2,269 members

Endocrine Society of Australia endorses JOE and JME

First of two science guidelines on metabolic phenotyping published in Journal of Endocrinology in conjunction with Science Committee.

International Clinical Update 2014 in India attracts >1,000 delegates

Average number of article downloads from the Society’s Open Access journal, Endocrine Connections, increases by almost 190% in 12 months.

Supporting our basic researchers

Launch of Equipment grant to support principal investigators wishing to establish a lab.


Young Endocrinologists put their questions to parliamentarians at Voice of the Future 2014.

“The Society has a genuine interest in helping young scientists develop their careers”

Opeolu Ojo

Three members present their research at SET for Britain during National Science and Engineering week.

“Supporting stem cell & reproductive research

Society signs Understanding Animal Research’s Concordat on openness on the use of animals in research in the UK.

Calling for openness on animals in research

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Endocrinology on TV


“Tremendous” The Times

Novel approach used in the treatment of diabetes.

JAN

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec
YEAR IN REVIEW 2013–14

THE SOCIETY FOR ENDOCRINOLOGY is a UK-based membership organisation representing a global community of scientists, clinicians and nurses who work with hormones. Since 1946, we have been a leading voice of endocrinology worldwide. Together we aim to improve public health by advancing scientific and clinical endocrine education and research. We also seek to serve the public interest by engaging patients, policy-makers, educators and the public with hormone science. Our ambition is to be a world-leading authority on hormones. With this ambition in mind, we work to:

• To advance scientific and clinical education and research in endocrinology for the public benefit
• To attract high quality scientists, doctors and nurses into endocrinology and support their professional development to advance science and medicine
• To engage the public with endocrinology and its impact
• To raise the profile and be the voice of endocrinology in the UK
• To promote and support the global endocrine community through collaboration.

This review covers the period August 2013 to December 2014.

STEPHEN O’RAHILLY (PRESIDENT)

It has been an honour and a pleasure to take on the role of President of your Society and my first year has been a steep learning curve. It has amazed me how a relatively small Society such as ours can make such an important difference in so many domains; including enhancing clinical care by producing authoritative well informed guidelines, supporting the research of early career scientists and engaging the public with endocrinology. There are two particular areas where the Society can have a very important catalytic effect which will be areas of focus in 2015. By better capturing and co-ordinating the breadth of clinical and basic science excellence of our membership across endocrinology we can help ensure our discipline competes effectively for much larger pots of national and European research funding, particularly in the basic-clinical science interface. I believe that the Endocrine Network concept initiated very successfully in reproductive endocrinology and about to be rolled out in other disciplines will be an exciting way of facilitating that vision. Secondly, I believe the Society can play a larger and more effective role in developing and supporting initiatives designed to attract the best young minds to the fascination of endocrinology. This is essential if our discipline is to continue to thrive.

Thanks are due to all our members, especially those who serve on our Committees and our Council of Management. Without you, the Society would simply cease to function. Particular thanks go to my fellow Officers David Ray (General Secretary), Graham Williams (Treasurer) and Chris McCabe (Programme Secretary) who have all worked tirelessly on your behalf.

Finally, we are fortunate to have a (Programme Secretary) who have all worked tirelessly on your behalf. We are grateful to our Corporate Supporters 2013–14.

SHARING KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES WITHIN THE COMMUNITY

A BIGGER AND BETTER SfE BES…

Following a survey of our members on education and training, we worked hard to further improve the annual SfE BES conference by encouraging more delegate interaction through social media and a conference blog. We also filmed our Plenary lectures and made some of these available online.

Additional highlights:

• First journal awards presented
• highest number of satellite sessions
• structured networking sessions

After listening to member feedback, our Programme Committee has reduced the length of SfE BES 2015 from four to three days, while maintaining the quality and breadth of scientific, clinical and education sessions.

SfE BES IN NUMBERS

1,659 delegates

14% increase in paid delegates

71 people Tweeting, with combined reach of 85,000

10% more abstracts received

>300 press articles in 19 countries, 4 radio interviews and 1 prime time TV broadcast

SOCIETY EVENTS 2013–14

Endocrine Nurse Update

Liverpool 2013 | Belfast 2014

Career Development Workshops

Oxfordshire 2013 | Gloucestershire 2014

Clinical Update

Bristol 2013 | Manchester 2014

National Clinical Cases

London 2014

Regional Clinical Cases

Oxford 2013 | Dundee 2014

SfE BES Conference

Liverpool 2014

This year our first Endocrine Network was launched in Reproductive Endocrinology and Biology, led by Professor Stephen Franks (Imperial College London, UK) and Dr Andrew Childs (Royal Veterinary College, UK).

“We have a had a great deal of positive feedback from Society members. In 2015, as well as organising meetings, we look forward to using the network to explore the possibilities for collaborative research in reproductive endocrinology and biology.” Stephen Franks

“I’m the go-to conference for endocrinology in the UK, if not the world.”

“Endocrinology is a great place to come and get inspired and it’s certainly done that – I can feel the passion in the air!”

“Session 6, ‘The quality of science is high – I think it’s terrific.’”

“ ‘It’s the community to come to together to expand their professional networks and strengthen existing collaborations.’

This is a great review and opportunity to meet lots of other nurses working in the area.”
“I have gained a rather extensive toolbox of laboratory skills, many of which are relevant to my final-year project and future research interests. I believe the true value is less tangible than technical capabilities.”

Summer Studentship recipient

“A great opportunity to present some of my research findings to an international audience.”

Conference Grant recipient

This year we started work on a new careers support programme aiming to attract a new generation of endocrinology research scientists. This groundbreaking work is defining a new career track by which the circadian clock couples with the neuroendocrine system.

CLINICAL PRIZE WINNER
Dr Channa Jayasena, Imperial College London, for Clinical effects of kisspeptin on reproductive hormone secretion. LH pulsatility and oocyte maturation during self-treatment.

BASIC SCIENCE PRIZE WINNER
Dr Cynthia Andoniadou, Kings College London for Sox2+ cells of the postnatal pituitary can differentiate into hormone producing cells in vitro and have tumour-inducing potential.

RECOGNISING AND REWARDING EXCELLENCE IN ENDOCRINOLOGY

MANY OF OUR MEMBERS ARE WORLD-LEADING ENDOCRINOLOGISTS; OTHERS ARE JUST STARTING OUT IN THE FIELD. REGARDLESS OF EXPERIENCE, OUR MEMBERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO BE RECOGNISED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SECTOR AT EVERY STAGE OF THEIR CAREER.

2014 MEDALLISTS’ HALL OF FAME

BURT O’MALLEY
Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA

“for his major research contributions and commitment to providing insight into the mechanisms by which the circadian clock couples with the neuroendocrine system”

ANDREW LOUDON
University of Manchester, UK

“for his pioneering studies and contributions which have made significant impact to the discipline”

MITCHELL LAZAR
University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, USA

“for his major contributions to scientific discovery, translation into clinical practice and education in male reproductive health and his international collaborations”

ROBERT I. McLACHLAN
Prince Henry’s Institute, Melbourne, Australia

“For his outstanding record of basic and clinical research on the transport, metabolism and action of thyroid hormones”

THEO VISSE
Erasmus University Medical Centre, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

OTHER PRIZES AND AWARD WINNERS 2013–14

UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE
Emma Smith, University of Warwick, for her essay entitled Too BAT or Too Fat. That is the Question.

JOURNAL AWARDS
Five awards were distributed for an outstanding paper published in each of the Society’s five official journals.

2013–14 Prize and Award Winners can be found on our website.

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COMING IN 2015...

- Competency Framework for Adult Endocrine Nursing has been expanded to include further competencies. The updated version will be published in Endocrine Connections in 2015
- New Emergency Guidance compiled on adrenal insufficiency
- The UK Acromegaly Register, for Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAHASE) research projects continue to gather valuable data presenting at international meetings (IBE BES 2014, IEC 2014 and ENDO 2014). Latest findings from the CAHASE project were published in the November 2013 issue of Clinical Endocrinology.
- The Society is extremely grateful to Ipsen and Immunodiagnostic Systems for their continued sponsorship of the UK Acromegaly Register.

THE POST-RADIOIODINE MANAGEMENT OF PATIENTS WITH GRAVES’ DISEASE (PRAGMA) project has now completed its patient recruitment phase, with a total of 762 patients. The aim of the study is to inform future treatment of patients with Graves’ disease. PRAGMA draws to a close end 2014.

The APOPLEXY AUDIT PROJECT is well over half way through recruitment phase. This project aims to understand how clinical practice currently fits with recommendations set out in the Society for Endocrinology UK guidance for the management of pituitary apoplexy.

Our project to assess TRANSITIONAL CARE IN ENDOCRINOLOGY across the UK has also completed patient recruitment.

The UK ACROMEGALY REGISTER is well over half way through its recruitment phase, enhancing its discoverability. EDMC3 has published 18 case reports by Society members in the first 18 months from launch.

THE UK ACROMEGALY REGISTER, the CONGENITAL ADRENAL HYPERPLASIA (CAHASE) research projects continue to gather valuable data presenting at international meetings (IBE BES 2014, IEC 2014 and ENDO 2014). Latest findings from the CAHASE project were published in the November 2013 issue of Clinical Endocrinology.

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The Society has continued to pursue its financial strategy to reduce surplus reserves by setting deficit budgets. The strategy maintained substantial grant support of members, patient groups and public activities; subsidising conferences and educational events and the strategic development of the Society for the future. The financial commitment to these activities has previously been diluted by strong performance from the investment portfolio and Bioscientifica. However, 2013-14 saw modest movement on the investment portfolio and reduced returns from Bioscientifica, in line with planned investment in new products. Consequently, a deficit of £717K for the year was achieved, albeit lower than the budgeted deficit. The Society has maintained high levels of reserves in recent years facilitating increased activities and grants programmes. The success in reducing reserves coinciding with the desire to maintain the increased activities reduces the overall surplus reserves and the strategy is now being developed in order to ensure that reserves continue to be reduced in an appropriately controlled manner.

Gift aid from the trading subsidiary, Bioscientifica, is significant in supporting current and future member and public activities. Journal publishing remains a significant element of Bioscientifica’s activities and the continuing challenges in the rapidly changing publishing environment highlight the need to secure future funding. Council recognises the importance of the gift aid contribution and continues to support Bioscientifica’s investment in its business to underpin the continuing growth and development of Society activities.

Grants awarded by the Society during the year represent 96% of the gift aid from Bioscientifica; an increase from 74% last year. Council recognises that this level is not sustainable and have agreed targets of an appropriate proportion of available income for the future.

Movements in the value of the investment portfolio can lead to gains or losses for the Society. During the year the movements on investments largely balanced out resulting in a small gain.

In accordance with the Company’s Articles of Association, management of the Company’s investments is delegated to an authorised investment manager. The portfolio is managed by reference to the investment policy which reflects the Society’s aims and attitude to risk.

The red line in the graph below shows the level of the reserves requirement, as set by the Trustees. This should be the maximum level of reserves retained and the Trustees are required to establish plans to utilise any surplus. The actual level of readily usable reserves is shown as the mauve line, and stood at £3.94M at 31 July 2014, standing at £497K over the reserve requirement. The increase in the reserve requirement and the impact of the trend of deficit budgets indicate that the remaining surplus will be released over the next two years.

The Society maintains a reserve intended to provide support in case of economic downturn in order to maintain the Society as a going concern for a minimum of 2 years. This is particularly important with regard to the dependency on publishing as a source of income through Bioscientifica. A full review of the reserves policy was performed during the year to ensure that it remains fit for purpose. The principles adopted remain unaltered, but the calculation methodology was updated to reflect Council’s priorities, as a result of which the reserve requirement increased by 14% to £3.44M.

A full copy of the Trustees’ report and accounts for Aug 13–Jul 14 is available on the website at www.endocrinology.org/about/annual.html. Finances for the period Aug 14–Dec 14 will be available mid-2015.
THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

THE SOCIETY FOR ENDOCRINOLOGY EXISTS THROUGH ITS MEMBERS. WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THOSE WHO GIVE UP MUCH OF THEIR TIME AND EXPERTISE TO ENSURE THAT SOCIETY ACTIVITIES ARE CONTINUALLY BEING DEVELOPED TO MEET THE NEEDS OF THE ENDOCRINOLOGY COMMUNITY.

THE SOCIETY IS ALSO GRATEFUL TO A NUMBER OF EXTERNAL COLLABORATORS THAT ENSURE WE MAXIMISE THE IMPACT OF THE WORK THAT WE DO: