

Points from Council 9 September 2011

BSDHT held a Full Council meeting on Friday 9 September 2011. The points from Council are outlined below:

- The Honorary Treasurer informed the members of Council that the costs of running the Society have increased, The BSDHT Executive is very mindful of the current economic climate and will absorb much of these increased costs in order not to pass this on to the membership.
- It is considered necessary to propose the following increases:
 - (a) The Annual Honoraria be increased by 1.5%.
 - (b) That expenses claimed be increased by 1.5%.
 - (c) With effect from September 2012, BSDHT Annual Membership be increased by 1.5% to £94 and £47 for reduced membership.
- The majority of Council members supported this proposal, which will be presented to members attending the AGAM for ratification.
- DH Contact will now be produced in electronic format and sent direct to members by email. There are currently 600 members for whom BSDHT does not have an email address. Steps have been taken to contact these members to ensure we receive their email addresses. DH Contact will also be made available through the BSDHT website members section. All members are encouraged to ensure that if you have not already done so, you register your email address with enquiries@bsdht.org.uk
- The Regional Group Co-ordinator was unable to attend the Council meeting, a report was later circulated to Council members, in summary, she has continued to liaise with all Regional Groups and continues to secure sponsorship from various trade companies. Regional Groups officers now receive a monthly newsletter with helpful contacts for speakers and information which facilitates the sharing of best practice among the Regional groups to assist in organising meetings.
- All Regional Group Representatives reported to Council that feedback from members indicated that:
 - (a) The majority of members voted for a 'finger buffet' lunch at the OHC in a bid to keep costs down.
 - (b) The majority of regional group members attending spring meetings felt it was not necessary for dental hygienists and dental hygienist-therapists to be included on the Register of the Independent Health Advisory Service (IHAS).
- BSDHT, together with BADT, hosted an event in early spring 2011, inviting all GDC members to attend. The event gave members of GDC members the opportunity to listen to presentations supporting both societies wish that patients be granted Direct Access to dental hygienists and dental hygienist-therapists for oral care within their scope of practice and competencies
- BSDHT and BADT submitted a proposal to the GDC Standards Committee in support of Direct Access and are now waiting for the Standards Committee to present their 'Position Statement' to the GDC.
- Margaret Ross, former Past President BSDHT, is representing BSDHT on the Scope of Practice working group, and assisting with the revision of this document.
- The President is liaising with BADT and Faculty of General Dental practitioners (FGDP), to discuss the possible facilitation of any necessary CPD requirements, should the Direct Access proposal be successful.

- The President has been invited to deliver a presentation to the Lay Advisory Group, on the benefits of Direct Access, by the FGDP. The President is also involved with ongoing correspondence with the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) who are also corresponding with the GDC in support of Direct Access.
- The Council of European Dentists (CED) has produced a document opposing the concept of no-dentists providing dental care to patients without supervision. The President has informed the International Federation of Dental Hygiene (IFDH), and the European Federation of Dental Hygiene who will add the issue to the Agenda for discussion at their next European meeting in Milan. BSDHT will respond to the EC on the issue. The stance of the CED is unlikely to effect the provision of oral health care in the UK, but BSDHT in collaboration with BADT, will formulate a response statement.
- Following the success of recently held Research Training days, BSDHT will continue to offer opportunities for members with an interest in research. BSDHT will sponsor a third free of charge (FOC) research workshop at FGDP in London. In addition BSDHT in collaboration with P&G have provided a second FOC research training day for members.
- BSDHT have designed a Logo which will be used to accredit quality educational material deemed suitable for members to include in their CPD requirements. BSDHT has also recently been granted a Trademark to protect the BSDHT Logo.
- Elected Member, Deborah Sheather reported that, despite a request from all members of BSDHT for idea's or suggestions for the new website, she had not received a single response. She, Sue Adams and the Executive Team have spent considerable time working on a the content of the new BSDHT website. It is anticipated that the new website will be launched at BDTA Dental Showcase NEC, Birmingham, 20-22 October 2011.
- BSDHT have re-launched the poster exhibition and competition at the OHC.
- Since the retirement of Ann Craddock, it is now necessary to restructure plans to develop a part-time post, with a strategic role to meet the changing needs of the Society. All members of Council supported the President's proposal, to create a post for a 'Business Development Manager' which will be presented to members at the GAM.
- The President has devised a PGD dental template for use in the NHS dental settings for dental hygienists and dental hygienist-therapists and has sought its approval by the DoH and an indemnity company. Once complete the template will be provided to members. The President now intends to pursue the matters of the difficulties of Dental Hygienist/Therapists working within the private settings using POM's, with the GDC and DoH.