

ANNUAL REVIEW 2017

TODAY'S SCIENCE TOMORROW'S MEDICINES

CONTENTS

About the Society & mission statement	02
Message from our President (2016–2017) and Chief Executive	03
Our year in numbers	04
Promoting & advancing pharmacology	05
Leading the way in the research & application of pharmacology	10
Nurturing our community	23
Sponsors & donors	33
Financials	34
Looking ahead: our 2018 objectives	36

ABOUT THE SOCIETY

The British Pharmacological Society leads the way in the research and application of pharmacology around the world. We are a friendly and collaborative global community, with around 4,000 members from more than 60 countries worldwide.

Our members work in academia, industry, regulatory agencies and the health services, and many are medically qualified. The Society covers pharmacology in all its forms, including laboratory, clinical, and toxicological aspects.

MISSION

The British Pharmacological Society is a charity with a mission to promote and advance the whole spectrum of pharmacology.

Specifically, the Society is concerned with the discovery, mechanism of action, use and safety of drugs in humans and animals, in order to contribute to education and the understanding and relief of suffering.

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT (2016–2017) AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

2017 was a year of growing ambition for the Society. It also marked the conclusion and review of one five-year strategy and the planning and launch, at the end of the year, of a new one. During this period of transition we remained focused on meeting the needs of our members, and on delivering our core mission: to promote and advance the whole spectrum of pharmacology. This document sets out in detail how we achieved those goals. However, we wanted in this overview to mention some areas of development that were crucial to our continued improvement throughout the year.

Firstly, 2017 was the year when our investment in policy activity really began to bear fruit. Throughout the year the Society engaged with policy makers to highlight the value of pharmacology to patient health, and the discovery and development of new therapeutics. The strategic importance of clinical pharmacology was recognised in the 2017 UK Life Sciences Industrial Strategy, and we have continued our work on in vivo skills in collaboration with the broader community. We developed our campaign on the importance of clinical pharmacology in the NHS and the life sciences, and as a result formed the Clinical Pharmacology Skills Alliance, a cross-sector partnership to address clinical pharmacology skills shortages. We have also raised concerns about the impact of leaving the EU on the regulation of medicines, and access to skilled people, collaborations and funding.

A second major development in 2017 was the founding of BPS Assessment Ltd (BPSA). This new commercial venture was established to explore opportunities internationally for the Society's prescribing eLearning and assessment platform, under the brand of the Prescribing Skills Assessment. Our expertise in this area continued to attract international recognition in 2017. In its first year of trading, BPSA developed a significant presence in Canada, Australia and New Zealand, and began engaging with medical training establishments in the Middle East, the Gulf states, China and India, with a view to developing these links in 2018.

As ever, we could not have achieved so much in 2017 without the huge and varied contributions of our members. From volunteering on committees and working groups, editing and reviewing for our journals, organising and speaking at our meetings, to getting involved with our engagement work, we were thrilled to see you continue to embrace the opportunities to be involved in the Society and promote the discipline of pharmacology. Whatever our strategic priorities, the Society's relationship with its members is and will always be the bedrock of all we do.

Just as vital to our success in 2017 was the dedication and expertise of our now 22-strong staff team, and we offer our congratulations and thanks to them all. There were a number of departures and new recruits during the year, including appointments to new positions as part of organisational changes that will enable us to deliver both our short and longer-term objectives in 2018 and beyond.



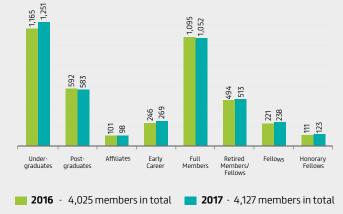


David Webb, President 2016–2017

Jonathan Brüün, Chief Executive

OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

The total membership on 31 December 2017 was 4,127, representing an increase of 2.5% in the space of a year. The Society was sad to report the deaths of eleven members.



84 prizes were awarded (2016: 82)



673,294 Unique page views 10% increase from 2016 38% increase from 2016

04

PROMOTING & ADVANCING PHARMACOLOGY

EDUCATION

In 2017 the Society built on its existing programme of activities to promote and advance clinical pharmacology. The Education, Engagement and Policy team led ambitious awareness-raising work and the cultivation of a cross-sector partnership to develop creative solutions to the clinical pharmacology skills shortage in the UK.

Clinical Pharmacology Month



October 2017 saw the Society hold its first ever Clinical Pharmacology Month, as we encouraged clinical pharmacologists and trainees to deliver awarenessraising activities in local hospitals and medical schools all around the UK.

Members delivered no fewer than 19 "grand rounds" in hospitals, and trainees promoted and organised eight local medical student abstract competition presentations and award events. Sixty-two medical students submitted abstracts to the abstract competition, five of whom were invited to the annual meeting, *Pharmacology 2017*, to compete for the award.

"I really enjoyed entering the Clinical Pharmacology Month medical student competition and I would recommend participating next year to all medical students. It offered a unique opportunity to be recognised for my work and gain experience of presenting, first locally and then at an international meeting."

Tom Chambers, University College London, Clinical Pharmacology Month medical student abstract competition winner

In a coordinating role, the Society promoted the campaign heavily on social media and published a suite of case studies on the website to illustrate the diversity of careers available to clinical pharmacologists.



Professor Emma Baker presents Clinical Pharmacology Month medical student abstract competition winner Tom Chambers with his award at Pharmacology 2017

The Clinical Pharmacology Skills Alliance

For some time, the Society and its members have recognised that the UK health and research sectors have been suffering from a shortfall in skilled clinical pharmacologists.

Recognising the scale of this challenge, throughout 2017 the Society strengthened its relationships with the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Medicine and Health Education England, leading ultimately to the formation and launch in December of the Clinical Pharmacology Skills Alliance.

The Alliance will develop creative solutions for growing the clinical pharmacology skills pipeline and the delivery of key competencies in line with priorities across the healthcare and life sciences sectors.

"Health Education England recognises the important contribution that the clinical pharmacology workforce makes to the NHS and the delivery of the Life Sciences agenda. We are delighted to be working with our partners in the Clinical Pharmacology Skills Alliance to support the development of the clinical pharmacology workforce."

Wendy Reid, Director of Education and Quality, Health Education England



All figures drawn from Pharmacology education and employment pathways

Mapping the pharmacology education and employment landscape and providing careers signposting

Throughout 2017 the Education, Engagement and Policy team, working with the Vice President – Academic Development and the Education and Training Committee, undertook a major programme of work with PwC to map the landscape of pharmacology education in the UK, and the employment outcomes of pharmacology graduates.

PwC's report, *Pharmacology education and employment pathways*, published in September, showed the number, nature and location of pharmacology courses; who is studying them; and what graduates from those courses go on to do. The research showed that pharmacology as an academic subject is growing and is healthy, and that pharmacology graduates are enjoying positive employment outcomes, both within and beyond the life sciences sector.

The report also identified a number of challenges for the pharmacology community which the Society has committed to act on. Chief among these was a lack of publicly available careers information and advice for those interested in studying pharmacology, and for students and graduates considering what to do with their pharmacology qualification.

To begin to address this challenge, in autumn 2017 the Society developed and launched a new suite of careers and development resources and case studies on its website, tailored for the needs of undergraduates (both BSc pharmacology and medical), postgraduates, and specialty registrars.

Plans are already underway to add to these with resources for school and college students, educators, clinical pharmacologists, and core and foundation trainees.

"The Society prides itself on being at the centre of the pharmacology community. So if there is a lack of information, advice and guidance out there for young people looking at their university options, and for graduates looking for work experience, we think that's our problem too.

To that end, we're excited that the Society is already working hard to act on these findings and has launched the first phase of the new careers 'hub' on the website full of information and resources for pharmacologists at all stages of their careers."

Lisa Wallace, Vice President – Academic Development and Steve Tucker, Deputy Chair, Education and Training Committee

ENGAGEMENT

"Engagement" covers the many ways in which the Society communicates the role and importance of pharmacology to the public. Through its engagement activities the Society aims to increase interest, raise awareness of issues, and improve public knowledge of pharmacology in everyday life.

In 2017, the engagement team, under the guidance of the Vice President – Policy & Public Engagement, reached out to new audiences at two flagship science festivals.

Edinburgh International Science Festival

In April 2017, the Society held a debate with an audience at Edinburgh International Science Festival, entitled "A healthy philosophy: we need to talk about how we value our medicines". The event focused on "social value judgements", inviting the 50-strong audience to discuss, consider and vote on various scenarios.



The scenarios presented to the audience at the cost and affordability of medicines event at Edinburgh International Science Festival

British Science Festival, Brighton

In September, the Society held a one-hour "in conversation"-style session with an audience of 60 at the British Science Festival in Brighton, on "Being young in the age of perfection". This thought-provoking discussion considered how society views body image and health, with a focus on the misuse of supplements.

Supporting members' engagement work

As well as delivering its own external engagement activities, the Society's engagement team works hard to help members develop their own engagement skills.

The Society is proud to have funded £3,000-worth of engagement grants for members in 2017. The engagement team is now developing resources generated from the grants into online toolkits which feature "how to" guides for other members to use in their own engagement activities. In 2017 the Society also supported two members through its Public Engagement Bursary Fund.



Floriane Fidegnon, British Science Association's CREST Youth Panel member and undergraduate student; and Alistair Jennings, filmmaker, presenter and neuroscientist, on the panel at the British Science Festival

"At the British Pharmacological Society, we believe engagement is a two-way process that involves interaction with, and listening to, our members and the wider public. Our goal is that our engagement activities benefit both our members and all the people we interact with."

Alistair McNeish, Vice President – Policy & Public Engagement

"I used my funding from the Society to attend a public speaking and conference presentation course. I developed techniques to help my confidence in public speaking and now feel better equipped to talk about pharmacology and my research in the community. Thank you so much for contributing to my professional development; I look forward to getting involved with the Society's engagement activities where I can practice my new skills, whether that be presenting at the annual meeting, or volunteering at a science festival."

Tolushike Popoola, undergraduate student, University of East London and Public Engagement Bursary Fund recipient

POLICY

Throughout 2017 the Society engaged in a range of policy areas. It responded to consultations on topics including education, the value of pharmacology skills to the health and life sciences sector, scientific research, clinical pharmacology, and the regulation of medicines. In many instances the policy team collaborated with other organisations to submit joint responses, to amplify our voice.

Brexit

Much of the Society's policy work in 2017 related to matters associated with the UK's exit from the European Union.

Concerns about the Brexit process were an underpinning theme to the Society's responses to the UK government's Industrial Strategy green paper and the House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee's inquiry into Life Sciences and the Industrial Strategy, in April and September respectively. Both responses focused on the complex, evolving life science and pharmacology landscape across industry and academia, and the importance of tackling skills shortages and removing barriers to participation. Following its contributions to these debates, the Society welcomed the subsequent Life Sciences Sector Deal announced by the UK government in December.

"The series of investments announced in the Life Sciences Sector Deal as part of the broader Industrial Strategy demonstrate the value of this vibrant sector to the UK, and it is good to see the commitment to build on UK strengths in clinical research and clinical trials. Crucially, we need to ensure the UK has the skills it needs to deliver against this sector deal. In particular, we are facing a shortage of clinical pharmacology skills, as recognised by Sir John Bell in his report to government. The British Pharmacological Society is well-placed to support these critical skills and we are working to align our existing activities closely with the broader skills strategy."

Professor David Webb, President (2016–2017)

Following the announcement in November of the relocation of the European Medicines Agency headquarters from London to Amsterdam from 2019, the Society partnered with the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges in urging the government to safeguard its regulatory fit with Europe on medicines.

Clinical policy

In health and clinical policy, the Society continued to stress to government the importance of high quality training and regulation for prescribing and therapeutics.



Lord Hunt of Kings Heath receives a Parliamentary Award for his contribution to science and medicine and his engagement with the Society's clinical pharmacology in the NHS campaign

The policy team submitted responses to consultations held by the Department of Health, the Nursing & Midwifery Council and the General Medical Council.

Increasing the number of clinical pharmacologists in the NHS also continued to be a priority. The Society continued its positive engagement with Lord Hunt of Kings Heath, shadow health spokesperson in the Lords, who helped the Society reach key decision makers. In December, Lord Hunt received a Parliamentary Award for his contribution to science and medicine and his engagement with the Society's campaign.

Education and skills

The Society used its policy work to support and speak on behalf of pharmacology educators.

In January we voiced ongoing concerns in our response to the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee's *Closing the STEM skills gap* inquiry, including over the lack of investment and educational support for *in vivo* skills. Members contributed insights into how these challenges should be met, allied to development of an *in vivo* skills curriculum for 2018, endorsed by a host of partner organisations.

In March, the Society responded to the Higher Education Funding Council for England's consultation on the second Research Excellence Framework. The response expressed concerns over the visibility of pharmacology as a discipline in academia, the challenges in using the Framework as an assessment tool and data source, and potential detrimental effects on staff morale.

LEADING THE WAY IN THE RESEARCH & APPLICATION OF PHARMACOLOGY

JOURNAL HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of 2017 the Society's journals continued to grow. There was a greater focus on projects intended to increase the journals' global reach, and to consider the needs of the full breadth of their readers and authors.



	Journal 2-year impact factor	Journal 5-year impact factor	Eigenfactor	Downloads (Wiley Online Library)	Downloads (all platforms, including PubMed)
British Journal of Pharmacology (BJP)	5.491	5.054	0.04299	1,204,972	4.05 million (up 7% since 2016)
British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology (BJCP)	3.493	3.862	0.01718	875,717	3.9 million (up 10% since 2016
Pharmacology Research & Perspectives (PR&P)	N/A	N/A	N/A	80,517	195,810 (up 54% since 2016)

Internationalisation and reach

Supported by Publications Committee and the Vice President – Publishing, during the year all editorial boards recruited additional international editors, and increased outreach activities in key emerging markets such as China and Brazil.

Professor Mauro Teixeira joined BJP as a Senior Editor in an advocacy role to promote the journal and encourage submissions from Brazil. BJP continued to engage with US pharmacologists via its US-based Editorial Board members. This included various promotional activities and sessions held at the Experimental Biology conference in Chicago in April. All three journals exhibited at the meeting of the Spanish Pharmacological Society in Barcelona in June, including a Meet the Editor session with BJP US Senior Editor Professor Paul Insel.

BJP sought to increase its international reach by sponsoring meetings in Hungary, Greece, the US and Australia, publishing a number of Themed Issues resulting from these conferences. BJCP did likewise, with sponsored meetings in the US and UK, including a symposium on immune targets in hypertension at *Pharmacology 2017* in London in December.



"In 2017 the Pharmacology Matters editorial team really worked hard to reach out to the international community and publish a variety of articles from pharmacologists around the world. We hope to continue this trend and broaden the readership of the magazine. Towards the end of the year we launched a recruitment drive to bring new early career voices onto the Editorial Board. It will be great to get to know them and see what new and exciting ideas they bring to the table."

> Margaret Cunningham, Editor-in-Chief, Pharmacology Matters



Also in December, over 400 participants attended a Chinafocused webinar about how to get an article published in BJP, hosted by Professor Amrita Ahluwalia (BJP Editor-in-Chief) and Professor Yong Ji (BJP Chinese Senior Editor).

Finally, the Society was pleased to see its open access journal, *Pharmacology Research & Perspectives*, indexed in MEDLINE in 2017, thereby increasing its international reach.



Editors-in-Chief Professor Amrita Ahluwalia, Professor Andrew Lawrence and Professor Adam Cohen speak at Pharmacology 2017



"The Concise Guide to PHARMACOLOGY 2017/18 was published in October 2017. It presents a freely available overview of the major pharmacological targets in a tabular fashion, drawn as a "citable snapshot" from the BPS/IUPHARsponsored online database at www.guidetopharmacology.org. It describes nearly 1,700 human drug targets, with over 3,500 ligands and over 4,000 quantitative interactions."

Steve Alexander, Editor, Concise Guide to PHARMACOLOGY 2017/18

Making research more accessible

The journals' social media channels were reviewed during 2017, with the Society bringing their management inhouse but redoubling efforts to draw on the expertise of the senior editorial teams to help highlight notable content for sharing. Catherine Sherwin (University of Utah) was recruited to the Editorial Board of BJCP as a Senior Editor with a "special interest in multimedia and innovative forms of communicating published data".

The publications team and the Society's publishers, Wiley, piloted creating video abstracts for BJP and BJCP to share on social media, working with authors to create animated visual summaries of the main findings of their paper.

"The digital nature of the journal facilitates collaboration with our sister journal, the *British Journal of Pharmacology*. In 2017 we published several virtual joint issues – after all clinical pharmacology and pharmacology are a continuum. We plan to further enhance our digital content with visual and animated support and improved hyperlinks to other documents. For instance, our new series of annotated comments on European guidelines for clinical development will be something to watch out for."

Adam Cohen, Editor-in-Chief, BJCP



BJP Editor-in-Chief Professor Amrita Ahluwalia speaks at the publishing bootcamp for young pharmacologists at Pharmacology 2017

Collaboration

In April another successful joint Virtual Issue between the British Pharmacological Society, the Biochemical Society and the Physiological Society was produced to coincide with Experimental Biology 2017, showcasing some of the most exciting research being undertaken by our members.

In August Professor Sergio Bonini was recruited to the Editorial Board of the BJCP to liaise between the European Medicines Agency (EMA) and the journal to assist with the writing of EMA guideline commentaries, which will start to be published in BJCP from 2018.



BJCP Editor-in-Chief Professor Adam Cohen presents the BJCP Early Career Researcher prize to Dr Pieter Okkerse at the annual BJP and BJCP joint Editorial Board dinner at Pharmacology 2017

PR&P continued to go from strength to strength in 2017. We published 85 papers with an average time to final acceptance of 45 days (down from 73 days in 2016), in line with our commitment for rapid turnaround. PR&P also runs joint virtual issues with BJP and BJCP where relevant crossover exists. We are now listed on PubMed, Scopus, Medline and ESCI – gaining an impact factor is getting ever closer."

Andrew Lawrence, Editor-in-Chief, PR&P

Engaging young pharmacologists

In 2017, significant efforts were made to learn about young pharmacologists' publishing experiences, to ensure the Society is meeting their needs:

- basic and clinical young pharmacologists co-opted onto Publications Committee to advise on the Society's publishing decisions
- prizes awarded for the best papers published by early career researchers in BJP and BJCP
- two young pharmacologists recruited onto the Editorial Board of Pharmacology Matters magazine
- young members surveyed to learn about their experiences and opinions of the publishing process, and the best ways of communicating journal content to them
- postgraduate students encouraged to publish the introduction to their PhD theses in PR&P

In memoriam: Darrell Abernethy

In November the Society was sad to report the passing of Darrell Abernethy, Editor-in-Chief of *Pharmacology Research & Perspectives*. Darrell was instrumental in raising the profile and quality of PR&P, first as Deputy Editor and then Editor. He was a true inspiration to many authors and editors, and very much a team player. His wise counsel will be missed.

CHAMPIONING PRESCRIBING COMPETENCY IN THE UK AND WORLDWIDE



Prescribing Safety Assessment

Prescribing Safety Assessment

2017 was another year of successful delivery for the Prescribing Safety Assessment (PSA).

The PSA, a joint venture in partnership with the Medical Schools Council, is a two-hour online examination taken by medical students and foundations doctors. By passing the PSA students are demonstrating competency in prescribing and other medicines-related skills before they begin work as independent junior prescribers in UK hospitals.

In a new development for the academic year 2016–2017, the Foundation programme mandated that all foundation doctors would be required to pass the PSA to successfully complete their first postgraduate year of training. This move reinforced the PSA's role as a vital component in UK medical training.

"The growth of the PSA has been testament to the support of the whole medical education and prescribing community, with hospital clinicians, clinical pharmacologists, general practitioners, pharmacists and foundation doctors coming together to contribute by authoring, reviewing and approving questions for the assessments.

We are proud to provide an assessment that is relevant to modern prescribing practice and which sets at an appropriate standard in order to minimise real life errors and ensure patient safety."

Veronica Davids, Assistant Director, MSC Assessment

"The Prescribing Safety Assessment is now widely recognised as an assessment of basic competency for all new prescribers in the UK health service. I am delighted that it is now attracting considerable interest from other prescribing groups here in the UK and overseas. I believe the PSA has served to raise awareness of the importance of prescribing in modern healthcare and is making an important contribution to delivering better care for NHS patients."

Simon Maxwell FBPhS, Medical Director, Prescribing Safety Assessment

In 2017, 7,147 final year medical students from 31 UK medical schools sat the PSA with an overall pass rate of 96.5%. In addition, 221 UK Foundation Year 1 doctors, 787 medical students from the Republic of Ireland and Maltese Foundation doctors (69) and medical students (167) also completed the assessment. In total over 17,000 candidate hours of assessment were undertaken and over half a million patient safety related questions set and rapidly marked.

To explore how it might benefit trainee pharmacists, PSA pilot events were run in UK pharmacy schools between March and May, in collaboration with Health Education England. These involved 454 preregistration pharmacists and 672 MPharm pharmacy students.

The PSA team continued to expand its roster of question authors in 2017, training a further 19 to take the total number of authors to 137. The question bank was also reviewed and refreshed to ensure it remains in line with best practice.





BPS Assessment Ltd

The Society's expertise in delivering online assessment and eLearning in prescribing continued to attract international recognition in 2017. To build on that and to better position the Society to reap future benefits from it, in April BPS Assessment Ltd was established to deliver prescribing assessment and eLearning internationally as the Prescribing Skills Assessment.

In May the Society announced an ambitious new collaboration with the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada to support safer prescribing by doctors in Canada. Representing a significant commitment by both organisations, the partnership aims to raise the profile of prescribing competency and promote its importance through joint development of educational and assessment resources. Also in Canada, 259 students at the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry, Western University, and Queens University Medical School sat the prescribing assessment.

"This partnership opportunity comes at a time when practitioners are addressing immense challenges such as management of chronic pain with opioids and reduction of antimicrobial resistance. This program will provide our Fellows with skills and tools to improve their performance against recognized standards and improve patient safety and outcomes." BPS Assessment continued to grow its footprint in Australia and New Zealand, where 1,532 students from the universities of Auckland, Newcastle, Sydney, Tasmania, Western Australia, New South Wales, Western Sydney, Monash and Deakin sat the assessment.

During 2017 the Society also began engaging with medical training establishments in the Middle East, the Gulf states, China and India, with a view to developing these links in 2018.

"I was very pleased to see the establishment of BPSA Ltd in 2017, as a vehicle for commercialising some of our educational and assessment expertise, particularly in prescribing skills. The company, which is wholly owned by the Society and therefore by its members, is intended to deliver new and diversified revenue streams to the Society. To that end, we have focused on recruiting a diverse and ambitious board, and high quality staff to deliver our objectives. If successful, we will be taking profits from BPSA Ltd and gifting them to the Society, meaning that pharmacology, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics – and ultimately our members – will all benefit."

Jonathan Brüün, Chief Executive, British Pharmacological Society and Managing Director, BPS Assessment Ltd



Andrew Padmos, Chief Executive, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

The meetings team, working closely with Meetings Committee and the Vice President – Meetings, produced 12 scientific meetings and educational workshops across the UK in 2017, attended by delegates from 51 countries. Together these achieved:



Pharmacology 2017

11–13 December 2017 | London

- 1,112 registrations
- 133 speakers
- 23 exhibitors and sponsors
- £25,000 allocated for bursaries
- £5,500 allocated for prizes
- 87% of survey respondents were satisfied or more than satisfied with the scientific programme

At *Pharmacology 2017*, the Society's flagship annual meeting, we welcomed 1,112 delegates from 51 countries to the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in central London, including a number of members of our guest society, the Japanese Pharmacological Society. This was our biggest programme to date with 15 symposia, seven workshops and six plenary lectures alongside oral communications and poster presentations.

The Welcome Reception was a lively and fun way to celebrate the first day of the meeting, with guests enjoying musical entertainment, traditional British food, a doughnut machine and a photo booth – all overlooking some of the best views of London at night.



Delegates network at Pharmacology 2017



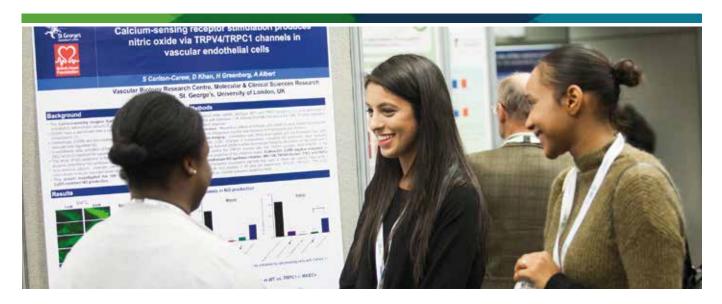
Welcome Reception at Pharmacology 2017

Pharmacology 2017 saw a number of "firsts" for the Society. This was the first year late-breaking abstracts were accepted, which allowed the presentation of 70 examples of the very latest research and encouraged undergraduate project submissions.

Our first ever business-focused plenary was the culmination of a year-long dialogue with industry and featured three leading experts, each with a different

perspective on "hot trends in pharmacology: new science and the business landscape".

Building on their popularity in 2016, each day of the meeting began with a career bootcamp; and again featured flash poster presentations, including a dedicated session showcasing work submitted for Clinical Pharmacology Month.



Many young delegates took part in the flash poster presentations

The conference app was downloaded by a record number of attendees and we will be looking to further improve the user experience for 2018.

"2017 was another successful year of Society meetings, culminating with *Pharmacology 2017*. We have continued to grow our relationships with sister societies in 2017 and will now drive forward the Society's five-year strategy for the annual meeting."

Dr Niall Hyland, Vice President – Meetings

Clinical pharmacology specialty registrar training session

The annual training session for specialty registrars in clinical pharmacology was remodelled for 2017, based on feedback from 2016, to include mixed-mode learning, with lectures and workshops aligned to specific curriculum topics.

In addition, for the first time the assessment component was delivered online, which allowed for more learning and networking on the day.

Forty-one specialty registrar trainees attended the event – the highest attendance to date – and 36 have since completed the assessment.

"Thanks very much to everyone who organised the training day and the lecturers – it was thoroughly enjoyable, relevant and thought provoking. It helped to consolidate our learning on a diverse range of topics relevant to our practice."

Specialty registrar trainee



Group work during the pharmacology specialty registrar training session

Education @ P17

Education was the theme for day three at *Pharmacology* 2017. The early morning bootcamp and education workshop brought the educator community together to focus on reviewing the curriculum one year after its launch, and to discuss the recent PwC research report for the Society on *Pharmacology education and employment pathways*.

A group of 12 demonstrators, including some of the Society's previous Education and Training Teaching Grant Award winners, showcased a variety of new and innovative teaching approaches. The session contributed towards the Society's aim to raise the profile of its education activities, with the support of the Education and Training Committee.

Education day closed with a selection of oral and poster sessions, where participants and delegates were able to network and exchange ideas.



Delegates and demonstrators enjoying the education workshop at Pharmacology 2017

"The education careers bootcamp provided an exciting forum for discussion with members about initiatives being driven by our Education and Training Committee. There was enthusiasm and engagement between demonstrators and delegates in the education demonstration session, as they shared current practices and ideas for future resource development."

Steve Tucker, Deputy Chair, Education and Training Committee

Focused meetings

In 2017, the Society held three successful focused meetings across the UK.

Focused meetings explore a specific topic within pharmacology and therapeutics. They provide a platform both for experienced speakers to share their world-leading research, and for younger or early career pharmacologists to present their research through poster and oral presentations.

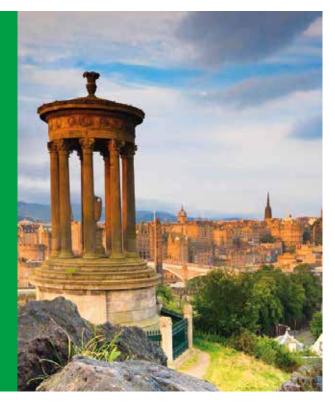
ITMAT in Edinburgh 2017: Big Data & the Development of New Medicines

17 March 2017 | Edinburgh, UK

The Institute for Translational Medicine & Therapeutics (ITMAT) meeting welcomed 121 delegates to Edinburgh to address topics directly relevant to translational science and the use of big data in the development of new medicines.

"The ITMAT meeting was held at the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and supported by the Royal Society of Edinburgh. It gave delegates the opportunity to hear from keynote speakers from around the world, covering a diverse range of highly relevant topics. Speakers travelled from institutions in the UK, Israel, the Netherlands, Sweden and the United States to present their latest research. This was a truly outstanding meeting with fantastic scientific content, in addition to providing a great opportunity to network with colleagues and peers."

David Webb, President, 2016–2017 and meeting organiser.



In silico and *in vitro* methods in modern drug discovery

24–25 April 2017 | Nottingham, UK

This meeting brought together academic and industrial scientists and students considering a career in drug discovery to discuss the impact of cutting edge technologies on the development of new medicines.

"The intimate nature of the meeting allowed unfettered, and much appreciated, access to vastly experienced academic and industrial pharmacologists for aspiring young drug discoverers."

David Kendall, University of Nottingham, meeting organiser

8th European Workshop on Cannabinoid Research

31 August–2 September 2017, London, UK

With support from the Wellcome Trust, this meeting gave an opportunity for students, senior academics, researchers, clinicians, pharmaceutical industry representatives and policy makers to discuss the actions of cannabinoids across a diversity of themes and systems. These included drug discovery, brain function, inflammation, cardiovascular, gastrointestinal, metabolism, cancer and drug abuse.

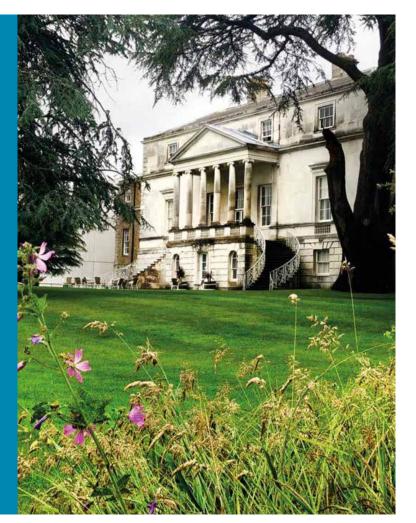
"This was a fantastic meeting. High scientific level in the talks, frontline translational research, lots of networking and three glorious (sunny) days in London."

Francisco Molina-Holgado, University of Roehampton, meeting organiser

"A great meeting with very good content. Thoroughly recommended." Delegate

"The meeting was very fruitful, interesting and well organized."

Delegate



WORKSHOPS

The Society's educational workshops offer opportunities to explore popular and current topics within pharmacology and therapeutics using an interactive approach. Places are limited to 30 to allow delegates to learn in a hands-on environment that encourages discussion, questions and group work.



Applied PKPD workshop attendees learned in the clinical simulator room at the University of Hertfordshire

Three workshops were held in 2017: Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics (12–13 September, London), Ion Channels (1 March, London) and, for the first time, Applied Pharmacokinetics and Pharmacodynamics (6–7 July, University of Hertfordshire).

Seventy-one delegates attended in total, including pharmaceutical industry scientists, PhD students and educators.

"The scenarios gave some experience of how pharmacokinetics are considered in 'real life' situations in an engaging and fun way."

Diploma in Advanced Pharmacology

The Society was proud to see six students graduate with a Diploma in Advanced Pharmacology at *Pharmacology* 2017: Alan Hendrick, Ana Paula Abdala Sheikh, Ian Sorrell, Joseph Leedale, Steven Webb and Yousif Shamsaldeen.

In summer 2017 the Society made the decision to stop accepting new applications for the Diploma. The education team will continue to support current Diploma students to complete their qualification through our ongoing programme of workshops, and to offer high quality education and training in a way that meets the needs of our members and the wider scientific community.

Applied PKPD workshop delegate

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NURTURING OUR COMMUNITY

COMMITMENT TO EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

The issue of representation – be it socioeconomic, gender or ethnicity – is an ongoing challenge within pharmacology, and the science community more widely.

It was with this in mind that the Society decided that the first objective set out in its new five-year strategy, launched at the end of 2017, should be "To remove barriers to participation and success, while welcoming equality and celebrating diversity, and being inclusive in all we do".

In light of this new strategic objective, in 2017 the Society reviewed its approach to equality, diversity and inclusion, and widening participation. The Women in Pharmacology Advisory Group was consulted and supported the investment of resources and time into the establishment of a new, broader Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Group.

The group will work to implement a new Inclusion Strategy, which was developed in parallel during 2017. The group will lead an organisational self-assessment, with support from Society staff, vice-presidents, and external expertise.

The Society is grateful to all former members and chairs of the Women in Pharmacology Advisory Group, whose efforts have laid the foundations for change at the Society. A special thanks to Interim Chair, Laura Ajram, who led the group in the last six months of 2017 in organising a highly engaging one-hour workshop on "Working your networks" at *Pharmacology 2017*.

MEMBER NETWORKS

Ambassadors

In 2017 the Society concluded and reviewed its two-year Ambassadors Scheme pilot, and in December agreed to expand the Ambassadors scheme as a fully-fledged initiative from 2018.

In just two years the Ambassadors have established an invaluable connection between the office and membership. In 2017, the Society's 13 UK-based Ambassadors facilitated a range of engagement activities for university students, schoolchildren and pharmacologists in the local community. Examples include:

- Supporting pharmacological or biomedical student societies through funding speaker travel, networking drinks and sponsoring prizes
- Ambassadors combining funds to sponsor a minisymposium
- Hosting a pharmacology careers day with sixth form students
- Establishing a specialist network for pharmacologists, pharmacists, primary and secondary school practitioners and social scientists, to establish ways to improve prescribing and use of opioid-based analgesics
- Recruiting student helpers at engagement events and using funds to cover their lunch and refreshments



Contestants at the "Pharmacology's Got Talent" Ambassador social event at King's College London, February 2017

"Pilot Ambassadors were resourceful and used their funds in many creative ways, which engaged a variety of audiences, and helped to build local communities of pharmacologists.

The Society learnt a great deal from the pilot phase, especially that improving the visibility of Ambassadors would improve the visibility of the Society at an organisational level. I look forward to seeing the scheme flourish in 2018 and will strengthen our networks, within academia, the NHS and industry. "

Alister McNeish, Vice President – Policy & Public Engagement "The materials I receive because of my Ambassador affiliation help me for the events I attend and speak at with undergraduates and school visits. The small pockets of Ambassador funds available are vital in enabling me to cover the costs of prizes for the best pharmacology poster or talk as well as other expenses in hosting events at my institute."

Aisah Aubdool, Ambassador, King's College London

"The Ambassador title gave me increased legitimacy to make an impact within my university and to engage external audiences through an identifiable link to the Society. Regular contact with the Society kept me up to date with the latest information so that I was appropriately informed to confidently raise awareness and disseminate knowledge about the Society's work."

Alasdair Gibb, Ambassador, University College London

Young Pharmacologists Advisory Group

In 2017, the Young Pharmacologists Advisory Group awarded combined funds of £750 to three studentled pharmacology societies (at the University of Bath, University of Hertfordshire and University of Birmingham) to sponsor their own speaker and networking events.

During *Pharmacology 2017* in December, members of the group gained hands-on experience by judging the BSc undergraduate posters for prize awards, chairing the flash poster presentation and, for the first time, being paired with senior members to help co-chair and judge the oral communication sessions. The group also contributed a symposium to the meeting, entitled "Membrane Trafficking – The Highway to Novel Pharmacological Targets".

To further support young pharmacologists, the Society contributed to The Young Life Scientists' Symposium (YLS), an annual conference for early career researchers run by the Biochemical Society, British Pharmacological Society and Physiological Society and organised by PhD students and postdoctoral researchers. The winning organising committee held a one-day symposium in November at the MRC-ARUK Centre for Musculoskeletal Ageing Research, University of Nottingham.

"It's crucial that we are totally engaged with our early-career pharmacologists and there has been real progress in this area. Young members are now represented on nearly all the Society's committees, and its Council. It's all part of moving the Society from being a club to a vibrant society that invests in and champions the activities of all its members – whatever level they are at in their career."

Steve Hill, President-Elect, 2016-2017

"Having the opportunity be paired with senior members in helping to co-chair and judge the oral communication sessions at the annual meeting was a good way to meet people, learn how session chairing works, and to just get more involved in the conference by helping out. It also felt like a great way to get exposure and gain confidence speaking in front of an audience."

Chloe Peach, Young Pharmacologists Advisory Group member



YLS Organising Committee (left to right) Jessica Cegielski (University of Nottingham), Colleen Deane (University of Exeter), Amelia Pollard (University of Nottingham) and Joseph Bass (University of Limerick)

Affinity Groups

Cardiovascular & Respiratory Pharmacology	172
Drug Discovery, Development & Evaluation	242
Education & Skills	151
Molecular & Cellular Pharmacology	231
Neuropharmacology	208
Integrated Systems Pharmacology	103
Toxicology	117

The Affinity Groups and their co-chairs play an important role in how the Society engages with its members, particularly in the contributions they make to shaping our meetings and events.

In 2017 the co-chairs again provided important support to the annual meeting, sourcing and selecting symposia and workshops. They also made a significant contribution to the reviewing of abstracts for poster and oral communication both prior to the meeting and on site.

ENGAGING INDUSTRY

BRITISH PHARMACOLOGICAL SOCIETY Working with its Industry Committee, in 2017 the Society held three separate industry stakeholder meetings with representatives from the big pharma community, contract research organisations (CRO) and investors to understand how they operate in the drug discovery and development landscape. The Society wants to better understand how it can contribute to these organisations, support their work and collaborate with them.

"Drug discovery and development is a constantly changing and challenging environment. It was clear from the opinions we gathered from our stakeholder engagement activity that pharmacology plays an important and highly respected part in this process and cuts across multiple disciplines in the life sciences. It was also great to hear that there was an appetite for building better links between big pharma, CRO/biotech and investment organisations and our community, particularly our 1,500-plus student members.

It is with these goals in mind that further development of these areas will be of great value to the Society and the wider industry community. We are now taking forward the recommendations from our fact finding into planning future activity which aligns with improving education and training and our membership offering to those working in industry settings."

Tom Blackburn, Chair, Industry Sub-Committee

RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENTS IN PHARMACOLOGY

Raising the profile of Society Fellowship

In June the Society launched the Fellows' and Honorary Fellows' Directories, dedicated website sections celebrating our Fellows and Honorary Fellows and allowing members and non-members alike to learn about their careers and achievements.



Dr John Adcock

Specialising in and with a recognised expertise in sensory neurophysiology and neuropharmacology, particularly in airway disease (including airway hyperresponsiveness, asthma, COPD and chronic cough).

Find out more



Dr Nika Adham

Nika Adham, MSc, PhD FBPhS, Executive Director of Biological Research, ExternalScience and Innovation at Allergan.

Find out more



Professor Amrita Ahluwalia

Amirta Ahluwalia is Professor of Vascular Pharmacology and Co-Director of The William Harvey Research Institute at Barts Medical School at Queen Mary University of London.

Find out more

Example profiles from the Fellows' Directory, available at www.bps.ac.uk/fellows-directory

New prizes and awards

In 2017, the Society awarded newly established prizes for the first time:

- Dunlop Prize Lectureship recognising the achievements of early career clinical members
 - Awarded to Dr Neeraj (Bean) Dhaun, University of Edinburgh
- Bülbring Award enhancing training opportunities for members following a career break
 - Awarded to Dr Clare Parish, University of Melbourne

"Expected and unexpected career disruptions can really throw a 'spanner in the works' for one's productivity and career advancement. Thankfully societies such as the British Pharmacological Society recognises these challenges. At a time when applying for funding had been challenging, this award enabled me to initiate new research and obtain necessary pilot data for subsequent larger grant applications."

Clare Parish, University of Melbourne

- Vogt Prize rewarding excellence in postgraduate studies
 - Awarded to Dr Bastiaan Vliegenthart (University of Edinburgh) and Dr Peiran Yang (University of Cambridge)
- Zaimis Prize recognising longstanding excellence in the teaching of pharmacology
 - Awarded to Professor Iain Greenwood

"I am extremely honoured to receive the AstraZeneca Prize for Women in Pharmacology from the British Pharmacological Society. It is vital that we continue to encourage female scientists into one of the most important scientific disciplines that underpin research in drug discovery."

Lucie Clapp, University College London

Prize and award winners

Our 2017 winners are detailed below – many congratulations to all of them.

Prizes

AstraZeneca Prize for Women in Pharmacology

Professor Lucie Clapp, University College London

Australasian Visitor

Dr Clare Guilding, Newcastle University, Malaysia

British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology Prize for Young Investigators

Dr Pieter Okkerse, Centre for Human Drug Research, Netherlands; Dr Colin Stirrat, University of Edinburgh, UK

British Journal of Pharmacology Early Career Researcher Prize

Dr Simon Hirota, University of Calgary, Canada

Bülbring Award Dr Clare Parish, University of Melbourne

Drug Discovery of the Year The team at GlaxoSmithKline responsible for Strimvelis

Dunlop Prize Dr Neeraj Dhaun, University of Edinburgh

Lilly Prize Professor Adam Cohen, Centre for Human Drug Research, Netherlands

Novartis Prize Dr Christopher Langmead, Monash University

Sir James Black Award for Contributions to Drug Discovery Mr Staven Miller, Dr Najam Sharif, Dr Shauyi Yu

Mr Steven Miller, Dr Najam Sharif, Dr Shouxi Xu and Mr John Yanni, for discovery, development and approvals of Novel Drugs at Alcon

Rang Prize (Clinical) Dr Clare Guilding, Newcastle University, Malaysia

Rang Prize (Non-clinical) Dr Richard Prince, University of Manchester

Student Choice Award for Excellence in Pharmacology Teaching

Dr Alasdair Gibb, University College London

Vane Medal Professor Patrick Sexton, Monash University

Vogt Prize

Dr Bastiaan Vliegenthart, University of Edinburgh; Dr Peiran Yang, University of Cambridge

Wellcome Gold Medal

Professor Humphrey Rang

Zaimis Prize

Professor Iain Greenwood, St George's, University of London

Pharmacology 2017 prizes

Clinical Oral Communication Prize

Dr Salma Audi, North Middlesex University Hospital, UK

Clinical Poster Prize

Maddalena Ardissino, Imperial College London, UK Oliver Mercer, St George's, University of London, UK

Clinical Undergraduate Poster Prize

Holly Fraser, University of Liverpool, UK Seraphina Rong Luo, Imperial College London, UK Ryan Sterritt, Queen's University Belfast, UK

Education Oral Prize

Dr Craig Daly, University of Glasgow, UK

Education Poster Prize

Dr Christine Edmead, University of Bath, UK

Flash Poster Presentation Prize

Kathryn Acheson, University of Oxford, UK Dr Melissa Chan, Queen Mary University of London, UK Natalie DeSanctis, National University of Ireland, Republic of Ireland

Medical Abstract Prize

Tom Chambers, University College London, UK

Oral Communication Prize

Seema Ali, University of East Anglia, UK Amazon Austin, King's College London, UK Anna Roberts, King's College London, UK Mary Walker, Queen Mary University of London, UK

Poster Prize

Nadine Godsman, University of Aberdeen, UK Matthew Harris, University of Cambridge, UK Runisha Moodaley, King's College London, UK Ho Yan Yeung, University of Cambridge, UK

Veritas Pharma Dom Spina Late Breaking Abstract Prize

Antonio Gonzales, University of Bath, UK Alice Linden, St George's, University of London, UK Dr Jesper Safholm, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden

Young Pharmacologist Poster Prize

Samuel Baldwin, St George's, University of London, UK Harriette Brennan, St George's, University of London, UK Hannah Neale, University of Bath, UK



Vogt Prize winners Dr Bastiaan Vliegenthart and Dr Peiran Yang with Professor David Webb, President of the Society



Professor Sarah Hilmer delivers the ASCEPT UK Visitor lecture at Pharmacology 2017

Study awards

AJ Clark Studentship

Sam Groom, Universities of Bath & Bristol

BPS & ASCEPT Outstanding Young Investigator Award

Dr Jennifer Stott, St George's, University of London

BPS & ASCEPT Outstanding Young Investigator Award

Dr Chantal Donovan, University of Newcastle NSW

Schachter Award

Amazon Austin, King's College London; Patricia Pacios Centeno, University of Manchester; Tamara Boltersdorf, Imperial College London

Vacation Studentship

Valeria Alexandrova, University of Manchester Sibo Cheng, University College London Yasmin Felstead, University of Nottingham Katie Flight, University of Strathclyde Nitin Ajit Kumar, Queen Mary, University of London Lewis MacPherson, University of Strathclyde Lauren Powell, Royal Veterinary College Amy Stevens, University of Southampton Emmanouil Tasos, University of Cambridge

Lectureships

ASCEPT UK Visitor

Professor Sarah Hilmer, Royal North Shore Hospital and Sydney University, Australia

Australasian Visitor Dr Clare Guilding, Newcastle University, Malaysia

Bill Bowman Travelling Lectureship Dr Aisah Aubdool, Queen Mary University of London

Gary Price Memorial Lecturer Professor Graeme Henderson, University of Bristol, UK

Grants

Dr Craig J Daly, Dr Dorothy Aidulis and Dr Janette Bulloch, University of Glasgow Dr Anja Mueller, University of East Anglia, UK Dr Yvonne Dempsie, Dr Sharron Dolan, Dr Sam Ellis, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK Dr Janette Bulloch, Dr Kenneth Watterson, Dr Dorothy Aidulis and Dr Craig J Daly, University of Glasgow, UK Dr Christine Edmead, University of Bath, UK Dr Leanne Stokes, Dr Rosemary Norton, Dr Derek Warren, University of East Anglia, UK Associate Professor Breandán Kennedy, University College Dublin, Republic of Ireland

Student prizes

BSc Pharmacology Prizes

Students nominated by UK universities

Charlotte Bell, University of Bath Harry Bowden, University of East London Rami Fakhouri, University of Westminster Alexandra Hand, University of Bristol Samuel James Hart, King's College London Karla Hernandez, University of Hertfordshire Eleanna Kritikaki, Glasgow Caledonian University Claire Laxton, University of Manchester Robyn Macrae, University of Edinburgh Poorya Moghbel, Cardiff University Elizaveta Olkhova, Newcastle University Jessica Quimpo, University of Leeds Mohammad Jaim Uddin, St George's, University of London

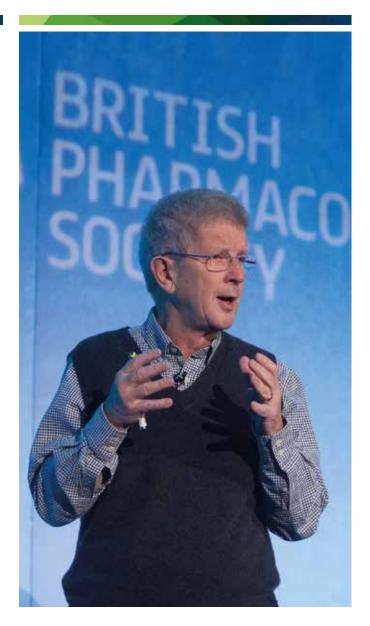
Clinical Undergraduate Prizes

Students nominated by UK medical schools in the UK and Republic of Ireland

Cait Bleakley, University of East Anglia Lucy Bray, Hull York Medical School Thomas Brookes, Plymouth University Bernard Bukala, University of Oxford Sara Coffey, University College Cork George Craven, University College London Sophie Diong, Trinity College Dublin Holly Fraser, University of Liverpool Louise Gurowich, Peninsula School of Medicine Maria Hall, Newcastle University William Haskins, University of Southampton John David Kehoe, University College Cork Zara Khan, Queen Mary University of London Ruth Lowe, University of Nottingham Seraphina Rong Luo, King's College London Abhinav Mathur, University of Edinburgh Daniel O'Reilly, Royal Colleague of Surgeons in Ireland Ellis Rea, Imperial College London Philip Roberts-Burt, University of Southampton Louise Rogers, Cardiff University Ryan Sterritt, Queen's University Belfast Mayu Teranaka, Imperial College London Chiara Maria Ventre, University of Edinburgh Jennifer Wood, University of Birmingham

Student Contribution to Pharmacology

Salma Audi, St George's, University of London Victoria Beach, University of Westminster Charlotte Bell, University of Bath Casey Hindon, University of Portsmouth James Justin, King's College London Adam Skeen, Newcastle University



Professor Graeme Henderson delivers the Gary Price Memorial Lecture at Pharmacology 2017

With thanks

We would not be able to offer this variety of prizes and awards without support from our sponsors:

ASCEPT, AstraZeneca, Lilly, Novartis and Wiley-Blackwell

Honorary Fellowships

An Honorary Fellowship is the highest award given by the Society. Honorary Fellows, nominated by a member, are distinguished for their sustained leadership role in science.

10 Honorary Fellowships were awarded in 2017:

- Professor Nick Bateman for his sustained leadership in clinical toxicology
- Professor Richard Bond for his sustained contribution to the Society, most notably as Senior Editor of the British Journal of Pharmacology
- Professor Sir Rory Collins for his sustained leadership in science, including important and influential contribution to clinical trials
- Dr Alyson Fox for her sustained leadership in grants management at the Wellcome Trust
- Dr Heather Giles for her sustained contributions to research in the pharmaceutical industry
- Professor Jackie Hunter for her sustained leadership in the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industries
- Dr Ruth McKernan for her sustained leadership in the pharmaceutical industry
- Professor Michael Spedding for his sustained contributions to pharmacological research in academia and industry, and his leadership roles at IUPHAR
- Professor Roger Summers for his sustained leadership on the molecular pharmacology of G protein-coupled receptors (GPCRs)
- Professor Brendan Whittle for his sustained leadership in applied pharmacology and in the pharmaceutical industry

Fellowships

Members may apply to become a Fellow, demonstrating distinction and peer recognition in pharmacology. Fellows have made substantial contributions to pharmacology and the Society through their work, publications and/or attendance at Society meetings.

35 members were elected to Fellowship:

- Professor Jillian Baker, University of Nottingham, UK
- Professor João Calixto, Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil
- Professor Maria Margarida Caramona, University of Coimbra, Portugal
- 😻 Professor Selim Cellek, Anglia Ruskin University, UK
- Professor Alexander Clanachan, University of Alberta, Canada
- Professor Helen Cox, King's College London, UK
- Professor Salvatore Cuzzocrea, University of Messina, Italy



Bill Bowman Travelling Lectureship winner Dr Aisah Aubdool (far right) at her lecture in Glasgow with (left-right) Dr Charles Kennedy, Professor Alistair Corbett and Dr Yvonne Dempsey

- Alexander Danser, Erasmus MC, Netherlands
- Dr Neeraj Dhaun, University of Edinburgh, UK
- Professor Gilberto De Nucci, University of Sao Paulo; University of Campinas, Brazil
- Dr Susan Duty, King's College London, UK
- Professor Michael Edwardson, University of Cambridge, UK
- Professor Derek Gilroy, University College London, UK
- Professor Paul Insel, University of California, San Diego, USA
- Dr Eamonn Kelly, University of Bristol, UK
- Professor Terry Kenakin, University of North Carolina, USA
- Professor David Kendall, University of Nottingham, UK
- Professor Peter McNaughton, King's College London, UK
- Professor Janet Mifsud, University of Malta, Malta
- Professor Pietro Minuz, University of Verona, Italy
- Professor Eeva Moilanen, University of Tampere, Finland
- 》 Dr Manasi Nandi, King's College London, UK
- Professor Andrea Nistri, International School of Advanced Studies, Italy
- Professor Xavier Norel, Inserm U1148, France
- Dr Kevin O'Shaughnessy, University of Cambridge, UK
- 😻 Dr Richard Peck, Roche, Switzerland
- Professor Erika Pinter, University of Pecs, Hungary
- Professor Paolo Preziosi, Catholic University of the Sacred Heart, Italy
- Professor Marcus Rattray, University of Bradford, UK
- Professor Trevor Robbins, University of Cambridge, UK
- 😻 Professor David Smith, AstraZeneca, UK
- Professor Teresa Tejerina, Complutense University of Madrid, Spain
- Professor John Traynor, University of Michigan, USA
- Professor Benjamin Whalley, GW Pharmaceuticals, UK
- Professor Susan Wonnacott, University of Bath, UK

SPONSORS & DONORS

The British Pharmacological Society is most grateful to the following organisations for their donations to support our various activities, including prizes and training courses.



University of Liverpool Medical Research Council Novartis The Physiological Society **Qatar Foundation** The Royal Society Veritas Pharma Inc Wellcome Trust

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Trustees 2017

Professor David Webb President

Professor Stephen Hill President-Elect

Professor Robin Plevin Honorary Treasurer

Professor Emma Baker **Elected Trustee Clinical**

Charles Gloor **Appointed Trustee Business**

Emma Mason Appointed Trustee External Affairs

Aidan Seeley Appointed Trustee Young Pharmacologist

Dr Malcolm Skingle Elected Trustee Industry

Professor Clare Stanford **Elected Trustee**

Dr Ivor Williams Elected Trustee (until 20 March 2017)

Vice Presidents 2017

Dr Jeffrey Aronson Vice President – Publications

Dr Niall Hyland Vice President – Meetings

Dr Alister McNeish Vice President – Policy & Public Engagement

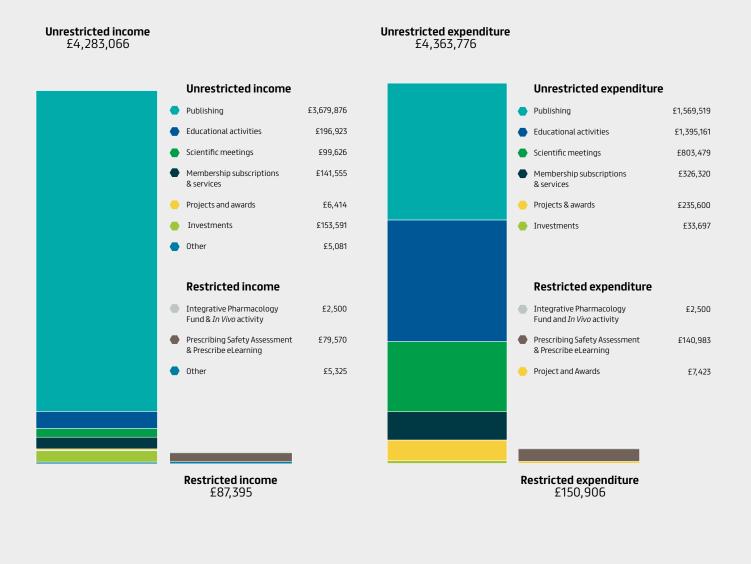
Professor Sir Munir Pirmohamed Vice President – Clinical

Dr Melisa Wallace Vice President – Academic Development



FINANCIALS

Income and expenditure for 2017



You can download a PDF of the Society's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 from the website, available under the "What we do" section of **www.bps.ac.uk/about**. The financial statements include the Financial Review, Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet, together with the Notes to the Accounts. They show the overall financial performance of the Society and provide an analysis of the incoming resources and how they were applied in the performance of the Society's objectives.

Total funds of the Society

The Society's wholly-owned subsidiary BPS Assessment Limited commenced trading on 31 March 2017 and so the financial performance reported here is of the "Group", which means the Society and its trading subsidiary together.

The total funds have increased by £295,830 (2016: £210,828 decrease). The resulting balance of total funds at 31 December 2017 amounted to \pounds 6,811,555 (2016: \pounds 6,515,725) of which \pounds 6,375,790 (2016: \pounds 6,041,449) is unrestricted funds.

Income

- Income for the year totalled £4,370,461 (2016: £3,716,676) which is an increase of 17.6%.
- Importantly, charitable activity income from journal publishing, which is the Society's main income source, has increased by 17.3% to £3,679,876 (2016: £3,136,439) mainly because of the relatively low value of UK Sterling compared with the US Dollar during the first half of 2017.
- Member numbers increased by 2.5% to 4,127 (2016: 4,025) and membership subscription income increased by 9.2% to £141,555 (2016: £129,646) as a result of an increase in the proportion of members paying a higher level of subscription, particularly Fellows. The overall increase in membership reflects the Society's longer term approach to strengthening and growing the discipline of pharmacology.
- Scientific meetings income decreased by £101,394 to £99,626 (2016: £201,020). Although Pharmacology 2017 was successful, 2016 also included one non-recurring large meeting and several other meetings planned for 2017 were postponed.
- Voluntary income is mostly for educational activities; it decreased by £15,742 to £39,239 (2016: £54,981) predominantly because of a reduction in the external funding for the Prescribing Safety Assessment.
- Investment income was £38,277 higher at £153,591 (2016: £115,314) reflecting a greater emphasis by the investment manager to seek dividends and interest.
- In addition there were net gains on investments totalling £440,051 (2016: £399,084).

Expenditure

- Expenditure on charitable activities totalled £4,480,985 (2016: £4,293,884) which is a 4.4% increase of £187,101.
- Journal publishing costs increased by £221,636 to £1,569,519 (2016: £1,347,883); the direct costs have been carefully controlled and the increase in total costs is largely attributable to the increased journal publishing income.
- Expenditure on educational activities at £1,538,694 was a 4.5% increase of £66,626 over the previous year (2016: £1,472,018) and included a second full year of enhanced education activity such as "Focus on Pharmacology".
- Projects and awards expenditure at £243,023 was similar to the previous year (2016: £244,065).
- Scientific meetings expenditure at £803,479 was a 4.7% decrease of £39,470 over the previous year (2016: £842,949).
- Capital expenditure totalled £108,900 (2016: £226,104) of which £51,071 (2016: £142,609) is the development cost of the new online platform that began supporting online assessment services in 2017.



LOOKING AHEAD: OUR 2018 OBJECTIVES

To remove barriers to participation and success, while welcoming equality and celebrating diversity, and being inclusive in all we do

Finalise the Society's inclusion strategy, and begin its implementation with the ultimate aim that projects are developed with active consideration of equality, diversity and inclusion

To set the agenda in education and skills

- To support access and career progression
- To support the next generation of learners undertaking education in pharmacology and clinical pharmacology
- To support pharmacology educators in their personal and professional development
- Develop our careers resources and connectivity with employers
- Further develop the Society's leadership within in vivo education and training
- Work with the education community to explore how the Society can best support its needs

To be the leader in the dissemination of world-class research related to pharmacology and therapeutics

- Deliver an integrated editorial strategy for BJP, BJCP and PR&P, focusing on journal development and growth
- Explore new ways of disseminating and communicating the outputs of pharmacological research
- Increase impact and quality of the Society's existing publications
- Begin implementing the five-year strategy of improving and growing the annual meeting
- Review activities that will improve the quality of the Society's meetings, and our support for non-Society meetings

To engage patients and partners in the NHS in our advocacy for fundamental and clinical research, as well as contributing to strategic leadership

- Deliver a second Clinical Pharmacology Month in October 2018
- Continue to deliver the Prescribing Safety Assessment to a high standard across all UK medical schools
- Engage strategically with our community and decision makers to protect and advance clinical pharmacology

To sustain a skilled workforce that supports the development of novel therapeutics

- Deliver high quality training and education activities with a focus on skills
- Plan and begin implementing the expansion of the Ambassadors scheme

To lead the formation of valuable networks that reflect our position at the heart of the global pharmacology community

- Demonstrate the excellence of UK pharmacology and therapeutics, through attendance and support of WCP2018
- Launch the Society's hosting of IUPHAR's flagship 19th World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology – WCP2022
- Ascertain a present-day understanding of what membership of the Society could be, as a precursor to developing an updated membership strategy.
- Ensure that Pharmacology Matters showcases the full breadth and scope of activities undertaken by the Society

To deliver clear, relevant and accessible advice to policy makers

- Respond to pharmacology-relevant consultations on behalf of the Society
- Develop our role as a valuable contributor to life science and health policy through targeted campaigns

To nurture strategic partnerships across disciplines and sectors

Ensure that all projects in our work throughout 2018 are developed in collaboration and consultation with sector partners and related disciplines at the appropriate stage

To define, monitor and respond to strategic areas of scientific priority

Consider and advise upon the role played by pharmacology, clinical pharmacology and therapeutics in responding to global health challenges and scientific or technological developments, working with key stakeholders

We will underpin our activities by focusing on sustainability, resource and infrastructure, in the following areas:

- Continued development of sustainable and ethical income streams, moving towards self-financing of existing activities, as well as new revenues through our trading subsidiary, BPS Assessment Ltd
- Conducting a systematic review of areas of activity in order to establish the scope to generate value and income, and to consider efficiencies
- Reviewing governance practices across the Society to ensure they are appropriate for the 2018–2022 strategy
- Considering options for new premises that will be an appropriate home for the Society and take into account growth and best working practices for staff





Formed in 1931 the British Pharmacological Society is a charity with a mission to promote and advance the whole spectrum of pharmacology, including laboratory, clinical, and toxicological aspects. The Society now leads the way in the research and application of pharmacology around the world.

With around 4,000 members from more than 60 countries worldwide, the Society represents a diverse community working across academia, government agencies, industry and the health service.

British Pharmacological Society

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www.bps.ac.uk

