



## MINUTE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at BNA 2019 in Dublin on 15/04/19 at 12.50 pm

The accounts for 2018 and the draft minute of the 2018 AGM were made available on the BSN website

[https://www.neuroendo.org.uk/page.php?item\\_name=Accounts+of+the+Society](https://www.neuroendo.org.uk/page.php?item_name=Accounts+of+the+Society)

[https://www.neuroendo.org.uk/page.php?item\\_name=2016+AGM+in+Glasgow](https://www.neuroendo.org.uk/page.php?item_name=2016+AGM+in+Glasgow)

### 1. Apologies for absence

Kate Ellacott, Mike Ludwig, Maria Canal, Amy Warner, Rebecca Dumbell, Helen Christian, Jon Johnston

### 2. Present

22 members were present

### 3. Approval of the minutes of the 2018 AGM (Toronto).

The minutes of the 2018 AGM were approved as presented.

### 4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising identified that were not scheduled later in the meeting.

### 5. President's report

GY noted that the BSN had had a good year and had continued to grow membership numbers (without a concerted recruitment drive). The biggest element of note was that since the last AGM we are seeing the effects of a dedicated communications appointment. This has resulted in initiative such as the stand at BNA and the significant increase in both our social media presence and communications to members about grants and lab visits etc.

## 6. Treasurers report (including to receive the 2018 Trustees report and Accounts)

Summary	Expenditure 1 Direct charitable expenditure		Expenditure 2 Governance and support		Expenditure 3 Grants breakdown			
	2018	2017	£	2018	2017	£	2018 No.	2017 No.
Income	156,535	202,214	Conference	-	26,428	Accountancy & professional fees	17,934	11,958
Expenditure	377,769	250,289	JNE	82,427	47,539	Subscriptions	4,283	373
Surplus	188,766	11,945	Communications	11,203	-	Committee expenses	4,844	8,905
Reserves	526,649	417,323	Grants	246,988	120,501	Membership & web	8,323	25,554
			Other	940	3,832	Other	1,690	1,343
			<b>Total direct charitable expenditure</b>	<b>341,513</b>	<b>207,040</b>	<b>Total governance &amp; support expenditure</b>	<b>36,359</b>	<b>43,134</b>
						Symposium support	91,986	4,746
						Conference travel	57,803	109
						Research visits	17,706	0
						Student lab exp	21,594	15
						Project support	42,273	0
						PANS	516,033	210,000

ST reported that 2018 had been a good year financially as we had received a signing deal payment from Wiley.

Details are given above but the headlines are

- Reserves have increased to > £0.5 million
- Direct charity expenditure increased. Large expenditure to ICN and BNA but all the BNA costs have been carried forward into the 2019 accounts.
- JNE strategic review has led to a number of initiatives, with planned expenditure.
- Communications costs will increase in 2019
- Background costs down overall
- Web costs went down as redevelopment of the website occurred in the previous year
- A large increase in grant expenditure. Almost all schemes up except for the project support grants
- Committee will be liaising with PANS for update on how the BSN grant was spent and what is needed for the future.
- 

ST asked for any questions, re the financial report but none were forthcoming.

ST asked the AGM to re-approve the auditor. We had moved to an individual who specialises with learned societies and this has helped considerably and is cheaper. The auditor was approved by the AGM.

## 7. Membership secretary report

BSN membership - April 2019 BSN membership - April 2019

Category	Price	Number	Category	Price	Number
Emeritus/Retired	£10	0	Emeritus/Retired	£10	0
Honorary	Free	24	Honorary	Free	24
Full - Academic	£75	137	Full - Academic	£75	137
Full - Postdoc	£30	128	Full - Postdoc	£30	128
Technician	£10	9	Technician	£10	9
Student	£10	171	Student	£10	171
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>469</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>469</b>



AMC reported that as of 1<sup>st</sup> April we had 468 members. This is a 12% increase since last year. There had been a decrease in full academic members n=16 but this could be because we normally report membership figures later in the year.

AMC asked if there were any questions relating to membership. Tyler Stevenson asked if the growth was associated with any particular geographical location. It is not.

### **8. Meeting secretary's report**

PJ reported that next years meeting will be with SNE and will be on the 23-25<sup>th</sup> sept in Bordeaux. PJ informed the BSN membership that there will be a call for symposia in Sept this year for the 2020 meeting.

The 2021 meeting will be in Exeter

The 2022 meeting will be the ICN in Glasgow

### **9. Grant panel co-ordinator report**

MB reported that potentially as a result of the increased membership there had been an increase in applications for all grant types. This means that the grant schemes are becoming more competitive but success rate remains excellent. The Project support grant scheme had the lowest success rate but this was still at ~50%.

MB advised BSN members to check the website as there had been some changes to some of the schemes e.g. Project support grants have increased to £7K

To date we have only had 2 applications for the outreach and public engagement grant scheme.

MB advised the BSN members that a new scheme the Academic support fund is being rolled out to provide research funds for new academic staff or established staff who have no current funding.

### **10. Communications secretary's report**

### **11. Journal of Neuroendocrinology Editors report**

## **12. Journal of Neuroendocrinology secretary's report**

JM reported that the BSN is in a fortunate position as the founders of the Journal kept control of the finances and we all benefit from the success of JNE. JNE reiterated that the BSN is not just for British members, and noted that only a minority of papers in JNE come from the UK.

In addition to grants, JM reminded the meeting that JNE can also support scientific meetings. The JNE journal office now handles symposium support applications. Applications can be for stand alone meeting or to sponsor symposia in an existing meeting.

The 30th anniversary edition was published in March 2019. All former EIC had contributed with very insightful remarks.

JNE has 3 special issues arising from ICN2018 but extra money means that JNE has the ability to support more meeting and has committed to supporting WCNH, Steroids and nervous system. And a satellite to the human brain mapping meeting which will be held in Rome in summer 2019.

Overall JNE is in good shape and JM thanked the authors, reviewers and editors.

JM invited questions. Paula Brunton – asked about Plan S. ST/JM reported that Wiley have a watching brief and are keeping on top of it. It is a revenue threat to Wiley's business model. We are reasonably happy that they have our interests at heart and we have regular meetings with Wiley to discuss both strategic and operational issues and concerns, the next of which will occur in May 2019. Wiley have publishing arrangements in place with three countries. At the moment few funders have signed up to Plan S and it seems unlikely that the USA and china will sign up. Wiley being imaginative and are leading the field. Most journals are priced within a package when sold to institutions so hard to tie income to a specific journal. Tyler Stevenson noted we have a responsibility to inform the general public about publically funded research. Can we do something to let people know that they can contact the author, e.g. via the website

## **13. Election/re-election of members of the Board of Trustees and the Advisory Board (see appendix)**

Maria Canal, Michelle Bellingham and Joe Herbert were re-elected to the board of trustees and advisory board.

## **14. A.O.C.B**

The AGM were informed that the board of Trustees is developing a planned 1 day ECR symposium and JNE 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebratory dinner to be held 9<sup>th</sup> Dec in Glasgow, details to follow.

Neil Evans  
Secretary  
By Order of the Board

---

## Appendix

<b>Proposed board members and positions 2019-20</b> (constitution states, 1/3 need to retire each year)		<b>CIO trustee</b>	<b>Current term ends</b>	<b>For re-election</b>
Giles Yeo	President (2016-20)	Yes	2021	
Helen Christian	Journal Secretary	Yes	2021	
Neil Evans	General Secretary	Yes	2021	
Maria Canal	Membership secretary	Yes	2022	
Dave Grattan	Overseas rep		2022	
Waljit Dhilllo	Clinical liaison	Yes	2021	
Mike Ludwig	Treasurer and Investment advisory subcommittee	Yes	2020	*
Preeti Jethwa	Meetings Secretary	Yes	2021	
Michelle Bellingham	Grants subcommittee chair	Yes	2022	
Amy Warner	Communications Secretary	Yes	2021	
Gisela Helfer	Ordinary member	Yes	2022	
Rebecca Dumbell	ESR representative		2020	*
Jon Johnson	Ordinary member	Yes	2022	
Kevin O'Byrne	Investment advisory subcommittee	Yes	2020	*
Kate Ellacott	Investment advisory subcommittee	Yes	2020	*
Anne-Marie O'Carroll	Ordinary member	Yes	2020	*

<b>Non voting board members</b>				
Julian Mercer	Journal Editor in chief		2020	*
TBA	ESR deputy		2019	

<b>Advisory board</b>				
Joe Herbert	chair		2022	
Stafford Lightman			2022	
John Russell			2021	
Jane Robinson			2022	
John Morris			2020	*