Message from the President February 2015

Welcome to my first message of 2015. The Executive Committee held its last meeting before the Annual General Meeting in January 2015. The January meeting is always a busy one closing the business for the last year and preparing for the new incoming Executive Committee. We spent some time discussing the replacement for PCS in terms of our membership fulfilment. I am very pleased to tell you that we had a good response to our requests for Expressions of Interest in working with the Society and after discussion we have selected 6 companies to go forward to a full tender document. The presentations will be held in April and we hope to have the handover in the second quarter of 2015.

Registration for the Annual Congress 19th-22nd April is open and I encourage you to register soon for what looks like a busy and exciting meeting. We are pleased to host the Cameron Lecture from the Royal College of Pathologists and also the Barnes Prize which this year goes to Professor Ian Kimber OBE. The Continuing Education session is *In silico: present tense, future perfect*. The AGM is an important part of the Annual Congress and the papers will be available in late February. If you have any comments or points that you would like to raise either at the AGM or with the Executive Committee please contact me at president@thebts.org.

Ernie Harpur and Paul Brooker are organising a Local Co-ordinators (LoCo) teleconference on 11th February to encourage our LoCos to interact with their communities and to promote the BTS more widely. Again, if you would like help and become a LoCo please <u>contact me.</u>

The Executive Committee took a decision to increase our support for the ACT organised webinars and to interact more actively with the American College through Adam Woolley one of our Executive members. We will let you know about forthcoming webinars via email so watch out for the details.

Your Executive Committee will try to ensure that 2015 is a successful and productive year for the Society.

Professor Heather Wallace President British Toxicology Society