

# Newsletter



## Welcome

Welcome to the August newsletter, which contains important information concerning forthcoming SARS meetings and collaborations. As ever, please feel free to circulate this newsletter amongst your colleagues and junior staff and please encourage them to join the society. Remember, membership is free for all Basic Surgical Trainees and Year 1 and 2 Higher Surgical Trainees.

## SARS Annual Meeting

### **January 11-13th 2006, Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh**

Plans are well advanced for the 2006 meeting which will be held at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and timed to compliment their Quincentenary Celebrations.

The Local Organiser is Professor Stephen Wigmore and the programme promises to both excite and educate. The Patey Prize will be competitive with only the best 16 papers selected for presentation. This year there will be no parallel sessions. Following the success of the poster presentation session in Belfast and Newcastle, all selected poster authors will have the opportunity to present their work orally in 5 free poster presentation sessions, and to compete for the coveted President's Poster Prize.

We have organised a symposium on inflammation and another on clinical trials plus a trainees breakfast symposium. Guest lecturers at the meeting will include, Mr John Murie (Edinburgh), Professor James Garden (Edinburgh) and Professor Steve Lowry (New Jersey).

## Abstract Submission

Abstracts are now being accepted for the SARS Annual Meeting in Edinburgh. We are again utilising the services of iFormix and all submissions must be made electronically at [www.iformix.com](http://www.iformix.com).

**Closing date for submission is Midnight 30<sup>th</sup> September 2005.**

## SARS at the Vascular Society

### **Wednesday 23rd November 2005, 09.00 – 12.00, Bournemouth International Centre**

The first joint SARS/VS session was held in Harrogate last year and was extremely well received. Consequently, we have been invited to organise a further session this year. If you have an interest in Academic Vascular Surgery, please come along and bring your trainees, research nurses or any interested colleagues. Details of the programme will shortly appear on the VS website: [www.vascularsociety.org.uk](http://www.vascularsociety.org.uk).

## SARS at the Association of Surgeons

### **3rd –5th May 2006, Edinburgh International Conference Centre**

SARS will once more be represented at the 2006 ASGBI annual meeting. We have been invited to organise 3 symposia. These will involve education, bench to bedside and clinical trials. Further details will be posted on the website when available: [www.surgicalresearch.org.uk](http://www.surgicalresearch.org.uk)

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## Academic Surgery – a Consensus Conference

SARS and ASGBI are holding an important consensus conference to discuss academic surgery on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2005. Topics to be discussed include:

- What academic training should be undertaken by ALL surgical trainees?
- Training the surgical academic leaders of tomorrow
- Funding academic training.

All the major stakeholders in academic surgery are represented, with the object being to determine how academia can be appropriately incorporated into both academic and clinical training programmes. At the conclusion of the conference, guidelines will be produced and circulated widely. Professor Irving Taylor will summarise the conclusions at the SARS Annual meeting in Edinburgh, where there will be opportunity for further discussion.

## Academic F2 Posts

Modernising Medical Careers (MMC) commenced on 1st August 2005. New graduates enter the Foundation Programme and are members of Foundation Schools. On completion of F1, doctors become F2 trainees. The F2 year is designed to provide a broad infrastructure in clinical medicine and several of these posts will have a surgical content. However, of particular importance is the decision that 5% of F2 posts should be academic. It is essential that academic departments of surgery recognise the potential of this. Suitable F2 doctors should be encouraged to apply for the academic posts, but selection will be both crucial. Such individuals might be recognised during undergraduate training and might already be in possession of an intercalated BSc. Academic departments should plan a programme for academic F2 doctors, which includes exposure to research and teaching activities. SARS hopes to provide guidelines for appointment to F2 posts and future symposia will be directed towards encouraging development of specific academic F2 programmes.

## Council Elections

Three positions are available on SARS Council from January 2006, and one must be a Surgeon in Training. All nominations should be forwarded to the Honorary Secretary by Friday 16<sup>th</sup> September and should include a letter from the nominee, indicating their willingness to stand and undertake the commitment of attendance at Council meetings, and letters of support from a proposer and a seconder. All must be SARS members. Or you can download a nomination form here: [www.surgicalresearch.org.uk/elections.htm](http://www.surgicalresearch.org.uk/elections.htm)

## New SARS Mission Statement

Promoting excellence in surgical research, education and clinical innovation.

## And finally....

Congratulations go to Professor Kevin Burnand on his election to President Elect from January 2006. He will take over as President at the Annual Meeting in Cambridge in January 2007.

Mike Wyatt, Honorary Secretary, SARS