

Associate Fellows Summer Newsletter, August 2018

Introduction

On behalf of BAOMS Council, I am taking this opportunity and pleasure of writing our very first newsletter giving an update on how your SAS Representatives are working towards better opportunities for us all.

It has been a busy time since I joined BAOMS council in December 2016 along with Dr Meera Thavarajah representing all SAS doctors in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. Meera has since resigned to find a better working life balance. I hope that she will join the council again in the future. During her tenure on the BAOMS council, she was instrumental to all the initiatives taken by us both, which includes National OMFS SAS Survey and development of Associate Fellows webpage on BAOMS website at the least. Keeping in mind the position of Associate Fellows had been vacant for a number of years and like any other project, the beginning was rather slow but has now gained its pace with several projects that have been planned for the coming year.

New Associate Fellow Representative:

Dr Parminder Shoker has now kindly joined me as the new AF representative replacing Meera and we are hoping to do better in the future.

Call for Representation on SAS Sub-Committee

With an increasing workload that needs to be done for our grade, I would like to call for an interest for the position of Webmaster and Education/Conference Session lead for our SAS Sub-Committee. Please remember that while you will be leading the work, you will have lots of support while working with us all as a team.

National OMFS SAS Survey

and [National BAOMS OMFS workforce census](#):

The national survey involving all SAS doctors in OMFS with an encouraging response. The results of this survey can be seen on Associate Fellows webpage listed among membership groups on the BAOMS website. The distribution of this survey could have been better if we had some form of database for our grade.

To overcome that in the future I would urge you all to complete the [National BAOMS OMFS workforce census](#) and encourage your SAS colleagues to do the same. Please note that you do not have to be a member of BAOMS to complete the survey. The details of all SAS doctors in OMFS can also be entered by using the workforce and database form on our Associate Fellows webpage that gives a better understanding to working pattern among our group.

SAS webpage:

[The Associate Fellows webpage on the BAOMS website](#) now has reasonable information about AF representatives, their mission statements, job planning, Model Contract, Appraisals, SAS charter and Educational opportunities. I am very hopeful to continue to develop and update this webpage at regular intervals. I urge you all to visit our webpage regularly for an update and please feedback on anything you might wish to see or share with rest of your colleagues in the country.

BAOMS Annual Scientific Meeting 2018

The 2018 BAOMS Annual Conference in Durham offered us an exclusive Associate Fellows meeting, Associate Fellows symposium and pre conference workshop for the very first time. It was very well attended with over 40 delegates that included a few

registrars and consultants as well. The presence of a mixed group among delegates proved these sessions to be of high quality. If you would like to see anything specific on the programme during the 2019 conference, please get in touch with us and we will do our very best to organise those sessions. We hope to see a better programme for the pre conference workshops and Associate Fellows Symposium at the 2019 Annual Conference.

Associate Fellows Prize 2017

The Associate Fellows 2017 prize was awarded to **Mr Mohamed Imran Suida** for the paper titled *“Pilot Experience of Acupuncture in Ameliorating the Gag Reflux in Posterior a Tongue and Oropharynx Biopsies”*.

Congratulations to Mohamed from all Associate Fellows and I hope this will motivate many more of us to contribute to future conferences and making claims for the award.

There are also mini grants and travel grants available for Associate Fellows. The guidelines for these can be viewed and applied for by following the links below:

https://www.baoms.org.uk/members/apply_baoms_grant_mini_event_mini_projects.aspx

https://www.baoms.org.uk/members/apply_baoms_travelclinical.aspx

Postgraduate SAS Development Funds:

In addition to our individual study funds, the postgraduate development funds for SAS doctors and dentists is now very well placed in all trusts and Health Boards through out the country. These funds are intended to pay for generic courses or for the recognized development needs to support clinical services. In addition SAS Development programme offers some accredited generic courses organized by them free of cost. The funds can be applied for by getting in touch with your SAS Tutor/Education Advisor. The Director of Medical Education (DME) office should have the details of the respective SAS Tutor/Education Advisor for your respective trust/Health Board. You can also get in touch with your BAOMS Associate Fellows Representatives, should you have any trouble approaching them. In

Scotland the information can be found by following the link below:

<http://www.scotlanddeanery.nhs.scot/your-development/specialist-and-associate-specialist-doctors-and-dentists/>

Future Projects:

1. Annual Scientific Session and Pre-Conference Masterclass

If anyone wishes to see any particular topics or speakers for 2019, please let me know. Any contributions to the planning will be much appreciated.

2. SAS development Programme in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

I have taken the initiative to develop an educational and professional development programme for SAS doctors in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery aimed at the new generation of SAS doctors in our specialty. The plan will be based on the foundation of the SAS charter and will be aimed at the competencies expected of us as a group within our specialty. I will soon share my thoughts towards developing some form of consultation process. In the meanwhile, I will appreciate any thoughts that you may want to share towards this development plan ahead of this consultation.

I hope you enjoyed reading this newsletter. Please email any feedback to me at vshekar@nhs.net

Kind Regards

Sincerely Yours

Vinita

Dr Vinita Shekar

AF Representative

BAOMS