

**British Society of Animal Science**

# **Annual General Meeting**

**Tuesday 28 March, 2006  
18:20 hours**

**Room X001  
University of York**



# BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

## PAPERS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006

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# BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2006

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE SIXTY THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD IN ROOM X001, UNIVERSITY OF YORK ON TUESDAY, 28 MARCH, AT 18:20 HOURS**

### A G E N D A

- |   |                                                                           |             |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 April 2005 (Note 1)                      | (Paper 63A) |
| 2 | Report of Chief Executive for the year 2005 (Notes 1 & 2)                 | (Paper 63B) |
| 3 | Report of the Standing Committees (Notes 1 & 2)                           |             |
|   | (a) Programme Committee                                                   | (Paper 63C) |
|   | (b) Publications Committee                                                | (Paper 63D) |
|   | (c) Technical & Ethical Committee                                         | (Paper 63E) |
| 4 | Report of the Hon Treasurer and adoption of the audited accounts (Note 1) | (Paper 63F) |
| 5 | Re-appointment of auditors                                                |             |
| 6 | Constitutional change (Notes 4, 5 & 9)                                    |             |
| 7 | Election of Office Bearers and Council members (Notes 3-8)                |             |
| 8 | Any other business                                                        |             |

M A Steele  
Chief Executive  
February 2006

### NOTES

- 1 Papers 63A-63F are circulated with this notice.
- 2 Papers 63B-62F will be taken as read and comments from the floor are invited
- 3 Election of President (Rule 10) Council proposes the election of Professor P J Buttery
- 4 Subject to item 6 being approved, election of Senior Vice-President (Rule 11). Council proposes the election of Professor G Simm.
- 5 Subject to item 6 being approved, election of Vice President.
- 6 Election of Chief Executive (Rule 12) Council proposes the appointment of Mr M A Steele
- 7 Election of Hon Treasurer (Rule 13) Council proposes the re-appointment of Dr B C Cooke
- 8 Election of Council members (Rule 9)  
The following members of Council are due to retire and, except for the retiring Past-President, (Rule 9) are not eligible for immediate re-election:-

Professor J C MacRae  
Dr Spiridoula Athanasiadou  
Dr Jonathan Mills  
Dr Robert Mayes

Nominations sponsored by at least two members must reach the Chief Executive no later than Tuesday 21 March 2006

- 9 Council proposes *the introduction of the position of Senior Vice President*.  
This means that the future President when first proposed at the AGM by Council would become Vice President then Senior Vice President after one year and then President. Future Presidents would thus serve for 3 years on Council rather than the current 2. This is in effect a reinstatement of the previous situation (pre 2003) when the future President initially became Junior Vice- President then progressing to Vice President before becoming President.

Council have concluded that a two year term on Council prior to taking over as President would better equip members for the responsibilities that they inherit as President and would be preferable to an alternative suggestion of extending the Presidency for two years, as nominees may be reluctant to accept the additional commitment that this would involve.

## **MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE HELD AT YORK UNIVERSITY ON TUESDAY, 5 APRIL 2005**

Professor Sandra Edwards chaired the meeting. Approximately 91 members were present. Candidates running for election to Council in 2005 were presented

Apologies were received from Professor D E Beever, Dr J R Newbold, Dr J R Walters Dr G Wiener and Mr D Steane.

### **1 MINUTES (62A)**

These were agreed as a true record and accepted by the members.

### **2 REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (62B)**

Mr Mike Steele presented the written report which was accepted by the AGM. He highlighted two issues. The BSAS, as instructed by the 2004 AGM, had resigned from the Institute of Biology after paying all dues. In parallel the society had joined the Federation of BioSciences and a number of BSAS officials had attended various meetings of the BSF. Professor John MacRae, the incoming President, would be attending meetings of the Animal Sciences Group in June and November 2005. The BSF was a more political and dynamic organisation and BSAS needed to investigate what role it could play in promoting whole animal science. He also highlighted the forthcoming BSAS topical conferences including Sheep: profit from your labour 6/7 May, the Langford Food Industry Conference on the Science of Beef Quality 18/19th May, Applying Equine Science 20/21 September at Cirencester and the international conference being held in Khon Kaen, Thailand 14-18 November on Integrating Livestock-Crop Systems to Meet the Challenges of Globalisation.. The number of conferences that BSAS was now involved in reflected the proactive role the society was taking in pursuing its aims of promoting the understanding of animal science.

### **3 REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES**

#### **(a) Programme Committee Report (62C)**

Dr Peter Rowlinson presented his annual report which was accepted by the AGM. He outlined activities within the 2005 conference which his committee had organised and asked that members contact him with any relevant feedback that would enable the 2006 conference to benefit. He acknowledged that with the change in emphasis on research funding not all BSAS members could identify with the sessions at the 2005 meeting. He was, in particular, aware of the need to provide more technical information for those in commerce or advisory roles and this would hopefully be addressed for 2006. He promised all feedback would be acted upon.

#### **b) Publications Committee Report (62D)**

Dr Nigel Scollan presented his written report which was accepted by the AGM. He then outlined the activities that had been, and were still taking place with regard to the BSAS journal Animal Science. The year had been a very hectic one and he was particularly indebted to Ian Lean and Hilary Davies and their editorial teams for managing the flow of papers so successfully. The paper journal had successfully changed to its A4 glossy format. As the Treasurer would point out, the journal had once again been very successful financially producing a surplus in excess of £74,000. His committee were however very well aware that the journal had an impact factor that had been around 1.0 for the past seven years and that this needed urgent attention. He had a list of action points to address this, including :

- Online accessibility and visibility
- Online profile and functionality
- A marketing plan
- Evolution of journal contents

Publications Committee had recognised that in an increasingly competitive marketplace Animal Science now needed a more professional publishing partner. It had held talks with a number of international publishers and had a selected CABI to become the BSAS publisher from January 2006. CABI are a not-for-profit organisation, with a strong presence in the emerging economies such as India and China. The CABI link should enable BSAS to address the action list to boost the impact factor and attract back high class authors, including many BSAS members. It would mean that the society would receive a reduced financial surplus in return for a predicted improvement in impact factor and higher quality. Animal Science could only compete with the American journals if it was once again regarded as a high quality journal.

Dr Scollan also reported that discussions had been undertaken with EAAP and INRA to investigate the possibility of integrating a number of journals including Animal Science into one European Journal of Animal Science. A steering committee had been set up and meetings were taking place to discuss both the mechanics and content of such a venture. The vision of a strong European Journal of Animal Science was agreed by most people but not easy to achieve without trading current benefits.

Professor John Oldham, from the floor, urged some caution in developing a very broad European journal. In response Dr Scollan suggested that current advice was that any European journal should start off with a broad remit and spin-off the more applied papers into a separate publication if the opportunity arises. EAAP had decided to sever its links with Livestock Production Science from January 2006 and was thus interested in a new venture, and INRA currently produced a number of small and very unprofitable journals which it would like to move into the new venture.

In response to a question from Dr Tony Lawrence, Dr Scollan explained that the new CABI arrangement would leave the current editorial team in place and thus BSAS would still have to pay the associated expenses. The surplus from the journal with CABI was likely to drop from the current £74,000 to around £50,000 per year after all editorial costs. However it was hoped that when improved marketing and changes to content had 'kicked in' subscriptions should increase and so the surplus would improve. If the European venture got going BSAS would be looking for a surplus similar to the one that CABI were currently offering.

Any European Journal would probably need an enhanced international editorial team. Care also had to be taken in selecting the name for any new journal because of the likely loss of impact factor rating during the initial period. Professor Colin Whittemore reinforced the fact that impact factor was the major consideration in any new venture as only when it improved would scientists from research institutes and universities be allowed to send their papers. It was hoped that it could move from the current 1.0 to 1.5 within the next two or three years.

Nigel Scollan thanked his committee for the work they had done during 2004.

#### **(c) Technical and Ethical Committee Report (62E)**

Dr Alan Duncan presented his written report which was accepted by the AGM. He outlined the process by which BSAS had joined the BioSciences Federation and felt that it should give the society a much greater cutting edge in highlighting whole animal science.

The new BSAS website was now live with improved navigation and functionality that could be updated by the BSAS Office. An online booking system for conferences would be available for the Equine conference in September as a practice for next year's Annual Meeting. A number of other developments would be undertaken in due course. He would welcome any comments that people had regarding the new site. Members of the AGM suggested a number of activities that might fit the new website including a section on new books and publications for animal scientists.

Dr Duncan outlined the success of the Student Council which had sent members to contribute to many of the Society's committee meetings and thus influenced the society's activities and decision making from a young person's viewpoint. They had organised and delivered a very successful Students Sunday at the York meeting which attracted a large number of students and 'older' delegates to presentations and activities ranging from genomics to juggling. He was indebted to Sandra Edwards, Susan Jarvis and Melissa Royal for helping to get the Student Council off the ground. The SC themselves were now busy identifying new members to replace those who would be moving on following their finishing of PhDs.

Dr Duncan thanked his committee for the tremendous amount of work they had contributed throughout 2004.

#### **4 REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER (62F)**

Dr Brian Cooke reported that Society membership numbers continued to decline from 917 in 2004 to the current 769. He was particularly concerned that the number of ordinary members had fallen proportionally more than retired/postgraduate numbers despite no increase in subscriptions. BSAS needed to identify new members both for subscription income and as a critical mass for identifying and running relevant activities.

BSAS continued to subsidise major conferences like York for the benefit of its members. In 2004 York cost BSAS some £6,000 and this total was likely to increase for 2005. The subsidy policy had been endorsed by Council in order to hold registration fees at York. The numbers attending this year were up which was very encouraging but their pattern of attendance was that they were coming for shorter periods.

As previously reported Animal Science had provided a £74,000 surplus for 2004 with production costs down once again despite a move from BSAS's long-term printers Croals, who had gone out of business, to a new company APS whose costs were higher. BSAS continued to be strong financially. Dr Cooke was thus proposing

no increase in subscriptions for 2006. He did envisage a possible cash-flow problem in the autumn of this year as the new publishing relationship with CABI got under way. He was however happy to recommend that BSAS continued charitable spending through subsidising conferences, giving free journal subscriptions and helping developing countries with their animal science activities.

In response to a question from the floor Dr Cooke reported that investment policy was currently unrestricted and was based on the historic precedent of maximising returns. He was happy that investment advice was more than adequate as in general, BSAS investments tended to perform better than the market average. The value of investments was making a steady recovery from the stock market collapse of several years ago. Currently ethical issues were not applied to the investments but Dr Cooke was happy to investigate such issues with the stockbroker so that all investments are satisfactory from the ethical point of view.

The accounts were accepted by the AGM  
Proposed by Professor Chris Wathes  
Seconded by Dr Janice Harland

## **5 RE-APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS**

It was agreed by the AGM that the auditors, Chiene & Tait CA, be reappointed  
Proposed by Dr Brian Cooke  
Seconded by Dr Nigel Scollan

## **6 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

### **Election of officers**

The following were unanimously elected by members at the AGM

President - Professor John MacRae  
Vice-President - Professor Peter Buttery  
Chief Executive Officer- Mr Mike Steele (reappointed)  
Hon. Treasurer - Dr Brian Cooke (reappointed)

### **Election of Council Members**

The following were elected by ballot to join Council for a three-year term

Dr Helen Edge  
Dr Kevin Shinfield  
Dr Eileen Wall

The President thanked all those standing for election and hoped the unsuccessful candidates would be willing for their name to be considered as ordinary members of BSAS standing committees.

## **7 ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS**

BSAS Council proposed and the AGM unanimously agreed that the following should become Honorary Members of the Society.

Dr Brian Cooke  
Professor Mike Forbes

## **8 PROTOCOL FOR APPOINTING BSAS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS, ORDINARY COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Transparency and protocol for election of chairpersons and ordinary members of BSAS Committees  
A written paper had been circulated and this was unanimously agreed.

## **9 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Dr Dickon Hovell outlined the process for the 2005 student essay competition. He thoroughly endorsed this initiative and explained that this year the number and standard of entrants had been disappointing. Consequently no winner had been agreed but all applicants were to receive a small prize for their efforts. He asked that senior members and supervisors encourage student applications for future competitions and asked that T&E Committee consider how the competition might be made more attractive. This was agreed.

Dr Cooke reported that he would be checking that a relationship with CABI, which is itself a charity, did not conflict with the charitable status of BSAS. He would also be keeping a careful eye on BSAS reserves to avoid any challenge from the Charities Commission.

From the floor the incoming President, Professor John MacRae, gave a vote of thanks to Professor Sandra Edwards for the immense amount of time and effort she had put into her presidential year. In particular her emphasis on participation by younger members which embodied the development of the new Student Council.

## CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT 2005

BSAS Council met on two occasions during 2005, in January and September in London. The President's committee met in May, August and prior to the September meeting. The BSAS secretariat team in Edinburgh has worked hard during 2005 managing the many conferences, databases and journal affairs. With CABI becoming the publisher of 'Animal Science' in 2006 an opportunity potential exists for BSAS staff to spend more time on issues like the website and running databases.

## PUBLICATIONS

2005 was an exceptionally busy year for publications with Nigel Scollan leading a committee that is fundamentally changing how BSAS publishes scientific information. Following Animal Science's switch to APS in Manchester the Journal was upgraded to glossy A4. Following negotiations with a number of academic publishers BSAS selected CABI to act as publishers of Animal Science from February 2006. It also entered into discussions with EAAP and INRA in France about a merging of journal to compete with the stronger USA based animal science journals. These negotiations are working towards a conclusion in early 2006. Nottingham University Press continued to publish all BSAS Occasional Publications. 'Emerging Equine Science' was published and much progress made on the Merida 2003 workshop publication on 'Herbivores'. Others on 'Applying Equine Science: Research into Business' and 'Integrating Livestock-Crops Systems to Meet the Challenges of Globalisation' are in the pipeline.

## PROGRAMME ISSUES

The 2005 Annual Meeting at York University attracted a higher number of delegates than 2004 but with more attending as day delegates this meant the projected loss of £10,00 was exceeded. Council however restated their commitment to continuing their financial support to the Society's Annual Conference. The Student Council organised a very successful and well attended 'Student Sunday' with lectures, workshops and juggling. The conference facilities at York remain very good but the meals were poor (with both conference dinner and the Tuesday evening meal taken 'in house') and the continuing rise in University costs is of concern. For 2006 a new online submission system was commissioned for authors. Peter Rowlinson continued as Chair of a large and hard working Programme Committee.

## TECHNICAL & ETHICAL MATTERS

Dr Alan Duncan will be stepping down as Chair of T&E committee at the 2006 AGM. Our thanks to Alan and to Lindsay Heasman (Secretary) who is also retiring from T&E in March 2006.

BSAS continues to responding to relevant consultations with Kate Breuer leading the subgroup concerned. The committee reorganised the scholarships awarded by BSAS with Murray Black available in the Spring and Kenneth Blaxter in the late Autumn so giving a better time spread for applicants. Following BSAS resignation from IOB the BSAS President attended two meetings of the Animal Sciences committee of the BFS and Alan Duncan the AGM. The new BSAS website became operational in Spring 2005 and work is now underway to develop the BSAS databases further. Progress with the CPD initiative in conjunction with the Nutrition Society was slow during 2005, but is likely to quicken up in 2006 as specialists in animal nutrition see a greater need to register on a CPD scheme. T&E are also developing an initiative to address the continuing decline in membership numbers in relation to what BSAS should be providing for current and potential members.

## 2005 OCCASIONAL MEETINGS

BSAS was involved with three very good occasional meetings in 2005.

**Sheep – Profit from your labour** was held in Antrim in May and jointly organised by the Ulster and Irish Grassland Associations and BSAS. It brought together over 200 farmers, advisors and scientists from all over Ireland and tackled the future for sheep producers in Ireland. It was stimulating, great fun, well organised and produced a modest surplus that is being used to fund further workshops and seminars.

**Applying Equine Science: Research into Business** in Sept 2005 at the RAC, Cirencester was the second BSAS conference in the Equine series and followed the highly successful 'Emerging Equine Science' run in 2003. This meeting tackled business and was an excellent forum for those 50+ who attended but its 'out of term' timing meant that not enough students and lecturers came. Future equine meetings need to run during term time to get some of the many equine students in the UK to participate. Major highlights including a stimulating session on Complementary Therapy and a polo match between old and current RAC students

**Integrating Livestock-Crops Systems to Meet the Challenges of Globalisation.** Every three or four years BSAS runs a conference on developing countries' issues. This overseas meeting was by far the largest and most sophisticated that BSAS has ever undertaken and the statistics speak for themselves – over 500 delegates from 45 countries, over 50 plenary speakers, 173 submitted presentations and 116 posters. The book of summaries ran to two volumes. The programme, field trips, entertainment and accommodation were excellent with BSAS, AHAT and the local Thai

organisers working well together to make sure that everything happened to time. This conference has raised the profile of BSAS in SE Asia and a number of new members have joined from that region.

BSAS also helped with the Langford Food Industry meeting in May on Beef Quality and the Mammalian Society meeting in November on Wild Mammals and the Human Food Chain. Both meetings were very well attended.

The Sir John Hammond Award was given to Dr Kevin Sinclair of Nottingham University in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the efficiency of ruminant reproduction through molecular and cellular experimental approaches and whole animal studies, and your ability to communicate the findings to scientists and farmers.

The RSPCA/BSAS award for innovative developments in animal welfare was given to the Humane Slaughter Association and collected by Dr James Kirkwood, Chief Executive and Scientific Director.

#### **PRESIDENT PRIZES 2005**

These were given respectively for the best theatre and poster presentations to

Suzanne Rowe, Roslin Institute for the best theatre on Genetic heterogeneity of residual variance within families for body weight in poultry.

Lenice Bell, of Myrescough Agricultural College won the best poster for her paper on A survey of scrapie PrP genotype results and their relationship with coat colour and hornedness in UK Northern Short Tailed Sheep

Ruth Pickard, University of Newcastle was commended for her theatre presentation on Supplementation of ewe diets with DHA-rich algal biomass for different time periods before lambing affects measure of lamb viability.

M.A.Steele,  
Chief Executive Officer  
January 2006



## REPORT OF THE PROGRAMME COMMITTEE 2005

### COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

During the reporting year, the number of members of the Committee increased, with Councils agreement, to cope with the task of reviewing Annual Conference summaries. The Committee met jointly with Technical & Ethical in May to generate ideas for the 2006 Annual Meeting and again in late November to assess the submitted summaries and agree invited sessions which for 2006 reached a record high level.

### ANNUAL MEETING 2005

The meeting was once again scientifically very successful for both the invited sessions and offered papers. There were 92 submitted theatre presentations and 144 posters at York 2005. The problem of no shows by posters authors was greatly reduced over 2004 using the policy of not publishing papers of authors who did not register for the meeting by a deadline in February.

The meeting attracted a higher number of delegates (426) than 2004 (380) but as registration fees were not raised and with more delegates attending only as day delegates this meant a projected subsidy by the Society of £10,000 was needed to break even. BSAS Council is content to continuing their commitment to financial support of the Annual Conference as part of its charitable expenditure for BSAS members.

The Student Council organised a very successful and well-attended 'Student Sunday' with lectures, workshops and juggling. The conference facilities at York remain very good but the meals were poor (with both conference dinner and the Tuesday evening meal taken 'in house') and the continuing rise in University costs is of concern.

For 2006 a new online submission system was commissioned for authors. Some 278 papers were submitted using this system which was down on the previous year's total (222 for 2003, 281 for 2004, 329 for 2005). At the programme committee in November 239 were provisionally accepted subject to authors registering to attend York 2006. The geographical breakdown of the submissions is as follows, Australia/NZ 5, Western Europe 10, Eastern Europe 4, USA 4, South America 21, Africa 2, Asia 114 (Iran 103), Ireland 7, UK 111. The large number of papers submitted from Iran continues and builds on the increased number of Iranian delegates who attended in 2005.

### 2005 OCCASIONAL MEETINGS

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**SHEEP – Profit from your labour** was held in Antrim in May and jointly organised by the Ulster and Irish Grassland Associations and BSAS. It brought together over 200 farmers, advisors and scientists from all over Ireland and tackled the future for sheep producers in Ireland. It was stimulating, great fun, well organised and produced a modest surplus that is being used to fund further workshops and seminars.

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Peter Rowlinson  
Chairman Programme Committee  
January 2005

## REPORT OF THE PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE 2005

### MEMBERSHIP

*Nigel Scollan (Chairman), Jes Scaife (Secretary), Kevin Shingfield, Sandy MacKenzie, Alistair Wylie, Jamie Newbold, Hilary Davies, Brian Cooke and Mike Steele.*

### MEETINGS

The committee met formally on two occasions, in September 2005 and January 2006.

### ANIMAL SCIENCE

There has been little change in the composition of the editorial groups.

Beatriz Villanueva continues to lead the *Breeding and Genetics Group* which consists of Hermann Swalve (Germany), Jack Dekkers (USA) and David Notter (USA).

*Reproduction* is the smallest editorial group with Tom McEvoy (Aberdeen) only as it has not been possible to appoint an extra person to replace Michael Diskin.

The *Growth, Development and Meat Science* Group continues to be led by Rod Hill (USA), supported by, Andrew van Kessel (Canada), David Gerrard (USA) and newly appointed Jinzeng Yang from Hawaii.

The *Non-Ruminant* Group continues with Ian Lean at the helm, assisted by Colin Morgan (Edinburgh), Paul Moughan (New Zealand) and Walter Gerrits (The Netherlands).

The largest section is still *Ruminant Nutrition, Behaviour and Production*. Richard Dewhurst (New Zealand) is supported by Maria Carro (Spain), Michael Cockram (Edinburgh), John Newbold (Belgium) and Kevin Shingfield (Finland).

The Executive and section Editors have continued to maintain a strong emphasis on the quality of the papers being accepted. The page numbers in volumes 80 & 81 totalled 839, somewhat lower than 2004 (1043), which is related to the move to A4 publishing. The number of papers submitted was 221 (compared to 220 in 2004) and of these the proportion from the home countries has risen to 16.7%. The rejection rate was 35%, which is still on the low side and is also slightly lower than the rejection rate last year. The benefits of the web based management and submission of manuscripts, which began in September 2003, continued as evident in further reductions in time from submission to publication (average 9 months relative to 10.7 in 2004). The Editorial team continue to work hard to improve in this area.

An editorial has opened each volume and a set of papers from the York Annual Meeting 2005 was published in October. An invited paper from the Breeding and Genetics Group was also published. Plans are in hand to publish more invited papers from the Annual Meeting in 2006.

In volume 81 a new set of subject headings for the Content page was introduced. These had been discussed in some detail at the January meeting and Richard Dewhurst offered to compile a suitable set of headings. These were circulated and discussed by e-mail before the launch of the classification in August 2005.

February 2005 saw the introduction of a more modern cover, shiny paper and also a change of typeface and page size to A4. The larger page size is reflected by the fact that there are now fewer pages printed. The change to the new format was all very well supervised by APS Group who printed to journal in 2005. For 2006, CAB International have taken over the publishing, printing and marketing of the journal.

At the time of the shift from APS Group to CABI, Carol Woolliams took the opportunity to retire as Technical Editor. Her contribution to the tidying up of the authors' contributions will be missed. We are very grateful for all her hard work.

### FINANCE

Despite a decrease of paid subscriptions to 495 in 2005 (522 in 2004) and only 185 (202 in 2003) libraries opting to pay the supplement (£50) for the printed version of the Annual Proceedings, the journal has made a surplus of £53,947. Less than 200 members chose the printed version. Eight of the library subscribers opted for electronic access only, an increase of one from 2004.

There are six libraries participating in the free electronic access programme based in Bangladesh, Ghana, Mexico, Nigeria, Tanzania and Zimbabwe. One library in Indonesia receives a hard copy subscription.

### NEW DEVELOPMENTS

As highlighted in the 2004 report, the publishing world is changing rapidly largely as a result of new and attractive electronic publishing methodologies, which are increasingly user-friendly. Major issues for Animal Science, include (1) impact factor which is too low, (2) online accessibility and "visibility", (3) online profile and context, (4) marketing and

the use of consortium and multi-site sales to help retain library subscriptions and (5) ensuring journal content is relevant to the global research community.

It is evident that the journal must address these challenges and seek methods of maximising the role of our Society to continue to play a role in the rapidly changing world of scholarly communication. As the first step in our future role, we have linked up with CABI as publisher of Animal Science from January 2006. It is considered that this move will (1) raise the visibility and maintain a high profile among authors and users, (2) increase the journals citation potential leading to higher usage and impact factor rating, (3) enhance online delivery to ensure that the journal keeps up with industry standards and latest developments and (4) increase subscriptions through active sales strategy and global marketing.

Publications Committee seek to achieve progress in advancing the ranking of Animal Science among the “Animal Science” journals. Currently we are ranked 13 out of 41. The target is to be in the top 3 which entails delivering a much higher impact factor ~ 2 plus. This background has provided the impetus to further discussions with EAAP and INRA (which commenced in late 2004) with a view to creating a strong European-based, international Journal of Animal Science. This new venture is considered to be very appropriate in relation to sustaining and evolving the involvement of our Society in animal science publishing in the longer term.

Mike Steele, Brian Cooke and Nigel Scollan held a number of meetings with EAAP and INRA between May and August 2005 and reported positively to Presidents in late August and to Publications Committee and Council in September. Key areas of discussion included (1) name of the new journal, (2) finances and (3) international dimension of the journal.

After further discussions (October to December) we are pleased to report that the 3 parties have agreed to create a single journal (which will integrate our journal Animal Science, and two INRA journals, Animal Research and Reproduction, Nutrition and Development). The new journal will be the “official journal of the British Society of Animal Science, European Association of Animal Production and an official journal of INRA”. A consortium agreement has been finalised and a robust financial assessment conducted. Most importantly the important contribution the journal makes to our Society would be protected (at £50 K per annum). The journal would be managed by a committee consisting of 3 members from each of BSAS, EAAP and INRA. It is proposed to launch the new journal from January 2007 with CABI continuing as the publisher.

Nigel Scollan  
Chair Publications Committee  
12 January 2006.

## REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL AND ETHICAL COMMITTEE 2005

### MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Members during 2005 were Dr Alan Duncan (Chairman), Dr Lindsay Heasman (Secretary), Dr Helen Edge, Dr Mike Hutchings, Dr Melissa Royal (EAAP Rep), Dr Janice Harland (Press Officer), Dr Andrew Hemmings, Dr Susan Jarvis, Dr John Newbold, Dr Jamie Robertson, Dr Bevis Miller, Dr Kate Breuer, Dr Jonathan Mills, Dr Aidan Moloney, Dr Carlos Sandoval & Dr Piotr Pasciak.

Dr Susan Jarvis, Dr John Newbold, Dr Melissa Royal and Dr Lindsay Heasman announced their intention to withdraw from the committee with effect from the 2006 AGM and their considerable contribution to Society business is gratefully acknowledged.

The committee met on 4 May 2005 (Edinburgh) and also had a joint meeting with Programme Committee on that date, held a confertel on 16 November 2005, and met on 6 December 2005 (London).

### STUDENT SUMMER PLACEMENT SCHEME

Funds for summer placements were awarded to :

Sophie Gauss, Imperial College, London in conjunction with ADAS

Rougiere Nethelie, ENSAR, Reens, France in conjunction with SAC Auchencruive

Marie Noelle Belbes, Enita de Clermond Ferrand, France, in conjunction with SAC Edinburgh

Carolyn Algie, University of Glasgow, in conjunction with University of Glasgow

### PRIZES, AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

The following awards were made on the recommendation of the committee:

#### **The Murray Black Award:**

Fredrik Sandberg and Will Brindle (Scottish Agricultural College, Edinburgh), travelled to an international modelling symposium in Natal, South Africa.

Suzanne Rowe (Roslin Institute, Edinburgh), attended a summer school in statistical genetics in North Carolina, USA.

Catherine Hayhurst (University of Liverpool), studied the genetic variation in growth hormone, insulin and insulin-like-growth factor 1 (IGF-1) in juvenile Holstein-Freisian cattle at Foulum in Denmark.

#### **The Alan Robertson Award**

No award was given in 2005

#### **The Sir Kenneth Blaxter Scholarship** was awarded to

Lorraine Salmon (University of Newcastle), who travelled to Denmark, Norway and Sweden to study aspects related to increased slaughter weight of finishing pigs and attend EAAP.

**The RSPCA/BSAS Award for Innovative Developments in Animal Welfare** was awarded to the Humane Slaughter Association and received by Dr James Kirkwood, Chief Executive and Scientific Director.

#### **The Sir John Hammond Memorial Prize** was awarded to

Dr Kevin Sinclair, University of Nottingham

### BSAS MEMBERSHIP REVIEW

In view of the steady decline in BSAS membership, T&E have been commissioned by Council to oversee a membership review to clarify the reasons for membership decline and what should be done about it. A confertel was held in November to consider how best to approach this. A paper was presented at BSAS Council on Jan 18 with proposals for how the review should be conducted. In essence, T&E recommend some market research should be carried out by an external body to find out (1) Why members are leaving (2) How the Society should reposition itself for the future in order to halt the current decline.

### BIOSCIENCES FEDERATION

BSAS have continued to foster links with the BioSciences Federation as the umbrella body giving the Society a voice at science policy level. John MacRae has attended meetings of the BSF Animal Science Committee and we are seeking observer status on both the Education and Sustainability Committees. Alan Duncan attended the BSF AGM on Nov 17 2005; the main item under discussion was the future of BSF since, as a new body, its financial position is unstable. To

survive BSF requires the financial support of member organisations such as ourselves. Without such support BSF will be unable to support the biosciences community and promote its interests at government level.

### **CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

Over the course of the year, BSAS responded to several consultations including an OST review on science in DEFRA, a proposal from RCUK on open access publishing and a consultation from HEFCE on their strategic plan for the next five years. BSAS responses can be viewed on the website ([http://www.bsas.org.uk/About\\_the\\_BSAS/BSAS\\_Consultation\\_Documents/](http://www.bsas.org.uk/About_the_BSAS/BSAS_Consultation_Documents/)).

### **STUDENT COUNCIL**

The Student Council has continued to play an active role in promoting the Society among the student community. SC organised a lively programme of events at the York meeting including a seminar on genomics by Genesis Faraday, a feedback session from previous recipients of BSAS scholarships, a juggling workshop and a presentation skills workshop. A further programme of events for the 2006 York meeting is planned.

### **OCCASIONAL MEETINGS**

#### *Forthcoming meetings*

- A meeting is planned in Poland, looking at the food chain, in October/November 2006
- A meeting on ethno-veterinary medicine is planned for 2006
- A joint BGS/BSAS/BES meeting entitled "High Value Grassland" will be held in April 2007

### **NEW CHAIR AND SECRETARY**

My three-year term as T&E Chairman concludes at the 2006 AGM and I would like to take the opportunity to thank committee members and the office staff for their support and hard work during my term. I would also like to thank Lindsay Heasman (T&E Secretary) for her support over the years – Lindsay will also stand down at the 2006 AGM.

Alan Duncan  
January 2006

**BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE**  
**SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 November 2005**

**BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE**  
**SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**For the year ended 30 November 2005**

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# BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

## COUNCIL and PRINCIPAL ADVISORS

### Council

Professor J C MacRae – President (appointed 05 April 2005)  
Professor S Edwards – President (retired 05 April 2005)  
Professor P Buttery – Vice President (appointed 05 April 2005)  
Dr B C Cooke – Honorary Treasurer  
Dr A J Duncan – Technical and Ethical Chairman  
Dr N D Scollan – Publications Chairman  
Dr P Rowlinson – Programme Chairman  
Dr J Mills  
Dr M Royal (retired 05 April 2005)  
Dr A Wylie (retired 05 April 2005)  
Dr A P Moloney  
Dr S Athanasiadou  
Dr R Mayes  
Dr B Miller  
Professor C J Newbold  
Dr H Edge (appointed 05 April 2005)  
Dr K Shingfield (appointed 05 April 2005)  
Dr E Wall (appointed 05 April 2005)

### Registered Office

The British Society of Animal Science  
Farms Office  
Sir Stephen Watson Building  
Bush Estate  
PENICUIK  
Midlothian  
EH26 0PH

### Postal Address

PO Box 3  
PENICUIK  
EH26 0RZ

### Auditors

Chiene & Tait  
61 Dublin Street  
EDINBURGH  
EH3 6NL

### Bankers

Bank of Scotland  
51 South Clerk Street  
EDINBURGH  
EH8 9PP

Standard Life Bank  
1 Conference Square  
EDINBURGH  
EH3 8RA

### Investment Advisors

Gerrard  
12 Melville Crescent  
EDINBURGH  
EH3 7LU



# **BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE**

## **REPORT of the COUNCIL**

### **Objectives**

The British Society of Animal Science (formerly The British Society of Animal Production) was formally constituted as an educational charity on 6 January 1944 and amended at the Annual General Meeting in 1994 in order to:

- Provide opportunities for those interested in and concerned with science and its application to animal production, to meet and exchange information, ideas and experiences relating to the production of animals and the products thereof.
- Encourage the investigation of problems and matters pertaining to the production of animals.
- Collect and publish information relating to science and its application to animal production; to print and publish any periodicals, books and leaflets which the Society may think desirable.
- Stimulate the incorporation into practice of advances resulting from research, experimental work and practical experience.
- Co-operate with any other organisation in furthering any of the objects of the Society.
- Do all such things as may be incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them.

### **Constitution**

The Society has a Memorandum and Articles of Association formally set out and available for consultation at the Society office.

### **Administration**

The Council of the Society is an elected body, with three members being elected at each Annual General Meeting to serve for three years. Candidates for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Honorary Treasurer are proposed by Council for election at the Annual General Meeting. Members of Council holding office during the year ended 30 November 2005 are as stated on page 1.

### **Reserves Policy**

Unrestricted funds represent the general funds which the Council are free to use in accordance with the Society's charitable objectives. It is the policy of the Council to maintain unrestricted funds at a level which equates to approximately one year's unrestricted income. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration costs and to respond to any emergencies which may arise from time to time. Unrestricted funds were maintained at this level throughout the year.

The Council confirms that, in their opinion, the assets of the Society are available and adequate to fulfil its obligations.

### **Risk Management**

The Council have assessed the major risks to which the Society is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Society, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

### **Investment Policy**

In accordance with the constitution of the charity, the Council has the power to invest in shares, bonds and other investments as they see fit. The Council has engaged Gerrard Limited as investment managers. The Council have requested that the portfolio should achieve an income of £20,000 and they have adopted a medium risk investment strategy in order to achieve this goal. During the year the income received from investments amounted to £22,518.

### **Grant Making Policy**

The Council invites applications for the annual grants that the Society awards. Applications will be reviewed by the Technical and Ethical Committee and awarded in accordance with the specific criteria.

**REPORT of the COUNCIL (Cont'd)**

**Statement of Council's Responsibilities**

Law applicable to charities in Scotland requires the Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of its financial activities during the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the Council is required to:

- o Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- o Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- o State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- o Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Council are responsible for keeping accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position for the charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1992. They have general responsibility for taking such steps as are reasonably open to them to safeguard the assets of the charity and to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

**Auditors**

A resolution concerning the re-appointment of Chiene & Tait as auditors and their remuneration will be submitted to the Annual General Meeting.

**BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE**

**REPORT of the HONORARY TREASURER**

**1. Membership**

The membership of the Society rose marginally by 1.5% (11) in 2005. This rise is partly due to recruitment in Poland (23) but also new ordinary members (36). As a result, subscription income rose by £46. The actual income was £46,824 (the figure in the income account is grossed up for the student discount rate).

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2004</b>
Ordinary members	579	604
Postgraduates	84	70
Retired	63	65
Honorary	20	18
Undergraduates	<u>34</u>	<u>12</u>
	780	769

**2. Conferences**

We have successfully run or been involved in five conferences this year. Four had a deficit but the Irish Sheep Conference showed a reasonable surplus. In the case of the Annual Meeting, registered paying attendees showed a pleasing increase to 387 but despite this increased costs led to a deficit of just over £14,000. The overall conference deficit increased from £13,709 to £22,661. This, in the main, was due to a conscious decision to keep down the registration fees.

**3. Publications**

Six issues of Animal Science were published in 2005, resulting in a total of 839 A4 pages. The forced change of printer led to an increase of £3,300 in production costs. Journal income fell by £11,423 due to lower subscription numbers. The price of the Journal to libraries was not increased in 2005, the aim being to encourage libraries to continue to subscribe. For 2006 the publication of Animal Science has moved to CABI and on their advice the library price has been increased by about 12%.

Only one occasional publication was produced this year, by Nottingham University Press. Sales of occasional publications have produced an income of £1,218.

The Publications Committee is to be congratulated on again establishing a surplus of £53,947 on the Journal in 2005, compared to £76,154 in 2004. During the year discussions have commenced with EAAP and INRA with a view to merging Animal Science and two INRA journals into a single new journal 'Animal'. £7,824 has been expended in 2005 in this development so leaving a publications surplus of £47,341 (£76,778 in 2004).

**4. Statement of Financial Activities**

The Society's charitable expenditure in 2005 was some £42,402 higher than in 2004, mainly due to the increase in publications and conference costs. The new website became fully operational in early 2005.

Overall income increased by £22,958, publications income was down by about £8,000, although that from conferences was considerably higher, and investment income increased slightly. In 2005 a surplus of £19,175 has been achieved compared with £38,619 in 2004. Due to changes in our printing and publishing arrangements the high surplus from publications was not repeated. With the continued recovery in the stock market the value of our investments has increased by £78,368 to £593,239. Thus the Society's funds carried forward at 30 November 2005 were £698,882.

Forecasts for the future indicate that we face a deficit of about £13,000 in 2006, but this will be dependant on the success of moving the publication of the Journal to CABI Publishing. The value of the Society's investments is dependent upon the stock market conditions. These continue under active management by Gerrard.

I confirm that the financial management of the Society continues in line with Council's policy on risk.



Dr B.C. Cooke  
Honorary Treasurer

19 January 2006



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE**

We have audited the financial statements of British Society of Animal Science for the year ended 30 November 2005 set out on pages 6 to 16. These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets and the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the charity's Council, as a body, in accordance with Section 7 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1992. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's Council those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's Council as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of Council and auditors**

As described in the Statement of Council's Responsibilities, the Council is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1992 and the constitution of the charity. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Report of the Council is not consistent with the financial statements, if the charity has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding Council's remuneration and transactions with the charity is not disclosed.

We read the Report of the Council and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

We read other information contained in the Report, and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. This other information comprises only the Report of the Honorary Treasurer. We consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. Our responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

### **Basis of Audit Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charity's affairs as at 30 November 2005 and of its incoming resources and application of resources in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Law Reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Scotland) Act 1990, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 1992 and the constitution of the charity.

**CHIENE & TAIT**  
Registered Auditors  
61 Dublin Street  
Edinburgh EH3 6NL

*Chiene + Tait*

27 JANUARY 2006.

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(incorporating INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

For the year ended 30 November 2005

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2005 £	Total 2004 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
Subscriptions	47,783	-	-	47,783	47,737
Activities to further the charity's objects:					
Income from publications	164,290	-	-	164,290	172,493
Income from conferences	163,672	-	1,200	164,872	132,742
Income from nutritional requirements	160	-	-	160	517
DEFRA	-	-	-	-	1,093
Investment income:					
Dividends receivable – gross	22,188	-	330	22,518	21,945
Interest receivable	3,009	-	-	3,009	2,697
Other incoming resources	252	-	-	252	702
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>401,354</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,530</b>	<b>402,884</b>	<b>379,926</b>
<b>Charitable expenditure</b>					
<i>Costs of activities in furtherance of charity's objects:</i>					
Grants payable					
Sir John Hammond Memorial Prize	500	-	-	500	500
President's Prize	350	-	-	350	300
Blaxter Award	1,500	-	-	1,500	1,660
Black Award	3,600	-	-	3,600	2,000
Student Essay Award	250	-	-	250	250
Summer placement scholarships	2,026	-	-	2,026	1,500
Alan Robertson Genetics Fund awards	-	-	-	-	1,400
Student discount - subscriptions	3,163	-	-	3,163	4,651
Biosciences Federation	650	-	-	650	647
EAAP subscription and conference	9,975	-	-	9,975	9,906
Expenditure on publications	116,949	-	-	116,949	95,715
Conference expenditure	186,333	-	-	186,333	146,451
Subscriptions to other societies	1,025	-	-	1,025	480
Nutritional requirements expenditure	-	-	-	-	755
<i>Managing and administering the charity:</i>					
Wages and salaries (including maternity cover)	19,690	-	-	19,690	27,622
Chief Executive expenditure	4,759	-	-	4,759	5,374
Printing and stationery	3,206	-	-	3,206	4,170
Office occupation charge	1,147	-	-	1,147	3,100
Public relations and press	258	-	-	258	1,099
Postages and telephone	5,992	-	-	5,992	7,495
Travelling and committee expenses	13,918	-	-	13,918	11,386
Audit fees	840	-	-	840	791
Accountancy fees	250	-	-	250	222
Banks charges and interest	371	-	-	371	448
Depreciation	722	-	-	722	1,065
Insurances	465	-	-	465	967
Miscellaneous expenses	1,516	-	-	1,516	1,083
Professional fees	2,003	-	-	2,003	1,030
Internet upkeep and management	541	-	-	541	9,180
Provision against irrecoverable subscriptions	-	-	-	-	60
Software upgrade and maintenance	1,710	-	-	1,710	-
<b>Total resources expended (carried over)</b>	<b>383,709</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>383,709</b>	<b>341,307</b>

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(incorporating INCOME and EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (Contd.)

For the year ended 30 November 2005

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2005 £	Total 2004 £
<b>Total resources expended (brought over)</b>	383,709	-	-	383,709	341,307
<b>Net incoming resources before transfers</b>	17,645	-	1,530	19,175	38,619
Transfer between funds	(1,400)	1,400	-	-	-
<b>Net incoming resources before revaluations and disposals of investments</b>	16,245	1,400	1,530	19,175	38,619
Gain on revaluation and disposals of investments	76,444	-	2,390	78,834	37,612
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	92,689	1,400	3,920	98,009	76,231
Fund balances brought forward at 1 December 2004	574,652	1,000	25,221	600,873	524,642
<b>Fund balances carried forward at 30 November 2005</b>	<u>667,341</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>29,141</u>	<u>698,882</u>	<u>600,873</u>

The restricted funds column represents the Alan Robertson Genetics Fund income and expenditure and the IGA Future Conference Fund.

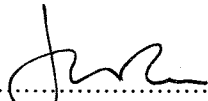
**BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE**

**BALANCE SHEET**

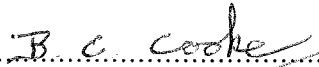
**As at 30 November 2005**

	Notes	£	2005 £	£	2004 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5		926		1,513
Investments at market value	6		593,239		514,871
			-----		-----
			594,165		516,384
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	7	7,994		10,785	
Cash and bank balance		136,812		107,902	
		-----		-----	
		144,806		118,687	
<b>Creditors:</b> amounts falling due within one year	8	(40,089)		(34,198)	
		-----		-----	
<b>Net current assets</b>			104,717		84,489
			-----		-----
<b>Net assets</b>			698,882		600,873
			=====		=====
<b>Represented by</b>					
Unrestricted funds	9		667,341		574,652
Designated funds	9		2,400		1,000
Restricted funds	9		29,141		25,221
			-----		-----
			698,882		600,873
			=====		=====

These financial statements were approved by the Council on ~~19 JANUARY 06~~ and were signed on its behalf by:

.....  
  
 Professor J C MacRae

President

.....  
  
 Dr B C Cooke

Honorary Treasurer

The notes on pages 9 to 16 form part of these financial statements