

Chair's Report

Dear Members,

In September the BMSS held its biggest annual meeting for almost a decade. With the increased financial pressures experienced by most industries and the sheer numbers of meetings to choose from, we expected attendance at our annual meeting to follow the trend. But for a wide variety of reasons Manchester proved attractive to our Members. The buzz around the conference was also noticeable. The exhibition and social activities were all well attended and I am sure every delegate will have their own favourite moment. This may have been winning at bowling on the Tuesday or revisiting one of your old instruments at the Museum of Science and Industry during the conference dinner. For me, the opportunity to award and thank those who have put so much back into our society was very memorable. At the conference dinner I presented Prof. Graham Cooks with the Aston Medal. Most of our Members will be familiar with the scientific achievements of Prof. Cooks and a number of groups in the UK have direct lineage from the Cooks lab. I know Prof. Cooks was very proud to bring the Aston medal back to the Aston laboratory

in Purdue University and we look forward to welcoming him back to our future meetings. The Society also awarded three life memberships during the Manchester meeting. I would like to express our thanks to Mira Doig, Peter Baugh and Peter Ryan who all received this honour for their extended services to BMSS. The last notable item concerning the Manchester meeting was that this was the last meeting to be organised by Tony Sullivan. Extraordinarily, Tony served as Meeting Secretary of the Society for almost 6 years. This is some achievement when the position has a maximum term of four years. Over this time the annual meetings, especially in terms of delegate interaction, have improved immensely. Tony's influence will be felt for years to come and I would like to thank him for all his efforts while serving on the BMSS committee.

At our recent AGM the Committee expressed its interest in having smaller sub-committees deal with specific projects. The first two of these projects identified were helping with our financial investments and improving our website/online membership experience. If you have skills in either of these areas and are willing

to volunteer to help, please contact us. We would be very grateful for the extra help.

As the winter months are now here, the Committee have tried to hasten the onset of summer by opening up the application process for our 2018 Summer Studentships. These are the perfect opportunity to perform a small "pump priming" activity for a larger grant, while offering a fresh graduate an opportunity of gaining the much needed experience of working in a research lab. The application process is quite simple so why not have a look. Please visit the website for more details. But hurry the closing date is Jan 1st 2018.

Finally, it just remains for me to wish all of our Members a very happy festive season. I know many suffer work withdrawal symptoms over this period so to give you something to look forward to, the Ambient Ionisation SIG have organised their 4th meeting on 31st January 2018. Have a great break and hopefully see you all at some stage in 2018.

Gavin O'Connor, BMSS Chair



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MALDI and Imaging SIG April 18th 2018

A date for your diaries. The next MALDI and Imaging SIG Meeting will take place on Wednesday April 18th 2018 at Sheffield Hallam University. This year, the plenary lecture will be given by Professor Pierre Chaurand from The University of Montreal. Pierre is one of the pioneers of MSI and a description of the work of his group on both fundamental aspects and applications of MSI can be found here www.webdepot.umontreal.ca/Usagers/chaورانp/MonDepotPublic/Chaurand_en.html.

We are also delighted that Professor Helen Cooper from The University of Birmingham has agreed to give the keynote lecture; Helen's recent work has seen the extension of applications of LESA-MS to proteins in their native conformation and an overview of the work of her group can be found here www.biosciences-labs.bham.ac.uk/cooper/index.php. We will be accepting abstracts for both oral and poster presentations, so please keep your eyes out for the call in the New Year.