

Newsletter



Welcome

Welcome to the second newsletter of 2005, and we trust that you will continue to find it both helpful and informative in respect of the activities of the Society. Again, please feel free to pass this to colleagues who may not be members of the Society, and perhaps encourage them to join.

Website Update

We are most grateful to Sophie Mitchell who has redesigned the SARS website. Please take a few minutes to visit the site: not only is it easy to use, but also you will find that it contains a large amount of information about the Society and its activities, past, present and future. The website can be accessed at <http://www.surgicalresearch.org.uk>

Annual Meeting: January 2006

The annual meeting will be held in Edinburgh at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, 11-13 January, 2006. Please make a note in your diary now, and inform colleagues who may be interested in attending. The Programme Committee has been working hard to develop the programme, and full details will be posted at the website, when available. Amongst the features will be three symposia, the BJS and John Farndon lectures and the Patey Prize session. A new development at the meeting will be a session for surgical trainees, which will be run by, and for, trainees. The Committee have decided to increase the number of posters to be presented at the meeting, and all those selected to present will be asked to give a short oral presentation on their work. Of course, all poster presenters are eligible for the President's Poster Prize.

The Society is grateful to the local organiser, Mr Steve Wigmore and to Professor James Garden for their help in the planning for the meeting.

Abstract Submission will commence in mid-July, and the closing date will be 30 September 2005. Again, the process of abstract submission will be electronically and full details will be posted on the website.

Abstracts from SARS meetings

The British Journal of Surgery has changed its policy on the publication of abstracts from affiliated societies. In future, only the abstracts from papers presented in the Patey Prize session will be published in print in the BJS. All other abstracts of papers or posters presented at a SARS meeting will be printed online. Abstracts published online, can be quoted and referred to in subsequent publications, and can be referenced as part of a curriculum vitae.

It is opportune to remind all members that if an abstract is accepted for a SARS meeting, but is not subsequently presented at the meeting, then the abstract will not be forwarded for publication by the BJS.

Membership

The Society is continuing to offer 2 years' free membership for all Basic Surgical Trainees and Higher Surgical Trainees in Years 1 and 2. Please draw this to the attention of trainees working in your department.



SARS Council

Elections for membership of SARS Council will be held in August 2005. These are for posts to commence at the time of the AGM in January 2006.

Among the posts that need to be filled is that of 'Surgeon in Training'. If you are a trainee who would wish to contribute to the running of the Society through Council, please consider a nomination for this position.

More details of the Council and its members can be obtained from the website. In addition, if you wish to stand for election, please refer to the election page of the website.

Vacancies at the SAC

There are currently 3 vacancies on the SAC in General surgery to be filled by representatives from SARS. The President has asked that members give serious consideration to submitting an application to the SAC in order to ensure that the Society is correctly and fully represented in this area. Further details are available at http://www.jchst.org/sac_members/. The deadline for applications is 10 June 2005. Any member of the Society who is considering applying is asked to send a copy of their application to the President first, before submission to the SAC.

Clinical Excellence Awards

As one of the recognised 'specialist societies' SARS will be submitting a list of ranked individuals for consideration for higher clinical excellence awards. The group from the Society that will consider these are the President, the immediate past-President and the President-elect. Individuals who feel that they have made a significant contribution to academic surgery and research should submit a copy of their completed clinical excellence forms to the SARS Secretariat by **15 October 2005**. More details are available on the ACCEA page of the SARS website.

Consensus Conference 2 September 2005

In response to the proposed changes in surgical training following the publication of 'Modernising Medical Careers', the Society, along with the ASGBI, are organising a joint consensus conference on the theme of 'The incorporation of academia into surgical training programmes'. This builds on a discussion paper written by the President of SARS entitled 'Academia in Surgical Training- SARS/ASGBI Joint Approach'. The one day conference will be held on 2 September 2005 at the Royal College of Surgeons, and will be chaired by Irvin Taylor (President of SARS) and Mr Bob Lane (President of ASGBI). Further details and a copy of the discussion paper are available on the Consensus Conference page of the SARS website.

Travelling Fellowship

The Society will again be offering a Travelling Fellowship in 2005, and details are available at the Society website. The closing date for applications is 31 December 2005.