

Message from the President November 2014

The Executive Committee held its third meeting of 2014 at the end of September. We discussed a number of important issues affecting the health of the Society going forward. Our key window on the world is the website and we do have some issues to tackle here in terms of keeping it up to date. We have put in place a couple of simple strategies which we hope will help keep the content more current. I would like to thank the two Pauls, Paul Harrison and Paul Duffy, for their efforts with the website.

Another way in which we can showcase the BTS is by having a deck of informative and attractive powerpoint slides that members and LoCos can use at meetings, career fairs and after giving seminars or teaching. We have identified a series of 20 slides that we would like to put together and if anyone out there has a flair for slide design and would like to help with this please do contact me at president@thebts.org

In addition to the Executive Committee the Society has 6 Officers who meet annually to look at the governance of the Society and to plan strategically for the future. The Officers are the President, Vice-President, General Secretary, Treasurer, Scientific Meetings Secretary and Chair of the Scientific Subcommittee. Our meeting took place last month and we discussed the website, the newsletter, the annual congress and our strategy for future meetings. One major issue for the Society however is the falling membership. To remain a vibrant and cutting edge Society we need to attract new members especially in the early career categories. Again if you have any suggestions please do get in touch with me or contribute to our LinkedIn discussion.

The call for suggestions for symposia or workshops for EUROTOX 2016 has just been launched so if you have a good idea why not put it forward. Even better why not suggest it to Tim Gant or Maria Beaumont for the BTS Annual Congress in 2016!

Registration for our 2015 Annual Congress (April 19-22nd) at St John's Hotel near Birmingham will be open in early December. There are a limited number of packages with accommodation in the Congress Hotel available so remember and book early. Alternative accommodation is available nearby and we can accommodate up to 300 in the main lecture room. At the Congress we have the Barnes prize lecture for 2015 and the prestigious Cameron Lecture sponsored by the Royal College of Pathologists as well as an exciting Continuing Education programme on *In Silico Toxicology: Present Tense, Future Perfect* and our usual excellent array of scientific sessions and our popular Study Directors workshop. Save the date now and I hope to welcome many of you there.

Professor Heather Wallace
President British Toxicology Society