

Chair's Report

Dear Members,

At this time of year, the focus of most individuals changes from the daily mundane of work to the fast approaching summer holidays. For those who have already returned from holiday, Christmas now seems the next notable mark on the calendar. However, for the BMSS committee, summer is a hive of activity. With the summer studentships all processed, our sights are now firmly set on the upcoming annual meeting. The BMSS annual meeting remains an abstract-driven event, hopefully resulting in the most up-to-date activities of our members being the highlight of the event. This year's harvest has seen a bumper crop with over 250 abstracts being

processed. This, combined with the exhibition and full social program, will hopefully result in the mixture of science, business and fun that the organising committee strives to deliver.

If the annual meeting is our "harvest fest", our Special Interest Groups have sown the seeds throughout the year. The Ambient Ionisation; LBMSDG; Food and Environment; MALDI; and Clinical and forensics SIGs have all held successful one day meetings. These continue to be the life blood of BMSS. Our SIG leaders are directly involved with the subjects and therefore we feel each SIG can uniquely address the specific current community needs. These are very different depending on the SIG. The Clinical SIG is currently

very focused on training whilst the Ambient Ionisation SIG has recently completed an inter-comparison study, practically benchmarking the different platforms under development. These highlight the current scope of BMSS, from helping establish mass spectrometry as a routine provider of high throughput, quality clinical data to investigating new instrument developments to broaden the current application base of the technique. Again, many thanks to all those involved in making these activities a success.

The Educational and outreach activities do not end with our SIGs. Professor John Langley has recently completed his tenure as BMSS lecturer. The aim of this role is to highlight the many research topics and problems currently being solved by MS. The unprecedented level of interest from both academia and industry saw John clock up some serious miles. On behalf of all BMSS members I would like to thank Prof. Langley for the enthusiasm and professionalism with which he performed this role. The feedback has been excellent and the committee look forward to seeking a worthy individual to continue in this ambassadorial role. Please keep a look out for an announcement of how you can help select John's successor.

Apart from editing and producing this issue of Mass Matters, our



Gavin O'Connor, BMSS Chair

publicity team have been working hard on a number of new ventures. Despite the recent change in publisher of the European Journal of Mass Spectrometry, EJMS, BMSS members will continue to receive a discounted subscription to the journal. However, Pat and her team are busy investigating other areas that may be of interest to BMSS and its members. We look forward to updating you on progress on this soon.

Finally, I hope to see many of you at the Annual meeting in Manchester. Again, we have tried to seamlessly interweave the science with the fun and hope you enjoy the outcome. If you have any ideas, concerns or comments about BMSS please come and chat to me or any another committee member. We are always very interested to hear your views. After all we are here to serve your interests.

Annual general meeting 2017

The BMSS Annual General Meeting will be held at 1 pm on Thursday 7th September 2017 during the BMSS Annual Conference in the Opera Theatre at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester.

The AGENDA items and instructions for members who would like to attend the AGM but are not attending the Annual meeting can be found on our website at www.bmss.org.uk

Special general meeting 2017

The BMSS will have a Special General Meeting at 2:30 pm on Wednesday 22nd November 2017 at the SCI, 15 Belgrave Square, Belgravia, London.

The aim of this meeting will be to consider and vote on a proposal to amend the constitution that will enable the BMSS committee to place BMSS funds with reputable financial institutions other than banks.

The full AGENDA and instructions for members who would like to attend the SGM can be found on our website at www.bmss.org.uk

Congratulations to Dame Robinson!

BMSS would like to send our congratulations to Dame Carol Robinson, on her election as a Foreign Associate of the US National Academy of Sciences. She was one of 21 foreign associates, along with another 84 American laureates, to be recognised this year for their "distinguished and continuing achievements in original research" (see www.nasonline.org). This is a great honour, and we are very proud to have British mass spectrometry represented by such a worthy recipient.