President’s message Dec 2016 – posted 7/12/16

I am delighted to tell you that BTS membership is, after several years in decline, increasing – slowly, but it is moving in the right direction. Total membership currently stands at xxx.

All members should have received their membership renewal invitation in the past few days and we look forward to your continued support and engagement.

Based on those who responded to our survey last year, the membership demographic is skewed towards the more ‘mature member’ with just 18% of our members aged under 40. A new membership category was approved at the 2016 AGM and will launch in January 2017. Early Career Toxicologists (ECT) <link to Join the BTS section of the website> will have membership for five years after completion of full-time education at a significantly reduced annual subscription - £40 in 2017. Undergraduate and full-time MSc students will have free membership. PhD students will pay £20. This provides a great opportunity for young toxicologists to access all of the benefits of membership – several of which are specifically aimed at this group <link to relevant information on Prizes, awards, bursaries etc on the website>.

We can all play our part in advocating membership of our Society. I ask you to encourage colleagues who are not members, especially those in the ECT category, to join and gain access to the many benefits of membership. The future viability of our Society depends on boosting the numbers in this category.

One of the foremost benefits of membership is discounted registration for the BTS annual congress. Young toxicologists can also apply for bursaries to attend and present their work. We have responded to member feedback and the 2017 congress in Liverpool (3-5th April 2017) is scheduled to avoid the Easter school holidays and will not start until Monday morning. Despite the shortened format, the Scientific Sub-committee has organised a great programme. Do come and join us there.

Ernie by email 8/12/16:

On reflection could you please change the links in my new message as follows:

Early Career Toxicologists to <http://www.thebts.org/join-the-bts/how-to-join/>

several of which to <http://www.thebts.org/join-the-bts/>