later into the afternoon, possibly up to 5.00pm.

b) Sub-Committee on Liaison with CSM (m84/34(g), 84/30)

The Associate Secretary reported that there had been a further meeting with members of the CSM, but there was nothing new to report.

c) Abstracts Publication

The Associate Secretary reported that he had written to the Secretary of the Netherlands Society of Haematology indicating the out-standing abstracts from the Exeter Meeting would be published in a forth-coming number of the British Journal of Haematology.

d) Joint Meeting with British Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis (m84/32(f), 84/13)

The Associate Secretary reported that discussions had taken place with the President of the BSHT and a combined meeting was proposed for January 1986.

It was AGREED that if possible, the meeting date should be 10th January 1986, that Dr. L.R. Davis of King's College Hospital should be appointed as Meeting Secretary from the Society, that the Associate Secretary would handle the correspondence with the BSHT, and that a dinner for the Committees of the two Societies should be held on the evening of 9th January 1986.

85/4 TREASURER'S REPORT

a) Accounts

The Treasurer reported that the Society's financial affairs were in a healthy state even though there had been a fall in subscriptions to a value of approximately £200. It appeared that this fall in subscriptions was related to the number of members retiring and becoming Senior Members. The Treasurer reported that the expenditure by BCSH and its related Task Forces had increased significantly as the education role of BCSH expanded. He reported that the surplus of the Exeter Meeting amounted to £3,500.

b) Investments

The Treasurer had circulated with the papers of the meeting, proposals from the Society's bankers, Coutts and Company, for handling the portfolio of the Society's investments. After discussion it was AGREED that the present management policy of the Society's funds should be continued and that we should not accept the offer from Coutts and

Company.

c) Subscription for Members Residing Overseas

The Treasurer drew attention to the postal costs for members resident overseas. In the case of limited membership this involved postage of circulars, but in the case of full members, this involved postage of the British Journal of Haematology. It was AGREED in principle that a postage surcharge should be levied on overseas members at two levels, one for limited members and one for full members. The Treasurer was asked to report back to the meeting with details of postal costs so that the amount of the surcharge could be decided. It was AGREED that the Treasurer should report this proposal at the Annual General Meeting.

85/5 WARWICK MEETING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dr. Strevens reported that 94 abstracts had been received for the Warwick Meeting. He tabled them ranked in the order of average score achieved. He had also recorded the number of zero (rejection) scores for each paper. It was AGREED:-

1. That all papers should be accepted with the exception of those which had scored three or more zeros (excluding abstract number 65).
2. That those papers which had been accepted should be considered by the President and Meeting Secretary and approximately 20 selected for poster presentation.

He reported that the second circular with details of the Warwick Meeting would be mailed to members in approximately two weeks' time.

85/6 BCSH CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a) BCSH and Task Force Relationships with other Scientific Bodies (m84/36(a))

Dr. Dawson reported that BCSH felt no changes were required in its composition. It welcomed the BSH Committee's recommendation that Task Force Chairmen should call upon nominees from other scientific bodies as appropriate when they required particular expertise in their Task Force. He indicated that BCSH would, as far as possible, keep in touch informally with other Societies to avoid duplication and overlap of effort. When the preparation of a Report required major collaboration with another scientific body BCSH felt the Report should be issued jointly with the other Society.

b) Haemostasis and Thrombosis Task Force

Dr. Dawson drew attention to the collaboration between the Haemostasis and Thrombosis Task Force and the NEQAS Scheme for Blood Coagulation. With the assistance of the NEQAS Scheme for Blood Coagulation, surveys on oral anticoagulant services, bleeding times and platelet function tests had been carried out and had produced valuable information.

c) NEQAS Report on Materials for APTT Testing (m84/42)

BCSH had advised that should a reagent be found in a NEQAS exercise to be a possible hazard, the matter should be reported to the appropriate DHSS Department without delay.

After considerable discussion on this issue it was AGREED to recommend to the Joint Working Party on Quality Assurance that the organiser of a NEQAS Scheme should not be ordinarily the Chairman of the appropriate NEQAS Steering Committee.

d) Working Party of the BCSH Blood Group and Transfusion Task Force on Red Cell Antibody Screening and Compatibility Testing

The Secretary reported that at the last meeting of the Blood Group and Transfusion Task Force it had been agreed that a Working Party should be formed to prepare a Guidelines Document on Red Cell Antibody Screening and Compatibility Testing. It was felt that the preparation of such a document would be greatly assisted if two nominees with particular expertise in this area could be provided by the British Blood Transfusion Society. The Committee welcomed this proposal and approved the names of the nominees from the British Blood Transfusion Society, Dr. J.S. Urbaniak and Mr. M. Bruce. This Guideline Document would be the first major collaboration between the two Societies and it was AGREED that it would be appropriate for it to be issued as a combined Report from both Societies. The Secretary was asked to write the Secretary of the British Blood Transfusion Society and welcome the nominations.

e) ECCLS Meeting in Cologne in 1985

It was AGREED that Dr. Dawson should attend the ECCLS Meeting in Cologne in 1985 and that the Society should meet his expenses.

f) ICSH

It was AGREED that the Society should pay its contribution of \$200 to the International Committee for Standardization in

Haematology.

It was AGREED that the ICSH Report for 1982 to 1984 should be circulated to members of the Society along with the BCSH Report.

g) BCSH Report 1983/84

The BCSH Report for 1983/84 was accepted after some minor amendments.

85/7 MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY

It was AGREED that the following applicants should go forward for ballot at the Annual General Meeting - C.E. Hoggarth, D. Stainsby, H. Hambley, J.E.W. Van de Pette, J.P. O'Shea, R. Bailey-Wood, N.A. Sourial, J.H. Matthews, M. Bhavnani and K.A. Salim.

It was AGREED that the application from B.M. Carr was premature and the Secretary was asked to write and indicate a further application would be welcome in the future.

85/8 PROPOSED JOINT MEETING WITH THE NETHERLANDS SOCIETY OF HAEMATOLOGY IN 1986

It was AGREED that a combined meeting with the Netherlands Society of Haematology should be held in the Netherlands or in Belgium in 1986.

85/9 HAEMOPHILIA DIRECTORS' WORKING PARTY

Dr. Colvin reported that he had nothing to add to the discussions at the previous meeting.

85/10 AIDS

The President reported that he had had a number of letters from members requesting advice on procedures to be followed when dealing with patients, or material from patients with AIDS or suspected AIDS. The matter had recently been highlighted in a Lancet leader. Haemophilia Reference Directors had prepared a document giving guidelines on these matters which Dr. Preston indicated Haemophilia Centre Directors should receive. Dr. Preston informed the Committee the Haemophilia Directors considered every patient who had been given Factor VIII Concentrate should be considered as harbouring the AIDS virus, and that such potential AIDS patients and other potential AIDS

patients and their specimens, should be handled with care and in a manner similar to those from patients likely to harbour Hepatitis B. Professor Bellingham felt advice on these matters should be disseminated much more widely than to Haemophilia Reference Centre Directors, and that the Society had a duty to advise its members.

It was AGREED that the President should consult with Professor Arthur Bloom and prepare a short document giving advice to BSH members on laboratory hazards of AIDS and potential AIDS specimens.

85/11 TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS FOR 1985 (m84/38(a))

The Secretary reported that he had prepared an announcement which would go out with the second circular requesting applications for travelling fellowships for the Warsaw Meeting in September 1985. The closing date for such applications had been set at 22nd March 1985 which was the last possible date to allow the applications to be prepared for consideration at the next Committee Meeting.

85/12 OTHER TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS

Professor Bellingham drew attention to the disappointingly few applications received in recent years for the Society's educational scholarships, and indicated he thought this was partly caused by the present procedure for application. He encouraged the Committee to adopt more flexible machinery for considering such applications.

After discussion it was AGREED:-

1. that arrangements for the main educational scholarship of the Society should remain as before and be announced in the first circular, and considered at the October Committee Meeting.
2. That a similar one-off arrangement should be made for the ISH Meeting in Sydney as had been made for the Warsaw Meeting.
3. That a new category of "Scientific Travelling Fellowship" should be created with the following terms of reference:-
 - a) The Fellowship will be for those people below consultant status. On receipt of the application by the Secretary this will be processed rapidly by the officers of the Society, who may take expert advice, and a reply given within a month of receipt.
 - b) The Fellowship will have a maximum value of £500 and

depending on the finances of the Society, the number available in the year will vary.

- c) Normally, these travel scholarships will not be allocated for attending meetings, but for exchange visits to research centres.
 - d) These changes do not preclude application for larger support on an annual basis, which will continue to be considered by the full Committee at the October Meeting.
 - e) A brief Report to the Society will be expected of those receiving the scholarship.
4. That proposal 3 should go to the Annual General Meeting for discussion.

85/13 GROUP TRAVEL FOR THE 1986 SYDNEY MEETING (m84/38(b))

The Secretary reported that he had so far received three proposals from Travel Agents for group travel to the above meeting, and that a number of proposals were still outstanding. It was AGREED that the matter should be deferred to the next Committee Meeting and that the Secretary should bring a recommendation on the most appropriate package for members.

85/14 24TH CONGRESS OF ISH - LONDON 1992 (m84/38(c))

The following resolution was approved:- the British Society for Haematology supports the holding of the 24th Congress of the International Society of Haematology from 30th August to 5th September 1992 at the Barbican Centre.

The Conference would be held under the Presidency of Professor David Weatherall with Dr. John Goldman as Secretary. Other members of the Executive Committee would be Dr. S.M. Lewis and Professor N.K. Shinton.

In furtherance of this resolution a separate bank account headed "24th Congress of the International Society for Haematology - London" should be opened at Coutts and Company, and cheques should be signed by two of the following - Professor D. Weatherall, Dr. J. Goldman, Dr. S.M. Lewis, Professor N.K. Shinton.

85/15 JOINT WORKING GROUP ON QUALITY ASSURANCE (m84/41)

It was AGREED to accept the BCSH recommendation that the British Society for Clinical Cytology's application for membership of the Joint Working Group on Quality Assurance should

not be supported.

85/16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 26th March 1985 at the University of Warwick - Officers 10.30am, Committee 2.00pm in the Committee Room Staff Club, Rootes Social Building (same building as registration).

GRO-C

26/3/85