

# NOTES ON THE ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING THURSDAY 1 JULY 2010, 13.30 HRS SCHOOL OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY, UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS LECTURE THEATRE B

## **OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR**

In order to improve the timeliness of the meeting, brief verbal reports will be given at the Business Meeting. The following notes are designed to accompany the Annual Business Meeting.

#### **AGENDA ITEM No 4: THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The Pathological Society's mission is to foster the understanding of disease. We seek to do this through the *Journal of Pathology*, regular scientific meetings and various types of personal support. So how well does our performance match our mission?

An incoming President has a narrow window in time through which to view the Society's activities dispassionately, without seeming to be either irresponsibly unconcerned over shortcomings or inappropriately self-congratulatory over success. Happily, I can see plenty positive evidence through that window. The *Journal* continues to push its citation index upwards, out-competes its rivals in terms of speed of review, has a truly international authorship, and looks good. Two yearly scientific meetings, each with a flavour distinctive to its location, provide symposia with eminent speakers from all over UK and beyond, attract good numbers of delegates, and create a forum for plentiful posters. The Summer Schools, embarked on tentatively three years ago, now plan to roll out a series led by an enthusiastic Faculty with an approach that is definitely "Yes you can" if not completely "Hands on". The Society's income is fed back into grants that support a spectrum of work from undergraduate vacation projects, through Open and Research Start-up Small Grants funding, to full PhD studentships, post-doctoral support and schemes that encourage international cooperation. In addition, the Society, through its Senior Officers and President, adds its voice to commend members' applications for ACCEA awards, and to speak up for Pathology where and when it counts.

The new President knows that he stands on others' shoulders as he views this terrain, yet can't help feeling proud of what he sees. But is it enough? Will it last? Will it grow? Is it *alive*?

The central issue today — as indeed it was always — has to do with our own self-assurance regarding our identity as pathologists. The Society stands on the ground that Sir Alastair Currie (a notable exponent of Pathology in UK) used to call *The Patient and the Cell*. This is where diagnostic problems and the description of new disease entities merge directly with fundamental questions in cell biology, immunology and genetics. It is the place where scientists (whether or not they also happen to be clinicians) bring new insights and discovery into medical application. Pathology as a specialty is no longer the repository of all that is to be known about disease (if that ever were true), but we remain closer to the relationship between disease processes and their battleground in tissue and cells than most of our colleagues in other specialties. There are many recent examples of pathologists taking the lead in identifying new diseases (medullary carcinoma of thyroid, "slim disease", *H pylori* gastritis), breaking out of long-established dogma (some types of MALT lymphoma are reversible), laying the basis of new methods for population screening (cervical immunocytochemistry for replication proteins), and fundamental discoveries in human cell biology (the pluripotential qualities of circulating human stem cells).

So how are we as a Society to sustain the self-belief that underpinned these discoveries, all of them made by histopathologists with long experience of the Hospital Reporting Room? And how will we know we are successful?



There are some obvious answers. Career structures need to be kept flexible. Undergraduate courses need to include the opportunity for students to meet face to face with practitioners of the pathology of *The Patient and the Cell*. These objectives and others with them were cogently described in a recent publication from the National Cancer Research Institute, *Fostering the Role of Pathology in Research* 

(http://www.ncri.org.uk/default.asp?s=1&p=5&ss=13), a document that could well be required reading for all our members and colleagues. They are also the product of actions and decisions that need to be made, reviewed and re-iterated at the highest level both in our Specialty and in Medical Education. The Pathological Society will continue to work towards these objectives but the measure of our success will come from a very simple, qualitative, human observation. Do we identify, support and help to resource the discoverers of the future, who will deepen our understanding of disease? Have we noticed you?

Andrew Wyllie, June 2010

#### **AGENDA ITEM No 5: GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT**

#### 5.1 Society Lectures, Medals and Awards

Specific application forms have been developed for named lectures and awards i.e. the CL Oakley lecture; the Goudie lecture and medal; the Doniach lecture and award; and the Ritchie medal. These have been introduced in order to standardise applications and to allow clearer comparison of nominees. The forms can be found on the Society website. Note that, at the last meeting of the Society committee, it was agreed that the CL Oakley lecture will be awarded bi-annually, to be delivered at joint meetings of the Society and the BDIAP.

#### 5.2 Membership

I am very pleased to report that Society membership has risen to 1445 as of Jan 2010, its highest level since 1994. This encouraging total includes a prominent increase in the number of ordinary members attributable to conversion of concessionary to full membership, a very promising sign.

## 5.4 Website and Publications Strategy Group

The Society website continues to develop and now hosts the collection of interviews with prominent pathologists, termed 'Conversations with Pathologists', that was generated as part of the process of producing the book 'Life and Death'. Thanks go to Sue Armstrong who carried out the interviews and oversaw the process of book and web archive production; and to Genentech who kindly provided an educational grant to support the development of the web archive component. The full archive is available at <a href="http://www.pathsoc.org/conversations/">http://www.pathsoc.org/conversations/</a>

The website homepage has been streamlined to incorporate the members area more effectively and transparently, and to support the re-introduction of the members' database. Members are also reminded that they have online access to the educational portal, which continues to grow and hosts an increasing number of videoed lectures. A further development is the plan by the Trainees' subcommittee to introduce a 'case of the month'.

## 5.5 Change of Representative for the Irish Republic

I am pleased to announce that Professor Elaine Kay has agreed to serve as a co-opted member of the Society committee, representing the Irish Republic. I would like to thank her predecessor in the role, Professor Grace Callagy, for her contribution to the Society.

#### 5.6 Other matters

5.6.1 Newsletter

There is has been lengthy discussion, which has not yet reached a conclusion, of the future of the Society newsletter. One option is that we move to a fully electronic format, with notification of members by email: content would be housed on the website and accessed via links directly from the body of the email. We have not however excluded the possibility of continuing to produce a standalone newsletter and I would very much welcome the views of members about how they would like to receive and view newsletter content.



#### 5.6.2 Governance

Two abstracts submitted to a recent Society meeting have been the subject of GMC proceedings following notification that one demonstrated evidence of plagiarism and the other had been submitted without the permission of all authors. This led to the suspension for 4 months of the individual concerned following a GMC hearing at which the General Secretary gave evidence on behalf of the Society. This case underscores the need for robust systems of abstract scrutiny, including the inclusion of appropriate questions within the abstract submission system, in order to protect the scientific record and the Society's reputation. Members can be reassured by the outcome in this case, which demonstrated that the Society's processes functioned effectively.

Simon Herrington, June 2010

#### AGENDA ITEM No. 6 - THE TREASURER'S REPORT

#### 6.1 Review of Year: 2009

As in previous years all members should already have had access to the summary annual accounts; the Trustees have already seen the full set of accounts and these are available to any member on request. It has almost become a tradition now that I pre-empt my annual report by saying how turbulent the markets have been; this year is no exception! Those that follow the markets will be aware that the situation improved between 2008 and 2009 with respect equities. During that time many countries came out of recession and there was for some time a growing confidence in the money markets. We do however live in "interesting times" and at the time of going to press one of the big areas of anxiety is around weaknesses in the euro-zone, in particular around Greece, Portugal and Spain. As a consequence there have been fairly large swings in the main equity markets and fluctuations in the bond markets. However, perusal of the annual accounts for yearend 31<sup>st</sup> December shows that our total funds carried forward exceed £6 million, a significant uplift from yearend 2008. We continue to work with our financial advisors to ensure that we are protecting the Society from the vagaries of the markets whilst not being entirely risk averse.

You will see that this year there was sizeable increase in our income from the Journal. This was largely due to the increase in profit share from 55% to 65%. Next year this will increase to 70%. In addition there was a beneficial effect of the weakness of the pound (note that increasing numbers of subscriptions outside the UK are received in US dollars). Our income from investments however showed a further decline on yearend 2008. This was again due to very poor returns from resources held as money given the extremely low rate of interest in the kind of bank accounts that we use on a regular basis. Our outgoings showed a slight decline on previous years leading to a small surplus when we consider total incoming resources and resources expended. This is a healthy position in the current climate and one which I believe will be entirely acceptable to the Charities Commission.

In terms of expenditure in the current year (and through to next year) there is a shift in the outgoings. We will shortly see the end of the financial consequences of our Centenary Clinical Fellowship Scheme but we have now launched the Post-Doctoral Clinical Scheme to provide support for Clinical Academics who have already established themselves on the research stage but are yet to obtain a CCT. The idea is that funding will be available to support a technician or research associate to enable the Clinical Academic to further develop their research base while completing training.

The Grant Scheme expenditure in 2009 is attached as Appendix A. As we have noted previously some of the schemes remain undersubscribed and it is important that members promote these widely.

Finally, at the ABM I shall be bringing forward proposals with respect our investment advisors and our accountants/auditors. As part of due diligence we have put these services out to tender and a final decision as the preferred providers will be made by the Trustees at their meeting at the beginning of the week of the Summer Meeting and will be brought for approval by the membership at the ABM.

Alastair Burt, May 2010



#### **AGENDA ITEM No. 7 - MEETINGS SECRETARY'S REPORT**

I would like to start by drawing your attention to the presence of web based presentations of some of the key lectures given at our scientific meeting which are available to Members. We would encourage members to view these lectures, accessible from the Society web site via the Members Area.

#### 2009: 30 June - 1 July "Cardiff Pathology 2009" Joint BDIAP and Path Soc Meeting

A successful, enjoyable and well attended joint meeting at an excellent venue. We would like to thank Professors Geraint Williams and Bharat Jasani and their team for their work and commitment in putting together the excellent and well received programme and for hosting this meeting

- Abstracts submitted 224
- Delegates, excluding invited speakers 423
- Feedback details (Appendix B)
- Web lectures available:
  - 1. Prof David Dabbs, Pittsburgh, USA: "Modern Approach" to diagnosis of Tumours of Unknown Origin (TUO)
  - 2. Prof Errol Friedberg, Dallas, USA: "Defective biological responses to DNA damage and human disease"
  - 3. Prof Barry Gusterson, Glasgow Doniach Lecture: "Normal biology and new insights into breast cancer"
  - 4. Prof Chris Neal, Bristol: "Subpodocyte space: Implications for glomerular physiology and pathology"
  - 5. Prof Clive Taylor, Los Angeles, USA: "Molecular morphology employing quantifiable internal reference standards"
  - 6. Prof Geraint Williams, Cardiff BDIAP Cunningham Lecture: "Elephant traps in gastrointestinal surgical pathology"

#### 2010

## 6-8 January : Winter meeting hosted by Imperial College London

Despite the snow our 2010 Winter meeting was well attended and received excellent feedback. The venue was comfortable and meeting included a satellite Meeting: "Tissue Banking in the NHS – the advantages for Pathology Departments" organised by Wales Cancer Bank. We would like to thank Professors Gordon Stamp, Gerry Thomas and their colleagues for organizing the meeting and putting together such a well received programme

- Abstracts submitted 101
- Delegates, excluding invited speakers 161
- Feedback details (Appendix C)
- Web lectures available:
  - 1. Dr Nick Coleman, Cambridge, Goudie Lecture; Viral and host contributions to HPV-associated squamous carcinogenesis: prospects for improved clinical management
  - 2. Prof Mike Stratton, Cambridge: "Evolution and the cancer Genome"

#### 25-29 January: Winter School, London

The Society again sponsored a Winter School for trainees, which forms a 3 year rolling programme, organised by Dr Nigel Kirkham. This year it also received generous co-sponsorship from the London Deanery.



**Future Meetings** 

2010

29 June-1 July Summer Meeting, St Andrews

23-25 August Pathological Society Summer School, London: "Topics in molecular

pathology: concepts, methods and applications - Lessons from breast

cancer"

17 November Educational Day: London: "Molecular pathology & colorectal neoplasia

what a diagnostic pathologist should know and do"

2011

6-7 January Winter Meeting inc Trainees' Programme, Hinxton, Cambridge

January Pathological Society Winter School

10-13 May Ghent Pathology 2011 (6<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of the BDIAP & the Pathological

Society

2012

5-6 January Winter Meeting inc Trainees' Programme, London

3-6 July Summer Meeting, Sheffield

Ian Ellis, May 2010

#### **AGENDA ITEM No. 8.1 EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

The Education Sub-committee has conducted is business by e-mail and by telephone conference. We have achieved the following in the last year:

## **Education grant scheme**

Two applications have been considered, and two awards made to a total of £6000: one grant supports a national training day, and the other will contribute towards the digitisation of a well-established, annotated slide collection. This slide collection is already used by many trainees in the London region, and digitisation will make this collection nationally available via I-Path. The scheme has a maximum of £10,000 to award each year and details of the types of application that will fall into this category are available on the website.

#### **Elective bursaries**

These bursaries promote the study of pathology by undergraduates and increase the exposure of medical and related students to pathologists. Members of the Society are encouraged to promote applications. Many applicants become involved in sophisticated research projects, whereas others observe pathologists in the daily diagnostic work, perhaps assisting with audit projects. Awards were made to 36 students in 2009, to a total of just short of £35000, with very few turned down. We have already had 42 applications in 2010, and will have to be more selective.

#### **Award of Pathsoc Undergraduate Prize Essay**

This essay prize is offered annually and the winner is invited to receive the £500 prize at the Pathsoc winter meeting in the following year. The winner of the 2009 essay prize, entitled "Molecular genetics will make histopathologists redundant", was Marie Stohlbrink of Oxford University: the winning essay is published on the Pathsoc website. The number of entries for 2010 for an essay entitled "The Autopsy is Dead", were disappointingly few, and the deadline was extended.

#### Intercalated BSc awards

Awards for Intercalated BSc studentship are made every year, and until now, have been awarded to Departments, and not necessarily related to a named student. The Sub-Committee is considering changing to making wards to individual students, and a new system will be piloted in 2011-12.



#### **Summer Schools**

The Sub-Committee has led wide-ranging discussions of Summer Schools, considering the need to balance maximum educational benefit with minimum financial risk to the Society, and in particular how best to provide a programme to prepare the diagnostic pathologist for a working future incorporating molecular pathology. Following this discussion, Peter Hall, with the help of Jorge Reis-Filho, has organised a Pathological Society Summer School for 2010, in collaboration with the Institute for Cancer Research and Breakthrough Breast Cancer. This will last two working days, from August 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2010. The title will be "Topics in molecular pathology: concepts, methods and applications. Lessons from breast cancer"; this will form the first of a rolling programme of Summer Schools, and delegates attending over three years will have received comprehensive teaching about molecular pathology.

#### **Educational Day**

There will be a meeting at the Royal College of Pathologists' premises on November 17<sup>th</sup> 2010, entitled "Molecular pathology & colorectal neoplasia - what a diagnostic pathologist should know and do". This will have four major themes, each to be covered by two talks, one concentrating on molecular pathology and the other diagnostic or clinical aspects. This is intended to be the first of an annual series of Educational Days, aiming to update diagnostic pathologists about what they need to know about molecular pathology.

Emyr Benbow, May 2010

#### **AGENDA ITEM No. 8.2 REPORT OF RESEARCH SUB-COMMITTEE**

The Pathological Society aims to promote pathological research and runs a number of schemes to support the Society's aims administered by the Research Sub-committee. The research scheme portfolio which we have developed over the last five years has been aimed at developing and supporting a new cohort of young academic pathologists as well as supporting established academics. Hence, our schemes support trainees to move from the initial stages of a research idea through to running a full research project.

#### **Small Grants Scheme**

This scheme is aimed mainly at supervised trainees (usually Specialist Registrars or Honorary Specialist Registrars), to undertake investigative research in order to facilitate the generation of pilot data in support of a hypothesis to take forward to a substantive grant application to a Research Council or major medical charity. This scheme continues to attract high quality applications. We make available to individual applicants up to a maximum of £10,000. The Small Grant is intended to be used for reagents or contribute towards a piece of equipment for research to underpin a project. Since July 2009, five Small Grants scheme awards (from eight applications reviewed) were agreed to be funded.

## **Fellowship Scheme**

The Fellowship scheme is for members of the medical and allied scientific professions working in pathologically-related biomedical research to enable travel to other institutions to learn new techniques of value in their research. Experience or new methods which may be learned at a different centre, often overseas, can be invaluable for certain research projects. Fellowships are available for a period of study of up to twelve months. The Sub-committee has agreed that preference will be given to applicants wishing to learn new techniques in the fields of molecular and cell biology. A maximum sum of £5,000 will be allocated to any one person. Most of the applications to the Fellowship scheme are from members of the Society, but we also support research by non-members. We did not receive any applications to this scheme this year. The Sub-committee is keen to encourage more applications for this scheme.



### **PhD Studentship Scheme**

Established researchers can apply to host a traditional three-year PhD studentship. Support covers stipend, tuition fees (UK only), a research training and support grant and a conference allowance (at Medical Research Council levels, with London Weighting if applicable). Over the past few years this has consistently been our most competitive funding programme with many very good or excellent quality projects turned down. This year one new PhD Studentship award was agreed (from 5 applications that were reviewed).

#### **Centenary Clinical Fellowships Scheme**

This year, the three Centenary Clinical Fellows are reaching completion of their third year of research. These projects are continuing satisfactorily and we look forward to the successful outcome of these with submission of their final reports (one final report has been received so far).

#### Sino-European Awards Scheme

It was agreed to continue to provide funds for the Sino-European Award (£5000), which was originally launched in 2007 to run annually for three years, to promote collaboration in scholarly pathological activities between Chinese Academic Institutions and Members of the Pathological Society. This collaborative award is designed to promote meaningful and long term collaborations in any area of pathological research or scholarship (including undergraduate education). The deadline for applications falls after submission of this report. The Sub-committee is keen to encourage more applications for this award.

#### Japanese-European Awards Scheme

The Japanese-European Award (£5000) was relaunched in 2010 following its original launch in 2008. This award is to be jointly funded by ourselves and the Japanese Pathological Society and is designed to promote meaningful and long term collaborations in any area of pathological research or scholarship (including undergraduate education). Two applications were received this year and funding was agreed for both.

#### **Career Development Fellowships Scheme**

The Career Development Fellowships scheme was launched in 2010. This award is designed to provide funding for the transition or bridging period between finishing a PhD or MD and the completion of clinical training by young academic pathologists. This is an important period of the career of a young academic during which the momentum of their research should be supported for movement on to a Clinician Scientist or Senior Lecturer post. This scheme provides some technical support and funding for consumables over a 2-3 year period,

for high quality research programmes which build on the candidate's track record. One application was received before the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010 deadline and the Sub-committee agreed to fund it.

There are mechanisms for review of applications for all of the schemes by the members of the Research Sub-committee, along with review of interim, annual and final reports by award holders. All of these schemes are advertised on the Pathological Society website together with application forms and guidelines with deadline timetables.

Finally, as Chair, I would like to thank all of the members of the Research Sub-committee who have contributed to the work of the Sub-committee during the 2009/2010 year, including Jonathon Bury (Trainee Rep, stepping down in 2010), Richard Byers (stepped down in 2009), Frank Carey, James Going, Andrew Hanby, Simon Herrington (General Secretary), Nick Lemoine (stepped down in 2009), John LeQuesne (Trainee Rep stepping down in 2010), Jo Martin, Gerrit Meijer, Jorge Reis-Filho, Eldo Verghese (Trainee Rep) and Andrew Wyllie (President), as well as the administrative support that we receive from Julie Johnstone and Ros Pitts.

Mark Arends, May 2010



#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8.3 REPORT OF THE TRAINEES' SUB-COMMITTEE**

#### Overview

This year see the departure of 5 members of the sub-committee; Ann Treacy, Adam Christian, Jon Bury, Hesham El-Daly and John Le Quesne. The committee and all trainee members are extremely grateful for their contribution to the Society. Elections are taking place and their replacements will be announced at the Summer PathSoc meeting in St Andrews. Trainee membership continues to grow and is the fastest growing section of the Society. The committee continues to meet biannually and provides trainee representation on each of the other sub-committees and the main committee.

#### Meetings

The trainees' sub-committee continues to run sessions at the winter and summer meetings. These include the *Meet the Expert* and *Trainees Symposia* sessions and the popular *Breakfast Meeting*. The aim of these sessions is to focus on topics which are of interest to trainees and will cover hot topics, research and exam-related subjects.

#### Research

The trainees' sub-committee is committed to encouraging the research activities of its trainee membership. In order to gain a better understanding of the attitudes of trainees towards research and to establish how many trainees are actively engaged in research we performed a survey of trainees in 2008. A second survey is planned for later this year and we plan to report the findings of this study at the next Society meeting. This is a timely study given the recent publication of the NCRI report "Fostering the Role of Academic Pathology in Research".

Members of the trainees sub-committee also participated in an 'Academic Training Day' arranged by the National Histopathology School for new SHOs. This event sought to highlight the benefits of participating in research and provide advice on how to get started in an academic career.

#### **Education**

During National Pathology Week members of the trainees sub-committee organised a workshop for school children aged 14-17 from London at the Hunterian Museum. The workshop was entitled "Big Heart, Small Heart, New Heart Your Heart". As the title suggests this was an interactive event in which the children were able to study their own hearts and learn about the pathology of cardiovascular disease.

#### Website

The trainees portal of the PathSoc website now contains material from the trainees sessions at the winter and summer meetings. This summer we also plan to include a *case-of-month*. This will feature an interesting case with questions and background information. Initially, members of the Trainees Sub-Committee will post cases, but once it is established we will seek cases from the trainee membership.

Ian Proctor, May 2010

## AGENDA ITEM NO. 9 - REPORT OF THE EDITOR IN CHIEF, JOURNAL OF PATHOLOGY

The past year has seen a number of developments and innovations which are outlined below. A key index of status is the impact factor, which for all its limitations and faults remains a key metric of our performance, albeit our performance in the past. We await the publication of the new impact factor which should be available by the time of the ABM in July.

#### New policies and practices

There have been several developments here, including a radical overhaul of our Instructions to Authors, with the introduction of a clear checklist and better organization; the requirement for an author contributions section in each manuscript; and the option to include a list of abbreviations (see: <a href="http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/1130/home/ForAuthors.html">http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/1130/home/ForAuthors.html</a>). In addition, we have a new, clearer font and improved page layout with coloured accents throughout, and are producing a range of adverts highlighting key features of the Journal to make best use of the 'white space' in the print edition.



#### **Recent Editorials**

We have published Editorials on aspects of our activities and policies, to ensure clarity and openness in the way these are implemented. In December 2009 we detailed our policies on conflict of interest (*Journal of Pathology* 2009:**219**:396-399) and other recent developments in the Journal (as outlined above) were highlighted in an Editorial in May of this year (*Journal of Pathology* 2010:**22**1:1-2).

#### Submissions, acceptances and the review process

Submissions to the journal remain strong and a detailed outline of this and acceptance and rejection rates were published in an Editorial in May of 2009 (*Journal of Pathology* 2007:218:1-6). Our performance continues to be good in this area. Broadly we publish ~25% of submissions with ~30% of submissions being 'fast rejected' within 7 days of submission by Editorial review.

Richard Poulsom has spearheaded an aggressive policy of soliciting high quality review material including Commentaries and Perspectives. Typically we publish one or two every month. Recent reviews include molecular targeted therapies in haematological neoplasia and in large cell lymphoma (March and April 2010), a linked pair on mechanistic and applied aspects of autophagy (May and June 2010), and there are forthcoming Commentaries on controversies in the TNM classification (Quirke *et al* and Sobin *et al*), and reviews on mechanisms in metastasis (Coghlin & Murray), the microenvironment in Hodgkin's Disease (Aldinucci *et al*) and the mechanisms of pre-eclampsia (Jones *et al*).

With regard to key measures of our review process our mean time to first decision and time to final decision are a remarkable ~14 days and 28 days respectively. We now rapidly publish accepted material within days of acceptance (as a PDF or an edited manuscript) and a few weeks later as a fully proofed PDF. We are market leaders in pathology in these parameters and highly competitive in having no submission or page charges, no fees for online supporting material, and competitively priced colour charges.

#### Free material, Open Access and Web presence

Every month we make one or two articles available free to all as part of our endeavours to enhance the usage and exposure of the Journal to all interested parties. In addition we have a well established system (OnlineOpen) for Open Access publication for any author who desires this option, and automated Open Access and PMC deposit services for NIH and HHMI funded authors.

Our publishers, Wiley-Blackwell are in the process of restructuring their website and as part of this the *Journal of Pathology* website will change. We look forward to this and believe that the new portal will have many useful features for readers.

#### **Virtual Issues**

We now collect material in a thematic manner into virtual issues (VIs) and will do this four times per year. The first such themed virtual issue was compiled by Philip Coates and myself on the subject of p53 (see <a href="www.thejournalofpathology.com/virtualissues.html">www.thejournalofpathology.com/virtualissues.html</a>) and published online in April 2010. The second themed issue on the subject of breast pathology has been compiled by Louise Jones and will be published prior to the Pathological Society meeting in late June. Themed issues collect material we have published in the prior 12 months linked by a short commentary and are supplemented by questions that can form the basis of reflective study for CPD. Future VIs will collect material together in a range of topical areas and we hope will prove valuable resources for Society members and others.

## **Annual Review Issues**

Jorge Reis-Filho, Ian Tomlinson, Richard Poulsom and I acted as Guest Editors for the January 2010 ARI which was on the general subject of *Genes, Genomes and Disease*. The articles in this ARI are available freely on line at <a href="http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/123203810/issue">http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/123203810/issue</a>. As with prior ARIs, this has proved very popular and downloads have been very high. We held a Symposium to reflect this topic in association with USCAP in Washington, an exercise we will repeat in future



years. The 2011 ARI is being Guest Edited by Marc Ladanyi and Pancras Hogendoorn and is on the topic of 'Molecular and Cellular Themes in Cancer'. They have collected together an impressive array of high profile authors and this ARI will be published in January 2011. Plans for future ARIs are in hand.

#### **Editorial Board Meeting**

It is planned that Editorial Board meetings will be alternately linked to scientific meetings of the Pathological Society or to USCAP meetings: again a reflection of our increasing international and in particular North American standing. We will have the first such 'linked' Board meeting at the St Andrew's meeting of the Society.

#### **Associate Editors**

In 2009 Graeme Murray stood down as Associate Editor after distinguished service. Dr Hartmut Koeppen from San Francisco became an Associate Editor having been a member of the Editorial Board and regular reviewer for the Journal. He joins Dr Marc Ladanyi (Sloan Kettering, New York) as North American Associate Editors reflecting the importance of this region in our submissions and readership. We are currently searching for a new recruit to join the team from January 2011.

#### The Jass Prize for Research Excellence

Last year and with the permission of the Jass family we have initiated a Jass Prize for Research Excellence in memory of the late Jeremy Jass. This will be an award made by the Editorial team to the authors of the paper deemed by the team to have been the best scientific paper of the year published in the *Journal of Pathology*. The first award [for papers published in the calendar year 2008] was made to Ulrich Lehmann and colleagues in January 2010 for their paper "Epigenetic inactivation of microRNA gene *hsa-mir-9-1* in human breast cancer" (*Journal of Pathology* 2008; **214**: 17-24). The process and rationale for the award are outlined in a short Commentary (*Journal of Pathology* 2009:**219**:393-395). We are currently deliberating on the second award for papers published in 2009.

Finally, can I again acknowledge the hard work of the managing editor, Dr Jo Wixon as well as the efforts of other Wiley Blackwell staff including Mrs Jo Taylor in the continued success of the *Journal*. Jo Taylor retired in May of this year and we will miss her hard work and commitment to the *Journal*. In addition the other members of the editorial team, the deputy editor Richard Poulsom, and Associate Editors Pancras Hogendoorn, Gerald Niedobitek, Louise Jones, Ming Du, Phil Coates, Marc Ladanyi, Hartmut Koeppen and Graeme Murray (who demitted office in December 2009) deserve public recognition for their efforts and hard work. I should also acknowledge the Officers of the Society, who provide unwavering support and wise council.

Peter Hall June 2010



## **GRANT SCHEME EXPENDITURE 2009**

Grant Scheme	c/f from 2008 £	2009 Budget £	No of awards granted	Total allocated /spent £	Balance c/f to 2010 £	2010 Budgets £	Application Deadlines
Bursaries (Undergraduate Elective)	9,250	30,000	35	34,800	4,450	30,000	31 Jan, 30 April, 31 July, 31 October
Career Development Fellowship	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	50,000	1 April
Centenary Clinical Fellowships	n/a	151,847	3 in 2006 (for 3 years)	151,847	n/a	35,201	n/a
Educational	,		_				1 April
Scheme Grant	n/a	10,000	0	0	10,000	10,000	1 October
Fellowships	36,494	20,000	0	0	56,494	0 (c/f from 2009 will form full budget <sup>-6</sup>	1 April 1 October*
Intercalated Degrees		34,500 ①	6	34,500	0	34,500	1 March
Japanese European Collaborative	0	0	0	0	0	2,500 <sup>5</sup>	1 April



Open	0	40,000 ② +£4,186	3	29,816	14,370	30,000 ②	1 March, 1 June, 1 October, 1 December
PhD Studentship		89,853 (over 3 years) ④	1	85,860 (over 3 years)	0	89,853	1 November
Pathological Society Meeting Bursary	9,830	2,500	2	170	12,160	2,500	1 June and 1 November
Sino-European	0	5,000	0	0	5,000	5,000	1 July
Small Grants	64,833	40,000③ +£1,200	8	78062	27,971	20,000	1 April 1 October
Travel & Conference Bursary	7,353	2,500	1	130	9,723	2,500	Reviewed on receipt

- ① Awarded to: Hull/York, Leeds, Leicester, University College London, Newcastle and Southampton. Includes up to £2,000 in consumables per grant.
- 2 Includes £10,000 from Centenary Splash and £3,246 from 2007 grant refunded in Feb 09, £597.40 grant refunded in Sept 09 (2003 award) + £342.76 income from sales of MLD

## Expenditure includes:

- £1168.27 Prof P Quirke, Leeds Regional Collaborative Meetings initiative
- £954.50 Visit to Japanese Society of Pathology Meeting, Kyoto May 2009
- £1,500 (3<sup>rd</sup> payment to NCRI Bereavement MSc course)

# Appendix A



- £10,000 (4<sup>th</sup> payment of 5 year Joint RCPath Clinician Scientist Fellowship)
- £5,750 NCRI October 2009, symposium sponsorship
- £2,427 Prof F Carey (Dundee), Malawi project sponsorship (year 2 of 3)
- £16.90 Prof AH Wyllie, Cambridge Cambridge Seminar Series
- £1,000 Prof M Du, sponsor meeting Annual Meeting of European Gastro-Intestinal Lymphoma Study Group
- £6,500 Dr Y Wang, Belfast contribution to purchase of Microsoft Surface computing platform
- £500 Prof F MacSweeney, sponsor speaker at Annual Meeting of Irish Society of Surgical Pathology
- 3 Includes additional £20,000 from Centenary Splash and includes 2 returned grants totalling £10,000 and £1,200 refund from 2003 award.
- 4 2009 Studentship awarded to Prof KC Gatter, University of Oxford-1<sup>st</sup> payment Sept 09 Studentships currently running –
  - Dr T Ward, London 2<sup>nd</sup> payment made Sept 09
  - Prof AM Flanagan, London Final payment made Sept 09

Grant includes up to £12,000 in consumables over the 3 year period.

- Will be matched by the Japanese Pathological Society i.e. total budget £5,000
- £20,000 Due to large carry over from previous years, the £20,000 budget allocation will be retained as potential additional funds to be vired to other more popular grant schemes.

# Total number of feedback forms received: 111

# **A. Programme Evaluation**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disgree
The Title of the meeting interested me	34	78	4	2
The meeting was relevant to my Continuing professional				
needs	36	78	2	
The meeting contained new ideas and material	33	74	1	
Adequate time was given for discussion	23	69	20	2
The meeting met my expectations	27	87	3	
The facilities, catering arrangements met my requirements	45	67	2	
The AV facilities were of a high quality	31	66	16	
Total	229	519	48	

# I would like to see meetings held in:

London	N.England	Scotland	Wales	N. Ireland	Comments
					rotate between the 5
	5 36	32	26	16	regions; 3 x Midlands

# How did you hear about this meeting:

M'ship				
Communication	Newsletter	Website	Colleague	Other
				4 x ACEM membership
63	5	18		communication; 2 xIBMS; 4 x UK Neqas

# 1. Symposium

Genomic instability in health and disease

	_	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof R Waters	2	3	16	20	9	50	3.62
b	Dr S Reed	1	5	15	21	10	52	3.65
С	Prof A Lehmann			12	27	17	56	4.09
d	Dr D Baird			19	18	14	51	3.90
е	Prof G Evans			9	27	14	50	4.10

# **Keynote Lecture**

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
Prof E Friedberg		1	6	19	21	47	4.28

# 2. Trainee's Session: Meet the Experts

Lymphoma diagnosis and classification - WHO and beyond

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
Dr S Dojcinov			3	6	11	20	4.40

# 3. Symposium

Airborne mineral particles and lung disease

	_	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof F Pooley		2	4	14	3	23	3.78
b	Prof R Maynard		1	2	15	5	23	4.04
С	Dr A Gibbs			4	12	6	22	4.40
d	Dr R Attanoos			4	13	4	21	4.00

## **5. Public Lecture**

Inheritance from teratocarcinomas

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	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average					
Prof Sir M Evans		3	5	23	16	47	4.11					

- 1. I didn't think the content of the lymphoma trainees session really matched the title. I think an actual explanation of the classification system would have been more useful
- 2. Cardiff played to their strengths, which was sensible, but the meeting contained too much breast & GI pathology. As I only report haematopathology & apart from Dr Dojconiv's sterling efforts there was very little of this
- 3. Overall experience excellent
- 4. Coverage in Genomic Instability Symposium was patchy but excellent in places
- 5. The main venue was less than ideal it was difficult to see the bottom half of slides
- 6. Lymphoma talk clear concise and very relevant to day to day work. Please more of this
- 7. Very good symposium Prof Lehmann especially
- 8. All trainee sessions excellent there should be more
- 9. Overall a very useful day. I would suggest that in future you introduce each section with a basic science introduction which is appropriate for the session as was done on Wednesday's symposium on colorectal cancer
- 10. The latter 2 speakers of the Airborne mineral particles and lung disease were more aimed at trainees
- 11. The symposium on genomic instability was both interesting and accessible to undergraduates. Prof Lehman's lecture was most useful as he described concepts clearly. Prof Sir Martin Evans was a lovely man with an obvious passion for his subject but the lecture was confusing and certainly not acceptable to undergraduates (let alone the public!)
- 12. Public lecture was too detailed for a public audience

## 1. Trainee's Breakfast Session

Cervical cytology in 2009: recent advances and what you need to know for the FRCPath

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof D Jenkins			4	12	4	20	4.00
b	Dr K Denton		1	5	8	6	20	3.95

# 2. Symposium 1

Dissecting colorectal cancer - molecules to macroscopy

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Dr MJ Arends		2	4	33	21	60	4.22
b	Prof J Sampson		2	7	40	13	62	4.03
С	Prof AR Clarke		1	12	28	18	59	4.01
d	Dr I Nagtegaal		3	11	36	18	68	4.01
е	Prof M Novelli		2	5	37	24	68	4.22
f	Prof TS Maughan		1	6	34	25	66	4.26

# 3. CL Oakley Lecture

DNA methylation in the natural progression and early detection of colorectal neoplasia

	•	1	2	3	4	. 5	Total	Mean Average
а	Dr A Ibrahm	1	6	23	25		63	3.52

# 4. George Cunningham Lecture

Elephant traps in gastrointestinal surgical pathology

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
Prof GT Williams	1		3	11	54	69	4.70

# 5. UK NEQAS for cellular pathology technique: Annual Meeting

						•		
		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Mrs. S Dicken				8	5	13	4.40
b	Prof P Murray		3	3	3	5	14	3.71
С	Dr A Ramsay			2	6	4	12	4.17
d	Dr N West			4	3	6	13	4.15
е	Miss J Evans			4	5	2	11	3.82
f	Mrs. J Vickers			4	4	4	12	4.00
g	Mr J Smith			4	5	6	15	4.13
h	H Elliott			0	0	1	1	N/A

- 1. Dr Denton simply adhered to the College point of view and made it clear that what trainees think and want is irrelevant. The college is not as infallible as she conveys and it is shocking that the College has so little insight into current problems
- 2. I was disappointed to miss the first lecture on pathways in colorectal cancer because the trainee breakfast session overran. More effort needs to be made to ensure the breakfast session runs to time
- 3. I thought the educational content of the UK Neqas lectures was very good. Some subjects were of more interest/relevance than others but a very enjoyable & informative meeting
- 4. I noticed that throughout the conference all the talks were diadactic in nature and that none of them were interactive. Medical (UG
- & PG) education is moving towards interactive teaching for a reason; research indicates it promotes learning, retention of information and helps to hold the audiences attention. Although I can appreciate that it is challenging to deliver an interactive talk to quite a large number of people I assure you that it can be done and indeed some of your speakers are VERY experienced and would be up to this challenge. Please consider my suggestion
- 5. These talks are important since they are the verbal equivalent of reading a comprehensive review providing a novel view and an introduction to novel concepts and publications
- 6. Suggest lecturers use the computer more as the pointer was only beneficial to those who could see the TV monitors
- 7. Generally education contect high & mutually supportive across the communications
- 8. Prof Williams GI Pathology I enjoyed this a lot. Clinically relevant case related studies please can we have more of this and less molecular or irrelevant research related talks
- 9. Good balance of educational talks and QA review. Really enjoyed Prof Murray & Dr West
- 10. UK Neqas content good. Dr N West not pathologically relevant to Neqas but very good, interesting and illuminating. Prof Murray's talk not of relevance, not interesting and too long
- 11. Ridiculous process to ask a pathologists permission for a BMS to attend a conference especially as the UK Neqas is not organised by PathSoc. Overly complicated application process.
- 12. UK Neqas a) Very interesting and appropriate b) more interesting in research capacity but not so appropriate for this meeting c) Really good and relevant and yes we need a trephire EQA d) Interesting and showed how many things go round. Tall order at vast expense relevant e) basic feedback of survey and chance for comments which was useful f) interesting, relevant and appropriate g) was ok not so interesting as other lectures
- 13. UK Neqas I was very disappointed to find that the programme was not adhered to the talk I specifically came for had already taken place in the morning. This meant I wasted £73.00 on overnight accommodation and £45.00 registration. As a BMS, receiving no funding for this meeting I find this totally unacceptable. The talks I did hear were irrelevant, and there was no mention or apology for the change in schedule. There was very little educational content to comment on!
- 14. Excellent symposium! Well thought out programme starting with basic science and working up to clinical applications. Very impressive, informative and enjoyable
- 15. I was slightly disappointed by the symposium on colorectal cancer. I realise the level was above that of an undergraduate but the content was very dry. However I did appreciate the use of many diagrams which were usually explained fully and clearly
- 16. The main slide session was set too low for most of the audience to view properley. Some lecturers tried to pack too much into the time given for their lecture. Thank you for starting all the sessions on time.
- 17. Oakley lecture was difficult to follow due to very small AV projection. This was a common theme of the meeting but where a speaker relied heavily on detailed slides this aspect/failing was accentuated

# 1. Historical presentations

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof Sir R MacSween			6	15	11	32	4.16
b	Dr R Marshall			7	18	7	32	4.00

# 2. Slide Seminar Discussion

latrogenic pathology

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Dr A Boyde			1	18	10	29	4.31
b	Dr S Dojcinov				12	14	26	4.54
С	Dr Roberts			1	19	5	25	4.16
d	Dr DFR Griffiths			3	15	9	27	4.22
е	Dr S Howarth			2	18	5	25	4.12
f	Dr P Kitching			2	16	4	22	4.10
g	Dr Neal			2	18	5	25	4.12
h	Dr K May			2	16	4	22	4.10
i	Dr M Morgan			2	16	8	26	4.23
j	Dr M Varma			1	17	10	28	4.32

# 3. Symposium: UK NEQAS for ICC & ISH

Trends in Diagnosis

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof C Taylor		1	13	10	18	42	4.07
b	Prof D Dabbs	1	4	10	16	13	44	3.82
С	Prof R Osamura		2	13	12	5	32	3.63
d	Prof K-F Becker	1	7	6	14	3	31	3.35

# 4. Trainees Symposium

A beginner's guide to pathology research

71 Degiiiilei	e garae to patriology recearer							
		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof S Fleming			1	5	1	7	4.00
b	Prof M Wells			1	5	2	8	4.13
С	Prof PN Furness			2	5	6	13	4.31
d	Prof PN Furness			2	6	5	13	4.23

## 5. Doniach Lecture

Normal biology and normal insights into breast cancer

, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
Prof BA Gusterson			5	14	16	35	4.31

# 6. Renal Pathology Group

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
	Dr ISD Roberts (Joint Renal							
а	Pathology/ACEM Session)				4	6	10	460
b	Dr C Neal				5	12	17	4.71
С	Prof G Herrera				4	13	17	4.76

# 7. Association of Clinical Electron Microscopists Annual Meeting

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	J Hobot				4	5	9	4.56
b	Dr R Griffin			1	6	6	13	4.38
С	Mr B Wagner			1	2	4	7	4.43
d	Ms P Tarpey			3	5	5	13	4.15
е	Mr J Stirling				4	9	13	4.69

- 1. Good and interesting lectures but sadly we can't use the immunocytochemistry in the UK
- 2. I found the historical presentations very interesting. I would like more
- 3. ACEM an interesting, informative and varied programme
- 4. I don't think presentations on Homer fall within the remit of PathSoc, however interesting this may be! Prof's Dabbs & Taylor gave very professional presentations but spent a lot of time saying very little
- 5.Names of other presenters for the slide seminar different but overall presentation/submission was very good
- 6. Slide Seminar Discussion again this is relevant and valuable stuff much of which is also research but related to things we actually see Patients!
- 7. Good meeting
- 8. Hotel venue was excellent innovation; food was excellent; support staff excellent
- 9. UK Negas Symposium more time needed per lecture

- 10. Slide seminar session very relevant to trainees
- 11. Excellent day. Well organised. Very good content. Great venue. Thanks!
- 12. Not enough time for questions or comments following the presentations except during the slide seminar disscussion session. 'Common area' was too close to the main area and interferred with listening to the lectures
- 13. Poor siting of screen. I was near the front but it was difficult to see the screen too low. Volume of audio needed to be increased. Quite enjoyed presentations.
- 14. UK Neqas for ICC & ISH Whilst the lectures were very interesting they are quite data rich and difficult to summarise in notes during a talk. It would be beneficial to get copies of the presentations to match notes up with particularly when trying to feedback to colleagues later

## 1. Symposium

Prostate cancer: the present and future for histopathology

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof M Mason				18	12	30	4.4
b	Dr DFR Griffiths			4	16	10	30	4.2
С	Dr L Egevad				6	25	31	4.81
d	Dr M Varma			4	9	16	29	4.41
d	Dr D Berney			1	11	15	27	4.52

- 1. It was a bit inconvenient to only be able to use the lift between the 1st & 2nd floors. Delays in getting to lectures on time. Otherwise superb
- 2. Very good organisation, thank you Prof Geraint Williams and the busy bees Ros & Julie. For the first time I was looking forward to the meeting, good food and very attentive staff
- 3. Only occasionally was adequate time given for discussion after lectures
- 4. Air conditioning was not very efficient
- 5. Should have internet access available to all registrants
- 6. Lift access poor
- 7. As a trainee I found the prostate cancer symposium the most educational of the entire meeting. All the presentations were of an extremely high standard. It was a shame that it was on the last day as a lot of delegates has already gone
- 8. Projector screen was invisible from the back. If speaker used a pointer this could not be seen on the screen at the side or at the back
- 9. Oral communications selected from submissions were also, in general, very good
- 10. Thank you for the excellent organisation of the meeting
- 11. Overall there were some new ideas and excellent lectures. PathSoc however is becoming increasingly less relevant to the needs of 'coal face' pathologists. The few historical lectures were very good, Maybe in future a morning devoted to historical aspects of pathology and medicine may be a good idea. The venue and catering were excellant. The room used on the last day had poor ventilation and was too hot. Lack of adequate air conditioning is often a problem which should be considered in Summer meetings.
- 13. Useful trainee breakfast meeting but rather early after drinks reception. Would it be possible to change the timing of these sessions first day maybe?
- 14. Poster rounds should be held on the same day as the oral presentations of the same speciality. There were no attendees other than chairs & presenters for the renal-urology posters on Wednesday evening
- 15. Dr Egevad talk was outstanding. Hotel staff very good. Conference dinner venue, food & service excellent!

- 16. This topic is relevant to me as a practising histopathologist more please
- 17. Egevad was fantastic. Varma I got lost in the deluge of material and speech
- 18. Meeting is heavily weighted towards academic/pathology reseach. I would prefer a better balance with clinical pathology. The colorectal carcinoma session, for example, was very balanced and excellent. Consider holding all the trainee meetings on the same day/2days to minimise time off work. I do not wish to attend everything else
- 19. Screen was too low
- 20. The conference was really useful for undergraduates. In the future if you wish to make it more accessible to undergraduates may I suggest including an undergraduate option in one of the rooms introducing students to pathology and advances in technologies

# Total number of feedback forms received: 28

# **A. Programme Evaluation**

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disgree
The Title of the meeting interested me	9	14	1	1
The meeting was relevant to my Continuing Professional needs	9	18		
The meeting contained new ideas and material	15	12		
Adequate time was given for discussion	5	20	1	
The meeting met my expectations	9	17		
The facilities, catering arrangements met my requirements	7	18	1	
The AV facilities were of a high quality	7	19		
Total	61	118	3	

# I would like to see meetings held in:

London	N.England	Scotland	Wales	N. Ireland	Other	
20	4	5	2		1 x West Midlands	

# How did you hear about this meeting:

M'ship Communication	Newsletter	Website	Colleague	Other
17	4	5	3	1 x FGP

PathSoc Winter Meeting Imperial College London 07th 08th January 2010

1. Symposium: Advances in cancer biology

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof K Sikora		1	2	12	7	22	4.12
b	Prof F Balkwill		1	4	15	3	23	3.70
С	Prof I Tomlinson		1	4	14	5	24	3.96
d	Prof M Stratton			2	11	12	25	4.40
е	Prof D Sidransky		2	3	12	8	25	4.04

4. Goudie Lecture: Viral and host contributions to HPV-associated squamous carcinogenesis: prospects for improved clinical management

	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
Dr N Coleman		1	4	9	5	19	3.95

- 1. Very useful overview of cancer biology
- 2. Meeting started too early on first day for people coming from outside London

## PathSoc Winter Meeting Imperial College London 07th 08th January 2010

1. Trainees Session: Meet the Experts: The role

	•	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Dr M Sheppard			1	3	7	11	4.55

2. Slide Seminar Review: Tricky autopsy histopathology

	-	1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Dr M El-Bahrawy			3	4	7	14	4.29
b	Dr N Francis			4	5	5	14	4.10
С	Dr M Gudi			5	5	4	14	3.93
d	Dr K Naresh			3	5	5	13	3.77
е	Dr F Roncaroli			4	4	6	14	4.14

3. Symposium: Do you see what I see? Beyond light Microscopy

		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average
а	Prof PMW French		1	4	7	3	15	3.80
b	Dr L Collinson			4	5	5	14	4.07
С	Prof R Bhargava		2	3	7	3	15	3.73

4. Symposium: The Lazarus phenomenon - pathologists in academic research

	- y process of the process pro									
		1	2	3	4	5	Total	Mean Average		
а	Dr B Spencer-Dene		4	3	3	3	13	3.38		
b	Prof SE Pinder						0	0.00		
С	Prof GA Thomas			4	5	4	13	4.00		
d	Prof S Hewitt		1	1	6	5	13	4.15		

- 1. In general, 'black box' cases apart, there is a continuing trend towards the loss of morphololgical pathology in favour of molecular techniques with insufficient effot to bring the two together. The conventional histopathologist is becoming progressively alienated particularly since, not using the molecular/genomic techniques on a day to day basis, he/she finds the volume of data and its pattern of presentation leading to information overload and inevitable loss of the thread of the argument (eg: a slide on screen for 25 seconds during which time one may have understood and absorbed only the first half of two thirds of the data). Some of this is down to poor presentation skills, but this kind of material, even in the hands of an able and outstanding presenter can present problems for the unfamiliar, with detailed terminology acronyms and various forms of data matrix.
- 2. I would suggest that duplication of the projected image is distracting, particularly if the projectors are operating at different colour temperatures
- 3. Very good sessions
- 4. Generally good and appropriate with a couple of disappointing presentations
- 5. Virtual microscopy is no good for viewing the black box slides
- 6. Prof French too much physics for this audience. Too specialised