

**BEES Annual General Meeting
held at the Sir Clive Granger Building
University of Nottingham
9th September 2008**

Present: Hywel Williams (chair), Sue Lewis-Jones, Julia Schofield, Robert Dawe, Carsten Flohr (hon sec), John Ingram

Apologies: Andrew Finlay, Rod Hay, Sam Gibbs, Andrew Pembroke

1. Treasurers Statement

The current a/c balance at 22nd August 2008 is £18,291 (expenditure financial year 2007/8 £8,529, income financial year 2007/8 £8,654). The treasurer's statement was unanimously accepted.

2. BEES course

As in the past, this year's BEES course, held 6th-8th February 2008 in Nottingham, was a great success and fully subscribed (24 participants). Two Travel Fellowships were funded by BEES for Drs Jerre Mchana and Daudi Mavura from the RDTTC, Moshi Tanzania. The Fellowships cover travel and subsistence as well as the course fee. In addition, UK dermatologists hosted our Tanzanian colleagues for a week's clinical attachment in their departments after the meeting, which greatly enhanced the value of the trip to our overseas guests. The BEES course in 2009 will be held 4th-6th February 2009 (18 places booked already), and we plan to support two further doctors from the RDTTC in Tanzania.

Action: Hywel to invite head of the RDTTC in Tanzania (Henning Grossman) to nominate two new travelling fellows for the February 2009 course and to identify clinical departments who would be willing to host them the following week

3. Reflections on IDEA (EDEN/ADEN)/BEES Congress in Nottingham

All felt that the meeting was a great success and attended by the very best dermato-epidemiologist and public health researchers from Europe, the US, Canada, Mexico, and Iran. Although no pharmaceutical industry sponsorship was sought, all conference expenses were just about covered, so it is unlikely that BEES will need to cover any major expenses in hosting the meeting. The invited BEES lecture was given by Sir Peter Mansfield, Nobel Prize winner, on his work on MRI. The lecture was well received and supported by a honorarium from BEES. He was presented with a carved wooden apple from Sherwood Forest.

4. BEES Travel Awards

Dr Serling Chua won a Travel Fellowship in 2007 to attend a dermatology conference held at the RDTTC in Moshi, Tanzania. This year we plan to award two Fellowships to UK dermatologists. While preference will be given to

Specialist Registrars and Research Fellows, senior dermatologists will also be eligible to apply.

Action: Hywel to advertise two fellowships on the BEES website for 2008/9

5. BEES Summer School

The Summer School was held for the first time (18 participants) on the topic of "writing better papers". The day was very well received by trainees. Participant feedback indicated that having a Summer School on the same topic every year would be less useful, although it would be good to run such a topic every two years to pull in new cohorts of trainees. Some suggested having a summer school in basic statistical methods in 2009, which Hywel will consider if he can find enough help.

6. What shall we do in 2009?

It was agreed that next year's BEES meeting should be held again together with the BSID, as was done in 2007. The plan is to have a full morning or afternoon session on epidemiology and health service research related topics. We hope to have our own panel of experts who will choose the abstracts for poster and oral presentation. We plan to support those who present orally with £250 to cover the registration fee and part of the travel and accommodation expenses. Next year's BSID meeting will be held in Cirencester March 31st to April 1st, with Clive Archer as local organizer.

Action: Hywel to follow up this proposed linking to the 2009 BSID with Graham Ogg and Clive Archer.

7. AOB – There were no other business matters raised.

The BEES Executive Meeting followed on directly

No additional business was discussed and the executive approved the above actions