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**Royal
Pharmaceutical
Society
of Great Britain**

Transactions and Official Notices

Council agrees to postpone creation of emeritus awards until after separation of Society's functions

The Council of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society has agreed to postpone the creation of emeritus awards until it is free from its current regulatory obligations.

At its meeting the 14 February, the Council was asked whether it wished to "ask the professional body taskforce to develop proposals for an alumni/emeritus offering, as appropriate, as an integral part of the wider work towards a new professional body".

Presenting a paper to the Council, Christine Gray, head of corporate governance, pointed out that the office had received many comments about the provisions concerning emeritus awards that had been gazetted last autumn (*PJ*, 13 October 2007, p418). The proposed regulations had stated that the Council might designate any former member who had been a member for 50 years or more as an emeritus member in accordance with procedures determined by the Council from time to time. Emeritus members and fellows would not be allowed to use postnominal letters.

She reminded the Council that the relevant policy decisions on emeritus members had been made in August 2006 before there had been any suggestion that the Society would change its position as a regulator as well as a professional body. She said that, given the adverse comments that had been received from well known members of the

profession, going ahead with the awards as currently envisaged, at a time when the Society is still restricted in what it can offer, might seem to give a mixed message to a high-profile, highly respected group within the profession, which would see to go against the Council's original policy intention.

She recommended to the Council that, in deciding to postpone development of the awards, the Society should make it clear through the pharmacy press that it had listened to members' concerns and had accordingly decided to rethink the awards in order to make them more meaningful and worthwhile for the recipients. The Council agreed.

In a discussion after the vote, Gerald Alexander asked the President and Chief Executive and Registrar to ask the Pharmacy Regulation and Leadership Oversight Group to look at the registered title of "pharmacist". He said that the General Pharmaceutical Council would possibly be well advised to refer to "registered pharmacist" as a title. Therefore, other pharmacists who were not registered could refer to themselves as pharmacists. The postnominals would sit with the professional body, and people would be proud to have those postnominals for the whole period of their existence, from the time they start practising until the time they die. The registered title should be sitting in the

Medicines Act. Therefore a "registered pharmacist" would be somebody who is actually practising, and a "pharmacist" would be someone who has actually been a pharmacist and could still remain a pharmacist. But the title needed to be altered in the Medicines Act.

Bob Michell commented: "We are dancing on the head of a pin." He explained that he was a veterinary surgeon legally and undeniably. He also used "MRCVS" correctly and legally. He explained that if he wrote a prescription and someone wondered who he was, that person could look him up in the register. There it says that he is a veterinary surgeon, but his prescriptions may not be dispensed because he is on the non-practising section of the register. Where is the mystery, where is the confusion, he asked.

The President, Hemant Patel, replied that, in the past, the regulatory role had tied past and present councils' hands. It was important to have as many pharmacists as members of the Society but legal regulations had meant that it was not possible to have everybody on board. "We are now seeking ways to try to make sure that everybody who wishes to be a member of the Society and is properly trained to be a pharmacist is included. That is the bottom line message," he said.

Mrs Gray said that Society could look at what is possible for the future.

Letter to the editor p212

Scottish Pharmacy Board outlines moves towards more engagement with members

Member of the Scottish Pharmacy Board have agreed to hold an Open Day at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Scottish office on Sunday 27 April. At its meeting on 30 January, the board heard that the day would provide an opportunity for members and their families to meet the Scottish Pharmacy Board and Society staff. Members will be welcome to tour 36 York Place, the Society's house in Edinburgh, and can visit the Victorian Museum. Further information will be available at www.rpsgb.org/scotland/events.html.

Among other matters discussed, the board recognised the need to meet with members

more frequently and agreed that in 2008 it would commit to holding roadshows throughout Scotland instead of holding an annual meeting at York Place in June. This had proved successful in 2007, when the board held a series of five roadshows encouraging members to "have their say", the board heard. This year the roadshows would focus on a review of the board's activities and the recommendations from the Clarke inquiry into a future professional body for pharmacy.

Papers and minutes of Scottish Pharmacy Board meetings are available on the Society's Scottish office website at www.rpsgb.org/scotland.

The branch network

The Royal Pharmaceutical Society's local branches provide an opportunity for members to get closer to the workings of the Society and to meet with other pharmacists and share experiences. With more than 130 branches nationwide, all those registered with the Society have the opportunity to belong to a branch that is either near to their home or near to their place of work. If the branch to which they are allocated is not the most convenient, members can opt to transfer to another branch.

To find out more about the network or to transfer to a branch more convenient for you, please contact the Society's membership unit (tel 020 7572 2331; e-mail b&a@rpsgb.org).

Welsh Pharmacy Board decides priorities for 2008

At its meeting on 7 February, the Welsh Pharmacy Board decided, in 2008, to give priority to the Welsh Assembly Government's chronic conditions management (CCM) strategic implementation plan.

Catherine Savage, Director for Wales, updated the meeting following the CCM event held in conjunction with the Welsh Pharmaceutical Committee on 29 January. This event had brought together pharmacists from all sectors of the profession to identify opportunities and barriers for pharmacy. The board was advised that the WAG is holding regional workshops and Mrs Savage would be co-ordinating pharmacy workshops at each event. The Welsh Directorate had produced a briefing for participants entitled "Pharmacy and integrated chronic conditions management in Wales — a summary of published evidence and practice examples".

At the February meeting the board considered the report "A scoping exercise to identify barriers and facilitators to delivery of the medicine use review service in commu-

nity pharmacies in Wales" and its role in supporting the report's recommendations. The board agreed to establish a working group to develop an action plan for activity going forward, including joint working with other pharmacy bodies in Wales. It was agreed that this working group should work closely with the English Pharmacy Board.

Other matters discussed were the board's communications and public affairs activity:

Regional awareness events Following the success of the three events held across Wales in November 2007 engaging with members on current issues relating to the pharmacy profession, the board agreed to continue to host three yearly events in place of the annual general meeting previously held in Cardiff.

Pharmacy student event The board agreed to hold an annual pharmacy student event following the success of the evening hosted by the board in November 2007. The board agreed that this was an excellent environment

in which to engage with students and would liaise with both the English and the Scottish pharmacy boards in developing this event more widely

Annual report for Wales The board agreed not to produce a separate annual report for Wales. With a quarterly newsletter and the inclusion of Wales-specific information in the Society's annual report, producing an additional document would be unnecessary.

Tobacco Control Conference The board agreed to host a stand at the Tobacco Control Conference in April to showcase the role pharmacy can play in providing smoking cessation services.

Spring party conferences The board agreed attend the key party conferences in Wales and arrangements are under way to ensure attendance at the relevant fringe meetings and to co-ordinate informal meetings with WAG members and their researchers.

Disciplinary Committee orders striking from Register for tax evasion

A Cheshire pharmacist who went to prison for failing to pay income tax and national insurance during six years work as a locum had his name removed from the Register of Pharmacists by order of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Disciplinary Committee.

At a hearing on 10 August 2007, the committee inquired into the case of Robert Mark Nicholson (registration number 70435), of Warrington. Information had been received that on 26 September 2005, at Chester Crown Court, Mr Nicholson had pleaded guilty and been convicted of six counts of "acting with intent to prejudice Her Majesty the Queen and the Public Revenue with intent to defraud Her Majesty the Queen". The matter had been adjourned to 4 November 2005, when he had been sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment for each offence, to run concurrently, and a confiscation order had been imposed in the sum of £55,932.75, to be paid by 17 June 2006, in default of which he was to serve a further two years' imprisonment. In the event, he only paid off a small proportion and on 29 June 2006 a sentence of 694 days was activated on the unpaid balance of £52,202.75. He was released from prison on 16 July 2007.

The committee heard that for periods from 1998 to 2004 Mr Nicholson had failed to deliver tax returns and had paid no income tax or national insurance. During that period he had earned about £386,000, giving rise to an evasion of tax of about £149,000, including some £18,000 of interest. The Inland Revenue had started an inquiry in late 2000. It had attempted to negotiate a settlement but Mr Nicholson had not co-operated. Civil

proceedings were started in 2002 as an alternative to prosecution. These proceedings resulted in a judgment against him, but he did not comply with the payment demands sent to him. At subsequent meetings he agreed to co-operate with an IR investigation but failed to do so.

Mr Nicholson told the committee that during the period in question had had been working some 13 hours a day for 13 days a fortnight. His father, who had been ill, died in 2001. His third wife, with whom he ran a hotel, had financial difficulties and developed a mental disorder. She assaulted him, and they divorced in 2001. His daughters from his second marriage, with whom he had recently regained contact, had difficulties that resulted in further stress for him. A clinical psychologist who examined him in August 2007 confirmed that these matters were highly stressful.

Giving the committee's determination, the chairman, Lord Fraser of Carmyllie, QC, said that in failing to pay tax and national insurance for some six years Mr Nicholson was dishonest, misleading and deceptive. The committee noted the problems Mr Nicholson had faced and also took into account two testimonials from doctor colleagues who, among other plaudits, described him as helpful, professional and caring.

However, the committee had to bear in mind the words of Lord Steyn in the Privy Council case of *Patel v GMC*, that: "For all professional persons, including doctors, a finding of dishonesty lies at the top end in the spectrum of gravity of misconduct." It also bore in mind the judge's sentencing comments, when he had said: "You are an intelli-

gent man. You knew exactly what you were doing. You are not as naive as you might wish this court to believe."

The committee further bore in mind Key Responsibility 3 in the Code of Ethics and Standards, which said: "Pharmacists must ensure that they behave with integrity and probity, adhere to accepted standards of personal and professional conduct, and do not engage in any behaviour or activity likely to bring the profession into disrepute or undermine public confidence in the profession."

The committee also bore in mind that the dishonesty had persisted for a long period, that Mr Nicholson had been given every opportunity to settle the matter before he was prosecuted, that he had served a substantial period of imprisonment and that he had still not repaid the bulk of the money he was ordered to reimburse.

In all those circumstances, the committee found Mr Nicholson unfit to be on the Register, the chairman said. It was not a case in which the health or welfare of the public had been put at direct risk, but it was a serious case of dishonesty, accompanied by a lack of sufficient insight. "We considered the suitability of admonishment or reprimand, but we did not think either sanction sufficiently addressed the issues of maintenance of public confidence in the profession or the maintenance of proper standards of behaviour. We decided that the only way these matters could properly be addressed was by the removal of Mr Nicholson's name from the Register, and we so order."

Mr Nicholson had three months in which to appeal. His name was struck from the Register on 13 November 2007.

OFFICIAL NOTICES

Communications to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society should be addressed, unless otherwise stated, to: The Chief Executive and Registrar, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7735 9141; fax 020 7735 7629). Official Notices also appear in the Notice-Board section of PJ Online (www.pjonline.com/notices).

Council election 2008

Three unreserved places for elected pharmacists, one place for an elected pharmacist reserved to each of the national constituencies of Wales, Scotland, England, Isle of Man & Channel Islands, respectively, and one place for an elected pharmacy technician, will become vacant on the Society's Council in May 2008.

Nominations for election to these vacancies should be received (by post, hand delivery or fax — not e-mail) by the Head of Secretariat, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street London SE1 7JN, by noon, Friday 29 February 2008.

Eligibility A candidate for an unreserved place shall be eligible for election only if his or her name appears within Part 1 (practising) of the relevant Society Register and he or she is normally resident in Great Britain, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands. A pharmacist candidate for a national constituency must normally live or work wholly or mainly in that constituency. A pharmacist may stand for both a national constituency and an unreserved vacancy in any one election. If elected to both places votes for the unreserved vacancy will be deemed void.

A prospective candidate shall not be eligible if he or she has failed, by noon on Friday 29 February 2008, to pay any retention fee or penalty then due and payable by him or her to the Society.

Nominations Nominations for the unreserved pharmacist places in this election must be signed by 10 pharmacist nominators. Nominations for reserved places in the national constituencies of Wales, Scotland and England must be signed by 10 pharmacist nominators whose addresses in the Register of Pharmacists are in their respective constituency. Nominations for the pharmacy technician place must be signed by five registered pharmacy technician nominators.

Nominees who are accepting nomination to the Council must enclose with the nomination form the declaration and undertaking for candidates for election to the Council, duly signed, particulars of the extent and type of work undertaken by the candidate within and for the profession of pharmacy, a signed statement confirming that no Society retention fee or penalty due from the candidate remains unpaid, a declaration of relevant interests, and a declaration of any relevant adverse decisions, as shown in the statement of policy on election procedures.

A candidate is invited, but not required, to submit particulars of professional qualifications, an election statement, which when combined with the information on particulars of work and declaration of interests does not exceed 630 words, and a good quality photograph.

The deadline for receipt of all the supporting material, including the candidate's details of professional qualifications, photograph and election statement, should he or she choose to provide them, is noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

All nominations must be made on an official nomination form. To obtain a nomination form and guidance papers, please contact the Head of Secretariat (tel 020 7572 2204; e-mail averil.ridgway@rpsgb.org) The nomination forms and the guidance papers can also be downloaded from the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) — see the "Council election" link on the right of the home page.

A nomination may be withdrawn by notice in writing (not by e-mail) signed by the prospective candidate and delivered to the Head of Secretariat at the above address no later than noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Timetable The electoral roll will be closed at 5pm on Friday 14 March 2008. Only those pharmacists and pharmacy technicians who are registered with the Society at that time shall be entitled to vote in this

election. It is expected that voting papers will be posted to the electorate on Friday 4 April 2008. Completed voting forms must be returned by post to the Electoral Reform Ballot Services Ltd, PO Box 6352, London N1 1YR, to arrive not later than noon on Friday 9 May 2008. The newly elected Council members will take office at 12.01am on 22 May 2008.

Jeremy Holmes
Returning Officer
Chief Executive and Registrar

English Pharmacy Board election 2008

Four unreserved places for elected pharmacists will become vacant on the Society's English Pharmacy Board in May 2008. Nominations for election to these vacancies should be received (via post, hand delivery or fax — not e-mail) by the Deputy Head of Corporate Secretariat, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street London SE1 7JN, by noon, Friday 29 February 2008.

Eligibility A prospective candidate shall be eligible for election only if: his or her name appears within Part 1 (practising) of the relevant Society Register, and his or her address in that Register is in Great Britain, and he or she lives or works wholly or mainly in England.

A prospective candidate shall not be eligible if he or she has failed, by noon on Friday 29 February 2008, to pay any retention fee or penalty then due and payable by him or her to the Society.

Nominations Nominations for pharmacist candidates in the board election must be signed by 10 pharmacist nominators whose registered addresses are in England.

Nominees who are accepting nomination to the English Pharmacy Board must enclose with the nomination form the declaration and undertaking for candidates for election to the board, duly signed, particulars of the extent and type of work undertaken by the candidate within and for the profession of pharmacy, a signed statement confirming that no Society retention fee or penalty due from the candidate remains unpaid, a declaration of relevant interests, and a declaration of any relevant adverse decisions, as shown in the statement of policy on election procedures.

A candidate is invited, but not required, to submit particulars of professional qualifications, an

election statement, which when combined with the information on particulars of work and declaration of interests, does not exceed 630 words, and a good quality photograph.

The deadline for receipt of all the supporting material, including the candidate's details of professional qualifications, photograph and election statement, should he or she choose to provide them, is noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

All nominations must be made on an official nomination form. To obtain a nomination form and guidance papers, please contact the Deputy Head of Corporate Secretariat (tel 020 7572 2446; e-mail EPBelections@rpsgb.org). The nomination forms and the guidance papers can also be downloaded from the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) — see the "Boards elections" link on the right of the home page.

A nomination may be withdrawn by notice in writing (not by e-mail) signed by the prospective candidate and delivered to the Deputy Head of Corporate Secretariat at the above address no later than noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Timetable The electoral roll will be closed at 5pm on Friday 14 March 2008. Only those pharmacists who are registered with the Society and whose registered address is in England at that time shall be entitled to vote in this election.

It is expected that voting papers will be posted to the electorate on Friday 4 April 2008. Completed voting forms must be returned by post to the Electoral Reform Services Ltd, PO Box 6352, London N1 1YR, to arrive not later than noon on Friday 9 May 2008.

The newly elected board members will take office at 12.01am on 22 May 2008.

David Pruce
Returning Officer for England

Scottish Pharmacy Board election 2008

Four unreserved places for elected pharmacists will become vacant on the Society's Scottish Pharmacy Board in May 2008. Nominations for election to these vacancies should be received (via post, hand delivery or fax — not e-mail) by the Returning Officer for Scotland, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 36 York Place, Edinburgh EH1 3HU by noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Election procedures

Procedures for the conduct of the Council and national pharmacy board elections have already been published in full together with an indication of the attendance at meetings of retiring board members (*PJ*, 26 January, pp89–96).

Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences and American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists

13th Arden House European Conference

- **Title:** Driving innovation, control and performance improvement on the critical path — the pivotal role of particle and powder technologies in dosage form manufacture
- **Date:** 31 March – 2 April 2008
- **Venue:** Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1
- **Content:** The drive for significant step change in the industry's manufacturing performance continues to highlight the limited understanding and critical importance of the physical characteristics of both active pharmaceutical ingredients and excipients, and their process interactions, on manufacturing and ultimately clinical performance. The introduction of International Conference on Harmonisation guidelines Q8 and Q10 indicate that quality cannot be tested into products and provide the necessary driver to ensure processes are under control and the concept of "quality by design" will become commonplace in the industry. There is now no doubt that particle and powder technologies will play an increasingly key role in bridging the current process understanding and performance gap that exists between API and drug product manufacture and the even more complex processing requirements of combination presentations predicted in the future. The conference format follows that of the widely recognised Arden House Conference, held annually in the US since 1968. It combines didactic presentations on fundamentals and state-of-the-art technical information, with the presentation of workshops and case-studies, to challenge delegates in problem-solving through the application of knowledge gained during the conference. Combined with presentations by leading scientists in their fields from industry, academia and government service, there will be a series of interactive round table sessions and ample opportunity time for discussions. A full social programme will provide opportunities for informal discussion and networking between delegates and the team of experts.
- **Fees:** £950 for members of Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences and American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientists; £995 for non-members
- **Further information:** Julie Churchill, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2261; e-mail science@rpsgb.org).

Eligibility A prospective candidate shall be eligible for election only if his or her name appears within Part 1 (practising) of the Register of Pharmacists and his or her address in that Register is in Scotland.

A prospective candidate shall not be eligible if he or she is a member of the Society's Council, or if he or she has failed, by noon on Friday 29 February 2008, to pay any retention fee or penalty then due and payable by him or her to the Society.

Nominations Nominations for pharmacist candidates in the Scottish Pharmacy Board election must be signed by five pharmacist nominators whose registered addresses are in Scotland.

Nominees who are accepting nomination to the board must enclose with the nomination form the declaration and undertaking for candidates for election to the boards, duly signed, particulars of the extent and type of work undertaken by the candidate within and for the profession of pharmacy, a signed statement confirming that no Society retention fee or penalty due from the candidate remains

unpaid, a declaration of relevant interests, and a declaration of any relevant adverse decisions, as shown in the statement of policy on election procedures.

A candidate is invited, but not required, to submit particulars of professional qualifications, an election statement, which when combined with the information on particulars of work and declaration of interests, does not exceed 630 words, and a good quality photograph. The deadline for receipt of all the supporting material, including the candidate's details of professional qualifications, photograph and election statement should he or she choose to provide them, is noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

All nominations must be made on an official nomination form. To obtain a nomination form and guidance papers, please contact the Returning Officer for Scotland at the above address, or by e-mail: SPBelections@rpsgb.org. The nomination form and the guidance papers are also available on the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) — see the "Boards elections" link on the right of the home page.

A nomination may be

withdrawn by notice in writing (not by e-mail) signed by the prospective candidate and delivered to the Returning Officer for Scotland at the above address no later than noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Timetable The electoral roll will be closed at 5pm on Friday 14 March 2008. Only those pharmacists who are registered with the Society and whose registered addresses are in Scotland at that time shall be entitled to vote in this election. It is expected that voting papers will be posted to the electorate on Friday 4 April 2008. Completed voting forms must be returned by post to the Electoral Reform Ballot Services Ltd, PO Box 6352, London N1 1YR, to arrive not later than noon on Friday 9 May 2008. The newly elected board members will take office at 12.01am on 22 May 2008.

Lyndon Braddick
Returning Officer for Scotland

Welsh Pharmacy Board election 2008

Four unreserved places for elected pharmacists will become vacant on the Society's Welsh Pharmacy Board in May 2008. Nominations for election to these vacancies should be received (via post, hand delivery or fax — not e-mail) by the Returning Officer for Wales, Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 2 Ash Tree Court, Woodsy Close, Cardiff Gate Business Park, Pontprennau, Cardiff CF23 8RW by noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Eligibility A prospective candidate shall be eligible for election only if his or her name appears within Part 1 (practising) of the relevant Society Register and his or her address in that Register is in Wales.

A prospective candidate shall not be eligible if he or she is a member of the Society's Council, or if he or she has failed, by noon on Friday 29 February 2008, to pay

any retention fee or penalty then due and payable by him or her to the Society.

Nominations Nominations for pharmacist candidates in the Welsh Pharmacy Board election must be signed by one pharmacist nominator whose registered address is in Wales.

Nominees who are accepting nomination to the board must enclose with the nomination form the declaration and undertaking for candidates for election to the boards, duly signed, particulars of the extent and type of work undertaken by the candidate within and for the profession of pharmacy, a signed statement confirming that no Society retention fee or penalty due from the candidate remains unpaid, a declaration of relevant interests, and a declaration of any relevant adverse decisions, as shown in the statement of policy on election procedures.

A candidate is invited, but not required, to submit particulars of professional qualifications, an election statement, which when combined with the information on particulars of work and declaration of interests, does not exceed 630 words, and a good quality photograph.

The deadline for receipt of all the supporting material, including the candidate's details of professional qualifications, photograph and election statement should he or she choose to provide them, is noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

All nominations must be made on an official nomination form. To obtain a nomination form and guidance papers, please contact the Returning Officer for Wales at the above address, or by e-mail: WPBelections@rpsgb.org. The nomination form and the guidance papers are also available from the Society's website (www.rpsgb.org) — see the "Boards elections" link on the right of the home page.

A nomination may be

Royal Pharmaceutical Society Academic Pharmacy Group

Easter conference 2008

- **Title:** Integration
- **Date:** 3–4 April 2008
- **Venue:** Quality Hotel, Glasgow
- **Speakers:** Keith Ridge, Chief Pharmacist for England, will speak on the current challenges facing pharmacy education and Colin Chapman, of Monash University, Australia, will speak on Monash's integrated BPharm/preregistration provision.
- **Further information:** Christine Martin, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (tel 020 7572 2267; e-mail christine.martin@rpsgb.org), or see "Events" page at www.rpsgb.org.

withdrawn by notice in writing (not by e-mail) signed by the prospective candidate and delivered to the Returning Officer for Wales at the above address no later than noon on Friday 29 February 2008.

Timetable The electoral roll will be closed at 5pm on Friday 14 March 2008. Only those pharmacists who are registered with the Society and whose registered addresses are in Wales at that time shall be entitled to vote in this election.

It is expected that voting papers will be posted to the electorate on Friday 4 April 2008. Completed voting forms must be returned by post to the Electoral Reform Ballot Services Ltd, PO Box 6352, London N1 1YR, to arrive not later than 12 noon, Friday 9 May 2008.

The newly elected board members will take office at 12.01am on 22 May 2008.

Cath Savage
Returning Officer for Wales

Hospital Pharmacists Group Committee election

Nominations are invited from members of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Hospital Pharmacists Group for candidates to stand for election to the committee. There are vacancies for two committee members to represent England. Candidates must be group members resident in England and may be nominated only by group members also resident in England. There is a vacancy for one committee member to represent Scotland. Candidates must be group members resident in Scotland and may be nominated only by group members also resident in Scotland.

Nominations should be submitted to Meghna Joshi, Secretary to the Hospital Pharmacists Group, Royal Pharmaceutical Society, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7JN (e-mail meghna.joshi@rpsgb.org), and should be received by 17 March 2007.

Nominations need not be made on a special form. The proposer should state his or her registered name, registered address and registration number. The nominee must submit confirmation that he or she is agreeable to the nomination and state his or her registered name, registered address and registration number.

If more candidates are nominated than there are places to fill, an election will be carried out

by postal vote in April 2008. Only members of the group living in England will be eligible to vote for two committee members to represent England. Only members living in Scotland will be eligible to vote for one committee member to represent Scotland.

The White Paper Trust Assurance and Safety: The Regulation of Health Professionals in the 21st Century was published in February 2007 and set out the Government's intention to remove regulation from the RPSGB and give it to a newly-created General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC). A professional body will also be created. The Society has commissioned an independent inquiry and market research on what people might want, need and expect from such a body and the details of its functions and structure will be informed by the results of this work. This may have an impact on the length of term of office that members elected to the Hospital Pharmacists Group Committee in this election are asked to serve.

Meghna Joshi
Secretary to the Hospital Pharmacists Group

Disciplinary Committee

The Disciplinary Committee will meet at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, 1 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 on Tuesday 26 February 2008 at 9.30am to hear:

1. An application for restoration to the Register on behalf of **Chhaganbhai Dahyabbai Nathubhai Mistry** (previous registration number 66067). Mr Mistry was removed from the Register on 2 March 2000 following a direction of the Statutory Committee.
2. An application for restoration to the Register on behalf of **Rabinder Thind** (previous registration number 70386). Mrs Thind was removed from the Register on 20 October 2003 following a direction of the Statutory Committee.

Statutory Committees Secretariat

Disciplinary Committee

On Monday 11, Tuesday 12, Wednesday 13, Thursday 14 and Friday 15 February 2008, the Disciplinary Committee of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain met and made the following directions under the

Retention fee reminder

The Society would like to thank members and pharmacy technician registrants who have made their 2008 annual declaration and payment. Less than 5 per cent have not yet done so, and they are now reminded to make their application for retention by 16 March 2008 if they wish to remain registered. Those who have yet to make their payment and declaration face removal from the Register if applications for retention are not received by that date. Any pharmacist whose name is removed from the Register at that point will be required to pay the full restoration fee should they wish, at any time in the future, to restore their name to the Register. The 2008 restoration fee is £753.

Those who wish voluntarily to remove themselves or retire from the Register should complete and return their retention fee form before 16 March 2008.

To make a payment and declaration, or to check that these have been received by the Society, registrants should log on to myRPSGB at <https://my.rpsgb.org/login/>

Registrants concerned about the declaration are asked to look at the correction published in *The Pharmaceutical Journal* on 19 January (p64), or speak to a member of the registration division. The registration division also will be pleased to handle any queries registrants have (tel 020 7572 2322, e-mail registration@rpsgb.org) but is not able to take payments over the telephone this year.

Andrew Gardner
Head of Registration

Statutory Committee rules (as provided for in the Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Order 2007):

1. Following the inquiry into **Rashad Arif** (registration number 1069237) the committee directed the removal of Mr Arif's name from the Register. Under Section 11 of the Pharmacy Act 1954, the direction to remove Mr Arif's name from the Register is not to take effect until the expiration of a period of three months from the date on which notice of removal was given or in a case where an appeal has been brought against the direction, until the appeal is determined or withdrawn.
2. Following the inquiry into **Christopher Dotchin** (registration number 1051544) the committee directed the removal of Mr Dotchin's name from the Register. Under Section 11 of the Pharmacy Act 1954, the direction to remove Mr Dotchin's name from the Register is not to take effect until the expiration of a period of three months from the date on which notice of removal was given or in a case where an appeal has been brought against the direction, until the appeal is determined or withdrawn.
3. Following the inquiry into **Andrew Negus** (registration number 69957) the committee resolved to reprimand Mr Negus.

Statutory Committees Secretariat

Disciplinary Committee interim order

On Thursday 14 February 2008, the Disciplinary Committee of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain made an order under Article 54 of the Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians Order 2007, that the registration of **Gillian Anne Burnett** (registration number 71605) be suspended for a period of 18 months. This order is subject to review within six months.

Statutory Committees Secretariat

DEATHS

Cardus On 13 January, Leslie Cardus, aged 79, of The Cottage, Fluin Lane, Frodsham, Warrington WA6 7QN. Mr Cardus registered in 1954 and retired from the Register in 2005.

Schofield On 8 February, Samuel Eric Schofield, aged 91, of 20 Horseshoe Walk, Bath BA2 6DE. Mr Schofield registered in 1938 and retired from the Register in 2006.

Searle On 1 February, Maurice Alexander Searle, aged 91, of 19 Langhill Road, Mutley, Plymouth PL3 4JH. Mr Searle registered in 1940 and retired from the Register in 2005.

Thomas On 6 January, Cecil Price Thomas, aged 83, of 13 Fford y Briallu, Castell Pigyn Road, Abergwili, Carmarthen, Dyfed SA31 2JU. Mr Thomas registered in 1947 and retired from the Register in 2005.

Williams On 20 January, Ivor Gwyn Williams, MRPharmS, aged 91, of Winterfold, Rowney Green Lane, Rowney Green, Alvechurch, Birmingham B48 7QE. Mr Williams registered in 1941.

TRIBUTES

Burnett In a tribute to the late George Murray Burnett (*PJ*, 9 February, p160), SYLVIA COUSINS writes: George Murray Burnett, a fellow of the Society, qualified as a pharmacist in Aberdeen in 1946. After time at Ferris Pharmaceuticals in Bristol, George came to Sudbury, Suffolk, in 1955 as plant manager for Stafford Allen, Long Melford, which later became Bush Boake Allen. He was promoted to production manager, and then area manager, a post he held until his retirement in 1983. During his career, George served on several committees, including subcommittee A for the British Pharmaceutical Codex, and the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry. In the late 1970s he held various posts on the committee of the Colchester branch, including chairman, where his organisational skills were much in evidence. In March 2007, George celebrated 60 years on the Register with a luncheon in the banqueting suite of the Society's headquarters, inviting his family and pharmacist friends. A widower since 2000, George will be sorely missed by all those who knew him.

DIARY

Headquarters meetings

The following meetings take place at the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's London headquarters

Tuesday 26 February

Disciplinary Committee. 9.30am.

Thursday 28 February

Education Committee. 9.30am.

Local meetings

Events listed below are meetings of Royal Pharmaceutical Society branches. Details of all future meetings notified to *The Journal* appear in the Diary section of *PJ Online* (www.pjonline.com/diary)

Monday 25 February

Bury "The future of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society" by Sid Dajani (member of the English Pharmacy Board). Village Hotel, Waterfold Business Park (junction 2 off M66), Bury. 7.30 for 8pm.

Epsom "Dermatology medicines use reviews" by Angela Alexander (consultant, pharmacy practice research and education). Postgraduate Medical Centre, Epsom General Hospital. Buffet 7.15pm, meeting 8pm.

Southampton Presentation on "The medicines use review evangelist". Novotel, Southampton. 7.30 for 8pm.

Tuesday 26 February

Bristol "Anticoagulation: theory and practice" by Margaret Munro and Kevin Gibbs (anticoagulation pharmacists, Bristol Royal Infirmary). BAWA Leisure Centre, Southmead Road. 7.30pm.

Clwyd Presentation on "Weight management: a therapeutic and clinical update". Faenol Fawr Hotel, Bodelwyddan. Buffet 7pm, meeting 7.30pm.

Croydon "Antibiotics" by Mary Twagira (consultant microbiologist, Mayday Hospital). Postgraduate Medical Centre, Mayday Hospital. Buffet. 8pm.

East Lancashire "New guidance for Controlled Drugs" by Stan Brandwood (Royal Pharmaceutical Society inspector) and representatives of local primary care trusts. Clayton Park Conference Centre. 6.30 for 7pm.

Reading "Academia update" by Gavin Brookes (head of School of Pharmacy, University of Reading). Practice Laboratory, University of Reading. 7.30pm for 8pm.

Wednesday 27 February

Bath "Switches: the challenges of the over-the-counter market place" by Helen Darracott (director of legal and regulatory affairs, Proprietary Association of Great Britain). Room 6 West, University of Bath. Buffet. 7.30 for 8pm.

Lincoln "Antipsychotics in the elderly" by Lucy Daniels. Postgraduate Centre, Lincoln County Hospital. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

South Cheshire "Medication safety" by Linda Matthew (National Patient Safety Agency). Fourways Inn, Delamere. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Torbay "Smoking cessation" by Lyn Ware (Torbay Care Trust). Belgrave Hotel, Torquay. Buffet 6.30pm, meeting 7pm.

Thursday 28 February

Leeds "Treatment of depression" by Michael Dixon (clinical pharmacist for mental health). Hinsley Hall, 62 Headingley Lane. Leeds. Buffet 7pm, meeting 7.30pm.



Royal Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain

London headquarters
Switchboard 020 7735 9141; direct dialling, see 'Medicines, ethics and practice';
fax 020 7735 7629;
e-mail enquiries@rpsgb.org;
website www.rpsgb.org

Scottish office
Headquarters of the Society in Scotland
(including library and information service)
0131 556 4386 (see also 'MEP' guide);
fax 0131 558 8850; e-mail scotinfo@rpsgb.org

Welsh office
Headquarters of the Society in Wales
029 2073 0310; fax 029 2073 0311;
e-mail wales@rpsgb.org

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Monday 3 March

Sefton Annual general meeting. Mount Hotel, Manchester Road, Southport. Buffet. 7.30pm.

Tuesday 4 March

Bedfordshire "Future of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society and current affairs" by Sid Dajani (member of the English Pharmacy Board). The Library, Building 1, Cranfield University, Silsoe. Buffet 7.40pm, meeting 8pm.

East Lancashire "New guidance for Controlled Drugs" by Stan Brandwood (Royal Pharmaceutical Society inspector) and representatives of local primary care trusts. Clayton Park Conference Centre. 6.30 for 7pm.
Mid Glamorgan East St David's day dinner. Cinnamon Tree Restaurant, Upper Boat, Pontypridd. 7.30 for 7.45pm.

Wednesday 5 March

Hertford "Analgesia: an update" by Clare Amass (principal pharmacist, Garden Hospice). GlaxoSmithKline, Ware. Buffet. 7.30pm for 8pm.

Sheffield "Tuberculosis update" by a TB specialist nurse from Sheffield Primary Care Trust. Barnsley Hospice. 7 for 7.30pm.

South Lincolnshire Presentation on "Varenicline". The Three Kings, Threkingham. Buffet. 7.30 for 8pm.

Thursday 6 March

Hounslow "Cardiac rehabilitation in Hounslow" by Katie Baxter (senior physiotherapist, West Middlesex University Hospital). Education Centre, West Middlesex University Hospital, Twickenham Road, Isleworth. Buffet 7.30pm, meeting 8pm.

Lanarkshire "Taking the Scottish Parliament to communities" by Paul Anderson (community outreach officer, Scottish Parliament). Alona Hotel, Strathclyde Country Park, Motherwell. 8pm.

Manchester, Salford and Trafford

"Current issues in rheumatology" by Sarah Wills (pharmacist, Salford Royal NHS Foundation Trust). George Carnall Leisure Centre, Park, Davyhulme, Manchester. Buffet. 7 for 7.30pm.

Southampton "Managing dermatology today in the community" by Angela Alexander (consultant, pharmacy practice research and education). The Rose Road Association, Southampton. 7.30 for 8pm.

West Hertfordshire "Asthma" by Andrew Barlow (consultant respiratory physician, Watford General). Park Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Herts. 7.30 for 8pm.