

BRITISH ANDROLOGY SOCIETY COMMITTEE

Chairman

Iwan Lewis-Jones
Reproductive Medicine Unit, Liverpool Women's Hospital
Crown St, Liverpool, L8 7SS
Tel: +44 (0) 151 708 9988 x 4215, Fax: +44 (0) 151 702 4042
e-mail: I.Lewis-Jones@liverpool.ac.uk

Treasurer

Mark Curry
Biology Department, The University of Lincoln
Riseholme Park, Lincoln
Lincs. LN2 2LG
Tel: +44 (0) 1522 895440, Fax: +44 (0) 1522 545436
e-mail: mrcurry@dmu.ac.uk

Secretary

Lindsay Robertson
Division of Veterinary Anatomy, University of Glasgow Veterinary School
Bearsden Road, Glasgow G61 1QH
Tel: +44 (0) 141 330 5714, Fax: +44 (0) 141 330 5715
e-mail l.robertson@vet.gla.ac.uk

Membership Secretary

Alireza Fazeli
Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine, University of Sheffield
Level 4, Jessop Wing, Tree Root Walk, Sheffield S10 2SF
Tel +44 (0) 114 2268195, Fax: +44 (0) 114 2268538
e-mail: A.fazeli@Sheffield.ac.uk

Programme Secretary

Ian Brewis
Reproductive Biology and Genetics Group, The Assisted Conception Unit
Birmingham Women's Hospital, Birmingham B15 2TG, UK
Tel +44 (0) 7773 400897, Fax +44 (0)1332-834123
e-mail: ianbrewis@hotmail.com)

Newsletter Editor and Student Representative

Lisa Thurston
Veterinary Basic Sciences, Royal Veterinary College
Royal College Street, Camden Town, London NW1 0TU
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7468 5270, Fax: +44 (0) 20 7388 1027
e-mail:lthurston@rvc.ac.uk

British Andrology Website:
<http://www.britishandrology.org.uk>

NEWSLETTER EDITOR'S MESSAGE

This is my first offering as editor of the BAS newsletter and I hope you all found it both interesting and informative.

In an attempt to produce a newsletter that appeals to the wide range of BAS members, I have become acutely aware of how vast the subject of andrology can be. Our members range from clinical human andrologists to basic scientists working on drosophila sperm, all of whom are asked to comment on issues as complex as HFEA guidelines or as topical as the latest fertility headline in the popular press. The strength of the BAS is that this diversity of expertise can be united with a common goal, the study, teaching and practice of andrology.

This newsletter is your forum and I would like to encourage the membership to use it. If you think there is an important subject that needs to be brought to the attention of the membership please let me know, either write a report for the newsletter or bring it to my attention and I will endeavour to address the issue.

I would like to thank the previous editor, Nicola Monks, for all her helpful advice. Only now do I fully appreciate the effort and perseverance required to produce this publication.

Lisa Thurston, Newsletter Editor (lthurston@rvc.ac.uk)

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The current year has been a good one for the Society following the Liverpool Meeting last November 2002. Your Committee is revisiting the possibility of making BAS a registered limited charity, bearing in mind that we are now working entirely as a learned Society.

I have represented BAS on the BFS Committee, the National Quality Assurance Panel for Andrology, the HFEA Laboratory Standards Committee, the National External Quality Assessment Scheme and the National Gamete Donation Trust.

We believe having our Meeting abstracts published has improved recruitment to the Society as well as increasing the number of papers put forward for presentation. The BAS Workshop in Aberdeen was a great success both from the content point of view and the number of delegates attending. Many congratulations to Ian Brewis who opened it so well.

The BGAS has also worked as a Stakeholder for the NICE Guidelines and we have been active in replying to the preliminary guidelines very recently published. Dr A Hirsh has sat in the NICE Guidelines group to represent Andrology.

The education Sub-committee has now been disbanded and has formed into the Association of Biomedical Andrologists to become the professional body for Seminologists. It will be involved in the training and accreditation of Seminologists and it has its own Committee with David Morell as its Chairman. The question of the transfer of training equipment has not been completed yet.

Representatives from the BAS and ABA will hopefully be present on their Committee to ensure close activity between the learned Society and the Professional Association.

Lastly, I would like to thank all the members of the Committee who have worked so hard for the BAS over the last eight months and it is with sadness we note that Melanie Griffiths has completed her term as Programme Secretary. We thank her for all her hard work and she will be replaced by Ian Brewis.

DR D I Lewis-Jones

Chairman

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR:

- 1. Ordinary Committee Member**
- 2. Postgrad/doc Representative**

Dear Members

There are currently two vacant positions on the BAS Committee. The Committee requires one additional Ordinary Member and a new Postgrad-doc Representative to replace Lisa Thurston who has kindly agreed to edit the Newsletter. Eligibility for the Ordinary Member position is open to all BAS members. Eligibility for the Postgrad-doc position is open to postgraduate students, postdoctoral workers and other young members working in the field of Andrology. Committee Meetings are usually held three times a year and Committee Members are required to attend at least one meeting in a calendar year.

A copy of the Nomination Form is enclosed in your Newsletter. Please photocopy as required and return nomination forms to me by October 14th.

Dr Lindsay Robertson, Division of Veterinary Anatomy, Department of Preclinical Studies, Glasgow Veterinary School, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 1QH.

MEMEBERSHIP SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to all the new members of the BAS!

Dr N. Akhtar, Mr. A. Alhaider, Dr S. Ali, Dr. R. Al-Nasser, Prof. Z. ChunYing, Miss B. Collins, Dr S. Conner, Miss J. Dobson, Miss L. Durell, Mr. R.K. Edwards, Mr I. Floyd, Dr P. Fowler, Miss L.J.A. Garrett, Dr N. Garrido, Mr A.S. Georgiou, Dr K.P.S. Gill, Miss K. Glynn, Mr .J. Goddard, Mr N. Gray, Miss W. Hamkari, Dr C. Hills, Miss S.L. Hopper, Dr V. Keros, Mr A. Lakmaker, Mr P. Milne, Dr A. Papatsoris, Mr T. Paradine, Ms R. Scanlon, Dr M. Walton, Miss V.A. Wells.

UPDATE MEMEBERS EMAIL LIST

Please could the BAS committee request that all members update their email addresses for our records. This can be done by sending your current email address to Dr Alireza Fazeli (A.fazeli@Sheffield.ac.uk). It is possible that in the future information concerning the BAS might be circulated to members using this medium and we would like to ascertain the number of members with email access at present. Thank you.

BRITISH ANDROLOGY SOCIETY

FORM FOR NOMINATION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

I NOMINATE * _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FAX: _____

BAS MEMBER: YES / NO

FOR THE POSITION OF: _____

(* Please photocopy the form if nominating more than one person)

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF SUITABILITY OF NOMINEE. (Include details of qualifications and current position).

NAME OF PROPOSER: _____

SIGNATURE OF PROPOSER: _____

SIGNATURE OF NOMINEE: _____

Return completed form to: Dr Lindsay Robertson, Secretary, British Andrology Society, Division of Veterinary Anatomy, Department of Veterinary Preclinical Studies, Glasgow Veterinary School, Bearsden, Glasgow, G61 1QH.

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS 14th OCTOBER 2003

POSTGRADOC PAGE

Well it's summer time and the living is easy, as they say! Well those people aren't fighting a losing battle in the laboratory with the heat! Those of you with air-conditioned labs (you lucky devils!) might not appreciate the predicament of those of us trying to produce consistent results with samples stored and transported at 37 degrees. My spermatozoa are not the happy swimmers they once were, but are now lying limp under the microscope with their beach towels at the ready. I was thinking of asking the BBC to change their weather forecasts so they provide information on temperature, pollen count and the additional... percentage of sperm that arrive at the lab dead due to excessive heat during transport! But enough of my ramblings, soon it will be winter and we can all complain about the cold again!

NEW POSTGRADOC REPRESENTATIVE

As I am sure you will all agree, it is about time I hung up my scalpel and stepped down from my position representing the younger members of the society. I would therefore like to call for nominations for a new BAS Postgradoc Rep. Applicants should be either PhD students, junior clinical andrologists, or scientists undertaking their first or second post-doctoral research positions. Committee meetings are held 3 times year and the appointee will be encouraged to attend as many of these meetings as possible. The representative will be closely involved in policy decisions and the general running of the society and will be responsible for coming up with innovative ways of improving the BAS for younger members. This is an excellent way of meeting new people and getting your face recognized, which all helps when looking for that elusive post-doctoral position!

All interested parties should forward the enclosed nomination form by October 14th 2003, to Dr Lindsay Robertson, Division of Veterinary Anatomy, Department of Preclinical Studies, Glasgow Veterinary School, Bearsden, Glasgow G61 1QH.

TRAVEL GRANTS

Please don't forget to apply for the BAS travel awards. Awards are available to successful applicants for travel to national and international conferences – so apply today! Students must have been BAS members for 6 months by the date of travel and must only receive one travel award every 2 years. The maximum award value is £250 and you will need to write a short report on your trip for the BAS newsletter (a small price to pay!). Application forms can be found on the BAS web page (www.britishandrology.org.uk). Application deadlines are April and September.

PhD SUPERVISORS

Please encourage your students to become BAS members. For a small subscription fee of £5 your student is entitled to:

Reduced registration fees for conferences and workshops held by the BAS promoting interaction with peers on a professional and social basis.

Access to **travel awards** for attending conferences (£250 every 2 years)

Student incentives to attend and present at BAS conferences (BAS oral communication prize session, postgradoc lunch etc.)

Application forms can be found on the web site (www.britishandrology.org.uk).

If you are a student member and have any comments or queries concerning the BAS please don't hesitate to contact me. Good luck with your research!

Lisa Thurston

lthurston@rvc.ac.uk

BAS ADVANCED TOPICS WORKSHOP

to honour the contribution of Robin Harrison to sperm research and the BAS

SPERM CAPACITATION AND FERTILIZATION UP CLOSE

13th July 2003, Aberdeen, Scotland.

This workshop proved to be a great success and I have been flattered by the positive feedback from both the delegates and speakers. The intention was to present an update on our understanding of the molecular mechanisms in spermatozoa that result in fertilization. Leading researchers from the UK and Europe discussed sperm capacitation, sperm interaction with the egg vestments, the acrosome reaction and finally sperm-egg fusion.

All of the speakers stuck to their remit honourably and gave an introduction to a particular topic before presenting more detailed ideas. This meant that the day was of interest to those who were new to the area and those already familiar with aspects of this field who wish to be updated on current research progress and thinking. I should like to thank the speakers and chairs in particular for the very high quality of the presentations which facilitated some really excellent discussions. Although recent progress in the field, especially in terms of our molecular understanding of certain elements of capacitation, has been remarkable we still have a long way to go.

Talking of capacitation - absolutely central to this work has been Robin Harrison who recently retired from active duty at The Babraham Institute in Cambridge. When I first started working towards this workshop, not one but four people independently contacted me to say that we should hold the day in Robin's honour for all of his contributions to spermatology and the BAS over the years. Knowing what an immodest fellow Robin is I was told by a number of colleagues that this should be kept secret from him!

To my very great surprise we all arrived and Robin was none the wiser. We had an excellent dinner attended by the speakers, BAS committee members and some delegates the evening before. The workshop was marked by a number of old colleagues and people who Robin had directly supervised giving talks as international leaders in their fields. Still I think Robin was in the dark. He certainly appeared visibly shocked when, at the end of the meeting, Paul Watson gave a review of his career, said a few kind words and made a presentation of an engraved glass bowl. Robin was almost speechless and it was a great honour for us all of us present to be able to acknowledge both his career and the man himself. Though he will now spend more time with his family, his beloved ornithology and probably new pursuits, I am sure that he will not leave these fantastic sperm cells completely behind. We wish Robin and his wife all the best in the future.

We were very pleased with the excellent attendance of 72 for a relatively focused meeting. This was perhaps due to the fact that it was tagged onto the Fertility 2003 meeting but I think that the BAS should also blow its own trumpet a little bit. In recent years the standard of these Advanced Workshops, which occur in addition to the AGMs, has been excellent. We have consistently shown that a strong programme will attract a 70-100 strong audience and fulfil a primary role of the society to educate its members.

The next BAS Advanced Topics Workshop will be in London, September 2004 on 'Reproductive Epithelia' and is being organised by Alireza Fazeli. I am also very keen to hear from colleagues keen to organise a workshop in 2005 with a more clinical slant.

Within this newsletter I have decided not to focus on the scientific detail of the day as the meeting will be also be written up as a review article in Human Fertility in due course. Thanks again to all of the speakers. I should like to single out Renske van Gestel from Utrecht for particular praise. As a Ph.D. student she was by far the most junior speaker and gave an excellent talk on sperm zona-binding proteins. Finally the BAS gratefully appreciates the support of the Wellcome Trust for funding the costs of the four speakers from mainland Europe.

Ian Brewis, Workshop Organiser (ianbrewis@hotmail.com)

DISTINGUISHED SCIENTIST AWARD

As some of you will be aware the BAS presented Dr Robin Harrison with a Distinguished Scientist Award at the recent BAS Advanced Topics Workshop in Aberdeen. The committee asked Robin if he might provide us with a synopsis of his career and an insight into the special relationship he has developed with the BAS, to be published in the newsletter. Here is his eloquent reply;

Dear BAS members

The BAS has done me a very great honour in awarding me the status of Distinguished Scientist at the Capacitation and Fertilization Close Up Workshop in Aberdeen in July. I should like to thank you all deeply, both for this award and for the magnificent inscribed glass bowl that I was presented with. I was extremely touched by the gesture, as well as being horribly embarrassed by Paul Watson's very kind accompanying remarks. Being slow on the uptake, I had failed to realise that Ian Brewis had purposely brought together so many of my friends to participate in the Workshop either as speakers or as audience. As a result, I'm afraid I was very incoherent in my thanks to the assembled company.

For some unaccountable reason, in return for passing my thanks on to you, the BAS committee has asked me to add a brief overview of my career, so here goes! I came to study spermatozoa quite by chance. During my first year at Cambridge I followed courses on Chemistry, Physics, Maths, and Metallurgy (loathsome subject!). One day during after-lunch coffee I was sitting on the floor browsing through a friend's books and came across a preliminary biochemistry textbook. I was hooked at once. The next academic year I switched to Biochemistry Part I, and followed that with Biochemistry Part II as my specialist subject for finals. The problem of earning my living then loomed, and I consulted the list of potential posts supplied to our class. The high-fliers (among them Tim Hunt, who last year won a Nobel Prize) were aiming to chase the details of mammalian protein synthesis, which was then a red-hot subject. However, as I wasn't in their league, I sought a less competitive post, and noted one investigating aspects of sperm biochemistry. This greatly intrigued me, and as the 'advertiser' was in a building on the Downing site, adjacent to that of Biochemistry, I wandered round to enquire. I was received by a most courteous person, who chatted to me briefly and lent me a book he had written on the Biochemistry of Semen, so that I could get some idea of the topic. The rest, as they say, was history, for this captivating person was none other than Thaddeus Mann himself, and the next September I joined the staff of the Animal Research Station on Huntingdon Road as his research assistant. One of Mann's particular characteristics was his encouragement and support of young people. Thus, after a year or so, I was allowed to convert my work towards a PhD, and I began in earnest under Mann's supervision to study glycolytic enzymes in sperm. They were halcyon days, as at that time the ARS enjoyed an unparalleled international reputation for reproductive biology. Though there's no space here to give a comprehensive list of the well-known names that passed through the ARS, suffice it to say I was surrounded by current or future international figures: in particular, apart from Thaddeus Mann himself, there was Tim Rowson, Chris Polge (both doyens of the cryopreservation of sperm and embryos – ARS had the first calf born from a frozen embryo as well as the first calf from frozen sperm), Cyril Adams (fertilization and early development in small mammals), and Hector Dott (sperm physiology); Bob Moor was just completing his PhD, and was soon followed by Ian Wilmut and Alan Trounson, while M.C. Chang had been a former student. As a raw graduate and a non-biologist(!) I was encouraged to seek information and advice from my senior colleagues. Essentially I owe my career to them, for all gave unstinting support and taught me continuously (with occasional well-merited criticism of my appalling lack of biological knowledge!). Younger BAS members may also be interested in the sense of history relating both to Thaddeus Mann and to another of my particular mentors, E. F. (Ted) Hartree, who at the time I joined the ARS was beginning his thorough studies on the biochemistry of acrosin. Both were associated with the 'dawn' period of biochemistry. Mann began his career working in the

laboratory of Parnas in Lwow (at that time in Poland, now in the Ukraine); Parnas was the founder of muscle biochemistry, and under his supervision Mann helped to discover one of the key enzymes of glycolysis! From Lwow, Mann transferred as a Rockefeller student to Cambridge to join the laboratory of David Keilin to work on oxidases. At that time Keilin was the equivalent of a scientific superstar having recently discovered the existence of the cytochromes, key agents in oxidative phosphorylation. In his laboratory was Ted Hartree, who became Keilin's most consistent collaborator, publishing with him some 40 papers over 20 years. I remain privately very impressed and proud to have been linked through two of my main mentors to such august scientific roots.

As regards my own work, after obtaining my PhD, I became bored with glycolytic enzymes and turned to acrosin, stimulated by Ted Hartree's work but intending a more biological approach. I did some studies of proacrosin activation, helped French colleagues to localize (pro) acrosin within the acrosomal matrix (showing that it was not a membrane-bound enzyme as had been previously believed), and for some time investigated acrosin inhibitors in sperm and seminal plasma. Becoming discouraged by the biochemical complexity of the inhibitor families, I turned to the acrosome reaction, stimulated by the arrival in my lab of a young German post-doc, Gabriele Shams-Borhan, who produced a nice study of ionophore induction of the AR in ram sperm. Not long afterwards, at the time the ARS was closing and the staff transferring to the Institute of Animal Physiology at Babraham, I was joined by Eduardo Roldan. At Babraham, we were stimulated by the work of Robin Irvine and his group on phospholipid metabolism, particularly phosphatidylinositol biphosphate and its involvement in calcium mobilisation. Eduardo then began the series of studies on phospholipid metabolism during the acrosome reaction for which he is so well known. When Eduardo obtained his own personal grant, he and I decided that, while he continued to work on the ionophore-induced AR, it would be very useful if I were to try to work on capacitation, since to study molecular events in a physiologically induced AR one would need a controlled population of capacitated sperm. Babraham had established a flow cytometry facility, run by Nigel Miller, and I became interested in the possibility of using flow cytometry to investigate capacitational changes in sperm samples. With Nigel's help, I used flow cytometry to investigate calcium levels in sperm samples incubated under IVF conditions. Noting the development of several sub-populations, with the help of several collaborations, I sought the components that were primarily responsible for this development, and soon 'homed in' on bicarbonate (already shown by others to be a key effector of capacitation). Since then, with the aid of many collaborators but particularly with Bart Gadella (who has continued and expanded the work), I have spent my time studying the bicarbonate-dependent molecular events that initiate the capacitation process.

In this resume, I have only indicated the main flows of my interests, and named but a very few of the people who have been kind enough to work with me. I am tremendously grateful to all of them, and keep very happy memories of our collaborations. I hope they will forgive me for not mentioning them individually.

The BAS has played a big part in my professional life outside the lab. I have always enjoyed the Society's meetings immensely, not only for their stimulating scientific content, but also for their social side and the opportunity to talk shop (as well as nonsense!) informally in their relaxing atmosphere.

For various reasons, now I am retired, I've decided that I shall 'hang my boots up' and stop involving myself in science. So it's unlikely I shall meet many of you again professionally (though, of course, social contacts will always be welcome!). In parting, I should like to thank you all deeply for your friendship.

Yours, Robin Harrison.

FERTILITY 2003, ABERDEEN, SCOTLAND

The Fertility 2003 Third Joint Meeting of the BAS, BFS and SRF proved to be a great success from so many points of view. Indeed this review is not so much intended for those 700 people that attended at least part of the meeting but more for those who didn't make it. You missed an excellent meeting, both from a scientific and social point of view. This is the third of these joint meetings and they are events not to be missed. You really do need to mark the next meeting in your diary when the date and venue (in two years time) is confirmed this Autumn. At this point I would like to thank all of the Local Organising Committee, The Joint Meetings Committee and the conference organisers for all of the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make this type of meeting such as success.

Starting with the pre-congress workshops, the BAS meeting on 'Sperm capacitation and fertilization up close' was a great success and a report on this day can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. The other workshops (one sponsored by the BFS/RCOG on 'The Management of Infertility' and one by the British Society of Immunology were also very well received.

Mid July experienced one of those mini-heatwaves that marked last summer as the time to forget about holidays abroad and return to that old favourite – the great British seaside. I am sure that I speak for most people who will remember Aberdeen in part for sitting out on the lawn outside Elphinstone Hall munching packed lunches and enjoying the warmth of the sun. Many of us did our own version of returning to the great British seaside by discovering that there were good beach walks within a few minutes of the conference. For myself, and I guess many others, they proved the perfect antidote to clearing away the cobwebs from the night before.

Talking of nights before, who will forget the ceilidh at the Beach Ballroom that was attended by 440 delegates. A great party was had by all. The conference dinner was also a tremendous event with really fantastic food and lots of dancing to live music. The stars of the evening were Harry Charlton as the Marshall Medallist and Roslia Harun, a Sheffield Ph.D. student, who won not one but two awards for her work on trophoblast stem cells generated from human embryonic stem cells.

During the main meeting, many considered the scientific highlights to be the anonymous lectures. Roger Pederson from Cambridge enlightened us about 'Embryonic steps towards stem cell medicine' during the HS Jacobs President's Lecture and the Patrick Steptoe Memorial lecture by Roger Gosden on 'The ageing ovary: The Achilles heel of reproduction' was excellent. Although a little heavy for some, Eli Adashi from Salt Lake City gave a presentation on 'Functional ovarian genomics: A tale of oocyte citizens'. The Parkes Lecture, presented by Richard Sharpe on 'Fetal origins of male reproductive disorders: From environment to mechanisms', was superb. Franchesca Houghton, one of the best young scientists in the country, gave an excellent Walpole Lecture.

The contribution of all those who presented short talks in the many parallel sessions should be stressed. The standard was very high and it was an invaluable experience for the more junior speakers who were presenting at a large conference for the first time. A mention should also go to all of those speakers who competed in the BAS Andrology Prize session and well done to Paul Fowler. As Chairman of the LOC he was a bit embarrassed to collect the award but he clearly gave the best presentation – so well done!

Finally I should like to thank Melanie Griffiths for all her hard work as BAS Programme Secretary and our representative in the organising committee for this meeting.

See you at Fertility 2005! *Ian Brewis*

ASSOCIATION OF BIOMEDICAL ANDROLOGISTS (ABA)

The Association of Biomedical Andrologists (ABA) has at long last formed itself as a company Ltd by guarantee and is now in a position to start bringing real benefits to its members. The whole process has taken almost a year, since the members of the former British Andrology Society Education sub committee, took the decision to form a new professional body to support scientists in the field of andrology. The ABA would like to thank the BAS for its considerable help and support in making the transition and would expect to work closely with its allied 'learned society' in the future. The ABA already has run its first basic semen analysis training course and has a membership of 50 which is growing daily. Along with the next basic semen analysis course due to run 19-23rd of August, ABA hopes that its waiting list for places will have been significantly shortened. Other courses/workshops will be planned in the future to take account of a rapidly moving field, particularly in terms of regulation and accreditation.

The first ABA newsletter will shortly be produced and will highlight some of the benefits to our members. There will be a regular focus on recent research, accreditation items as well as practical guidance to running your own clinical service. ABA mail also hopes to take off later in the year, providing a forum for scientists to put clinical questions to both the ABA committee as well as other members.

If you interested in joining, download the application form from www.aba.uk.net

The ABA Executive Committee are:

Chair, Dave Morroll David.Morroll@gstt.sthames.nhs.uk

Scientific Director at the Assisted Conception Unit, Guy's and St Thomas's in London.

Treasurer, Paul Hancock

hancp@est.nhs.uk

Senior Andrologist at the Dept of Pathology, Yeovil Hospital, Somerset

Secretary, Matt Tomlinson matthew.tomlinson@bwhct.nhs.uk

Director of Andrology at the Assisted Conception Unit, Birmingham Women's Hospital

Membership Secretary, Kate Whittington

k.whittington@bristol.ac.uk

Lecturer in Reproductive Medicine at the University of Bristol

Training Officer, Allan Pacey A.Pacey@Sheffield.ac.uk

Senior Lecturer in Andrology at the Academic Unit of Reproductive and Developmental Medicine, University of Sheffield.

TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATIONS

BAS Travel Awards are available to successful applicants for travel to national and international conferences - so apply today!

To qualify for an award, applicants must have been a **BAS member for at least one year, or a student member for six months**. Only one BAS travel grant per applicant will be awarded in a 2 years period and the maximum award value is **£250**. Successful applicants will be required to write a report on the conference attended for the BAS newsletter.

If you would like to apply for a travel grant, complete the travel grant application form (www.britishandrology.org.uk) and return it to the BAS treasurer (Mark Curry, mrcurry@dmu.ac.uk). Applications are assessed in April and September.

INTRA-UTERINE INSEMINATION - NATIONAL SURVEY

Dr Maz Khan is conducting a national survey on the role of IUI in male factor sub-fertility. He asks if all clinics practicing IUI would find a couple of minutes to take part in this survey. All clinics are suitable whether or not they are registered with the HFEA. The Questionnaire is available for response on the University of Bristol Reproductive Medicine web site; <http://www.red-msc.org.uk/survey/>
Thank you in advance to the membership for their help in this matter.

DIARY DATES

2003

Reproductive Health 2003, 10-13 September 2003

La Jolla, CA , United States, Tel: 877-444-ARHP, Email: conferences@arhp.org

The 4th Royan International Research Award International Scientific Congress & Workshops

13 - 15 September 2003, Tehran, Iran, Website: WWW.RoyanInstitute.Org

Workshop In Assisted Reproductive Technology, 15-19 September 2003

Bourn Hall Clinic, *Barbara Robinson*, Phone - +01954-717-252, barbara.robinson@serono.com

Reproductive Ageing, 19-20 September 2003

Palma de Maiorca ,Spain, Phone - +39-06-70384 568, flaminia.masprone@serono.com

FIGO 2003 World Congress meeting, 20-26 September 2003

Santiago, Chile, <http://www.figo.org/figo2003.asp>, Telephone: +44 20 7224 3270

Alpha-Andrology 2003, (4th Biennial Alpha Conference and 8th Meeting of Modern ART and Andrologies in the 2000s), 24-28 September 2003

Antwerp, Belgium, website: <http://www.alpha-andrology2003.com/>

3rd International Symposium on Testosterone: Action, Deficiency, Substitution

25-28 September 2003, Muenster, Germany, Tel: +49-251-8356096, Email: nieschl@uni-muenster.de

8th Meeting of Modern ART and Andrologies in the 2000s, 25-28 September 2003

Antwerp, Belgium, email: GIS@grantais.demon.co.uk or Patricia.jarkowski@zol.be

European Academy of Andrology (EAA) International Symposium "Genetics of Male Infertility: from Research to Clinic", 2-4 October 2003

Florence, Italy, www.dfc.unifi.it/genetics-eea

EAA 2nd Best Practice Meeting on Molecular Diagnosis of Microdeletions of the Y chromosome

5 October 2003, Florence, Italy, i.cavaciocchi@dfc.unifi.it

59th Annual Meeting of the American Society for Reproductive Medicine

October 11-15, 2003, San Antonio, Texas, USA, Tel: 205-978-5000, Fax: 205-978-5018, website: <http://www.asrm.org/Professionals/Meetings/annualmeeting.html>

20th Congresso Societa Italiana di Andrologia, 25-28 October 2003

Capri, Italy, Phone: 00-39-051-235-993, Email: evcongressi@emiliaviaggi.it

Fertility Nurse Training, 27-31 October 2003

Bourn Hall Clinic, Bourn, Cambridge, United Kingdom, CB3 7TR, Phone - +01954-717-252
email: barbara.robinson@serono.com

194th Meeting of the Society for Endocrinology, 3-5 November 2003

London, UK, Tel: +44-1454-642210, Web: <http://www.endocrinology.org>

CFAS 49th Annual Meeting, 5-8 November 2003

Montreal, Canada, <http://www.cfas.ca/english/lurk/meeting.asp>

2004

ACE/BFS Meeting, January 2004

Liverpool, UK, Tel: +44 (0)1454 642217, Email: bfs@bioscientifica.com

BES 2004: 23rd Joint Meeting of the British Endocrine Societies in association with EFES

22-24 March 2004, Brighton, UK, Tel: +44-1454-642210,

Web: <http://www.endocrinology.org/sfe/confs.htm>

BFS Annual Meeting, March 31 - April 2 2004

Cheltenham, UK, <http://www.britishfertilitysociety.org.uk/meetings/forthcoming.html>

Conference of The Society for Reproduction & Fertility, April 2004

Ghent, Belgium, Phone: 44-1-223-830-665, Email: office@ssf.org.uk

29th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Andrology, April 17-20, 2004

Baltimore, USA, <http://www.andrologysociety.com>

European Congress of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, 12 - 15 May 2004

Athens, Greece, E-mail : geocre@aretaieio.uoa.gr

European Federation of Sexology, May 12-16, 2004

Brighton, UK, <http://www.efs2004.com>

ENDO 2004: 86th Annual Meeting, 16-19 June 2004

New Orleans, LA, USA, Tel: +1-301-9410220, Web: <http://www.endo-society.org>

ESHRE 2004, 27-30 June 2004

Berlin, Germany, Tel +49 (0)30 300 669-0, E-mail: berlin@cpo-hanser.de

37th Annual Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) Meeting, July 31 - August 4, 2004

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, <http://www.ssr.org>

3rd European Congress of Andrology/Annual Meeting of the German Andrology Society

Sept 11-14, 2004, Munster, Germany, Contact Trevor Cooper (email: cooper@uni-muenster.de)

BAS Advanced Topics Workshop on 'Reproductive Epithelia', Sept 2004 (precise date to be confirmed), London, UK, Contact Alireza Fazeli (e-mail: a.fazeli@sheffield.ac.uk)

BAS Annual Meeting, Nov 2004; precise date and venue to be confirmed

Contact Ian Brewis (e-mail: ianbrewis@hotmail.com)