

British Society of Animal Science

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Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 14 April 2015

17:45 hours

Beswick CBK 017 (green)

Beswick Building

University of Chester

Charity No SC004845
VAT No 268 6594 03

BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

PAPERS FOR THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

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BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE SEVENTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD IN CBK 017, BESWICK, UNIVERSITY OF CHESTER 14 APRIL 2015 AT 17.45 HOURS

A G E N D A

- 1 Minutes of the Meeting held 29 April 2014 (Note 1) (Paper 72A)
- 2 Report by Chief Executive for the year 2012 (Notes 1) and Reports of the Committees/Groups - (Paper 72B-G) (Note)1
 - Science and Technology Events
 - Strategy and Innovation
 - Communication
 - Stakeholders
 - Accreditation
 - Communication
- 3 Report of the Hon Treasurer and adoption of the audited accounts (Paper 72H) (Note 1)
- 4 Re-appointment of auditors/assessors
- 5 Election of Office Bearers and Council members and endorsement of BSAS Group Chairs /Officers (Notes 2-7)
- 6 AOB

M A Steele
Chief Executive
March 2015

NOTES

- 1 Papers 72A-72H - circulated with this notice, will be taken as read and comments from the floor are invited.
- 2 Election of President (Rule 10) Council proposes the election of Professor S Bishop
- 3 Election of Senior Vice-President (Rule 11). Council proposes the election of Dr C Rymer
- 4 Election of Vice-President. Council proposes the election of Prof L A Sinclair
- 5 Election of Chief Executive (Rule 12) Council proposes the re-appointment of Mr M A Steele
- 6 Election of Hon Treasurer (Rule 13) Council proposes the appointment of Dr P H Simmins
- 7 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:-

Dr Jos Houdijk (resigned October 2014)
Dr Debbie Nash
Dr Mary Vickers

Nominations for Council members must be sponsored by at least two members and reach the Chief Executive no later than Monday 9 April 2015

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY- FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE HELD AT NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY, 29 APRIL 2014

Apologies

Apologies were received from Mr David Steane and Dr Rex Walters

Professor Peter Williams was in the chair and 56 members were present.

1 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Meeting held in April 2013 were accepted as correct subject to a number of spelling mistakes. Proposed by Dr Eileen Wall and seconded by Dr Alistair Carson. All matters arising were covered under agenda items.

2 REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Mike Steele presented a report for 2013 as a summary of all written reports from all BSAS groups and committees that had been previously circulated. He highlighted major activities and achievements for 2013.

The 2013 Annual Meeting was again held at Nottingham University with AVTRW and WPSA. Over 500 delegates attended more than 40 sessions including the Hammond by Prof Maurice Maloney talking on Biotechnology. The Presidents theme for the conference had been *Innovation from animal science - a necessity not an option*. Two workshops had run on Equine Reproduction and Native breeds for modern genetics and grazing (RBST). The 'does big mean bad' conference in Edinburgh had been excellent but not well attended so a mini version was being presented at the 2014 Annual meeting. BSAS again had a presence at the RABDF Livestock show through the Feed Science Seminars. BSAS Student Council had organised two very successful events - the workshop on Statistics at Leeds and the student day Nottingham.

The Academia Association now has 14 member groups and was holding two meetings/year as well as a breakfast meeting at BSAS Annual Conference. The AA was beginning to positively influence BSAS postgraduate membership numbers. It had also just launched its web-portal with listings of facilities and expertise and of PhD titles. The Industry Association had also been formed and was beginning to influence the Society through initiatives like the Annual Meeting *industry prize*. It would be holding a joint meeting with the AA later in 2014.

The BSAS *EAAP 2016* organising team had agreed Waterfront Belfast as the venue for 2016.

ANIMAL had had a positive year. The Impact Factor was steady at 1.64 and submissions remained healthy allowing a rejection rate of nearly 80%. Subgroups were looking at content, operations and communications to identify new products, better ways to deliver ANIMAL and improved communications. Income for BSAS remained very robust but was declining in line with consortia agreements (equal shares by 2015). In response to a question it was agreed that BSAS would look at a fixed tenure of its members of the ANIMAL Management Board to ensure rotation. Animal Bytes continued to publish a range of articles based on scientific papers from Animal and AAB and would be shortly changing its Editor-in-Chief.

BSAS had just under 100 members either on the accreditation register or in the process of applying. Colin Whittemore had worked tirelessly to try to improve the application process through the Society of Biology website but this was still a difficult task. There was now a page on the BSAS website that applicants could complete so that Colin could facilitate an *easy go* application process.

The Sir John Hammond Award was awarded to Dr Donagh Berry from Teagasc with the RSPCA/BSAS Award for Innovative Developments in Animal Welfare 2013 Cathy Dwyer of SRUC.

3 REPORT OF THE HONORARY TREASURER AND ADOPTION OF EXAMINED ACCOUNTS

Dr Howard Simmins explained that he would not be going through the accounts in detail but would concentrate his presentation on a number of specific areas. The accounts had been previously circulated.

BSAS faced a financial challenge to run more efficiently and to increase and broaden its income streams. Over the past few years BSAS had been using some of its reserves to invest in new initiatives. In 2013 the growth of the investment portfolio allowed BSAS to cut a projected 70K loss to a 33K loss. This year the Society was targeting a deficit of 50K. Investment income continued to do well but BSAS could not afford to rely on good investment income every year.

He reported that the AA initiative was having a positive effect on the membership numbers with ordinary membership stable and postgraduate numbers increasing. It showed that activity in this area was leading to a strengthening of the

Society. He expected the new Industry Association would also have a positive effect and corporate membership was now very much on the agenda.

Reviewing conferences he pointed out that whenever BSAS managed to secure a high level of sponsorship for a meeting it had a successful financial year overall. In 2010 the Belfast meeting had attracted nearly £30,000 worth of support. Since then sponsorship for the Annual Meeting had become ad hoc and fallen away and this was an area that the Society needed to work hard in attracting more support. Over the last two years the Society had been able to get subscriptions in much earlier than previously which had a very positive effect on cash flow. The development of a budgeting system through each of the BSAS groups was also having a positive effect. Undergraduate numbers had also fallen and the carryover of funds from year to year had decreased. The priority was now to identify new sources of income, particularly from sponsorship. The AGM was told that BSAS had no legacies monies being left to it. It was felt that this was an area that should be examined and a motion proposed by Christopher Wathes and supported by Colin Whittemore asked that BSAS consider targeting legacies as part of the search for new funds. This was Agreed.

The income from ANIMAL remained robust but in line with the consortia agreement BSAS's share would go down to 33% by 2015 so whilst the total ANIMAL income was good BSAS's share would be less.

The Treasurer had a number of short-term targets in mind which included the timely payments of subscriptions using direct debits and the recruitment of a person/organisation to look at alternative sources of income i.e. sponsorship. The BSAS Presidents Committee would shortly be advertising for such a person/organization.

EAAP 2016. The preparations for this meeting were well advanced and the Treasurer was aware that this was a huge undertaking for the Society and would need careful financial management.

The meeting formally adopted the accounts

Proposed by Dr Howard Simmins

Seconded by Prof. Peter Williams

4 ADOPTION OF ASSESSORS

Dr Howard Simmins proposed that Cheine and Tait be retained as official auditors/examiners of the accounts. Market testing showed them to be competitive and providers of sound advice.

Proposed by Dr Howard Simmins Seconded by Dr Ian Richardson.

5 MEMBERSHIP FEE ADJUSTMENT

AGM discussed that membership fees had not risen for several years.

Council asked the AGM to agree an increase of subscription fees by £10 a year for ordinary members and £5 for postgraduates/retired starting in January 2015. However for those that could pay by direct debit there would be a discount of £10 and £5 respectively. Discounts would also be available, especially for non-UK residents, on a discretionary basis. This would all be part of the emphasis in trying to make BSAS more efficient financially. Proposed by Dr Howard Simmins and seconded by Dr Ian Richardson. Agreed by the AGM.

6 SELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

In line with Council proposals the following were elected by the AGM

President - Dr Alistair Carson

Senior Vice-President - Prof Stephen Bishop

Vice-President – Dr Caroline Rymer

Honorary Treasurer - Dr Howard Simmins

Chief Executive - Mr M A Steele

Council members

Dr Emily Burton

Dr Elizabeth Magowan

Dr Amy Taylor

The President thanked the outgoing Council members Dr Sam Hoste and Prof Kevin Sinclair.

The following appointment was endorsed by the AGM:

Communications Chair - Dr Sam Hoste

7 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The President announced a meeting for those interested in being involved in the establishment of a Centre of Excellence for Monogastrics and urged delegates to attend. AgricTech Strategy money was available for this concept.

The EAAP 2016 organising team was now up and running. They were looking for assistance from members to identify sponsors, develop ideas for sessions and to spread relevant information as it was released. BSAS wanted to bring industry and academia together for the event by including food as part of the animal science theme.

The President also asked delegates from the AA organisations to attend the next morning's AA breakfast meeting.

On behalf of the members Dr Alistair Carson thanked Professor Williams for steering the Society through a very interesting year. Prof Williams responded to say that he had thoroughly enjoyed the 12 months and was grateful for the tremendous support he had been given especially from the BSAS office. He hoped that he had been able to bring a more commercial approach to society affairs as well as attention to detail.

Dr Carson thanked the Society for selecting him as President for the next year. He was looking forward to his Presidential period and hoped to concentrate on *knowledge transfer* as his theme whilst continuing the many initiatives including EAAP 2016 in Belfast. He also intended to both blog and tweet.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE REPORT 2014

BSAS Council met in February and September. President's Committee met in February, May and September.

2014 AGM Once again the business focused on the current and future financial affairs of the Society. The Society was strong financially but needed to be robust maintain its activities with AA/IA, accreditation, engagement, communications and EAAP 2016. BSAS did not have to draw now significant investments to fund running costs. Groups were now managing their own budgets. Share of income from Animal was declining

ACCREDITATION

The number of BSAS Members on the register was approaching 120 with more associates joining. The Accreditation and Governance panel lead by Colin Whitemore has communicated by email and telephone conference s. Colin had worked with SOB to improve the register's SOB interface which was now better and simplified. An easier to use application form now sits on the BSAS website. The BSAS procedure is now directly in line with, and equivalent to, that for SB CSci.

COMMUNICATIONS

ANIMAL had another solid year in 2014 with the impact factor up to 1784. Submissions remained healthy with a rejection in the mid 70%. A landing page was being developed to ease access to the journal. A new business model was being developed for Advances in Animal BioSciences by its editor, Cled Thomas. Negotiations for a new publishing and consortia agreement were underway. A smaller more active management group was likely. BSAS's income was declining as all partners were to receive an equal share of profits. Animal Bytes continued to publish a range of articles based on scientific papers and was developing a new group of writers. With Henry Greathead was retiring as editor with Poppy Frater and Georgina Crayford undertook to manage ABytes. .

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND EVENTS

Annual Meeting 2014. The 2014 meeting *Science into Practice* was held at Nottingham University with the AVTRW and WPSA. A special workshop on ewe nutrition was held with EBLEX. The Hammond Lecture covered the Global Food Challenge- science and Business. AVTRW are moving to run their own smaller meeting in 2015 and the 2015 BSAS /WPSA conference would be at Chester University.

Other events BSAS organised a highly successful 400 delegate occasional meeting on Cow Fertility- *New Science New Practice* in Westport, Ireland in May on a traditional 3.5 day model. Half the delegates were practicing vets. A webinar was organised with ASAS who streamed the presentations live to the USA. BSAS managed the Feed Science Seminars at the RABDF Livestock show and a Student Council workshop on Statistics at Leeds.

STAKEHOLDER GROUP

The AA nnow has 14 member groups and held two events at Newcastle and NEC (joint with IA) and a breakfast meeting at BSAS 2014. They have developed a AA web portal hat has current and past PhD students and their dissertation titles as well as information about academic and research expertise and facilities. The IA has 12 member companies. They now sponsor the Industry prize at the annual meeting for the best *Implications* presentation and are involved in the AgriTech Innovation bid. They are developing an IA portal that will link to the AA allowing exchange of information on careers and collaboration opportunities

Industry Prize 2014 - Stephen MacKenzie Newcastle University.

EAAP 2016

The EAAP 2016 team have held a series of meetings with sponsors and supporters. They attended the Danish EAAP in Copenhagen with a publicity stand. The venue is under construction and the Titanic and St George's market have been booked for social events.

SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

The Sir John Hammond Award was presented to Dr Eileen Wall (through **enhancing knowledge of genetics of, in particular, fitness and efficiency traits and the development of integrative animal sciences**). RSPCA/BSAS Award for Innovative Developments in Animal Welfare 2014 was presented to Dr John Bradshaw (long-term research into the behaviour and welfare of companion animals and their owners).

Presidents Prizes 2014

Best Theatre- Poh Ying Lim, Nottingham University
 Highly Commended Theatre Edward Crowley, IBERS
 Highly Commended Theatre Lorna Dawson, Newcastle University
 Highly Commended Theatre Sokratis Ptochos, SRUC
 Highly Commended short Theatre Bala Shedu, Ahmadu Bello, University, Nigeria

Mike Steele
 February 2015

REPORT OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EVENTS GROUP 2014

The Committee met in June for its business meeting, in order to develop the structure of the 2015 Annual Meeting and to discuss comments and potential improvements to be made following the 2014 meeting. The committee then met in early January to review the summaries and set up the programme for the 2015 meeting.

ANNUAL MEETING 2014

The 2014 meeting was held jointly with the WPSA and AVTRW at Nottingham University, with 337 BSAS and AVTRW delegates attending over the period of the 28th to the 30th of April, 2014, with an additional 86 attending the sessions for WPSA and 30 attending the EBLEX sessions, making a grand total of 453 delegates in all. The theme of the meeting was 'Science into Practice'. The Hammond Lecture came from Jon Parr on the topic of 'Preparing an agri business strategy for the challenges of 2020'. The President's Session was integrated into the Hammond topic, and had talks on 'Opportunities and challenges in animal nutrition' and 'Social challenges facing animal industry and business in supporting global food provision'. Representatives of AVTRW, WPSA and BSAS worked well to bring this conference together, and the feedback from delegates was positive. BSAS undertook the organisation for AVTRW, with an integrated budget whilst WPSA continued to run a relatively separate meeting with its own processes. There was a good level of integration of the various members at each other's sessions was evident. Nevertheless, AVTRW have decided to no longer integrate their conference into that of BSAS from 2015, even though they have agreed to organise a couple of sessions at the 2015 meeting. In total, there were 185 theatre presentations as well as 40 invited papers. The decision was made to not have posters at the 2014 meeting, and even though they were missed by a small number of delegates, their absence was not widely noted. The Proceedings were again published as part of *Advances in Animal Biosciences* the companion to the *Animal* journal. Selected invited papers will be invited for publication in *Animal*. The Proceedings were not printed and given to every delegate at the 2014 meeting for the first time, even though they were available to delegates at a small additional cost. This resulted in a small pecuniary advantage to the Society and went a small way to offsetting the losses incurred by the meeting.

The Student Council organised a 'Student Day' on the Monday, which was attended by 56 BSAS and AVTRW student delegates, and 6 WPSA delegates. The student day continues to be very well received. The Student Council also held a 2 day statistics workshop at Leeds University on 8-9 September 2014, at which 20 delegates attended. Aimed at postgraduate students and other scientists for whom statistics remains a little trying, the workshop attempts to give delegates a practical and hands-on guide to the use of statistics.

INTERNATIONAL COW FERTILITY CONFERENCE: NEW SCIENCE – NEW PRACTICES

BSAS organised a conference between 18-21 May, 2014, to examine the latest research on the fertility of dairy and beef cattle. It examined the issues surrounding the facts that the average dairy and beef cow only survives three and five lactations respectively, and thus good cow fertility is the major challenge facing farmers and animal health professionals of these classes of livestock. The conference was attended by 414 delegates, there were 21 invited presentations and there were 9 submitted presentations. This meeting experimented with delivering the sessions as 'webinars' with the technical help from representatives from AAAS; this was deemed successful and brought in a small income. More broadly, the general consensus was that this was an extremely successful meeting.

PRIZES 2014

President's Prizes were awarded as follows: Poh Ying Lim, Nottingham University, for the Best Theatre presentation. Additionally, the following were highly commended: Edward Crowley, IBERS, Aberystwyth University, theatre presentation; Lorna Dawson, Newcastle University, theatre presentation; Sokratis Ptochoso, SRUC, theatre presentation; Bala Shehu, Ahmadu, Bellow University, Nigeria, short presentation.

The Sir John Hammond Award was awarded to Dr Eileen Wall at the annual meeting, in recognition of her outstanding contribution to In recognition of Eileen's outstanding contribution to animal science through enhancing knowledge of the genetics of fitness and efficiency traits and the development of integrative animal sciences.

The RSPCA/BSAS Award was presented to Dr John Bradshaw, Bristol University, in recognition of his long standing contribution and commitment to improving the understanding of companion animal behaviour, particularly dogs and cats, through scientific research, teaching and writing.

Mike Rose
February 2015

The group had three teleconferences and one face to face a meeting during the year.

AWARDS

The Sir John Hammond Award was presented to Dr Eileen Wall for enhancing knowledge of genetics of, in particular, fitness and efficiency traits and the development of integrative animal sciences. RSPCA/BSAS Award for Innovative Developments in Animal Welfare 2014 was presented to Dr John Bradshaw for his long-term research into the behaviour and welfare of companion animals and their owners.

Alan Robertson

David Howard, Roslin Institute, UK
Graham Lough, Roslin Institute, UK
Kate Keogh, Teagasc, Ireland

Murray Black

Virgilio Ambriz-Vilchis, University of Edinburgh, UK
Anna Boulton, Royal Veterinary College, UK
David Lawrence, Teagasc, Ireland
Stafford Vigors, University College Dublin, Ireland

Kenneth Blaxter

Poppy Frater, Eblex
Angela Abuelo Sebio, Spain
Eleri Price, Aberystwyth University

The BSAS Early Career Award

Ruth Clamp, IBERS, Aberystwyth University

Reports from recipients are available on the website

LINKS TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS

BSAS worked with ASAS on providing a webinar of the Fertility conference in Westport to ASAS members. This facility might be extended to EAAP 2016. BSAS is also working with INRA on a family farming workshop at EAAP 2016. It continues to send a rep to the SOB Animal Science group. Mike Coffey was elected to the EAAP Council.

STUDENT COUNCIL

The Student Council chair was chaired by Virgilio Ambriz-Vilchis, University of Edinburgh with Jenna Bowen as the Vice Chair. She will take over the Chair at the AGM 2015. The Leeds based R Statistics workshop was again very popular with 22 participants. A workshop to cover advanced R was advertised but failed to attract an audience.

The SC Annual Meeting programme focused on communicating information and networking, attracted over 50 participants and had industry representatives presenting snapshots of their companies employment opportunities. The SC continues to grow alongside the AA with SC reps attending AA activities when AA Ambassadors cannot.

EAAP 2016

During the year, BSAS developed further plans for the 2016 EAAP meeting to be held at the Waterside Conference centre in Belfast. The venue's new extension is now under construction. Social events were agreed at the Titanic centre and St Georges Market. A sponsors event was held in Sept to solicit ideas for industry sessions. A number of BSAS members attended the EAAP 2014 meeting in Copenhagen. They joined various committee meetings and got to grips with how the meeting is currently run as well as undertaking a great deal of networking to advertise 2016.

The organising committee was expanded to cover all interests in the UK and Ireland as well as the remit of the organising team. The BSAS Treasurer refined the budget and identified sponsorship targets.

BSAS STRATEGY

Colin Whittemore has been commissioned to review the current BSAS Strategy. He has submitted an interim report and undertaken a short web based survey. This would be followed up by a series of telephone conversations to members in various animal science industry sectors. Early indications show the need for better communications on BSAS initiatives, more attention to overseas members, to widen the AA and IA, and to develop corporate membership and promote accreditation.

INTERNS

S&I are going to investigate the possibility of BSAS providing opportunities for student interns especially in the run up to EAAP 2016.

Ryan Law, February 2015

REPORT OF THE COMMUNICATIONS GROUP 2014

MEMBERSHIP

Sam Hoste – Chair (Quantech Solutions (UK) Ltd), Mike Steele (BSAS Chief Executive), Caroline Stocks (BSAS Communications Director), Poppy Frater (EBLEX), Georgina Crayford (National Pig Association NPA), Jason Rankin (AgriSearch). Membership will be reinforced after the 2015 AGM.

ANIMAL BYTES (AB)

The bulk of sponsorship from the UK levy bodies has now finished with only AgriSearch from Northern Ireland continuing. The Levy bodies have either changed priorities or they have no funds to continue Animal Bytes support. The AB editorial team has changed with the retirement of Henry Greathead who has been replaced by Poppy Frater and Georgina Crayford. New scientific writers have also been identified. These changes have slowed the flow of articles.

Viewing figures for 2014 were in line with 2013 approx 15,000 hits.

Natasha Boyland won first prize in the BSAS's Animal Bytes writing competition with the article published on 22nd December for Christmas reading.

The planned writing skills workshop (The Art of Writing about Science) did not run due to poor take up, partly caused by the reorganisation of BPEX personnel

ANIMAL

Animal, our journal continues to be a central component of BSAS income and publishing activity and is important. Total income from the Journal has partly offset the declining share coming to BSAS as the consortium owners (BSAS, INRA & EAAP) move towards equal shares by 2015.

The publishing and consortium agreements are due for renewal from Jan 2016. In consequence discussions have started to market test the publishing agreement and to revise the management of *Animal*. Working groups for communication, content and development have been established to focus management activity. A new *Animal* landing page is being developed so that web-viewers have a better experience in using the journal on line. Discussions are taking place on introducing opinion papers, more hot topics papers and encouraging special high impact issues, based on good quality conferences, like the special issue for the Westport Fertility conference which was published in May 2014 and should have a big impact on IF in 2015/16.

The Impact Factor improved **1.784** (2013 Journal Citation Reports®) Ranked 7/51 in the Agricultural, Dairy and Animal Science list so BSAS members are having a big effect on increasing the IF!. Please continue to help your journal – cite the papers and sign up for contents alerts, or volunteer as a referee or editor.

ADVANCES IN ANIMAL BIOSCIENCES

There was just the one issue in 2014 - BSAS Proceedings

A delayed publication from 2014 means that MACSUR and the Animal Task Force will be published early 2015.

ANIMAL BRIEFS

Despite Caroline Stocks professionalism getting more animal briefs written is likely to be a challenge and possibly not worth the resource use.

Sam Hoste
March 2014

REPORT OF THE STAKEHOLDERS GROUP 2014

SUMMARY OF TASK AND STRUCTURE

The stakeholders group's aim is to make the society more accessible to our major stakeholders and consists of two groups for Academia and Industry.

ACADEMIA ASSOCIATION (Chair – Kirsty Hammond – University of Reading)

The Academic Association (AA) was first formed in 2012 and is continuing to gain momentum. It recently (Nov 2014) had its 6th biannual meeting and it is currently represented by 15 national and international institutes (AA Ambassadors). Key areas of development for 2014 have been:

1. The AA portal on the BSAS website. Since its initiation in 2013 it has been populated via AA Ambassadors to include information on AA members, current postgraduates, graduated postgraduates, jobs and funding opportunities. This has been highlighted to be a beneficial source of information for industry and members of BSAS. The website will be officially launched as 'live' at 2015 Annual BSAS Conference.
2. Cohesion with the Industry Association (IA) and the Agritech bid. Members of both IA and AA see a close association between the two as a great advantage and this has been further encouraged by holding the first joint AA/IA annual meeting in Nov 2014. The current driver is the Agritech bid, an industry-led initiative which IA is instrumental in securing buy-in from industry partners. The bid is currently at second stage.
3. Cohesion within academia. The biannual AA meetings have facilitated discussions amongst Ambassadors of the current research within their institutes, as well as highlighted opportunities for collaboration.
4. Ambassadors of AA are continuing to promote BSAS visibility and encourage membership, as well as accreditation within their institutes.

The outlook for 2015: Based on the feedback from the BSAS Strategy Survey Report, many of the respondents wanted to know more about the AA. It was given strong support and new initiatives were suggested for it. Given that the AA website is now up and running, focus should shift to addressing this feedback. Ambassadors need to communicate within their Institute who BSAS and AA are, what they do and encourage participation and membership. Ambassadors can be driving forward initiatives such as 'strengthening and widening the AA network', 'expansion and communication to international members', promotion of sessions such as research and teaching pedagogy at the Annual conference, 'widen AA activity to 'include targeted workshops', and push for accreditation.

INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (David Wilde – Premier Nutrition)

The Industry Association (IA) is still in its infancy but has made considerable progress and directed input to BSAS initiatives. Key areas of development involving the IA have been:

1. The Agritech bid - as this is designed to be an industry-lead initiative the IA was instrumental in securing buy-in from industry partners. Review of the descriptive one-page document circulated to industry was carried out by the IA and many members have opted to be part of it.
2. The IA portal on the BSAS website - the IA portal follows on and reflects the Academia Association (AA) portal giving insight into the core competencies of the various IA members, as well as current job vacancies and research interests. Members were asked to complete a template with their company information and contact details, which was then transferred to the portal.
3. The Industry Prize – one of the initiatives to encourage industry back to the annual conference, the industry prize was awarded to the abstract deemed most relevant to industry, as well as having scientific rigour. A small number of members from the IA reviewed the submitted abstracts and then selected a shortlist to view the presentation at the annual conference to decide a winner.
4. Accreditation – the IA promotes the scheme both internally and externally. Initial aim is to get all IA members and colleagues on the register and increase its value to others.
5. Collaboration with the BSAS Industry Engagement Executive – Jon Day has been contacting IA members to gain insight into what would attract industry back to BSAS. He is speaking individually with IA members. This will be ongoing. Discussions also include industry involvement in EAAP 2016.

Michael RF Lee February 2015

ACCREDITATION AND GOVERNANCE REPORT 2014

IMPROVEMENT OF LIVE APPLICATION INTERFACES

Following substantive discussions and pursuit of planning strategies, the SOCIETY of BIOLOGY (SB) interface has been improved and simplified. Some things that were previously impossible have proved possible, and other things raised with SB as being likely of concerns wider than BSAS have been dealt with on SB's own account. It is now to be hoped that those wishing to make application to the BSAS Accreditation Register by way of the SB site have a realistic chance of completing. Equally importantly, the BSAS procedure is now directly in line with, and equivalent to, that for SB CSci. Thus maintaining the strength of the BSAS case for the continuing full recognition of our scheme at the highest level.

Meanwhile, we have come to the view that most applications are likely to best come through the BSAS web interface. In this way we can monitor, advise and amend applications in process, and expedite References, Assessment and Panel without interminable circularities with SB. When all is in order, applications made into the BSAS website can be transferred across to SB. With this in mind, with considerable input and help from Caroline Stocks, the Application Form on the BSAS site has been improved and modified so it now mirrors the form at SB, but is more simple to fill out. Guidelines have been modified accordingly.

With these positive improvements now in place it is our view that the Scheme is ready for pro-active recruitment, and this is in hand (see BSAS Home page <http://www.bsas.org.uk/> top right). Likely early beneficiaries of these initiatives will be (a) Post-grads and Post-docs, and (b) Industry members. Plans are also in hand to mount the Register itself on our own BSAS site thus improving accessibility and utility. There is no intention to do anything other than leave the CPD arrangements as they are (via SB), and to maintain the SB site and arrangements at the highest level, as this is a requirement for the wholly essential independent audit at international level and for Science Council oversight

ACCREDITATION AND GOVERNANCE GROUP

The group has been patent for two years; Peter Williams, Tim Brigstocke, Mike Wilkinson, Eileen Wall, George Crossman, Alistair Carson, David Garwes, John Oldham, Richard Dewhurst, Cheryl Ashworth, Caroline Rymer. It has met formally (by Telecon) once in each year. Items of business have related to its terms of reference (on file) and most importantly upon appropriate forward strategy (see above). The Group has also helped with the day to day work of the Accreditation Scheme (The Group forms BSAS Council's representation on the BSAS Accreditation Panel). At the meeting of 26 06 2014, inter alia, the following was minuted 1. There had been a recent increase in the numbers of Associates (the Group considered this to be a good thing). 2. The support to the Scheme given by Assessors and Panel members was considerable, and BSAS was in their debt. 3. The links to the Academia Association and the Industry Association were important, but needed to be considerably strengthened so that Accreditation became a normal and habitual part of the agenda of these organisations.

ACCREDITATION REGISTER As at Feb 2015 (April 2014)

Members on Register – 121 (84)

For assessment of the balance of Register membership, please access the Register at https://www.societyofbiology.org/myregisters/bsas/script_regdirectory?reg=bsas

Members actively within the system (awaiting referees, with assessors/Panel) – 6 (6)

Members under application guidance – 2

Members part way through application process at SB – 4

All on the Register are BSAS members. The influence of the Accreditation Scheme upon Membership (Individual and Corporate) recruitment is positive.

Would all Council, Committee and Ordinary BSAS members please encourage application (free of charge) through the BSAS Website application form <http://www.bsas.org.uk/accreditation/initial-applications/>

Colin Whittemore

January 2015

colin.whittemore@btinternet.com

or

accreditation@bsas.org.uk

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE
SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 November 2014

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE
SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ended 30 November 2014

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BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL
Year ended 30 November 2014

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Council members

Dr Alistair Carson	President* (appointed 29 April 2014)
Prof Peter Williams	President* (until 29 April 2014)
Prof Steve Bishop	Senior Vice President* (appointed 29 April 2014)
Dr Caroline Rymer	Vice President* (appointed 29 April 2014)
Dr Howard Simmins	Honorary Treasurer *
Dr Mike Rose	Science and Technology Events Chairperson
Dr Ryan Law	Strategy and Innovation Chairperson
Dr Henry Greathead	Communications Chairperson (resigned 29 April 2014)
Dr Sam Hoste	2011 (until 29 April 2014), Communications Chairperson (appointed 29 April 2014)
Prof Kevin Sinclair	2011 (until 29 April 2014)
Dr Jos Houdijk	2012 (resigned Oct 2014)
Dr Mary Vickers	2012
Dr Debbie Nash	2012
Dr Sifelani Chikunya	2013
Dr Jes Scaife	2013
Dr Abdul Chaudhry	2013
Dr Emily Burton	2014 (appointed 29 April 2014)
Dr Elizabeth Magowan	2014 (appointed 29 April 2014)
Dr Amy Taylor	2014 (appointed 29 April 2014)

* Trustees of the Society during the year

Chief Executive

Mr Mike Steele

Registered Office

The British Society of Animal Science
PO Box 3
Penicuik
EH26 0RZ

Postal Address

PO Box 3
Penicuik
EH26 0RZ

Independent Examiners

Chiene + Tait LLP
Chartered Accountants
61 Dublin Street
EDINBURGH, EH3 6NL

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
51 South Clerk Street
EDINBURGH, EH8 9PP

Barclays
LEICESTER
LE87 2BB

Investment Advisors

Barclays Wealth
12 Melville Crescent
EDINBURGH, EH3 7LU

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

REPORT of the COUNCIL (cont'd)

Year ended 30 November 2014

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Constitution and objects

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

Organisation

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, Senior Vice-President, Vice-President, Chief Executive 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 2014 are as stated on page 1.

The President, Senior Vice-President, Vice-President and Honorary Treasurer are deemed to be the Trustees of the charity.

The Council members meet twice per year, in order to discuss strategic and operational matters relating to the Society. Newly appointed Council members are provided with a copy of the governing document, a copy of the financial statements, recent minutes of meetings and handbooks of governance and codes of practice. In addition, a verbal briefing is given by the President and the Honorary Treasurer.

A number of sub committees carry out work in furtherance of the charity's objectives, and report directly to the Council Members.

Risk Management

The Council has 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.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

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 2010 in order to:

- Provide opportunities for those interested in and concerned with the science relating to animals and its application to meet and exchange information, ideas and experiences.
- Encourage the investigation of problems and matters pertaining to the science related to animals and its application.
- Collect and publish information about the science relating to animals and its application; 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.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

During the year, the Society:-

- Organised and managed the Annual Conference (April), the successful Fertility in Dairy Cows Conference (May), and a Statistics Workshop (March).
- Managed with INRA, EAAP and Cambridge University Press the on-going production of the scientific journal ANIMAL.
- Responded to relevant animal science related consultations.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (cont'd)

- Made progress in consulting with stakeholders, BSAS members and a non-member cohort on its current and future aims, objectives and activities.
- Continued to implement the new accreditation scheme in conjunction with the Society of Biology.
- Implemented the organisation of the 2016 EAAP conference which will be held in Belfast
- Continued to strengthen links between academia and industry through the Industry Association and Academia Association.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Budget restructuring

The re-structured annual budget has led to greater transparency, and ownership of the individual budgets, by each of the BSAS Groups. In particular it identifies areas in which monies are being invested for the Societies future, mainly Accreditation and Stakeholders (Academia Association and Industry Association). The budgets now also show future areas of investment, such as work to achieve greater and consistent levels of Sponsorship, so that the return on the investments will be visible to members. To achieve this, the computer accounting system was revised and aligned during the 2013 financial year with the Groups so that reporting and the cash flow could be rigorously followed. The process was put in place in 2014 and is working well. These were highly crucial steps as non-invested income lagged well behind costs needed to run the Society. The active work in and financial investment to strengthen and broaden the income streams is vital for the long-term viability of the Society.

Membership

The good news was that the Society continues to see a stabilisation of the numbers. The long-term trend for reduction of ordinary members and overall reduction in membership has been arrested over the last 3 years. The combined efforts of the Academia and Industry Associations, and Student Council, are bearing fruit. Consequently, subscription income increased to £64,071 a small increase from 2013 (£62,955). It should be noted that the figure in the income account is grossed up for the discount rates. The Society continues to take steps into offering corporate membership and significant progress has been made through the Industry Association, which is expected to be reflected in the increase in corporate membership in future years.

	2014	2013
Ordinary members	405	389
Postgraduates	150	190
Retired	70	64
Honorary	23	24
Undergraduates	305	276
Corporate members	1	1
	-----	-----
	954	944
	=====	=====

Conferences

We have successfully run two conferences and one workshop this year. Overall there was a surplus of £26,069 compared with a loss of £13,051 in 2013. The Cow Fertility Conference was a great success both in the number of attendees and also the level of sponsorship achieved. All involved in the organisation and management of the conference should be congratulated. It also indicates the value of a successful sponsorship programme.

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

REPORT of the COUNCIL (cont'd)

Year ended 30 November 2014

Publications

Twelve issues of ANIMAL were published in 2014, resulting in a total of 2,074 A4 pages. Bundle sales continue to increase alongside the total number of units sold by our publishers CUP. As contracted, the proportion paid to BSAS compared with our partners will continue to reduce until it stabilises at 1/3 each in 2015. Final financial figures are still awaited from the publishers. Income to BSAS is likely to be around £59,663 for the current year, which shows continued growth year-on-year. The ANIMAL management team is to be congratulated on the continued progress of the journal in 2014, which makes a vital contribution to the financial health of the Society.

In addition, BSAS received a one-off windfall from pre-Consortium archive fees from Animal Science of £57,008. The contribution of Advances in Animal Biosciences and Animal Bytes was minor. The windfall resulted in a surplus of £117,574 compared with £50,361 in 2013.

Statement of Financial Activities

The Society's charitable expenditure in 2014, excluding discounts, was £56,519 higher than in 2013. The difference was mainly due to the higher costs associated with the Cow Fertility Conference, although the overall balance for conference, as stated above, was positive this year.

The level of educational discounts for membership increased by £730 this year, and for conferences they increased by £510. Overall income increased by £173k, which was driven by the publications windfall, increase income from ANIMAL and conferences, of which sponsorship was an important element. Publications income was up by £76k whilst that from conferences increased by £92k. Investment income decreased by £6k, which is a reflection of a difficult year in the stock market. It is also a reminder that depending on investment income to balance to books is risky, and it is important to observe that it was balanced by other sources, even excluding the windfall, this year.

These figures add up to a year in which BSAS showed a surplus of £73.1k compared with the usual deficit (£33.4k in 2013). The surplus from publications and conferences were £118k and £26k respectively. Investment in Accreditation and Stakeholders was only £23k, but remain highly significant for the future health of the Society.

Despite the weak stock market environment, the value of our investments increased significantly to £673k. The Society's funds carried forward at 30 November 2013 were £797k, an increase of £89k on 2013.

The Society forecast a negative balance of £50k for 2014 to allow for investment in new regular sources of income. It has turned out to be a very healthy year financially, partly due to the important success of the Cow Fertility Conference and the unexpected windfall. ANIMAL income grows even though BSAS' proportion has been reducing. The value of the Society's investments is dependent upon the stock market conditions, which continue to be under active and effective management by Barclays Wealth.

This year's income provides the Society with an excellent opportunity to continue its investment into its long-term plans. One development this year has been the investment in a Sponsorship Executive. This role will permit the Society to develop a consistent sponsorship plan and income.

We confirm that the financial management of the Society continues in line with Council's policy on risk, which is under continual review in the present difficult economic conditions.

Reserves Policy

Unrestricted funds represent the general funds that the Council is 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 that equates to approximately one year's unrestricted income. This provides sufficient funds to cover management and administration costs and to respond to any emergencies that 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.

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 engaged Barclays Wealth as investment managers and requested that the portfolio should achieve an income of about £24,000. The Council has adopted a medium/high risk investment strategy in order to achieve this goal. During the year the income received from investments amounted to £17k, due to the difficult trading conditions in 2014. The target for 2015 remains £24k but uncertainty in the financial markets over the next 12 months will require that the portfolio be closely monitored.

Grant Making Policy

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

Future Strategy

2014 showed unexpectedly high revenues. 2015 is expected to be a more typical year with potentially negative balance as occurred in 2013 and earlier, which should be manageable. More importantly, it should allow the Society to be as prepared as possible for the large financial investment required for EAAP 2016 at Belfast. The aim is to break even from the conference, but there will be significant outgoings that the Society will have to manage in advance.

In the meantime, the Society continues to invest in new activities, including a consistent new source of income which is vital for the Society's long-term financial viability. It is in the business plan to increase income from sponsorship and this continues to be a priority. Other opportunities to increase income and reduce costs, as appropriate, will be under continual review.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In the coming years, the Society will:

- Continue to consult with stakeholders and members to promote an animal science agenda to a wide audience
- Organise or assist with the organisation of animal science conferences in the UK and overseas
- Support the management of the ANIMAL consortium (part ownership)
- Develop new activities to meet the needs and aspirations of current and future members
- Seek new and regular sources of income.

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council are responsible for preparing the Report of the Council and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The 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 and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

REPORT of the COUNCIL (cont'd)

Year ended 30 November 2014

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES (cont'd)

The Council is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements, comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the terms of the charity's Founding Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Council is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by the Council on _____2015 and signed on their behalf by:-

Dr H Simmins



I have examined the summarised statements of The British Society of Animal Science for the year ended 30 November 2014.

This report is made to the Council Members of The British Society of Animal Science, as a body, in accordance with the terms of my engagement. My work has been undertaken to enable me to prepare the financial statements on behalf of the Council Members and to report my opinion as set out below and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The British Society of Animal Science and the Council Members, as a body, for my work or for this report.

Respective responsibilities of the Council Members and independent examiner

The Council Members are responsible for the preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with recommendations of the charities SORP.

My responsibility is to report to you my opinion on the consistency of the summaries financial statements with the full financial statements and Report of the Council. I also read the other information contained in the summarised financial statements and consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

Basis of opinion

I conduct my work in accordance with best practice. My report on the Society's full report and financial statements describes the basis of my examiners statement on those financial statements.

Opinion

In my opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements and the Report of the Council of British Society of Animal Science for the year ended 30 November 2014.

**Malcolm Beveridge BA CA
CHIENE + TAIT LLP
Chartered Accountants and Independent Examiner
61 Dublin Street
Edinburgh
EH3 6NL**

_____ 2015

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

STATEMENT of FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 30 November 2014

	Notes	Un- restricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2014 £	Total 2013 £
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds:						
Voluntary income	2	66,674	-	-	66,674	65,394
Activities for generating funds						
Management of other Societies		9,120	-	-	9,120	9,000
Investment income	3	16,079	-	528	16,607	23,031
Incoming resources from charitable activities:						
Income from publications		140,300	-	-	140,300	64,640
Income from conferences		316,233	-	-	316,233	224,385
Income from Bioscience KTN		-	-	20,000	20,000	9,000
Total incoming resources		548,406	-	20,528	568,934	395,450
Charitable expenditure						
Costs of generating voluntary income						
	5	44,072	-	-	44,072	43,708
Charitable activities	6	449,451	-	6,905	456,356	381,496
Governance costs	8	3,891	-	-	3,891	21,356
Total resources expended		497,414	-	6,905	504,319	446,560
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers		50,992	-	13,623	64,615	(51,110)
Gross transfer between funds		-	(5,094)	5,094	-	-
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before other recognised gains and losses		50,992	(5,094)	18,717	64,615	(51,110)
Realised gain on sale of investments	9	8,338	-	109	8,447	17,756
Unrealised gain on revaluation of investments	11	15,065	-	646	15,711	53,054
Net movement in funds		74,395	(5,094)	19,472	88,773	19,700
Fund balances brought forward at 1 December 2013		670,766	5,094	31,958	707,818	688,118
Fund balances carried forward at 30 November 2014		745,161	-	51,430	796,591	707,818

The restricted funds column represents the Alan Robertson Genetics Fund income and expenditure and the Bioscience KTN joint scholarship.

All operations are continuing.

BRITISH SOCIETY of ANIMAL SCIENCE

BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 November 2014

	Notes	£	2014 £	£	2013 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	10		733		-
Investments at market value	11		673,411		652,539
			-----		-----
			674,144		652,539
Current assets					
Debtors	12	102,860		82,308	
Cash and bank balance		56,949		37,951	
		-----		-----	
		159,809		120,259	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(37,362)		(64,980)	
		-----		-----	
Net current assets			122,447		55,279
			-----		-----
Net assets			796,591		707,818
			=====		=====
Represented by					
Unrestricted funds	14		745,161		670,766
Designated funds	14		-		5,094
Restricted funds	14		51,430		31,958
			-----		-----
			796,591		707,818
			=====		=====

The summarised financial statements set out on pages 7 and 8 have been extracted from the full annual financial statements of the Society which were approved on _____ 2015. The full annual financial statements have been subject to an independent examination and the independent examiners report was unqualified.

These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Society. For further information the full annual financial statements, the independent examiners report on these financial statements and the Report of the Council should be consulted. Copies of the full annual financial statements can be obtained from the Society's postal address.