

UKCS SECRETARIAT
Department of Urogynaecology
Birmingham Women's Hospital
Metchley Park Road
Edgbaston
Birmingham
B15 2TG

Tel: 0121 607 4708

E-mail: HONORARY SECRETARY: Philip.toozs-hobson@whct.nhs.uk
HONORARY TREASURER: ralph.webb@nnuh.nhs.uk
SECRETARY; Elaine.smith@whct.nhs.uk

UKCS WEBSITE: www.ukcs.uk.net

UKCS NEWSLETTER November 2008

Dear Friends & Colleagues

The winter nights seem to have drawn in remarkably quickly this year and it's amazing how time has flown past since our last meeting in Basingstoke. It is traditional at this time of year to send out a newsletter to update you on what has happened over the last few months and also to remind you of the meeting in Swansea next year.

You will note that you *should* have received both an email and a hard copy of this and I would encourage those of you who have not received the electronic copy to contact our secretary Elaine Smith on the above email address to make sure that your details are correct. As you may also have noticed we have put this on the website so that you can keep up to date through that as well.

Whilst on the surface, not much may have seemed to have happened to UKCS, we are slowly changing things and by the time this arrives with you we may well have already overhauled certain aspects of the website. Doug is working on developing a blog style interactive forum. As ever we are looking for ways to make your society more user friendly for you and encourage contributions and this will be one way to allow us to do this. Additionally by placing a newsletter regularly on the website to encourage people to visit that and use it as a conduit for contact.

Urodynamic Certification

Since my last email there have been a number of meetings which have been highly productive in producing an extensive and well thought out curriculum for urodynamics. For the first time, we have tried to address the issues of different levels of competency for urodynamics with basic laboratory urodynamics being the cornerstone and more advanced techniques such as video urodynamics or ambulatory urodynamics requiring higher training. These documents are now in the final draft and we plan to launch this at UKCS in April next year. There have been extremely useful and constructive meetings with the Department of Health, Skills for Health, BSUG, BAUS and the

RCOG about this process and again by the time this is launched next year, hopefully it will already be well on its way to being embedded in the core curriculum in urology training and sub specialty training in urogynaecology and the ATSM (Advanced Training Skills Module) in urogynaecology.

I have been extremely grateful for all the positive feedback I have had from the different professional groups for the need for this and also the time and effort put in by those, too many to mention, involved in the working body that have produced the documents. Again as ever I would encourage those of you with comments good or bad to contact me if you feel you would like to be involved in this process prior to the final publication of the documents.

Taking UKCS into the Future

I am hopeful that we can make UKCS a more progressive and useful organisation for its members. With this in mind there have been several proposals for how to develop UKCS. As you know at the heart of UKCS has been that it is a multidisciplinary organisation which draws on the strengths of its diversity. Professor Malone-Lee has previously raised the issue that there is no current outlet for much of the basic science research including physiology and we are looking at ways of how we may be able to increase some of the basic science content in the meetings. When we held the annual meeting in Birmingham, we did for the first time have a parallel session which allowed some slightly more specialist presentations and tried to focus into some specialist areas. This met with mixed reviews with some people feeling that the strength of the society was that everybody attended everything and other people feeling that this was useful. Again I would welcome your views and perhaps this is something that we will discuss at the AGM in Swansea. Additionally I will be looking to develop an education committee with a remit of developing specific training courses allied to the main scientific meeting with the prime objective of providing training to meet specific appraisal objectives. I would welcome suggestions from the membership for topics which you feel would be appropriate to develop training courses for continued education, lifelong learning and appraisal and would also welcome expressions of interest of people who would be interested in joining such a committee.

With the development of certification in urodynamics we will undoubtedly need to expand the role of UKCS and there will be a need to have a governance committee and probably initially with grandfathering a certification committee to recognise people who would wish to be retrospectively credited or certified in urodynamics.

Internal Workings of UKCS

As many of you know from the meeting last year, I have taken over as secretary, trying to deal with the day to day running of UKCS and development of various UKCS activities. The real secretary of UKCS is Elaine Smith who works with me at the Womens Hospital and can be contacted with regard to most day to day enquiries. Thirdly Ralph Webb has taken over as treasurer and is responsible for all membership enquiries and financial issues.

And Finally.....What you can do....

Please visit the <http://www.ukcsconferences.com> site to look at the details for next years conference. Which as I mentioned earlier is where we plan to officially launch the Urodynamics documents (but I hope they will be available before then on the website). Membership can be renewed by contacting Ralph and new members are always welcome.

With the development of the education side I will need your ideas and suggestions which we can then sort through to start working on.

I look forward to seeing you all in Swansea.

Kind regards

Phil

