

Honorary Secretary Report for 2008-2009

This is my first year as secretary and as the President has already mentioned, it has sailed by at an incredibly fast pace. It would seem that one of the early roles of each new ACSR D Secretary is to review the contact email addresses and compile a comprehensive distribution list, so like my predecessor I started the year updating email addresses and contact details and have since tried to keep everyone up to date with what's going on. However, I am aware that a number of colleagues have not received communication from me and a number of retired colleagues appear to remain on the distribution list in error. I am therefore working with the Treasurer to establish accurate data and would appeal to the membership for help in this regard when I send out a request for contact details of colleagues in their respective Institutions in the near future

We have experienced difficulty with the web site over the past year, with requested updates and document postings having failed to appear. We are as a Council reviewing options in this regard, and have considered the possibility of appointing a dedicated Webmaster, or to request direct access to the website for the President, Secretary and Treasurer. Transfer of the Website to other commercial management companies has also been suggested, which is likely to be associated with considerably higher maintenance costs.

I represented the society on the only SAC meeting held so far this year in April. There were a number of issues raised, the most significant of which was the proposal by the Education Committee of the GDC regarding access to the monospecialty lists. As the President has already mentioned, this will mean that those Restorative trainees who have completed training and hold a CCST in Restorative Dentistry will no longer have automatic entry to the component Specialty lists, but will be required to sit an MRD exam in the individual Specialty. This represents a fundamental and to many a retrograde step, although it received fairly wide support in the SAC. It would appear that the GDC decision is now final.

The composition of the SAC was also raised with the suggestion that it be reduced in line with other SACs. Currently there are two representatives from each of the Restorative specialist societies allowing balanced support from both NHS and Academic viewpoints. This move could possibly mean that the balance would be lost, with the potential for bias in advice delivered.

The ACCEA process for 2009 is now under way and any colleague wishing support from ACSR D for their application should contact me with their application.

Kind regards

Martin