

# Annual report and accounts

for year ended 31 December 2014

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This is the Trustees' Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2014 for The Physiological Society. In preparing this report, the Trustees have complied with the Charities Act 2011, the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (2005, revised 2008) ('SORP') applicable accounting standards, and also the Companies Act 2006.

The Physiological Society was incorporated by guarantee on 27 January 1937 under number 323575. It has no share capital and is registered with the Charity Commission for England and Wales under number 211585. The liability of each Member is limited to £1.

The governing document is the Articles of Association of the Company and the members of the Council of Trustees are the Directors of the Company.

'The Physiological Society' and the Physiological Society logo are trademarks belonging to The Physiological Society and are registered in the UK and in the EU respectively.



# 1 Report of the Trustees

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The Trustees are pleased to submit this report and the financial statements for the year to 31 December 2014. Further information about The Physiological Society's activities is given in a separate document, the *Annual Review*, which can be obtained from the registered office or online from [www.physoc.org](http://www.physoc.org).

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## 1.1 Charitable objects of The Society

The objects of The Physiological Society, also referred to in this report as 'The Society' as set out in its Articles of Association, are: 'to promote for the benefit of the public the advancement of Physiology, and facilitate the intercourse of Physiologists, both at home and abroad, and thereby contribute to the progress and understanding of biomedical and related sciences and the detection, prevention and treatment of disease, disability and malfunction of physical processes in all forms of life.'

The major activities we undertake to achieve our charitable objects include publishing three journals, supporting a number of scientific meetings annually, and awarding grants to allow Members to travel to scientific meetings and to carry out research collaborations. Interaction with outside bodies is encouraged through representation on various councils and committees, and active membership of the Society of Biology and the Federation of European Physiological Societies.

## 1.2 President's report

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The challenge for The Society has been to reaffirm the promotion of physiology, following our purchase of new premises and our administrative restructuring.

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I am pleased to report that The Society has risen to this challenge, on several fronts. We have launched our new range of scientific meetings, improved online access to our journals, begun enhancing services for Members, and pursued initiatives in the teaching and communication of physiology as a fundamental scientific discipline.

The annual meeting in July 2014 was a great success, thanks as ever to the immensely professional efforts of the Meetings Committee and Events Team. There were over 1,000 attendees at the Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in London, just across from the Palace of Westminster, which was illuminated coincidentally by brilliant summer sunshine. September saw our first ever 'Topic Meeting' (this one in Newcastle, on the physiology of obesity). Three smaller, more focused 'H<sup>3</sup> Symposia' were also run during the year, in our Society headquarters, Hodgkin Huxley House (H<sup>3</sup>). Both types of meeting were well attended. H<sup>3</sup>, in particular, shows great promise as a smaller conference venue (up to 70 people), with its facilities for simultaneous video streaming. It is fulfilling its role, not just as the headquarters for Society staff, but also as an active centre for Members, and for the public promotion of physiology.

The Society continues to benefit from Wiley's publishing services. All our scientific journals are now published on Wiley Online Library, with back-numbers readily accessible. *The Journal of Physiology*, as the prime publication of The Society, heads the international roster of physiological journals for citation, while annual publications in *Physiological Reports*, our new 'open-access' journal with the American Physiological Society, are topping 300. Although not under the aegis of Wiley, our Society magazine, *PN* (*Physiology News*), has also continued to flourish, with its informative mix of Society news and scientific reviews. After two years of sterling service, Mike Collis has stepped down as Editor. His tireless leadership has set the bar high for his successor, Roger Thomas, whom we are delighted to welcome.

An urgent issue has been to improve Society services for Members. To this end we have commissioned, for 2015, a new online system for membership, grants, meetings and important Society news. Travel awards continue to provide strong support for Members, the annual sum increasing to nearly £240,000, a rise of more than 13%.

Our mission to raise awareness of physiology through teaching, outreach, historical archiving and policy initiatives was reinforced by numerous activities. These included a highly successful 'Teaching Symposium' on higher education, an H<sup>3</sup> meeting on 'Engaging with Politicians' (following earlier discussions between Society Members and Andrew Miller MP, at the Palace of Westminster), and a variety of school initiatives including a wonderful Bio-Bodies Bake-off competition (cakes baked in the shape of lungs, brains and eyes; this was featured on the cover of the winter edition of *PN*, and was even re-tweeted by *Scientific American*!). Finally, the Society's 'Health of Physiology' project, which has been assessing the international standing and future of physiology, has concluded its deliberations, and the written report and recommendations will be published in 2015.

Such a full programme of activity can only have been achieved through the unstinting effort of our staff, Members, Trustees, Society representatives, and volunteers. Space and modesty precludes naming all concerned, but I must thank our CEO, Philip Wright, for his loyalty, enthusiasm and sheer hard work. I also thank Jonathan Ashmore, whom I succeeded as President in July 2014, and who laid the foundations for much of this year's work. I believe that we are continuing to focus successfully on the promotion of physiology.

**Richard Vaughan-Jones, Society President**

## 1.3 Chief Executive's report

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In 2013, The Society mapped out and published the Forward Plan for the years from 2014 to 2018. It listed a number of priorities and work is progressing well on all of these, but I would like to highlight three in particular: our membership strategy; the Health of Physiology project; and the Governance Review.

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One of the key elements of the 2014–18 Forward Plan was the need to refocus our support for Members. Consequently, in 2014 we restructured our membership administration and leadership with the aims of becoming more responsive to inquiries and proactive in recruiting new members. In addition, the Membership & Grants Committee is taking a more active approach working closely with Society staff.

One key aspect of this has been the appointment of a Membership & Marketing Manager – Helen Burgess joined us at the start of June 2014. Since then The Society's membership numbers have bucked the wider trend amongst Learned Societies, increasing by 4.5% since June. The increases have occurred across our membership categories and we are better at retaining and transitioning Members, especially from Affiliate to Full Membership.

To support our membership consideration is being given to a 'Fellowship' category and we are looking to increase our support for Society Reps, who play a crucial role at local level. In late 2014, the Membership & Grants Committee redefined the role of the Society Reps with a new Terms of Reference, which came into effect in January 2015. We shall be looking at how we can enhance our local support to assist with the creation of 'virtual physiology departments': we need to ensure we can support physiology across departments in institutions as physiology departments are the exception rather than the norm in the current UK university structure.

This expansion of membership does bring some financial pressures for The Society in the form of increased demand for Travel Grants, which was evident in 2014 when we provided nearly £240,000, which was £25,000 more than budgeted. Travel grants remain a key element of our support for physiology, and the increasing demand for these is likely to continue. The Membership & Grants Committee is therefore considering how to allocate grants as demand accelerates. This is likely to use phased funding allocations to reflect demand across the year in line with major conferences and will be dependent upon how often people apply; the meeting being attended (with Society and sister society meetings prioritised); and a focus to support younger Members.

The last year has seen an increasing amount of work on the policy front, not least on the Health of Physiology project, which after a lot of work, data analysis and focus groups with younger physiologists (both Members and non-members) is nearing completion. The publication of the report was delayed a little from our original timelines, but this has allowed us to gather more information and input. The report, to be published in the summer, has already provided insights into the changing shape of physiology and will inform the work of The Society in future years. It also provides a benchmark on the strength of physiology on the UK, which we can reassess in 5 and 10 years' time.

In 2013, we announced a review of Governance. Council received a report in May 2014 from a UK leader in charity governance, Anne Moynihan. Council has already acted significantly on the recommendations. There were not any major issues, but areas were highlighted, including operating policies and delegated powers. There was a recommendation that the Executive Committee needed to evolve as it could be seen to be acting as a 'filter' for the Trustees on Council. During the remainder of the year, the Council has been working on some structural

changes, and in 2015 we shall be initiating a conversation with Members on what will be relatively minor changes to our governance.

The Council continues to maintain close oversight of our finances, and in 2014 we delivered our activities within the overall budget, whilst our investments continued to grow. Our overall assets remain just a little down from the previous year, but this was after sustaining our expenditure and taking on board the Bayliss and Starling Society (BSS), which asked us to take on their assets and close their charity (we are continuing to support the objectives of the BSS).

Finally, I want to say two votes of thanks. First to the staff who delivered all the Council's and various committees' objectives with enthusiasm, professionalism and commitment. The 2014 calendar was just as busy compared to the previous year, which included the 2013 IUPS Congress. Looking back to 2010, our investment and support for physiology remains significantly greater on all fronts: from education and outreach, policy, meetings, travel grants to publications. The minor administrative restructuring has and will further help us sustain our efforts – something that is clearly appreciated if our growing membership is anything to go by.

I also want to give thanks to Jonathan Ashmore, who stepped down as President in July 2014 at the end of his term. Jonathan was a tireless worker for The Society, and provided excellent leadership of Council and sound advice to me and the rest of the staff. Of particular note was the work initiated when he was Deputy, chairing the Publications Working Group that led the renegotiation of our contract with Wiley in 2014 and the launch of *Physiological Reports*.

**Philip Wright, Chief Executive**

## 1.4 Treasurer's statement

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The principal funding sources of The Society in the year were its publishing income (£3,260,000), events income (£149,000), membership subscriptions (£119,000), investments (£151,000) and income generated by Hodgkin Huxley House (£104,000).

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To this was added, in 2014, around £147,000 in respect of the asset transfer from the Bayliss and Starling Society. Charitable expenditure of £4,203,000 was incurred during 2014, and has supported the objects of The Society as set out in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 37 of this report.

Publishing income, which accounts for 82% of The Society's total income, remains flat. The new open access peer-reviewed journal, *Physiological Reports*, which launched during the year, generated £17,000 in 2014.

Membership subscriptions increased by 7% and investment income increased by 5%. Events income fell by £498,000 to £149,000 as The Society reverted to the standard events calendar following the IUPS 2013 meeting.

Fund investments yielded net gains of £95,000 (2013: £735,000) and contributed to an overall fund balance for The Society of £11,908,000.

The Society held freely available income funds of £7,533,000 at the year end, which represents an operating capacity of 22 months at current levels of expenditure and excludes the guaranteed income included in our publishing agreement with Wiley. These reserves are held to ensure the long-term viability of The Society, particularly in the event of a serious decline in its publishing income. Currently £7,106,000 is held in investments to provide an income stream to support the charitable activities of The Society for the longer term. To provide for security of our activities in perpetuity, a target level of reserves falls in the range of £11–12,000,000. This gap is projected to be bridged by 2024 with capital appreciation of The Society's investment fund.

The Society held £130,000 in restricted funds at the year end. There were no designated funds.

The Society's investment policy, which takes into account the underlying investment in Hodgkin Huxley House, is to achieve long term capital growth which can ultimately provide a significant income stream, regardless of fluctuations in our publishing income, to support key charitable activities. Up to £200,000 (from a mix of capital and income) is withdrawn on an annual basis. The long term investment target is inflation, as measured by CPI, plus 4%. A composite benchmark, across four asset classes, is used in the quarterly valuations. In 2014, the managed portfolio returned 3.4% against the composite benchmark return of 6.2%. The inflation benchmark was 4.6%. However, taking the longer view, since its inception in April 2013, the fund has grown by 10.1% (target: 9.3%).

The Society invests in collective investments (unit and investment trusts). This is designed to give a broad level of diversification across all major asset classes, with the exception of property, which has been specifically excluded. The managers have general discretion over the asset allocation and selection of investments within agreed investment parameters. The Society's investment policy is due for review in 2015.

In consideration of the above report, a few things are worth highlighting as we go forward. Whilst overall The Society's finances and its income, generated mainly through publications, remain healthy, there are potential threats to this stability that we need to recognize and take action to mitigate. For the last few years, The Society has run a deficit budget where it has spent more than it earned in pursuit of its charitable objectives. In today's climate of financial volatility and future uncertainty, this presents a risk so our aim for the future is to move steadily towards a prudent break-even annual budget to protect our current substantial assets. The new reserves policy supports this long-term objective.

To this end, we have introduced comprehensive management accounts which allow us to have full sight of key financial information throughout the financial year and, when necessary, to rapidly take appropriate corrective steps. It will also be important to identify areas for cost savings whilst protecting our many valuable charitable activities. Going forward, a new area of activity, made possible by the successful merging of the Bayliss and Starling Society and The Physiological Society, will be a Bayliss–Starling Annual Prize Lecture and a related biennial symposium.

This year, we welcomed two new members to Finance Committee – Professor Prem Kumar and Professor David Eisner; we had our first training session on Charity Finances for Council and staff; we finalized the new Reserves Policy; and we initiated a review of financial risk, which should be complete in 2015. I would like to acknowledge the work of members of Finance Committee and the Finance Director, Casey Early, in taking these forward successfully. In addition, I would like to thank the departing Dr Rebecca Burton for her service on the Finance Committee. Looking ahead, we have every reason to be optimistic from a finances point of view but with this caveat – 'the better part of valour is discretion'.

**Anne King, Honorary Treasurer**

## 1.5 Public benefit statement

Physiology is the science of how humans and other animals function in an integrated way and is the basis for many biological and clinical sciences. The Society supports research to advance the understanding of physiology and disease, as well as education and public engagement to develop an informed society.

The charitable purposes of The Society are to support and sustain the discipline of physiology through the advancement of science and education and thereby the advancement of health.

The benefits provided by The Society are in the form of the publication of scientific journals; the holding of meetings and conferences to disseminate advances in physiology; the provision of educational resources to support the understanding of, and encourage the study of, physiology; the provision of grants to support attendance at scientific meetings; and the promotion of the importance of physiology to the public, through free public lectures and other outreach activities to provide an insight into how basic research translates directly to improving human health. We support our Members who conduct research, providing that this is within the principles of UK and European legislation.

The beneficiaries of The Society include those involved in research, teaching or studying physiology in universities, industry, colleges and schools. Members of the public who wish to learn more about physiology are beneficiaries and all will ultimately benefit from physiological advances that promote health and treat disease. Further beneficiaries are other charities promoting science, education and health.

Some benefits are restricted to Members of The Society who are scientists or trainee scientists. These benefits (e.g. grants to present work at scientific meetings or provide access to specialist training courses) would not be directly relevant to the public. Other benefits such as educational materials, scientific publications and outreach events are available to all.

Provisions are in place for those on low incomes. Membership and registration fees are reduced or waived for students and for those from developing countries. Educational materials and our magazine are available to all free of charge. Our journals are offered at a reduced price in developing countries and online access to articles is freely available to all after 12 months from their date of publication. Publishing work in our journals is free to authors, unless they want to make their article freely available immediately on publication (open access), in which case an article-processing charge will apply.

Private benefits are incidental and mainly consist of prizes for exceptional scientific or educational achievements.

In reviewing The Society's performance during the year, Council has had regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission.

## 1.6 Structure, governance and management

### Council of Trustees

The Trustees are legally responsible for the overall governance, management and policies of The Society, ensuring that the charitable objects for which it has been set up are met. The Trustees are also the Directors of the company. The Council of Trustees meets at least three times a year. Elections to the Council take place each year, and any Member of The Society is eligible to stand. The normal length of service on Council is four years. The current size of the Council is 22, including two Affiliate representatives. Meetings of the Council are chaired by the President. The Governance Review Task Force, which was established in 2013, continued its review of The Society's governance arrangements. The results of this extensive review will be presented to the Membership at the 2015 Annual General Meeting.

### Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees, as directors of the charitable company, are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the Trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The Society and the income and expenditure for that year. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain The Society's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of The Society and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of The Society and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees have confirmed that as far as they are aware at the time the report is approved, there is no relevant audit information of which The Society's auditors are unaware. They further have taken all steps necessary to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that The Society's auditors are aware of that information.

### Trustee induction and training

On appointment, each Trustee is sent a secure link to The Society's Trustee induction portal, which includes various information and resources such as the Charity Commission leaflet CC3, the governing documents and financial information. All new Trustees are encouraged to attend a Trustee Training course, which is either external or part of an induction day at The Society's registered office.

In 2014, six Trustees attended Trustee Training courses covering general Trustee responsibilities and also finance. In May 2015, following a recommendation from the Governance Review Task Force, the board of Trustees will attend an in-house course designed to develop their collective financial awareness.

Trustees have a legal duty to avoid conflicts of interest so that they can focus exclusively on the best interests of The Society. If and when any conflicts of interest arise, Trustees are required to make a declaration to be recorded on The Society's Register of Interests.

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee works through the Chief Executive to oversee the day-to-day operations of The Society and meets frequently throughout the year. Members of the Executive Committee are drawn from, and elected by, the Council. The Council can delegate any of its powers to the Executive Committee as it sees fit. The normal term of office on the Executive Committee is four years.

The Executive Committee in 2014 comprised:

- Jonathan Ashmore                      President to 1 July 2014
- Richard Vaughan-Jones              Deputy President to 1 July 2014, President from 1 July 2014
- David Eisner                              Deputy President from 1 July 2014
- Anne King                                 Honorary Treasurer
- David Wyllie                              Meetings Secretary to 1 July 2014
- Ken O'Halloran                         Meetings Secretary from 1 July 2014
- Blair Grubb                               Chair, Education Committee
- Mary Morrell                              Chair, Policy Committee
- Mike Shipston                            Chair, Publications Committee to 1 July 2014
- Prem Kumar                               Chair, Publications Committee from 1 July 2014

### Committees

The Council also has committees and working groups to which it delegates powers, and these groups report back to the Council. Membership of committees is drawn from the Council but also includes other invited members, who may be Members of The Society or external. Committees are aligned with the various functional groups in the London office. The main committees in 2014 were Education and Outreach, Finance, Meetings, Membership and Grants, Nominations, Policy, Publications, and Remuneration.

The Finance Committee acts as a reviewing mechanism of all strategic and statutory financial aspects of The Society. It is delegated by the Council to oversee all financial aspects to ensure The Society's short and long-term ability to achieve its charitable objectives.

The Nominations Committee seeks and assesses all nominations for the President, Honorary Membership and membership of the Executive Committee. It comprises the President, the Deputy President and two other Trustees.

#### Management and administration

The Society has approximately 30 staff and operates out of Hodgkin Huxley House, which was acquired in 2012. The Council delegates responsibility for day-to-day management of The Society to the Chief Executive, who reports on performance against the strategic and operational plans approved by the Trustees. The Chief Executive is supported by a Senior Management Team consisting of three Directors: Marketing, Finance and Publications.

#### Annual General Meeting

The Society's Annual General Meeting, open to all Members, was held on Tuesday 1 July 2014 in London during Physiology 2014. Minutes of the meeting are available on The Society's website.

#### Risk management

The Trustees have given consideration to The Society's major risks to achieving its strategic direction and satisfied themselves that systems or procedures are established in order to mitigate those risks. The major risks were considered to be the dependency on publications income, reputational and quality risks relating to *The Journal of Physiology*, and risks associated with Trustee board selection and composition. A full review of The Society's risk management process including the management of operational and strategic risks will be carried out in 2015.

#### Volunteers

We could not achieve our charitable objectives without the commitment and hard work of our Members (and some non-members), many of whom give freely of their time to act as journal editors, committee members and volunteers to support our events and activities. The Society wishes to thank all those who have supported it over the last year.

## 1.7 Publications

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In 2014 we undertook an exhaustive review of our online submission and peer review system which has resulted in us switching systems from Bench>Press to EJPRESS. The new system, launched in December 2014, is a bespoke site that is better suited to our needs. We hope that our authors, reviewers and editors will all benefit from this change.

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Another big change was the decision to drop our HighWire platform in favour of being published exclusively on Wiley Online Library. This has many advantages for our users. All archived content back to 1878 for *The Journal of Physiology* (JP) and 1908 for *Experimental Physiology* (EP) will now be hosted on one platform. Readers will benefit from Wiley's 'Anywhere Article' user interface and, perhaps most importantly, institutions now only have to analyse one set of usage reports, which will help them to assess the importance of the journals to their researchers and ensure the renewal of their subscriptions.

Instead of publishing accepted papers on a weekly basis, we can now publish them as soon as they are ready, irrespective of the day of the week. This also reduces the delay from acceptance to online publication for both JP and EP. Copy-edited, formatted and corrected versions of the papers are posted online within 10 working days of receipt of author proof corrections.

Our publisher, Wiley, has recently enabled two new services for the journals' authors and readers. Altmetric is a tool that helps reader and authors gauge the impact of an article by looking at the number of times it has been shared via social media and other internet-based channels. It is not surprising that many of our articles are shared widely among interested parties.

The second new service, Kudos, expands readership of research publications and helps increase citations by enabling authors to 'claim' and promote their published content in one place.

Journal authors are now encouraged to use ORCID IDs (persistent digital identifiers) to distinguish themselves as individuals and so ensure that their work is correctly attributed. ORCID (<http://orcid.org/>) is integrated into our new submission system.

We are pleased to announce that Alan Batterham has been appointed Statistical Consultant to The Society's journals.

### *The Journal of Physiology*

*JP* continues to cover all areas of physiology, from molecular and cellular to whole-organism studies. Submissions remain steady, with a third of research submissions coming from the neuroscience community. Part way through 2014 we changed the 'Skeletal muscle and exercise' category to 'Muscle' and now encourage our exercise papers to be submitted to the 'Integrative' category. New Senior Editors Mike Hogan and Scott Powers joined the Board to help boost submissions in these important areas.

The average time from submission to first decision for all research papers is currently 24.8 days – a great service to our authors and well within our target of four weeks. Authors whose papers have been for review can expect a full evaluation of their submissions within 35 days.

*JP* focuses on publishing top-quality original research, with just under two-thirds of papers published in 2014 being either a research paper, a rapid report, a techniques paper, or a symposium-related research paper.

We have achieved our aim of increasing the number of review articles published, with 68 reviews published in 2014, compared to 46 in 2013.

Similar to 2013, the acceptance rate in 2014 was 26.4%. Triaged and rejected papers accounted for about two-thirds of decisions, with just under half of these being referred to *Physiological Reports (PR)*. Authors of the remaining papers were offered the opportunity to revise their submissions in light of reviewers' comments.

Downloads of articles in *JP* exceeded five million in 2014, showing the continual demand for the research we publish and reassuring us that the work that we select for publication is of great interest to the community.

The 2014 release of the 2013 citation metrics showed that *JP* remained the number one top-cited journal in the Physiology category with citations totalling 47,233 in 2013. Moreover, we are pleased to report that *JP* now ranks in the top 10 for all citation metrics in Physiology. Google Scholar ranks *JP* as fourth in both the h5 index and the h5 median, and the SCImago Index ranks it as the seventh most important original research journal publishing human and mammalian physiology.

In addition to *JP* being of great importance to the research community, we are also pleased to reach a broader audience by issuing press releases on relevant translational articles. In 2014, The Physiological Society issued four press releases related to *JP* articles.

We have a growing presence via social media channels, and are now pleased to report over 6,900 followers on Twitter (with an increase of more than 2,000 since last year) and well over 1,200 'likes' on Facebook. On these sites, we promote recent content, forthcoming events and journal news.

We have now tightened up our policy regarding best practice in statistical analysis and data presentation. Our new instructions for authors offer clear, non-technical assistance. By better educating our authors, we hope to see an improvement in statistical reporting within the physiology community.

We have once again been targeting some major international events by having a stand in the exhibition halls, which enables us to talk to new and existing authors, referees and editors. Wherever possible we also showcase information and articles that represent our interesting and varied history, including the Nobel Prize winning papers that we have published over the years. Conferences attended in 2014 included the Biophysical Society's annual meeting, Experimental Biology, the European Society of Cardiology's Congress, Physiology 2014 and the Society for Neuroscience's annual meeting. *JP* also had a presence at other meetings attended or organised by Board members. For each of these events we compiled virtual issues to highlight our best papers to the conferences attendees.

#### *JP's 2014 key achievements*

- Maintained position as the top-cited journal in the Physiology category
  - 47,223 citations in 2013
  - Ranking joint first in Cited Half-life (>10.0)
  - Ranking second in Eigenfactor Score (0.06260)
  - Ranking third in number of articles published (386)
  - Ranking fifth in Article Influence (1.825)
  - Ranking eighth in Immediacy Index (1.368)
  - Ranking eighth in Impact Factor (4.544)
  - Ranking ninth in 5 year Impact Factor (5.021)
- Over 5 million full text downloads for the third year running
- Sustained media presence – Twitter followers topped 6,900
- Increase in the number of reviews published

#### *JP's objectives for 2015*

- Continue to target the cardiovascular community by attending the Heart Rhythm Society annual meeting in Boston, MA, USA
- Continue to sponsor key symposia throughout the year
- Increase the number of Special Issues published
- Promote the theme of Ageing and Degeneration by publishing two Special Issues
- Introduce a professional figure redrawing service for authors of invited reviews
- Increase number of submissions from underrepresented areas such as renal and endocrine
- Launch 'Techniques Masterclass' video initiative
- Film more of our eminent Board members
- Reduce the time from submission to first decision
- Reduce the acceptance rate to our target of 20%

*Experimental Physiology*

*Experimental Physiology (EP)* publishes high quality, original, physiological research papers that give novel insights into fundamental homeostatic and adaptive responses in health and further our knowledge of pathophysiological mechanisms in diseases.

The number of research submissions to *EP* remained steady in 2014, with a slight increase in Review and Commentary articles. The annual allocation of 1,680 pages was filled and published as monthly online issues. Around 75% of published content was research papers, predominantly in the areas of human/exercise, cardiovascular, muscle, vascular and respiratory physiology. Only papers of sufficient priority were accepted – the acceptance rate for Research submissions was 24%, similar to 2013. The rate of ‘referral’ of papers from *EP* to *PR* doubled, accounting for 20% of *EP* final decisions on research papers in 2014 compared to 10% in 2013.

Review content was carefully selected across a range of areas of current topical interest. Symposia reflecting the journal’s scope were sponsored at major scientific meetings, raising awareness of the journal and resulting in reports for publication. Each Symposium issue contains an introductory video slideshow from the organiser. A Themed Issue on obesity featuring reviews by speakers at The Society’s Topic Meeting and related articles was published in time for the meeting, where it was made freely accessible to attendees.

A new ‘Connections’ article type was launched and a series of six published over the year. Connections trace the development of findings through a sequence of three articles and speculate where future research might lead. The number of Viewpoints rose from 12 in 2013 to 18 in 2014.

The peer review team maintained a fast and thorough peer review service to authors on top of dealing with the switch to and customisation of the new submission system. The average time from submission to first decision remained at a competitive 26 days, with papers sent for review given a full evaluation within 34 days. The number of Online Open articles has increased from four in 2013 to seven in 2014. Details of funding, author contributions and conflicts of interest are now published for all papers, and authors are encouraged to provide supporting data.

The 2013 Impact Factor was 2.871 (compared with 2.790 in 2012). Both the number of articles published and the total number of citations showed increases on the previous year. *EP* remained 28th in the ranking despite an increase in the number of Physiology journals included in the category.

The number of full text downloads to articles published in 2014 was 772,314. An increasing number of readers access the journal on mobile devices and the iPad app has been steadily downloaded. Items of interest are regularly posted on social media pages and the number of people following *EP* on Twitter and the number of likes on Facebook continue to grow. The Society issued press releases for two *EP* articles in 2014.

In 2014, *EP* launched the Inaugural Review Prize, a new award open to authors in the first three years of their first full faculty appointment at a university or research institute. Over 16 extremely strong candidates were nominated from all over the world. The winner will be announced at Physiology 2015 where the review article will be made accessible to attendees.

#### EP's 2014 key achievements

- New 'Connections' article type
- New Inaugural Review Prize
- Obesity Themed Issue at Society Topic meeting
- Video slideshow introductions for all Symposium Issues
- More Viewpoints
- New submission site
- Improved speed/rigour of peer review

#### EP's objectives for 2015

- Increase journal profile in UK, US, Japan and Europe where submissions have declined, by appointing new editors in these countries
- Reach targeted communities by sponsoring and publishing symposia in their fields at key scientific meetings
- Encourage the publication of 'data behind the data' and increase the amount published in the journal
- Publish a Themed Issue featuring articles by female Society award winners to celebrate the centenary of women Members
- Improve time from submission to first decision
- Improve time from acceptance to Early View publication

#### Physiological Reports

*Physiological Reports (PR)* distinguishes itself from many other journals by publishing articles with negative or confirmatory results as well as including the data underlying the figures and tables as supplementary material. The first policy was outlined in an editorial published in March 2014 by Associate Editor Mrinalini Rao. The second was outlined in an editorial published in October by Associate Editor Gareth Leng, accompanied by a pioneer article from his own research team. A data workshop was held at Physiology 2014 in support of the initiative.

To help promote *PR* at the big international meetings, four virtual issues with accompanying flyers were produced: *Gender and Age* for EB 2014 in San Diego, *New Directions in Muscle Research* for Physiology 2014 in London, *New Insights in Energy Homeostasis, Fat and Obesity* for the Obesity Topic Meeting in Newcastle, and *Neuroscience in Physiological Reports* for the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington DC. These virtual issues comprise online collections of papers in particular subject areas selected by the Associate Editors.

*PR* has from the start been published at Wiley Online Library. In 2014, a second site was launched hosted by HighWire using the American Physiological Society's 'Drupal'-based web platform.

#### *PR's 2014 Key Achievements*

- Published 303 research papers in the year
- Published the first article with the underlying data included as supplementary material
- Launched on the HighWire platform

#### *PR's objectives for 2015*

- Increase of total submissions by 10%
- Add a further supporter journal to the current list with a view to increasing referrals of papers to the journal
- Promote commentaries as an additional journal article type
- Shape the editorial board further, such that it reflects all our readers and authors
- Extend the use of social media
- Focus on ensuring all data, including supplementary data, are as open as possible

## 1.8 Events

2014 heralded a new era for Society Meetings. Physiology remains the lynchpin in the events calendar, drawing together the broad church that is our discipline, and this is now complemented by Topic Meetings and H<sup>3</sup> symposia.

The overall aim for The Society's Events portfolio, overseen by our Meetings Committee, will continue to be to ensure that they provide modern, cutting-edge and friendly environments to foster robust scientific exchange. In 2014, we bid a fond farewell to Meetings Secretary David Wyllie, University of Edinburgh, and welcomed Ken O'Halloran, University College Cork, who began his four-year term of office during the year.

With the replacement of Theme Meetings, our newly launched Topic Meetings have a broad appeal and unite Members from all the Theme areas around the subject, and enable collaborations with cognate societies and organisations. They also provide a platform for outreach and education initiatives, and virtual issues from Society publications to enhance the experience. 'Obesity: A Physiological Perspective' in Newcastle in September achieved exactly this. The three-day meeting was supported by the World Obesity Federation and the International Association for the Study of Obesity, and featured six symposia, the Bayliss–Starling Prize Lecture given by Steve Bloom, Imperial College London, and a Public Lecture given by Giles Yeo, University of Cambridge. Other outreach activities included 'The Fair of Physiology', engaging schoolchildren on this important topic. Uniquely at this meeting, we also included a number of clinical aspects and addressed the wider societal impacts of obesity, including the role of Public Health England and managing obesity in primary care and general practice.

H<sup>3</sup> Symposia are held at Hodgkin Huxley House, the home of The Society, and these one-day focused events put together by Members have proved very popular. Three were held in 2014. The events in September and November were also livestreamed, which increased the audience, and generated some real-time discussion via our social media channels.

H <sup>3</sup> Symposium	Organiser(s)	Statistics
Cellular Approaches for Cardiac Repair: A Physiological Perspective April 2014	Susan Currie (University of Strathclyde, UK), Sandra Jones (University of Hull, UK), and Cesare Terracciano (Imperial College London, UK)	Participants 69 Abstracts submitted 14 Overall participant rating 3.33*
Public Engagement as a 'Pathway to Impact' September 2014	Charlotte Haigh (University of Leeds, UK)	Participants 39 Abstracts submitted 5 Overall participant rating 2.97*
Microvascular Physiology – Implications for Understanding Intravenous Fluid Therapy November 2014	Geraldine Clough (University of Southampton, UK) and Tom Woodcock (University Hospital Southampton, UK)	Participants 59 Abstracts submitted 5 Overall participant rating 3.79*

\*Rating scale 1 (lowest) to 4 (highest)

Physiology 2014, the flagship annual meeting of The Society, returned to London for the first time since 2006. Held at The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre in Westminster, all Society Themes were represented attracting 1031 participants and 620 abstracts. The Inaugural Presidential Symposium and career development workshop sessions were also included in the programme for the first time. The conference was preceded by an Early Career Physiologists' Symposium at King's College London, which was organised by Members from St George's, University of London, and King's College London. This included keynote lectures by Jeremy Ward, King's College London, and Abigail Woodfin, William Harvey Research Institute, and career workshops on Women in Science, Moving from Academia to Industry, and Science in the States. In addition, the Young Life Scientists' Symposium was held at King's College London on 4 October and attracted around 100 participants.

The Society also supported, through the award of a Special Symposium grant, a one-day event to celebrate the >40 year career of Dr Robert Banks at Durham University in September. In addition, The Society was delighted to be able to support the centenary of the founding of The Physiological Laboratory at the University of Cambridge.

Prize lecture	Recipient
Annual Review Prize Lecture	Excitation-transcription coupling: novel mechanisms and implications for brain disease Richard W Tsien NYU Neuroscience Institute, USA
Annual Public Lecture	Shall we be human in the next century? Robert Winston Imperial College London, UK
Bayliss–Starling Prize Lecture	Bayliss & Starling's gut hormones – curing the obesity pandemic Steve Bloom Imperial College London, UK
GL Brown Prize Lecture	Calcium in the heart: from physiology to disease David Eisner University of Manchester, UK
Joan Mott Prize Lecture	Intervening in ageing to prevent the diseases of ageing Linda Partridge University College London, UK
Paton Prize Lecture	A historical perspective on reflex cardiovascular control in man Peter Sleight University of Oxford, UK
International Exchange Lecture 2–6 August, Iguassu Falls, Brazil Part of Pan-Am 2014	New advances in the neural control of breathing K Michael Spyer Honorary Member, The Physiological Society
The Otto Hutter Teaching Prize	Preparing students for the world of work David Lewis University of Leeds, UK

### 2014 Key Achievements

- Successful delivery of Physiology 2014
  - 1031 participants
  - 620 abstracts
  - 25 symposia
  - 5 prize lectures
  - 3 sponsors
  - 26 exhibitors
  - 417 posters
  - 80 orals
  - 2 demonstrations
  - Overall participant rating 3.49 (out of 4.0)
- Obesity: A Physiological Perspective
  - 189 participants
  - 97 abstracts
  - 6 symposia
  - 1 prize lecture
  - 1 public lecture
  - 3 keynote lectures
  - 4 exhibitors
  - 70 posters
  - Overall participant rating 3.56 (out of 4.0)
- Launch of H<sup>3</sup> focused symposium programme (3 events)
  - 167 participants
  - 24 abstracts

### Objectives for 2015

- To ensure the continued and successful management and delivery of Physiology 2015 by hosting an internationally appealing and well attended event. To deliver a meeting that will appeal to the physiological community and place the science, The Society and our journals at the forefront of the life sciences both in the UK and internationally
- To ensure the successful forward planning and management of Physiology 2016, which will be jointly hosted by The Physiological Society and the American Physiological Society
- To ensure the successful management and delivery of the Topic Meeting 'Ageing and Degeneration: A Physiological Perspective', 10–11 April 2015, Edinburgh, UK. To forward plan the Topic Meetings on 'Multi-Scale Imaging' later in 2015, and also for 2016 on the 'Biomedical Basis for Elite Performance II'
- To continue to develop the smaller specialised H<sup>3</sup> focused meetings at Hodgkin Huxley House and to deliver three such events in 2015, with one celebrating the centenary of the admittance of women to the membership of The Society
- To continue to explore possibilities of wider strategic cooperation and collaboration with cognate societies for mutually beneficial scientific events

## 1.9 Membership

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The Membership & Grants Committee deals primarily with a broad range of matters concerning Member services. In 2014, a Member-led strategy focused on improving the Member experience and reviewing the benefits and services that The Society offers both in the UK and overseas.

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During 2014, our overall membership increased by 4.4%, from 3,146 Members to 3,287. In 2014, 22 Members resigned their membership. The most prevalent reason was that they were no longer working in academia. Five Members lapsed for non-payment of membership subscriptions.

We continue to offer gratis membership for our Retired Members, some of whom kindly donate their subscription to the Benevolent Fund to assist fellow physiologists in need. We were pleased and honoured to welcome the following distinguished physiologists into The Society as Honorary Members:

- Professor Jonathan Ashmore
- Professor Tony Gardner-Medwin
- Professor Patrick Max Headley
- Dr Jere Mitchell
- Professor Harald Reuter
- Professor James Rothman
- Professor Randy Schekman
- Professor Thomas Sudhof
- Professor Tilli Tansey

One of our objectives for membership in 2014 was to systematically transform and improve our support, engagement and communications with Members. Our current membership database is 15 years old and its technological aspects are no longer suitable for The Society's growing needs. During the year, a small project team has worked on developing our requirements for a new Membership Management System (MMS), using Member feedback and looking at how other membership bodies handle their data. The Member Services Team will aim to ensure a smooth transition for Members during this implementation.

We have made some changes to the Membership area of the website, following feedback from Members, and hope to develop the interactive aspects of the website, for example, membership and grant applications, further in line with our new MMS. Please do feel free to give any feedback you might have on The Society's website to [web@physoc.org](mailto:web@physoc.org). We have also worked hard to improve our customer service to all those who interact with The Society. We feel this has been achieved, with the majority of email communications being answered the same day and Members reporting on the timely support and assistance. Our membership and travel grant application processes have been systematically streamlined and will continue to develop and improve to ease the administration burden on Members, in conjunction with the new MMS.

During our annual cycle of Membership governance, nine proposals for Honorary Membership were made following our call in the March email newsletter. In April, with three vacancies available, we asked for nominations for the 2014 Council elections. Four Members contested these elections in the summer, which saw a total of 198 voting individuals. The 2014 Annual General Meeting, held during Physiology 2014, was also well attended, with 66 Members present.

Travel grants remain the single most popular Member benefit, as well as being a critical element in The Society achieving its charitable objective of supporting the interaction of scientists. In 2014, the number of travel grants awarded increased significantly compared to the previous year. In 2014, we awarded 446 travel grants, giving a total spend of £238,000. *Physiology News* also remains popular. Thanks go to Dr Mike Collis, who stood down as Editor in December 2014 after two years' service, and also the Editorial Board, for their contributions to its success. Members are very much encouraged to contribute scientific and other articles to *Physiology News*. If this is of interest, please do contact us at [magazine@physoc.org](mailto:magazine@physoc.org) for the submission guidelines.

#### Membership numbers (as of 31 December)

	2012	2013	2014
Members	1,523	1,487	1,504
Retired Members	311	296	328
Honorary Members	64	66	72
Affiliates	997	951	1,011
Associates	16	16	51
Undergraduates	329	330	321
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,240</b>	<b>3,146</b>	<b>3,287</b>

#### 2014 Key Achievements

- Membership growth of 4.4%, with 141 individuals joining The Society
- Improved Member services with the majority of enquiries receiving a same-day response
- Offered free access to *The Journal of Physiology* and *Experimental Physiology* to undergraduate Members, following the move to Wiley Online Library
- Awarded £238,000 in travel grants (446) to physiologists to support the interaction of science

## Objectives for 2015

- Enhance recruitment, application and retention processes, including a new Membership Management System to improve the Member experience
- Develop the network of Society Representatives, including having clear Terms of Reference and function, in particular targeting those institutions with a strong physiology presence, but with low membership or participation
- Seek to target clinicians, especially those who are research-active, or in industry
- Establish a small working party of Members to develop and introduce a Fellowship category in line with the support from the Members' Survey, and review other categories in terms of recruitment and progression

## 1.10 Education

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2014 was a year both of consolidation and of change for education at The Society. We continued to support existing initiatives while realigning them with the Education and Outreach Committee's remit. Our collaborations with other organisations will have a huge influence on our education strategy going forward.

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One of the more significant of these collaborations, with the Academy of Medical Sciences (AMS), Heads of University Biosciences (HUBS) and the Society of Biology, culminated in a report, 'Improving the status and valuation of teaching in the careers of UK academics', which we launched in June 2014. It followed up on a 2010 AMS report about the status and value of careers in biomedical sciences. We performed a survey of over 250 academics across UK bioscience departments and held a national workshop in March to discuss the current landscape and potential next steps to address the issues. The June report attracted national press attention, including from the *Times Higher Education*, and will help to inform our future work in this area.

### The American Physiological Society (APS)

Our relationship with the American Physiological Society (APS) also continued to flourish in 2014, with the formalisation of our partnership on the Life Science Teaching Resource Community (LifeSciTRC) website. Managed by the APS, this resource is an online community and searchable digital library that can be used by educators at all levels to enhance their current teaching resources. As a partner, Society Members will be able to access these resources and share their own with each other as well as the wider teaching community. Through collaboration with the National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs), we funded a project that has a potential to impact on the 3Rs, in particular, the potential to replace live mammals with nematodes as models for long lasting signalling in sensory neural circuits. This project was funded via the research grant scheme, which also supported 10 other projects across the UK and RoI in 2014. We also looked again at the teaching grant scheme, which supported two educational projects in 2014. To give more recognition of innovation in teaching, as part of supporting professional development, we agreed to evolve this scheme into a teaching grant award next year.

### Supporting students

During a review of our education activities, the Education and Outreach Committee decided to realign two International Research Grant schemes to support teaching. As in previous years, we continued to support students studying physiology at undergraduate level and beyond: we awarded 38 Vacation Studentships for undergraduates to experience lab research in a summer lab placement, 19 Rob Clarke Awards to recognise the excellence of undergraduate physiology research, and 51 Undergraduate Prizes for overall excellence in physiology. Beyond undergraduate level, we continued supporting our popular lab techniques workshops, and 35 physiology departments worldwide received funding through our Departmental Seminar Scheme to encourage collaboration and sharing of research between institutions.

The year 2014 also saw the completion of our second national research competition for 16–19-year-olds, The Science of Life: How your body works. This was even more successful than the first competition, with over double the number of entries and more students – making up 14 entries in total – reaching the final, which took place at our main scientific meeting, Physiology 2014. The

gold prize went to an outstanding student at Kent College in Canterbury. We were really pleased to see many entries from schools that participated in the first competition.

Also at the schools level, we began developing an education resource linking with The Society's theme for 2014: Understanding Obesity. With guidance from a working group, we designed a role-play to demonstrate hunger homeostasis and then successfully trialled it with 11–14-year-olds at our obesity-themed conference in September. The resource will be made available in 2015.

### Diversity, equality and inclusion

In October, The Society made a public commitment to support increased diversity and inclusion within the science community by signing the Science Council's Declaration on Diversity, Equality and Inclusion – as well as feeding into its development. As a result, we appointed two Champions to advocate and implement the principles of the declaration, one of whom sits on the Education and Outreach Committee and therefore will be guiding education practice going forward.

### 2014 Key Achievements

- In collaboration with the AMS and Society of Biology, successfully delivering a workshop on 'Improving the status and valuation of teaching in higher education', which culminated in a report recommending next steps
- Formalising our partnership with the APS on their Life Science Teaching Resource Community website
- Supporting the development of the 3Rs by funding a research project seeking to replace the use of live mammals, with funding from NC3Rs
- Successfully completing our second national competition for schools, The Science of Life: How your body works, and receiving an even higher quality and number of entries than the first competition
- Successfully trialling a new resource for schools demonstrating the principles of hunger homeostasis

### Objectives for 2015

- Follow up on recommendations from report on 'Improving the status and valuation of teaching in higher education'
- Celebrate 100 years of women's Society membership with a national competition for schools
- Promote our partnership of the APS Life Science Teaching Resource Community website and encourage membership engagement
- Launch a scheme to support the development of teaching-focused physiologists outside the UK and Rol

## 1.11 Outreach

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Obesity is becoming a growing health concern and with the internet being one of the main information sources, it is easy to see how misinformation and confusion can spread. As part of The Society's themed year of Understanding Obesity, our outreach and public engagement activities shone the light on this controversial topic, clearing up myths and misconceptions through lectures, debates, and hands-on activities.

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In February, we launched our programme of events with a public lecture from Alexandra Blakemore. The Professor of Human Molecular Genetics at Imperial College London joined us in our new home, Hodgkin Huxley House, to discuss the relationship between genes and obesity in her lecture 'Genetics and the prospect of personalised medicine for obesity'. Our discussion on genes continued in April at Edinburgh International Science Festival. This time Colin Moran, lecturer at Stirling University, was its advocate. Colin was joined by Julian Mercer (University of Aberdeen), Tony Goldstone (Imperial College London) and Naomi Brooks (Stirling University) to explore the causes of obesity in our panel discussion 'Separating the fat from the fiction'. Over the 90 minute session, each speaker took to the stage campaigning that their cause – genes, eating habits, basic physiology, or sedentary lifestyles – was the most important factor and asked audience members to vote through interactive voting buttons which of their facts were true, and which false. In June, we attended Cheltenham Science Festival with our talk 'The BMI lie'. Our speakers, Janice Thompson, Jason Gill and self-proclaimed lover of fat Jimmy Bell, discussed the pros and cons of using BMI as a measure of health. Our expert physiologists talked about how health risks varied between different ethnicities, and the risk factors associated with subcutaneous and visceral fat. A total of 290 members of the public attended these events and engaged with question and answer sessions at which there was some interesting physiological debate.

Alongside our adult engagement, we also took our theme to younger audiences. With a troop of knowledgeable volunteers, we toured with our stand 'The Hungry Games', a collection of hands-on activities exploring our theme of obesity. The activities delved into the hormonal pathways behind appetite, took a look at energy balance and weight management and discussed how fat is distributed around the body, and the differences between being 'healthy' and 'overweight'.

Our travels included Birmingham for The Big Bang Fair, an annual event to promote science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) attended by over 75,000 young people; Cheltenham Discover Zone, a hands-on area of Cheltenham Science Festival, which drew in crowds of 5,000 school students; Newcastle for The Society's Topic Meeting 'Obesity: A Physiological Perspective'; as well as three Big Biology Days in Cambridge, Essex and Stamford. At the Big Bang Fair alone, over 2,100 school pupils, teachers and parents engaged with our stand, questioning us on the use of hormones in diet drugs, and how a young Arnold Schwarzenegger could possibly be considered obese.

In September attendees of 'Obesity: A Physiological Perspective' were joined by some younger delegates. The Outreach and Education team invited local schools to join the meeting for 'The Fair of Physiology'. Tables were reshuffled and activities were set up; overnight the space filled with an array of interactive stands exploring health, nutrition, exercise, hunger and appetite. Accompanied by four teachers, 59 students from two local schools attended the Fair.

## Public engagement

One of our biggest successes for 2014 was public engagement with our Biology Week and Physiology Friday competitions. Biology Week ran from 11 to 18 October, with Physiology Friday falling on 17 October. In early September, we launched two competitions, the Bio-Bodies Bake-off and the Ode to Physiology poetry competition.

For the Ode to Physiology competition entrants had to write a poem about physiology; we received 89 entries over two categories. Our under-11 winner was nine-year-old Alexander Baines from Laxton Junior School with his poem about sight. Our under-19 winner was 17-year-old Charlie Flear from Nottingham High School with his poem about adrenaline. Both poems were featured on our website and the winners received a Kindle Fire for themselves and an outreach visit to their school.

The Bio-Bodies Bake-off received a grand total of 273 entries. We received brain function cakes, phagocytosis cakes, neuron cakes and many, many more. Our cake committee whittled the numbers down to a shortlist of 11. The shortlisted cakes were posted on our website, and the winner was decided by a public vote during Biology Week. The vote attracted almost 6,000 page visits, with Abigayle Driscoll, an 11-year-old student at Colchester High School, taking the bio-bake crown with her delectable lungs cake.

## Outreach grants

The Society awarded a total of £39,000 in grants to support activities discussing physiology with schools and the general public. Through our Outreach Grant scheme, we awarded £9,000 to Members for their own outreach projects. Funds went to exhibitions, talks, festival events, science theatre shows, roadshows and even a physiology ceilidh.

Our Public Engagement Grant scheme ran for the third year and gave out £30,000 to both Members and non-members of The Society. A total of seven grants between £3,000 and £5,000 went to a diverse number of projects exploring physiology. Maximum funding was received by four projects: Fuse School, a YouTube educational partner, developing animated video for schools on the fundamentals of animal and human physiology; Obesity Wars: fitness vs fatness, an exciting, interactive event showcasing measures of fatness and fitness presented by Birmingham University at the Think Tank Museum; Networks in the brain: mapping connections and measuring damage, a Royal Society Summer Science Exhibition presented by The Traumatic Brain Injury Research Group at Imperial College London; and Scotland's Food Science Technology Roadshow, a travelling collection of stands presented by food and drink researchers at Heriot Watt University. Grants were also received by 'I'm a Scientist, Get me out of here!', an online competition in which students could directly quiz scientists about the human body. The Society supported 'The Body Zone', which tied in with The Society's theme and looked at the causes and consequences of obesity. The Cell Craft Challenge, which set up shop at Lancashire Science Festival, invited members of the public to knit, mosaic, draw and glue models of cells using research images. The RVC Lates, an evening event, invited the public behind the doors of The Royal Veterinary College to witness the dissection of an obese horse amongst a number of other activities.

**The Society has been working with other organisations to develop a public programme of outreach events for our themed year of Understanding Obesity. We would like to thank the Biochemical Society, the Nutrition Society, the University of Essex, Imperial College London, Heriot Watt University and the University of Stirling.**

## 2014 Key Achievements

- £30,000 in Public Engagement Grants supported 8 different projects by Members and non-members
- £9,000 in Outreach Grants supported 9 projects run by Society Members
- Received 273 entries to our Bio-Bodies Bake-off competition and 89 poems to our Ode to Physiology competition
- We took our stand The Hungry Games to events around the country, engaging with over 2,700 people
- 162 people attended our talk 'The BMI lie' at Cheltenham Science Festival
- 98 people attended our talk 'Separating the fat from the fiction' at Edinburgh Science Festival
- Engaged with 59 students from two local schools at our Topic Meeting

## Objectives for 2015

- Deliver ageing-themed activities at nationwide science festivals
- Award funding to support Members to deliver both small and large scale engagement activities
- Review and extend the reach of our outreach activities in partnership with the membership

## 1.12 Policy

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The Society's policy activities in 2014 were focused on the Health of Physiology review, the Engaging with Parliamentarians programme, animal research policy and maintaining its general advocacy for physiology.

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### Health of Physiology

Considerable progress was made on the Health of Physiology review in 2014. The project aims to review physiology as a scientific, medical and educational discipline in the UK and Ireland. It will help shape The Society's future strategy. The project is led by a steering group chaired by The Society's president, Richard Vaughan-Jones, comprising representation from The Society's membership; the American Physiological Society; Academy of Medical Sciences; the BBSRC; and industry. It is supported by The Society's Policy Officer, and is considering data from a broad range of metrics including student numbers, research funding and global physiology research publication data. Additionally the views of a wide range of stakeholders have been collected.

Two stakeholder meetings were held in September, the first with Society Members and the second with external organisations, to gauge their opinion on the health of physiology. Interestingly there was much similarity in the discussions, including the teaching and learning of physiology in schools and universities; academic research and ties with industry; and concern for the profile of physiology and The Society. Over 140 Affiliates responded to a survey for the project, gauging their views on the opportunities and challenges for early career researchers and teachers in physiology.

A draft report was reviewed by the steering group at the end of 2014, and the final report will be published in 2015.

### Engaging with Parliamentarians

The policy committee launched its 'Engaging with Parliamentarians' programme in 2014 with a lunch reception, in the House of Lords, held on 30 June. The programme was initiated to encourage and help the membership to engage with policy. Mr Andrew Miller MP, who chairs both the House of Commons Science and Technology Select Committee and the Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, delivered an address to over 50 Society Members who were in attendance. Mr Miller provided an overview of science in parliament and then answered questions from the audience. The Society sincerely thanks Mr Miller for his talk and The Baroness Golding for hosting the event.

Following the launch of the Engaging with Parliamentarians scheme at the House of Lords in June, we were delighted to welcome 30 Members to Hodgkin Huxley House in September for the Engaging with Parliamentarians training day. The training day was designed to provide information on the policy making process, encourage Members to think about policy development, and provide an opportunity to explore how policy issues are communicated by The Society.

The Society would like to thank Claudia Wood (Chief Executive, Demos think tank), Nancy Lee (Senior Science Policy Advisor, Wellcome Trust), Professor Stephen Curry (Vice-chair, Science is Vital), Dr Sarah Main (Director, Campaign for Science and Engineering) and Martin Smith (Committee Specialist, House of Commons Education Select Committee) for giving presentations at the event on their experiences of engaging with policymakers and the policymaking process.

The event helped to identify the need for The Society to develop its policy stances on the issues that are of core concerns for The Society and its Members.

### Animal research

In 2014, The Society continued to play an active and leading role on animal research policy as a member of both the UK Bioscience Sector Coalition and the Society of Biology's Animal Science Group, and also in an independent capacity. Much of this work was guided by The Society's new specialist *in vivo* committee, which was established in April 2014, chaired by Lucy Donaldson.

#### *Concordat on Openness*

A highlight of 2014 was the launch of the Concordat on Openness on Animal Research. The Society was an original signatory to the Declaration on Openness and as a member of the working group, played an active role in the development of the Concordat. The Concordat calls on signatories to be more open about the use of animals in scientific research and highlights practical steps that stakeholders can take to achieve this. The Society was delighted to join fellow learned societies, funding organisations, universities and industry bodies in signing the Concordat.

#### *Home Office regulation – ASPA Operational Guidance and Code of Practice*

On the regulatory side, a significant amount of policy activity culminated in the Home Office publishing the 'Code of Practice' and 'Operational Guidance' documents which accompany the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 (more widely known as ASPA).

The Sector was successful in securing considerable changes to both of these documents from the first drafts produced by the Home Office. It is worth noting that both the Guidance and Code of Practice have been designated, as 'living documents' and therefore it is likely that they will feature in The Society's policy work again in the future.

#### *Section 24*

Another major animal research policy activity for The Society was the launch of the Home Office consultation on section 24 of ASPA in May 2014. Section 24 prohibits the release of information relating to animal research gathered by the Home Office under its legislative duties. The Society responded to this consultation, both as a member of the UK Bioscience Sector Coalition and additionally via a supplementary submission with the British Pharmacological Society. The core messages of both of these submissions was the need for Government to ensure that information relating to people, places and intellectual property were provided with suitable protection following the review of Section 24. The sector continued to work with the Home Office throughout 2014, and we await the publication of the revisions to section 24, which are expected in 2015.

#### *Letter to the Prime Minister*

In August, The Society President wrote to the Prime Minister (on behalf of The Society) in response to comments made by Norman Baker MP, the Home Office minister with responsibility for animal research. He was quoted in the media as saying he wanted 'to see an end to all animal testing'. Our letter strongly urged the Government to understand the clear and vital need for the continued use of animals in research, impressing on them to provide clear, consistent and balanced messages on the issue.

We received a response from Mr Baker explaining that he had not called for a ban on all use of animals in scientific procedures; instead, he looked forward to the day, *in the far-off future, when science has developed techniques that make use of animals redundant.*

### *Freedom of information*

The Society, working alongside the Wellcome Trust and the ABPI, lobbied MPs over a proposed amendment to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. The government proposed the changes to introduce greater clarity that pre-publication research was exempt from FOI requests. However, the wording of the proposed bill left open the possibility that intellectual property conceived in the pre-experimental, planning phase of a research programme (including grant and/or license applications etc.) would not be covered by this research exemption. This, of course, would have the potential to be seriously detrimental to academic research. Whilst unsuccessful in getting the wording of the bill changed, as result of the actions taken, the minister, David Willetts MP, made it clear in a speech to the House of Commons on 12 March 2014 that the bill was indeed intended to protect pre-experimental intellectual property.

### Science in Parliament

The Society continued its support for the prestigious SET for Britain annual parliamentary scientific poster competition, which was held in March 2014. A unique event in the parliamentary calendar, 60 early-career life science researchers presented posters to an audience featuring a number of MPs and peers, with The Society's Chief Executive, Philip Wright, delivering a speech at the event.

### Visit to the European Parliament

In December, The Society's Policy Officer, Ed Hayes, joined a delegation of 21 people representing 11 different science organisations on a visit to Brussels arranged by the Science Council. The delegation held round table meetings with the Conservative MEP Vicky Ford and the Labour MEPs Theresa Griffin and Jude Kirton-Darling. Discussions covered topics including the removal of the European Chief Scientific Advisor post; open access and the sustainability of learned societies; immigration and freedom of movement; and the anti-science citizen petitions in Europe. Additionally, meetings were held with the outgoing Chief Scientific Advisor, Professor Anne Glover, and representatives from the Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, and UK Research Office.

## 2014 Key Achievements

- The launch of the Engaging with Parliamentarians programme
- The launch of the Concordat on Openness in Animal Research
- Establishment of the *in vivo* committee
- Successfully influencing the content of the ASPA Code of Practice
- Completion of the Health of Physiology review for publication in 2015

## Objectives for 2015

- Publish the *Health of Physiology* report
- Development of policy position statements in key areas of concern for The Society and its membership

## 1.13 History & Archives

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The Society has a long history that is celebrated through the activities of the History & Archives Committee (HAC). Making The Society's history relevant and accessible is achieved through a varied and growing programme, of which the Oral Histories are a key part. The Committee is keen to ensure that history continues to be a useful and utilised reference for all of The Society's activities

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The Oral Histories project continued to gather momentum. The Society has now published online a large number of online interviews with retired physiologists, to highlight their life and work. In 2014, four new interviews were conducted, with David Colquhoun, Robert Maynard (not for publication), Ron Whittam and Andrew Packard.

The depth of The Society's history continues to be highlighted at events in the UK and abroad. At Physiology 2014, scientific equipment loaned by University College London (UCL) was on display, as well as information sheets featuring UCL and the 19th century physiologists *versus* the anti-vivisectionists. The collection of information sheets from this and previous years' displays is now available online at The Society's web site.

Physiology 2014 also provided an ideal opportunity to launch a new project, The Physiology Academic Tree ([www.academictree.org/physiology](http://www.academictree.org/physiology)). Almost 100 Members submitted information that has since been entered into the website to create a 'tree' that enables users to identify how physiologists are linked, and even provides insight into the spread of ideas and techniques – both inter- and intra-discipline. The Society hopes that physiologists will continue entering their 'scientific parentage' to create a physiology academic tree ([www.academictree.org](http://www.academictree.org)), which would ultimately be an interesting reference and even resource, as well as a historical record.

In 2014, the virtual carousel of photographs of physiologists by the late Martin Rosenberg was supplemented by photographs from The Society's meetings, the HAC's recently digitised photographs by Harold Lewis, as well as *J Physiol* covers to create new carousels. These were presented at Physiology 2014 and *The Journal of Physiology* stands at the annual meeting of the European Society of Cardiology in Barcelona and the annual meeting of the Society for Neuroscience in Washington, DC.

The Paton Prize Bursary was awarded to Dr Martha Tissot von Patot. The funding was used by Dr Tissot to support her work at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, where she was researching the papers of Mabel FitzGerald (1872–1973).

In 2015, HAC will come within the auspices of the Education and Outreach remit. Centralising the activities will serve to provide a more prominent platform for this important work and ensure The Society's history can inform its future activities. The Society will also develop a microsite focusing on the work of this Committee: this will enable a functionality better suited to the outputs of this Committee and will also provide a useful repository.

### *History & Archives 2014 Key Achievements*

- Four Oral History Interviews conducted and others made available online
- Presence at Society and non-Society meetings, both in the UK and abroad
- Creation of the Physiology Academic Tree

### *History & Archives objectives for 2015*

- Develop a microsite for History & Archives resources
- Increase the use of The Society's history and historical resources within Society activities
- Carry out the five-yearly accrual of The Society's papers to the Archive  
Contribute to the celebration of the Women's Centenary with a relevant display at Physiology 2015.

## 1.14 Signing of report

This report was approved by the Trustees of The Physiological Society and signed on this 19th day of May 2015 on their behalf by:

**Richard Vaughan-Jones**

**President**

**Anne King**

**Honorary Treasurer**

## 2 Independent auditor's report

We have audited the financial statements of The Physiological Society for the year ended 31 December 2014, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

This report is made solely to the charitable company's Members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditor

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

### Scope of the audit of the financial statements

A description of the scope of an audit of financial statements is provided on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditscopeukprivate).

### Opinion on financial statements

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 December 2014 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

### Opinion on other matter prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the Trustees were not entitled to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the small companies regime and to take advantage of the small companies' exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Directors' Report.

Kathryn Burton (Senior statutory auditor)  
for and on behalf of haysmacintyre  
Statutory Auditors

26 Red Lion Square  
London  
WC1R 4AG

# 3 Statement of financial activities

For the year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2014 Total £'000	2013 Total £'000
<b>Incoming resources</b>					
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds:</i>					
Investment income	6.1	151	-	151	145
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</i>					
Trading in furtherance of charitable objectives	6.2	3,680	50	3,730	4,073
Other incoming resources		104	-	104	95
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<b>3,935</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>3,985</b>	<b>4,313</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>					
<i>Cost of generating funds:</i>					
Investment management costs		16	-	16	21
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Publications		1,727	-	1,727	1,788
Events		675	1	676	1,359
Membership services		572	1	573	554
Education and outreach		530	-	530	497
Policy		178	-	178	159
Governance costs		253	-	253	228
Other resources expended		249	-	249	312
<b>Total resources expended</b>	6.3	<b>4,200</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4,202</b>	<b>4,918</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/incoming resources</b>		<b>(265)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>(217)</b>	<b>(605)</b>
Realised (losses)/gains on listed investments		(45)	-	(45)	279
Unrealised gains on listed investments		140	-	140	456
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(170)</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>(122)</b>	<b>130</b>
Fund balances as at 1 January 2014		11,948	82	12,030	11,900
<b>Fund balances as at 31 December 2014</b>	6.14	<b>11,778</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>11,908</b>	<b>12,030</b>

All the above results are derived from continuing activities. All gains and losses in the year are included above; accordingly, a statement of total realised gains and losses has not been prepared. The accounting policies on page 38 to 40 and the notes on pages 41 to 48 form part of these accounts.

# 4 Balance sheet

As at 31 December 2014

	Note	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2014 Total £'000	2013 Total £'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	6.10	4,244	-	4,244	4,379
Investments	6.11	7,082	24	7,106	7,032
		<b>11,326</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11,350</b>	<b>11,411</b>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	6.12	3,759	-	3,759	2,569
Cash at bank and in hand		-	106	106	1,480
		<b>3,759</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>3,865</b>	<b>4,049</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors falling due within one year	6.13	(3,307)	-	(3,307)	(3,430)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>452</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>619</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>11,778</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>11,908</b>	<b>12,030</b>
<b>Funds</b>					
	6.14				
Unrestricted funds – General		11,778	-	11,778	11,948
Restricted funds		-	130	130	82
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>11,778</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>11,908</b>	<b>12,030</b>

The accounting policies on page 39 and 40 and the notes on pages 41 to 48 form part of these accounts.

This report was approved by the Trustees of The Physiological Society and signed on this 19th day of May 2015 on their behalf by:

**Richard Vaughan-Jones**

**President**

**Anne King**

**Honorary Treasurer**

# 5 Accounting policies

## For the year ended 31 December 2014

### Basis of preparation of accounts

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with the exception that investment assets are included at mid-market prices as at the Balance Sheet date. The accounts are in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP), 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of recommended practice', published in March 2005 (revised May 2008), applicable accounting standards and also the Companies Act 2006. The Society has taken advantage of the exemption from preparing a cash flow statement conferred by Financial Reporting Standard No. 1 on the grounds that it qualifies as a small company under the Companies Act 2006.

### Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the charitable objects of The Society. Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been put aside at the discretion of The Trustees for particular purposes. Restricted income funds are funds subject to specific restrictions imposed by donors or by the purpose of the appeal.

### Incoming resources

All incoming resources are accounted for as soon as The Society has entitlement to the income, there is certainty of receipt and the amount is quantifiable. The following specific policies are applied to particular categories of income:

- Investment income is included when receivable.
- Publishing, events and other income are included when receivable.
- Members' subscriptions are recorded in the year in which they become due.

### Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised on an accrual basis as a liability is incurred. Expenditure includes any VAT which cannot be fully recovered, and is reported as part of the expenditure to which it relates.

Costs of generating funds consist of investment management fees and certain legal and professional fees.

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by The Society in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Governance costs include those costs associated with meeting the constitutional and statutory requirements of The Society. These costs include the audit and legal fees, costs linked to the strategic management of The Society together with an apportionment of overhead and support costs.

All costs are allocated between the expenditure categories of the accounts on a basis designed to reflect the use of the resource. Costs relating to a particular activity are allocated directly; others are apportioned on the basis of time spent.

### Grants payable

Expenditure on grants is recorded once The Society has made an unconditional commitment to pay the grant and this is communicated to the beneficiary or the grant has been paid, whichever is the earlier. The Society has not made any grant commitments of more than one year.

### Pension costs

The Trustees of The Society decided to close The Society's Occupational Pension Scheme to new members from 1 March 2000. From that date, a defined contribution (money purchase) pension scheme has been in place and operated in compliance with the Stakeholder pension requirements.

The Society makes contributions towards the defined contribution schemes, up to a maximum of 10% of basic salary. The amount charged to the accounts in respect of pension costs is the contribution payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

### Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation. Minor additions to fixed assets, defined as those costing less than £1,000 each, are expensed in the year in which the cost is incurred. Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of assets by equal monthly instalments over their estimated useful lives as follows:

- Freehold property: 50 years.
- Freehold improvements: 15 years.
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment: 3–10 years.

### Investments

Investments listed on a recognised stock exchange are stated at mid-market value at the balance sheet date.

Net investment gains/losses for the year are credited/charged in the Statement of Financial Activities.

# 6 Notes to the financial statement

For the year ended 31 December 2014

## 6.1 Investment income

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Dividend income	147	106
Rental income	-	39
Bank deposit interest	4	-
	<b>151</b>	<b>145</b>

## 6.2 Trading in furtherance of charitable activities

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Publications	3,260	3,297
Events	149	647
Membership subscriptions	119	111
Sundry income	202	18
	<b>3,730</b>	<b>4,073</b>

All of The Society's trading activities are carried out within its prime charitable purposes. The Society was exempt from income tax, corporation tax or capital gains tax on income derived from its trading or charitable activities. Sundry income includes £147,000 in respect of the asset transfer from the Bayliss and Starling Society, of which £50,000 is restricted.

### 6.3 Analysis of resources expended

	Grants costs £'000	Other direct costs £'000	Support costs £'000	Total 2014 £'000	Total 2013 £'000
<i>Cost of generating funds</i>					
Investment management costs	-	16	-	16	21
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Publications	-	1,206	521	1,727	1,788
Events	2	483	191	676	1,359
Membership services	239	64	270	573	554
Education and outreach	252	91	187	530	497
Policy	-	56	122	178	159
<i>Governance costs</i>	-	125	128	253	228
<i>Other resources expended</i>	-	154	95	249	312
	<b>493</b>	<b>2,195</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>4,202</b>	<b>4,918</b>

### 6.4 Support costs

	Operating costs £'000	Staff costs £'000	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Charitable activities	290	1,001	1,291	1,268
Governance costs	20	108	128	124
Other resources expended	19	76	95	93
	<b>329</b>	<b>1,185</b>	<b>1,514</b>	<b>1,485</b>

### 6.5 Staff costs

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Gross wages and salaries	990	925
Social security costs	99	95
Pension costs	96	89
	<b>1,185</b>	<b>1,109</b>

The average number of persons employed including part-time and agency staff, calculated on a full-time equivalent basis analysed by activity, was:

	2014 Number	2013 Number
Publications	7.7	6.8
Finance	4.1	3.9
Marketing	5.5	6.6
Education, Outreach & Policy	4.2	3.3
CEO's office	3.0	2.9
	<b>24.5</b>	<b>23.5</b>

### Emoluments of employees

The number of employees of The Physiological Society whose emoluments fell within the following bands:

	2014 Number	2013 Number
£60,001 – £70,000	2	1
£100,001 – £110,000	1	1

During the year, pension contributions on behalf of these staff amounted to £23,000 (2013: £18,000)

## 6.6 Operating costs

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Employee-related costs	86	64
Premises – office	51	84
Technology	77	88
Postage, printing and stationary	25	19
Insurance	17	21
Irrecoverable VAT	-	27
Financial costs	8	8
Depreciation	65	66
	<b>329</b>	<b>377</b>

## 6.7 Governance direct costs comprise

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
AGM, Council and committee expenses	48	46
Auditors remuneration:		
– Audit fee	8	8
– Non-audit services	3	3
Legal and professional	22	6
Academic support	44	41
	<b>125</b>	<b>104</b>

## 6.8 Related party transactions

All Trustees are Members of The Physiological Society. The Trustees received no remuneration in respect of their services to The Society but certain host departments received academic support amounting to £44,000 (2013: £41,000) and Trustees (26 in total) incurred expenses totalling £37,000 (2013: 26, £58,000).

### Academic support

The following Trustees' institutions received academic support payments during the year:

Trustee	Institution	£
J F Ashmore	University College London	7,000
B Grubb	University of Leicester	3,000
D Eisner	University of Manchester	3,000
A King	University of Leeds	7,000
P Kumar	University of Birmingham	2,000
M Morrell	Imperial College London	3,000
K O'Halloran	University College Cork	3,000
M J Shipston	University of Edinburgh	2,000
R Vaughan-Jones	University of Oxford	11,000
D J A Wyllie	University of Edinburgh	3,000
		<b>£44,000</b>

### Free basic membership

The following Trustees received free membership, worth up to £93, in 2014 as follows:

Trustee	Reason
J F Ashmore	Editor of <i>The Journal of Physiology</i>
D Baines	Society representative (resigned July 2014 following appointment)
P Kumar	Editor of <i>Experimental Physiology</i>
Richard Vaughan-Jones	Editor of <i>The Journal of Physiology</i>

### Editorial support

During the year, payments totalling £112,000 (2013: £105,000) were made to senior journal editors in respect of honoraria and institutional editorial support. S Wray, Editor-in-Chief of *Physiological Reports*, is married to D Eisner, a Trustee. During 2014, S Wray received an honorarium of \$15,000 plus a bonus of \$5,000. This is paid by the publishers, Wiley, out of the joint journal account shared with the American Physiological Society.

### Travel grants

Travel grants were awarded to six Trustees in the year. The applications by R Burton (£700), M Evans (£270 & £430), M Ludwig (£700), K O'Halloran (£700), L Sivilotti (£700) and R Tribe (£700) were approved by an independent panel of Members of The Society composed of not less than three Members who are not Trustees.

### ADInstruments Pty Ltd

The Society has a long-standing relationship with ADInstruments Pty Ltd, an international company that produces data acquisition and analysis systems for the life science industry. Dr Graeme Daniels, the husband of Dr R Tribe, a Trustee, was appointed as General Manager – Europe and European Sales Director in October 2013. During year, invoices totalling £10,500 were raised in respect of supplies to the company. Dr R Tribe has not and will not play any part in any discussion related to any transaction between The Society and ADInstruments Pty Ltd.

## 6.9 Grants payable

The Society awarded grants to a number of institutions and individuals in the furtherance of its charitable activities.

	2014 No.	2013 No.	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Travel grants	446	391	238	210
IUPS travel grants	-	127	-	108
Research grants	13	11	107	99
Vacation studentships	40	40	41	45
Public engagement grants	8	5	30	20
Departmental seminar scheme	32	25	27	14
Teaching grants	2	2	17	16
Microelectrode workshop	1	1	15	15
Outreach grants	9	8	9	6
International junior research grants	3	-	6	-
Final year project bursaries	-	1	-	1
Special symposium	1	4	2	17
Paton prize bursary fund	1	-	1	-
Non-Society symposium	-	2	-	1
International senior research grants	-	1	-	7
	<b>556</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>559</b>

## 6.10 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £'000	Freehold Improvements £'000	Fixtures, Fittings and Equipment £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost:</b>				
At 1 January 2014	3,500	834	211	4,545
Additions	-	-	19	19
Disposals	-	-	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2014</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>4,564</b>
<b>Accumulated depreciation:</b>				
At 1 January 2014	76	62	28	166
Charge for the year	70	56	28	154
Disposals	-	-	-	-
<b>At 31 December 2014</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>320</b>
<b>Net book value at 31 December 2014</b>	<b>3,354</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>4,244</b>
Net book value at 31 December 2013	3,424	772	183	4,379

## 6.11 Investments

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
<b>Analysis of investments at 31 December by category of holding</b>		
Listed investments	6,899	6,916
Cash held as part of the portfolio	207	116
	<b>7,106</b>	<b>7,032</b>
<b>Analysis of investments at 31 December by location</b>		
Investments held in the UK	5,855	5,621
Investments held outside the UK	1,251	1,411
	<b>7,106</b>	<b>7,032</b>
<b>Analysis of movements in investments</b>		
Valuation at 1 January 2014	6,916	6,862
Additions	676	5,844
Market value of disposals in the year (proceeds: £788,000 (2013: £6,524,000))	(833)	(6,082)
Net unrealised gains	140	292
<b>Valuation at 31 December 2014</b>	<b>6,899</b>	<b>6,916</b>

The Trustees do not consider any particular investment holding to be material in the context of the investment portfolio.

## 6.12 Debtors

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Trade debtors	1,098	3
Other debtors	2,518	2,434
Prepayments and accrued income	143	132
	<b>3,759</b>	<b>2,569</b>

## 6.13 Creditors

	2014 £'000	2013 £'000
Trade creditors	7	42
Other taxes and social security costs	174	174
Other creditors	3	1
Accruals and deferred income	3,123	3,213
	<b>3,307</b>	<b>3,430</b>

## 6.14 Analysis of net funds

	Opening balance £'000	Incoming resources £'000	Outgoing resources £'000	Net gains £'000	Closing balance £'000
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	11,948	3,935	(4,200)	95	<b>11,778</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>11,948</b>	<b>3,935</b>	<b>(4,200)</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>11,778</b>
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Bayliss and Starling Society	-	50	-	-	<b>50</b>
David Jordan international teaching fellowship fund	44	-	-	-	<b>44</b>
Paton prize bursary fund	22	-	(1)	-	<b>21</b>
Other restricted funds:	16	-	(1)	-	<b>15</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>(2)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>130</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>12,030</b>	<b>3,985</b>	<b>(4,202)</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>11,908</b>

In the financial year to 31 December 2014, the Bayliss and Starling Society transferred assets to the Society totalling £147,000 of which £50,000 was restricted to the Bayliss–Starling Prize Lecture and Focussed Symposium Grant, for the period of 10 years from 2015. The Bayliss and Starling Society, a charitable company will be closed down in 2015. The transfer of assets was in the form of cash balances and is shown as incoming resources to the Society. It has been classified within other charitable activities income.

In 2008, The Physiological Society received a bequest from the estate of Professor David Jordan. As a fitting tribute to his memory, the Trustees proposed a new scheme, which commenced in 2010, that will help support physiology teaching worldwide. Funds of up to £10,000 will be awarded per annum. An adjustment, in respect of grants incorrectly charged against the General funds, will be made in 2015.

The Paton Prize Bursary Fund awards bursaries to promote the study of the history of major concepts that have shaped modern physiology. There was one award in 2014.

There are two other restricted funds: the Sharpey-Schafer Prize Lecture fund and the Michael de Burgh Daly Prize Lecture fund.

# 7 Standing information

## Registered Office

Hodgkin Huxley House, 30 Farringdon Lane, London EC1R 3AW  
T +44 (0)20 7269 5714

## Chief Executive

Philip Wright

## Company Secretary

Casey Early

## Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland, Child & Co, 1 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1BD

## Solicitors

BPE Solicitors LLP, St James' House, St James' Square, Cheltenham GL50 3PR

## Auditors

haysmacintyre, 26 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4AG

## Investment fund managers

Cazenove Capital Management Limited, 12 Moorgate, London EC2R 6DA

## Trustees in 2014

Philip Aaronson (from 1 July 2014)	Michael Evans	Stewart Sage
Jonathan Ashmore (to 1 July 2014)	Blair Grubb	Mike Shipston (to 1 July 2014)
Deborah Baines (from 1 July 2014)	Judy Harris	Lucia Sivilotti
Rebecca Burton	Anne King	David Thwaites
William Colledge	Prem Kumar	Rachel Tribe
Sue Deuchars	Mike Ludwig	Richard Vaughan-Jones
Lucy Donaldson	Mary Morrell	David Wyllie (to 1 July 2014)
David Eisner (from 1 July 2014)	Ken O'Halloran	

The Physiological Society is registered in England as a company limited by guarantee, No. 323575.

Registered Charity No. 211585

[www.physoc.org](http://www.physoc.org)

The Physiological Society  
Hodgkin Huxley House  
30 Farringdon Lane  
London EC1R 3AW  
United Kingdom

Registered Charity No. 211585.  
Registered company in England  
and Wales No. 323575  
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