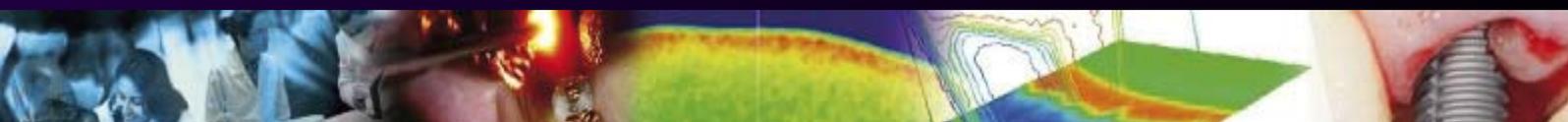


# The British Society for Dental Research; a brief history

Professor W M Edgar



## Introduction

This document was prepared by Professor Mike Edgar at the invitation of the management committee of the BSDR in 2008. Mike was a natural choice to do full justice to the history of the BSDR, having played a highly significant role in the development of the Society through his periods of office as Editor (1993-1998) and President (1999-2000). His unique insights into the personalities and events which shaped the Society shine through in this account. We give sincere thanks to Mike for this colourful and erudite history which captures many of the pivotal points in the development of the Society from its initial roots beginning almost 80 years ago to the present day.



Mike Edgar



### **Mike Curtis**

President 2007-2009

On behalf of the Management Committee of the BSDR

July 2009

## Beginnings

A report in the *Journal of Dental Research* in 1953 notes the establishment of a British Section of the International Association for Dental Research, and an account of its first meeting in Guy's Hospital on Saturday March 21st of that year (*J Dent Res* 32:729-736; 1953). However, in this report, reference is made by the author, AEW ('Loma') Miles, to the existence of a London Section prior to the Second World War. This group had its first meeting in June, 1931, and included such prominent names as Arthur Bulleid, JF Colyer, EW Fish and Evelyn Sprawson – the latter serving as Secretary to the Section. It held usually three meetings each year until 1939.

At this early period in its existence, the only subdivisions of the IADR were Sections based on cities, mostly in the USA, which held their own meetings locally: an annual General Assembly of the Association was held at different venues in North America. In addition to the USA, sections existed in Toronto, Winnipeg, Chengdu (Sichuan), Budapest, Vienna and London, these sections thus justifying the 'International' in the title. In view of the distances involved in attending the General Assemblies, and the early stage of development of civil aviation in the pre-war period, a relatively large number of papers were read by title – especially those by the non-American members.

At the revived British Section meeting in 1953, seventeen papers were presented, by Mary Hay (Bristol – 2), Shirley Glasstone (Cambridge), Martin Rushton (Guy's), Maurice Stack (Guy's – 2), Arthur Darling (Bristol – 2), Loma Miles (The London), Eric Bradford (St Andrews), Neil Jenkins (Newcastle – 2), K Little (Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell – 2), John Pedler (The London), and JJ Hodson (Sheffield). Twenty members were present, and several visitors including

Lady May Mellanby who with her husband Sir Edward had been involved in the early years of Vitamin D research, and who had postulated that dental caries resulted from enamel defects due to Vitamin D deficiency. The report by Loma Miles states that 'The British Section proposes to hold annual meetings in London, with additional meetings in other cities as the demand arises' - a rather London-centric statement which required later amendment!

Indeed, the second meeting of the British Section was held on April 2nd and 3rd 1954, at the University of Birmingham, with 15 papers presented (plus 3 by title only) and 40 members present, including many who later became prominent in the life of BSDR: Ronnie Hartles, Desmond Farmer, Leslie Hardwick, Barry Symons, Joe Miller, Howard Tonge, Ron Speirs, Ron Fearnhead, and Alan Leaver. In his report, Loma Miles stated that 'There can be no doubt that this British Section is flourishing and is providing a valuable means for dental research workers to become acquainted personally and with one another's work'.

Back in London in 1955, the third meeting of the now British Division was held, at The London Hospital, on Friday April 15th and the morning of the 16th with 32 members and a similar number of visitors present. It is interesting to note that one of the visitors giving a paper was from Los Angeles, showing that the existence of the British Division had received some publicity. Twenty-five papers were presented, and 6 demonstrations, among the new recruits being Graham Davies, Ivor Kramer, Alexander Kerr, Spen Rowles, RB Lucas, and Stephan Weidmann. Younger members of the BSDR will perhaps be familiar with many of these names as authors of textbooks or landmark papers.

Thus the fledgling society was born, and rapidly became established with a talented membership, a format of annual meetings alternating in venue, national coverage, international recognition, and of course the essential ingredient of a social event – the annual dinner at which members could discuss their own and others' research.

### Audio-visual aids in the 1950s

At this time the 35mm film format was not widely used for still photography, and slides were made of 4 inch glass plates bound at the edges with black tape. The plates could be photographs or photomicrographs, or for text might be hand-written.

Projectors were outsize black metal boxes with foot-long lenses. 500watt tungsten filament lamps required noisy fans to cool the projector and slides. Alternatively, a brilliant electric arc was formed between two carbon rod electrodes – which vaporised during use, requiring constant adjustment.

Occasionally, a device called an epidiascope was used – here printed material was illuminated intensely from above, and the image projected via mirrors and lenses.

Sometimes, recourse was had to the use of blackboard and chalk.

Microphones were rarely used, as all sessions were held in University lecture theatres.



## The British Division of IADR, 1953-82

The table below shows the Officers of the Division, venue of the meeting, number of abstracts and members, and comments for the first 30 years of the British Division.

### The first 30 years

Year	President	Secretary	Editor	Venue	Dates	Abstracts	Members	Notes
1953	Martin Rushton	Maurice Stack	Loma Miles	Guy's	March 21	17	20	Model of DNA published
1954	"	"	"	Birmingham	April 2-3	18	40	
1955	"	"	"	London Hosp	April 15-16	25	43	Churchill retires as PM
1956	"	"	Ivor Kramer	Liverpool	April 13-14	30	85	
1957	"	"	"	Eastman	April 11-12	34	56	Dues 5s (25P)
1958	"	Howard Tonge	"	Newcastle	April 10-11	37	57	1st UK Motorway opened
1959	"	"	"	Manchester	April 9-10	57		Dues 10s
1960	"	"	E D Farmer	Royal D H	April 7-8	42		London venue 1 in 3
1961	"	"	"	Bristol	April 6-7	49		
1962	"	"	"	Sheffield	April 12-13	62	146	'Love me do' No 1 hit
1963	Arthur Darling	"	"	Guy's Hosp	April 4-6	75	200	
1964	"	"	"	Edinburgh	April 9-10	77		Dues £1
1965	"	Stuart Crabb	"	Leeds	April 8-9	90		'Satisfaction' No 1 hit
1966	Leslie Hardwick	"	"	London Hosp	April 14-15	90	213	
1967	"	"	"	Dundee	April 6-7	112	234	WME 1st paper!
1968	"	"	"	Cardiff	April 3-5	124	253	
1969	Howard Tonge	"	John Allan	UCL	April 10-11	115	263	1st Flight of Concorde
1970	"	Barry Symons	"	Birmingham	April 8-10	139	272	
1971	"	"	"	Glasgow	April 14-16	144	278	
1972	Ronnie Hartles	"	"	KCL	April 5-7	168	311	
1973	"	"	"	Newcastle	April 4-6	197	345	UK joins EEC
1974	"	"	"	Liverpool	April 3-5	185	363	
1975	Ivor Kramer	"	N/A*	London*	April 10-12	(552)*		*IADR at Large
1976	"	"	Alan Leaver	Manchester	April 7-9	174	404	
1977	"	David Poole	"	Bristol	April 13-16	171		
1978	Neil Jenkins	"	"	London Hosp	April 5-7	218		At Bedford Coll
1979	"	"	"	Sheffield	April 4-6	217		
1980	"	"	"	Leeds	April 16-18	234	457	
1981	Declan Anderson	"	"	Guy's	April 8-10	229	500	
1982	"	"	"	Edinburgh	Mar31-Apr2	246	550	BSDR proposed

Table 1

A Constitution was drawn up, stipulating the objects of the Division, membership rules, organisation and management, rules for establishing sections and special interest groups, the annual meeting, officers and council. All members became members of the parent organisation upon payment of dues.

At first, meetings were held in London every other year, but after 1957 the pattern was established that London venues would be selected every third year. A strict pattern was established over the years, with Dental Schools vying to host the meeting. The meetings grew in size and from two to three days – Wednesday afternoon to Friday evening, with a welcome reception on Wednesday evening and the Annual Dinner on Thursday evening. The scientific sessions were all delivered orally; at first all delegates attended a single session, but soon, with growth in numbers, parallel sessions became necessary. Poster sessions were not invented until the 1980s.

The welcome reception was from an early time an opportunity for the University Dental Teachers and Research Workers group of the British Dental Association to provide a ‘nibbles and wine’ reception for British Division members. This was done both as a gesture of friendship, but also as an opportunity to explain the relevance of the BDA Group, acting as a pressure group for Academic Dentistry within the profession, and negotiating clinical Academic Staff salaries.

The Annual Dinner was preceded by a reception, often given by the host University or by the City fathers. The Dinner was usually provided by the local university catering staff, and could be (but was not always) of high culinary standard. On reserving a place at the Dinner, one was offered the option of ‘Dinner with wine’ or ‘Dinner without

wine’. In the experience of this writer, the latter option was never taken up – although there may have been the odd abstainer among the members.

A significant event occurred in 1975; the General Assembly of the parent body, IADR, was held in London, at Imperial College. A large number of guests from North America and elsewhere took the opportunity of seeing what British Dental Research was up to, and moreover, enjoy the facilities of a great city. The Local Organising Committee was chaired by Ivor Kramer, but the running of the meeting, abstract book, and other scientific details were the responsibility of IADR Central Office.

This was perhaps the first occasion where the host Dental School sought another venue for the meeting – in this case, because of the larger than usual numbers of delegates attending, the only University of London venue with space for multiple parallel sessions was Imperial College (this was before the days when large Conference-style hotels were available in London).

However, three years later and the turn of the London Hospital Dental School to host the British Division meeting, the decision was taken to decamp from Whitechapel and use the leafier facilities of Bedford College in Regent’s Park. The Annual Dinner was in the premises of the Zoological Society of London – happily, most members’ behaviour did not descend to that of their neighbours.

## The ‘not really a secession’

Around 1980, disquiet developed in the British Division concerning its relations with the parent body in Washington DC. Partly, this was because the administration gave the impression of lack of leadership and drift – together with lax financial control and an arrogant attitude towards non-American Divisions. A substantial number of members were in favour of a complete secession, reckoning that British dental research was as good, or better than, American, and we no longer needed to be a subsidiary (note also that this was at a time when anti-American feeling was fairly common among some radical university types). A majority however saw virtue in the international dimension, and did not support a full secession.

In consultations around the other divisions, some of whom were feeling some of the same disquiet, a model for the future was identified in the arrangements of the Scandinavian Division, whose membership was subsumed within that of the Nordisk Odontologisk Förening (NOF), a society established in 1917 – well before the birth of IADR itself. Thus emerged a new format whereby most members would continue as members of the British Division, but some would opt out of IADR membership, and pay lower dues because those destined for Washington would no longer be required.

The new society was born on April 14 1983, under the Presidency of Declan Anderson (who had been deeply involved in detailed negotiations in setting up the new Society during the previous two years as President of the old British Division). The name adopted was the British Society for Dental Research,

incorporating the British Division of IADR (objection to the name British Association for Dental Research arose because of the acronym BADR – ‘bad research’). Declan Anderson became its first President in recognition of his persistence in negotiating the transition, and in view of the change in the new

constitution regarding the tenure of the Presidency – this being reduced from three years to two.

This move by the Brits was reflected in other divisions, with the formation of the Japanese Association, the Canadian Association, and even the American

Association as separate but supporting members of IADR. At the same time, clarification of the relationships between the American Association (AADR) and IADR emerged, with the establishment of clear separation of funding streams for the premises and personnel between the two bodies, as well as the ownership of the Journal of Dental Research.

## Development of the Annual Meeting, 1983-2008

### The BSDR Years: 1983-Present

Year	President	Secretary	Editor	Venue	Dates	Abstracts	Members	Notes
1983	Declan Anderson	David Poole	Graham Embery	Cardiff	April 13-15	237		BSDR Created
1984	“	“	“	UCL	April 4-6	285		Poster sessions proposed
1985	David Mason	“	“	Birmingham	March 27-29	335		Joint with NOF
1986	“	“	“	Dundee	April 9-11	377		
1987	David Poole	David Adams	“	Eastman	March 26-28	572	700+	
1988	“	“	“	Belfast	March 29-31	326		Joint with Irish Div
1989	John Eastoe	“	“	Liverpool	April 7-9	565	700+	Berners-Lee invents www
1990	“	“	“	KCL	April 17-20	428	797	
1991	Tony Naylor	“	“	Newcastle	April 9-12	458	909	
1992	“	“	Phil Marsh	Glasgow	July 2-4	1974		Joint with IADR
1993	David Adams	Mike Edgar	“	London Hosp	Mar 30-Apr2	452		
1994	“	“	“	Sheffield	April 13-15	549		
1995	Graham Embery	“	“	Manchester	April 10-13	627	928	Dues £35 (Full)
1996	“	“	“	Bristol	April 1-4	584	638+251*	
1997	Colin Robinson	“	“	Guy’s	April 7-10	518	746	At Brighton
1998	“	“	“	Nice	June 24-27	N/A	812	Joint with IADR
1999	Mike Edgar	Angus Walls	“	Leeds	April 12-15	391	807	Dues £40 (Full)
2000	“	“	“	Liverpool	April 10-13	299	733	At Lancaster
2001	S Challacombe	“	Francis Hughes	Belfast	April 9-12	324	700	Joint with Irish Div
2002	“	“	“	Cardiff	Sept 25-28	766	766	1st PEF Meeting
2003	David Williams	“	“	Gothenburg	June 25-28	244	731	Joint with IADR
2004	“	“	“	Birmingham	April 6-8	250	576	
2005	Newell Johnson	“	“	Dundee	April 4-7	245	565	
2006	Angus Walls	Tim Watson	“	Dublin	Sept 13-16	432	624	2nd PEF Meeting
2007	“	“	Peter Robinson	Newcastle	July 4-7	242	540	At Durham. Joint with NOF
2008	Mike Curtis	“	“	London	Sept 10-12	380	690	3rd PEF Meeting
2009	“	“	“	Glasgow	Sept 1-4			

Table 2

The 'BSDR only' members – later called Associate members – initially numbered about one third of the total, decreasing slowly over the years to around one quarter in 1997. By this time, the differential in dues in favour of Associate membership was diminishing because, despite the lack of a need for transfer of funds to Washington for this category of membership, the upkeep of the Society required more funding. In 1998, however, the General Meeting of IADR was held in Nice and no British meeting was held that year. Associate members learnt to their chagrin that in order to attend the IADR meeting – in such a desirable venue – they would have to pay non-members registration fees, almost double those payable by full members. Not surprisingly, applications for full membership of BSDR were submitted in droves, and now Associate Membership has virtually disappeared. This trend was reflected in the Society letterhead, which reads "British Society for Dental Research. The British Division of IADR."

After the Bedford College experiment in 1978, it became not uncommon for Schools to hold Annual Meetings at venues other than their University campuses. Thus the meeting in 1983 was hosted by Cardiff but held in Swansea; that in 1985 hosted by Birmingham was held in Warwick; that in 1997 hosted by Guy's was held in Brighton; that in 2000 hosted by Liverpool was held in Lancaster; and that in 2007 hosted by Newcastle was held in Durham.

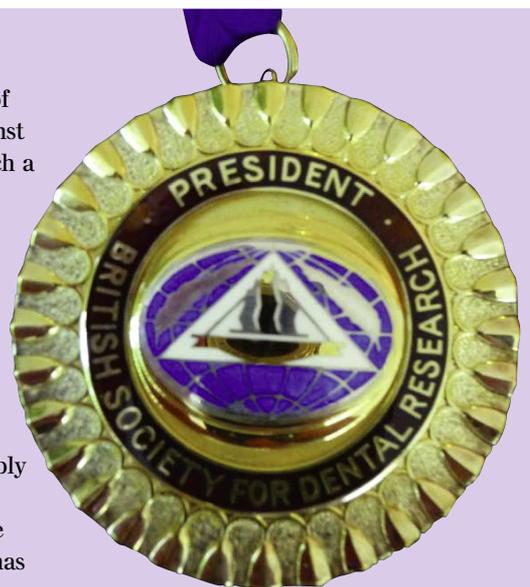
In addition to these minor changes in venue however, there was a trend to increasing internationalism – at first, members were reluctant to abandon the homely environment of the annual BSDR get-together, but soon the advantages of holding meetings jointly with other divisions, in terms of communication with a wider audience, became apparent. The joint meeting with the Scandinavian Division in 1985 was not a great success because of lack of familiarity with the new format, but in 1988 a successful joint meeting was held with the Irish Division in Belfast, repeated again in 2001.

Meanwhile, the General Assembly of IADR, formerly held in North America in two years out of three, was to be held out of America every other year, and in 1992 it was held in Glasgow, with Ken Stephen as Chairman of the Local Organising Committee. A very successful meeting it was, in the newly built Scottish Exhibition Centre, with (as far as can be recalled) phenomenal supplies of whisky available at the welcome reception. In 1998 in Nice, and again in 2003 in Gothenburg, excellent General Assemblies of IADR replaced the Annual Meeting of BSDR. Gothenburg also saw the birth of the Pan-European Federation of the IADR Divisions (see below).

## The President's Jewel

Until the 1990's, no thought had been given to the notion that the President of BSDR might wish to wear a medal indicating his tenure of office. Slowly, against a feeling that the Society was too down-to-earth and democratic to require such a piece of bling, it was realised that in its absence, the President was disadvantaged in relation to most of the other groups with which increasing contact was being made – other Divisions, the BDA, and especially the parent organisation among which such gongs are rife. To uphold the honour of the Society in these contexts therefore, the decision emerged by a slow process for a medal to be made. After some false starts, the final form was agreed and its manufacture commissioned – paid for by Past Presidents, members and Life members.

The first use of the badge was by Colin Robinson at the IADR General Assembly in 1998 held in Nice. Colin's comment – "it's a bit like being awarded "Best in Show". The Jewel has been worn subsequently at ceremonial occasions like the Annual Dinner and at receptions given by the Society, or when the President has been invited in his official capacity to meetings and receptions of other Divisions.



## The ‘Special Interest’ Groups

Following the pattern developing in the IADR parent body, members sharing a common interest in an area of dental research could request approval of the Management Committee for the establishment of a Group. These groups are semi-autonomous, in that their government is by a committee established by group members, with subs levied directly; however they are obliged to submit an annual report to the Management committee outlining activities and finances. The groups are:

- Behavioural Sciences and Health Services Research Group
- Dental Materials Group
- Implant research Group
- Mineralised Tissue Research Group (MINTIG)
- Oral Biology Group
- Oral Medicine and Pathology Group (OMP Group)
- Oral Microbiology and Immunology Group (OMIG)
- Periodontal Research Group

The Groups play an important part also in the organisation of the Annual Meeting, by putting together the abstracts relevant to their interests into coherent Verbal and Poster sessions. They are also canvassed to provide topics and speakers for Symposia as part of BSDR and PEF meetings.

To a degree, these Groups mirror those of the International Association, although the mapping is not precise – for example, the interests of the Cariology Group of IADR would be covered by MINTIG, the Oral Biology Group, and OMIG, while those of the Oral Biology group of BSDR might be shared in part by the Salivary Research group, Neurosciences, Craniofacial Biology and Pulp Biology Groups of IADR.

## BSDR Sections

Although the distances between Dental Schools in the UK are much smaller than in the USA and Canada, the need to meet with neighbouring colleagues to form geographical Sections has been felt from time to time. In the past, such groupings were mostly of short duration – a North East group comprising Newcastle, Leeds and Sheffield, and a North West group consisting of Liverpool, Manchester and

sometimes Belfast had brief existences – but one Section has consistently met to share information and enjoy neighbourly get-togethers. This is known as the BBC section, and is made up of the Schools in Birmingham, Bristol and Cardiff. Meetings are held either in one of the Schools, or (preferably) in a congenial venue equidistant from the three South Western Schools – often the Forest of Dean.

## BSDR Awards and Bursaries

The award of monetary prizes for excellence in the presentations at British division meetings began in 1959 as a gesture of support by the Colgate-Palmolive company through its Manchester office. For many years, the Colgate-Palmolive input into the administration of the Prize was under the supervision of Dr TGH (Graham) Davies, an early member of the Division and a fierce supporter over many years. The success of the Colgate Prize (affectionately known as the ‘toothpaste prize’) can be judged by the subsequent careers of the early prize-winners, a high proportion going on to take up positions of leadership in Dental research (see Table 3).

## Colgate Prize Winners

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
1959	W G Armstrong	An investigation into the collagenase resistance of carious dentine.
1960	J E Eastoe	Preliminary observations on the composition of the nitrogenous fraction of developing enamel in human foetal teeth.
1961	M N Naylor Highly commended	Cold sensation in human dentine
	J A Dawson	Some observations on the morphology and histology of the horny teeth of the hagfish.
1962	D C A Picton	Vertical mobility of cheek teeth with biting.
1963	W H Bowen Highly commended	Bacteriological studies of experimental caries.
	S A Leach	Role of sialic acid in the biological function of human salivary mucin.
1964	C J Smith Highly commended	Alteration of epithelial lysosomes during oral carcinogenesis.
	RAD Williams	Biochemical aspects of the adaptation to fluoride by a micro-organism isolated from dental plaque.
	JW Osborne	The nature of Hunter-Schreger bands in enamel.

Table 3

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
1965	T Lehner	Autoimmunological investigation of recurrent aphthous ulceration.
1966	Joint winners J C Elliott JHP Main Highly commended J H Horsley	The preparation of single crystals of hydroxyapatite from chlorapatite. Action of polyoma virus on long term organ cultures of tooth germs. Isolation of fluorescent material present in calcified tissues.
1967	L C Dryburgh	The epigenetics of early tooth development in the mouse.
1968	Joint winners DER Cornick B Matthews	The effect of F and Mg on acid production in plaque deposited on indwelling glass electrodes in monkeys ( <i>Macaca brus</i> ). Cold-sensitive and hot-sensitive nerves in teeth.
1969	G S McKay	The pattern of bacterial invasion of carious dentine.
1970	Joint winners B K Berkovitz D B Ferguson	The effect of surgical interference and drug administration on eruption in the rat lower incisor. Effects of fluoride in low doses on serum proteins and enzymes in animals and man.
1971	Joint winners J D Harrison L F Greenwood	Production of mucoceles by salivary duct ligation. Site of termination of sensory nerve fibres from teeth.
1972	R C Paterson	Bacterial contamination and the response of the exposed rat molar pulp.
1973	G Embery	The biosynthesis of chondroitin 4-sulphate in the teeth of young rats.
1974	Joint winners A Brook A Tatevossian	Dental anomalies of number, form and size: their prevalence and aetiology in British children. Studies on plaque fluid.
1975	F C Smales	An investigation into inter-crystallite bonding in prisms of immature rat enamel.
1976	No Award	
1977	Joint winners S J Challacombe W J Hume	Passage of IgG from serum into crevicular fluid in Rhesus monkeys. An investigation into epithelial circadian rhythms using the mouse filiform papilla model.
1978	SLW Lisney	Presynaptic inhibition of single pulpal afferents in the cat.
1979	C M Scully	Comparative opsonic activity in oral fluids, and phagocytic activity of blood, crevicular and salivary polymorphonuclear leucocytes in Rhesus monkeys.
1980	MWJ Ferguson	Alligator mississippiensis: a new model for investigating palatal development.
1981	P Shellis	Enamel growth and structure in relation to tooth and body size in primates and related mammals.
1982	R A Seymour	The pharmacokinetics and efficacy of three analgesics in post-operative dental pain.
1983	P P Robinson	The re-innervation of re-implanted and auto-transplanted teeth in the cat.
1984	J K Heath	Biochemical and biological properties of a bone-resorbing factor synthesised by periosteal fibroblasts.
1985	C W Keevil	Proton-motive force driven 6-deoxyglucose uptake by <i>Streptococcus mutans</i> Ingbritt and its ecological significance.
1986	R M Palmer	The role of dental papilla and follicle in the development of the mouse periodontium in culture.
1987	M H Thornhill	The role of interferon-gamma in lymphocyte adhesion to endothelial cells in vitro.
1988	M Levenkind	Electrochemical impedance characterisation of human dental enamel and dentine.

Table 3 (cont)

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
1989	No entries	
1990	R J Waddington	A biochemical analysis of proteoglycan in human alveolar bone.
1991	J K-C Ma	Conservation of the glue-encoding streptococcal antigen VII in oral streptococci.
1992	G R Ogden	Oral exfoliative cytology revisited: an immunocytochemical, histochemical and morphometric study.
1993	B Doubleday	Nerve growth factor deprivation blocks collateral re-innervation of tooth pulp and skin.
1994	S P Sweet	Oral candidiasis in HIV infection: mucosal immunity versus strain selection.
1995	V Booth	Monoclonal antibodies to Porphyromonas gingivalis and their use in passive immunisation.
1996	D W Williams	A molecular-based method for identification of Candida in archival material.
1997	D Brown	E-cadherin independent binding of 7-positive lymphocytes to oral keratinocytes.
1998	W Turner Highly commended J Naglik	Identification of a novel putative transcription factor associated with BMP-induced osteoblastic commitment.
1999	G J Thomas	The role of $\alpha_6$ integrin in modulating epithelial behaviour.
2000	M Cobourne	Conservation of wingless/hedgehog interactions in ectodermal boundary formation during mammalian tooth formation.
2001	Not awarded	
2003	J McLachlan	Gene Expression analysis in human pulp using microarray technology.
2004	NS Willmott	X-ray microtomographic study of dentinal caries in deciduous molars
2005	Joint Winners: S Atkins M Nystrom	The effect of scarring on regeneration following peripheral nerve repair. NSAIDs inhibit integrin-dependent squamous-cell carcinoma invasion
2006	D Dicara	Development of highly specific anti- $\alpha_6$ peptides for imaging oral cancer
2007	L Davies	Isolation and characterisation of multipotent cells from the oral mucosa
2008	Suttipalin Suwannakul	Subtypes of Porphyromonas gingivalis that differ in epithelial cell invasion

Table 3 (cont)

In those relatively affluent days, the presentation of the Prize, then a modest monetary award, was made by the current Chief Executive of Colgate-Palmolive UK at a luxury luncheon venue in London (Simpsons in the Strand, then Kettners in Romilly Street, then the Duke's Hotel in St James' Square, then Claridge's). The prize-winner, his supervisor, the entire Council of the British Division, and several former prize-winners and other luminaries enjoyed the most delicious food accompanied by very generous quantities of wines of a quality beyond the price-range of most dental researchers. Returning to their respective Dental Schools after the lunch, the principal hazard for the guests was to fall asleep and thus overshoot their destinations.



Winners of the Senior Colgate Prize taken at the Colgate Plenary Symposium, BSRD annual meeting Dundee 2005 (From left to right: James Elliott - 1966, Stephen Challacombe - 1977, Rachel Waddington - 1990, Graham Ogden - 1992, David Williams - 1996, Robin Seymour - 1982, Gareth Thomas - 1999)

In 1977, the Colgate-Palmolive company proposed a second prize, to be called the Hoyt Prize, for the best presentation by an undergraduate at the BSDR Annual Meeting, which would be at a level below that of the main prize and worth less in monetary terms, but also receiving

funding for travel to the next IADR meeting. The name, Hoyt, was that of a Colgate-Palmolive subsidiary which was later swallowed by the parent company, and in 1991 the award became the Undergraduate Colgate Prize. The name later changed again, to the Junior

Colgate Prize, to avoid problems of definition of what is an undergraduate (BDS student, or BSc student either intercalated with or after graduating BDS). A list of prize-winners is given in Table 4.

### Junior Colgate Prize Winners

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
1978	G Mendham	The effect of Na <sup>+</sup> ions and Li <sup>+</sup> ions on the intradental nerves in the ferret.
1979	S J Griffiths	The acidogenic potential of plaque from caries-free and caries-prone subjects and the effects of nonanoate-sugar mouthrinses.
1980	<b>Joint winners:</b> G Sime  J R Drummond	Masseter muscle excitation evoked by mechanical stimulation of upper incisor teeth in relaxed human subjects.  A qualitative and quantitative study of the human salivary glands.
1981	<b>Joint winners:</b> S Liggins  R Spicer	Studies on pellicle formation. The interaction of a purified salivary glycoprotein with hydroxyapatite.  The effects of halothane anaesthesia on the eruption rate of the rat mandibular incisor.
1982	K D Alpine	Dietary and toothbrushing habits, and attendance patterns of dental hospital staff and students.
1983	A E Capon	The role of the innervations in the development of palatal rugae in the mouse.
1984	F G McDonald	Hormonal modulation of NK-cells.
1985	I Holland	The durability of amalgam restorations in deciduous molars.
1986	B A Coglan	A computer-aided assessment of facial asymmetry in repaired cleft lips.
1987	Fiona E Smith	Acidogenicity in human dental plaque of three sugary snacks tested in vivo.
1988	<b>Joint winners:</b> Nicola McMeekin  D J Owen	Early root surface formation in the molar teeth of rats.  The effect of nerve growth factor depletion on collateral reinnervation in guinea pigs.
1989	<b>Joint winners:</b> P Maillou  S Q J Rice	The widespread nature of the reflex control of jaw muscles in man.  Production of immunosuppressive factors by two oral carcinoma cell lines.
1990	A J Mighell	Dentigerous cyst fibroblasts behave differently in vitro from gingival and foreskin fibroblasts.
1991	Stella Mitchell	The origin of post-inhibitory excitations in human jaw reflexes.
1992	Gail V A Douglas	The effect of clinical experience on assessments of patients' anxiety.
1993	V Sivrajasingam	Measurement of minor salivary gland flow from various oral sites.
1994	C J Tredwin	The effect of preganglionic sympathectomy on reflex parotid secretion in conscious rabbits.
1995	Clair Lawson	Molecular genetic studies of blepharophimosis sequence.
1996	A Ketabchi	Induction of apoptotic cell death by photodynamic therapy (PDT) in normal and malignant keratinocytes.
1997	K D Hunter	The effects of fluconazole treatment on the oral mycological flora in HIV seropositive patients.
1998	Roshi Rowshanei	Acidogenic potential of gluco-oligosaccharides; in vitro and in vivo tests.
1999	Judith M Parkhill	Interleukin-1 gene polymorphism and susceptibility to early onset periodontitis.

Table 4

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
2000	D Rynn	An evaluation of patient-controlled pharmacological sedation with propofol.
2001	O Addison	The influence of thermal cycling on porcelain laminate veneer longevity
2003	Harpit Jandu	The influence of alumina abrasion and cement lute on the strength of dental porcelain
2004	J Mason	Predicting Oral Health related quality of life at 50.
2005	J M Collier	The functional role of CXCR4 in oral carcinoma invasion
2006	R Damerou	Insulin-like growth factor-1 in oral neoplasia
2007	A Nayak	Salivary proteins inhibit the feeling of astringency
2008	Wasim Hakim	Chimaeric In Vitro 3D Collagen Models

Table 4 (cont)

During the 1980s, pressure on divisions from IADR to increase competition for the Hatton Awards held at the General Meetings led to the automatic selection of Colgate, and Junior Colgate, prize-winners to be the BSDR's candidates for the senior and Junior categories of the Hatton Awards, and to cover the expenses of young researchers to attend the next IADR Meeting to take part in the Hatton competitions, in 1988 the Colgate company generously offered to meet these expenses.

In 1989, the management committee of BSDR was giving thought to the establishment of a Poster Prize, to encourage excellence in this (then) relatively new mode of presentation. Meanwhile, a generous offer from Unilever Research, in the person of David Purdell- Lewis, for support of an award led to an agreement that the new Poster Prize, designated the BDSR-Unilever Prize, should be funded by Unilever, including eligibility for a

Unilever Travel award to attend the next IADR meeting. Accordingly, the first Poster Prize competition took place in 1990. The BSDR is now able to submit three entries for the Hatton Awards, the first two being normally the winners of the Senior and Junior Colgate Prizes, and the third selected from the best of the Colgate and Poster prize entries.

### BSDR-Unilever Poster Prize Winners

Year	Winner's Name	Title of Paper
1990	Monica Lubbock	Cell marking of interspecific mouse tooth germ transplants using in-situ hybridisation.
1992	Miss R Uppal	Barriers to dental care for Asian adults
1993	Brenda Gomes	Association of Prevotella with pain of endodontic origin.
1994	Rachel Hall	Modulation of chondroitin sulphate epitope expression in fluorotic dentine.
1995	L J Dawson	Salivary film velocity at different sites around a single tooth.
1996	Nicola Innes	Evidence of endocytosis in oral epithelial cells.
1997	Amanda Willis	Southern hybridisation analysis of oral candidal isolates from patients with insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
1998	A Keshvad	The repeatability of mandibular positioning centric relation records
1999	Helen Rodd	Caries-induced changes in pulpal innervation: comparison between primary and permanent teeth.
2000	Wendy Robinson	Identification of genes deleted from melibiose-negative Streptococcus mutans
2001	Angela Nobbs	Receptor-mediated interactions of oral streptococci with epithelial cells
2003	Paul Smith	The effect of enkephalin and galanin on spontaneous discharge from injured inferior alveolar nerves
2004	Mayssoon Dashash	IL-10 -1082*A Allele: a Risk Factor for Gingivitis in Children
2005	Sarah Lowes	Wall Anchorage of Streptococcus mutans proteins.
2006	M Plainfosse	Friction of Tissue Engineered Cartilage
2007	A Koutoulaki	Role of IL-18 signalling for maturation of human dendritic cells
2008	Sushmita Roy	Role of $\alpha$ 9B1 integrin in epithelial cell behaviour

Table 5

In the next decade, decreasing funding to Dental Schools and increasing competition for external funds, led to the very generous extension of these awards to provide funds to the departments of successful candidates for the support of travel of a postgraduate student to a centre of excellence in his/her area of study, or for general departmental research support.

Meanwhile, approaches from companies to support research in specific areas, through the award of prizes for the best submission on individual subjects were received by the councils of some of the Groups of the Society. Thus, the Mineralised Tissue Group offers a Travel Award sponsored by GlaxoSmithKlein for the best oral or poster presentation on the subject, and the Dental Materials Group administers the Ivoclar Prize for the best oral communication on dental biomaterials. Finally, the Implant Research group itself offers a cash prize for the best presentation related to dental implants.

The financial stability of the Society, built up through years of prudent management by successive Treasurers, has allowed the provision from Society funds, of a limited number of Bursaries each year since 1996, to provide financial assistance to selected UK Postgraduate Research students to attend and present a paper or poster at the Annual Meeting of the Society. In addition, Bursaries are given to Postgraduate students from third-world and developing countries to help defray costs of attending the Annual Meeting.

### The Finances of BSDR

The early years of the British Division coincided with a period of austerity associated with post-war reconstruction – for example, sweet rationing had just ended, and foreign currency was hard to get and thus foreign travel difficult. However, as Table 1 shows, relaxation became possible in the late fifties and early sixties, and dues increased almost exponentially from 25p to 50p, then £1!

Until 1969, the offices of Secretary and Treasurer were combined, and occupied by Maurice Stack (1953-1957), Howard Tonge (1957-1965) and Stuart Crabb (1965-1969). From 1969, however, the two positions were separated, and the job of Treasurer was continued by Stuart Crabb from 1969-1975, followed by Tony Naylor (1975-1990), John Cardwell (1990-1992), Stephen Challacombe (1992-2000), Ron Wilson (2000-2003), Tim Watson (2003-2005), and currently David Bartlett (2005-).

Unlike senior scientific societies such as the Anatomical Society, BSDR does not own property in Central London, nor does it own its own Journal like the Biochemical Society. However, as a result of the skills and prudence of our Treasurers, the finances of the Society have grown from the early days to a situation which has been described as 'healthy but not wealthy'.

## The Oral and Dental Research Trust

On Wednesday March 23 1983 an informal meeting was held between members of the then management committee led by Declan Anderson, and Lord Robens, latterly the CEO of the nationalised Mining industry. The purpose of the meeting was to assess the possibility of setting up a trust to channel funding for Dental Research which was perceived as getting less than its fair share of Research Council funds.

The plan was to approach Industry and appropriate charitable trusts. A Committee was to be appointed consisting of eminent scientists to scrutinise the state of British Dental Research and to recommend the most valuable directions for future research. The Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, Sir John (later Lord) Butterfield, had agreed to chair this committee, which also would include Sir Gordon Wolstenholme and Sir Alec Merrison.

After a slow start, the ODRT was launched in 1988 at the Royal College of Physicians. The Chairman, Sir Gordon Wolstenholme, the Director, Declan Anderson and the Secretary/Treasurer, Tony Naylor formed the Executive of the Trust. Subsequently, Dr Jan-Eric Ahlberg became Director, then Chairman, and Professor Gerry Winter became Director.

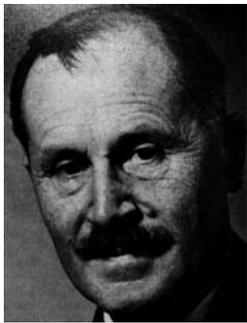
The Trust has secured funding from Charities and Companies for research on oral effects of HIV-AIDS (Dunhill Medical Trust); for pump-priming research awards and travel funding from Colgate-Palmolive, Unilever and SmithKline Beecham (now Glaxo SmithKline); fellowships for dental practitioners to carry out research in primary dental care, supervised by Dental Schools; and a number of smaller donations made. In all, over 200 pump-priming awards have been made and their quality has been remarked on by successive Directors of the Trust.

To thank him for his help in setting up the OSDRT, Lord Butterfield was made an Honorary Member of IADR in 1990 on a petition by the BSDR. Sadly, he passed away on July 22, 2000.



## Four British Presidents of IADR

Prior to 1964, all presidents of IADR had been North Americans – American or Canadian citizens (three were born outside America – Isaac Schour, Basil Bibby and Reidar Sognaes). However, in 1964 the first non-American president of IADR was a member of the British Division.



Martin Rushton

**Martin Rushton** was a Guy's man of the old school. Graduating MBChB from Caius College, Cambridge and BDS from Guy's, and after a distinguished

war service as chief dental surgeon in the plastic and burns unit at Basingstoke, he was appointed Professor of Dental Medicine at Guy's where he built up an active research department. His own work was based on hard tissue structure and chemistry, but his departmental interests included oral ulceration, immunological aspects of oral disease, and dentinal sensitivity. Besides his role in resuscitating the British Division of IADR, he was president of the British Dental Association, the British Society for the Study of Orthodontics, the British Society for Periodontology and the Odontological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine. He received the CBE in 1960 for services to dental surgery. Retiring from his Chair in 1967, he died in 1970 at the young age of 67.



Graham Embery

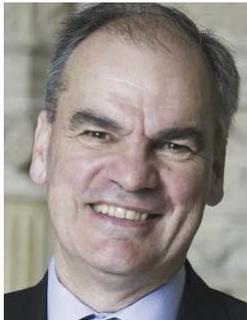
**Embery** was elected President in 2001 after being President of BSDR from 1995-6 and serving the Society for over 15 years. Receiving his early science training in Cardiff, he held academic positions at the Royal Dental School and Belfast before his appointment as Lecturer in Dental Science at Liverpool in the very active department set up by Ronnie Hartles. His ground-breaking achievements in the biochemistry of anionic glycoconjugates in oral tissues and secretions gained him a world-class reputation and many honours including the Colgate Prize of the BSDR, the Distinguished Scientist Award in Oral Biology of the IADR, and the DSc degree of his alma mater, the University of Wales. He held the Chair of Basic Dental Science in Cardiff for over ten years before returning to Liverpool to the Chair of Dental Sciences, and subsequently to the position of Dean of Dentistry – one of the few non-clinical scientists to hold such a position. Tragically, his tenure of the Deanship was all too brief as he succumbed to pancreatic cancer at the age of only 62.

The British Dental Research community had to wait another 36 years before another member achieved the Presidency of IADR. **Graham**



Stephen Challacombe

Only two years after Graham, the third of our British IADR Presidents was elected. **Stephen Challacombe** is a Guy's man de nos jours. The name gives a hint of his deepest Devonian origins, being that of a parish in the Exeter diocese. Stephen is a Fellow of the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of England and Edinburgh, of the Royal College of Pathologists, and a Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences. His PhD under Professor Tom Lehner was on immunological aspects of dental caries, and he contributed notably to the development of the study of mucosal immunity. He holds the Martin Rushton Chair in Oral Medicine of the University of London, is Head of the Division of Oral Medicine, Pathology, Microbiology and Immunology at GKT, and is Director of the Centre for the Study of the Oral Manifestations of HIV Infection. Within BSDR, his contribution as Treasurer over many years confirmed the financial security of the Society established by previous Treasurers, and his 15 years of service culminated with his tenure as President, 2001-2002. Almost as important to Stephen was his Presidency (1992-2000) of the Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals Rugby Football Club, the oldest Rugby club in the world. His advocacy as the 80th President of IADR (2003-2004) served to cement firmly the place of BSDR at the highest level of the International body, and to ensure the development of important new ventures such as the Pan-European Federation of IADR Divisions.



David Williams

In 2009 the most recent British President of the IADR took office. David Williams has been a member of IADR for over 30 years, a councillor of BSDR since

1992, President 2002-4 and President of the PEF 2004-5. Graduating BDS with Distinction from the London Hospital in 1969, his academic career has been marked by numerous leadership positions – Dean of Dentistry at Bart’s and the London, and now Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, Health and Life Sciences, University of Southampton. His research on then oral mucosa in health and disease has established his standing in the field of oral aspects of HIV, oral cancer and mucosal responses to Porphyromonas gingivalis. He received an IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Experimental Pathology in 1996.

### ...and an Editor, and a Treasurer

The Society continues to be fortunate in the strength of its representation in the IADR, having Tony Smith as Editor of the Journal of Dental Research (2004-2010) and Angus Walls as Treasurer (2005-2009).



Tony Smith

Tony Smith was a councillor and Assistant Secretary of BSDR for ten years, until his appointment as Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Dental research in

2004. He is Professor of Oral Biology and Director of Research at the University of Birmingham Dental School, which has been his academic home since his PhD studies at Liverpool with Alan

Leaver. His research has focussed on the dentine-pulp complex, with special interest in the modulation of cell behaviour during tissue regeneration and in response to restorative procedures, and he received the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award in Pulp Biology in 2004.



Angus Walls

Angus Walls has served the Society for over 15 years, as Assistant Secretary, Secretary and President. He was elected Treasurer of IADR in 2005. His academic

life has centred on Newcastle and has focussed on Gerodontology: he was awarded the IADR Distinguished Scientist Award for Geriatric Oral Health research in 2003.

## BSDR recipients of IADR Distinguished Scientist Awards

As a further measure of the strength of British Dental Research, and of the standing of our members in the international research community, members have been prominent among the lists of recipients of the various Distinguished Scientist Awards of IADR.

Year	Name of recipient	Title of Award
1966	William Armstrong	Basic Research in Biological Mineralisation
1968	William Armstrong	H Trendley Dean Memorial Award (Fluoride research)
1969	John Eastoe	Basic Research in Biological Mineralisation
1976	Thomas Lehner	Basic Research in Periodontal Disease
1977	Andrew Brewer	Basic research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1979	John Garrett	Isaac Schour Memorial (Anatomy and Cell Biology)
1980	Neil Jenkins	H Trendley Dean Memorial Award
1980	David Watts	Research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1984	Stephen Challacombe	Young Investigator
1986	John Bates	Research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1988	Derek Stafford	Research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1988	Mark Ferguson	Young Investigator
1989	Alan Boyde	Basic Research in Biological Mineralisation
1991	Roger Browne	Pulp Biology Research

Table 6

Year	Name of recipient	Title of Award
1992	Robert Yemm	Basic Research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1993	Colin Robinson	Basic Research in Biological Mineralisation
1993	Michael Braden	Wilmer Souder (Dental Materials)
1994	Michael Dixon	Young Investigator
1994	Martin Addy	Basic Research in Periodontal Disease
1994	Bruce Matthews	Pulp Biology Research
1995	Ian Mackenzie	Oral Medicine and Pathology Research
1996	Roy Russell	Research in Dental Caries
1996	David Williams	Oral Medicine and Pathology
1996	Andrew Rugg-Gunn	H Trendley Dean Memorial
1996	Alan Harrison	Research in Prosthodontics and Implants
1997	Graham Embery	Research in Oral Biology
1997	Stephen Challacombe	Oral Medicine and Pathology Research
1997	John Murray	H Trendley Dean Memorial
1998	Philip Marsh	Research in Dental Caries
1998	John McCabe	Wilmer Souder
1999	Nigel Pitts	H Trendley Dean Memorial
1999	Robin Seymour	Pharmacology and Therapeutics Research
2000	Howard Jenkinson	Research in Oral Biology
2000	Mark Ferguson	Craniofacial Biology Research
2001	Aubrey Sheiham	Behavioural Science and Health Service Research
2001	Michael Dixon	Craniofacial Biology Research
2002	Rachel Hall	Young Investigator
2002	Jonathan Knowles	Young Investigator
2002	John Garrett	Salivary Research
2003	Angus Walls	Geriatric Oral Research
2003	Maxine Partridge	Oral Medicine and Pathology Research
2003	David Watts	Wilmer Souder
2004	Paul Sharpe	Craniofacial Biology Research
2004	David Beighton	Research in Dental Caries
2004	Tony Smith	Pulp Biology Research
2005	Edwina Kidd	Research in Dental Caries
2005	Newell Johnson	Oral Medicine and Pathology Research
2005	Michael Curtis	Basic Research in Periodontal Disease
2006	Anthony Blinkhorn	H Trendley Dean Memorial
2006	John Meechan	Pharmacology and Therapeutics Research
2007	Kenneth Stephen	H Trendley Dean Memorial
2008	Jimmy Steele	Geriatric Oral Research
2008	Paul Speight	Oral Medicine and Pathology
2008	Phillip Preshaw	Young Investigator

Table 6 (cont)

## The Pan-European Federation of the IADR

From the early 1980s, there were stirrings in the minds of some members that the divisions of IADR in Europe should be less divisive, and share their meetings, expertise and results. Some pro-Europeans in BSDR (John Eastoe, John Weatherell) and in the Central European Division (Robert Weill, Robert Frank, Michel Goldberg, ) were among those agitating for more shared meetings. As noted above, the first attempt to organise a joint meeting with the Scandinavian Division, the CED and BSDR in 1985 was not a success – for technical reasons the CED could not join in, and the invitations to the Scandinavians were not sufficiently informative.

Subsequently, the joint BSDR-Irish Division meetings were successful, and the CED and Scandinavian Divisions held joint meetings frequently. Eventually, in 1997-8 a core of BSDR, Irish Division NOF and CED members (Colin Robinson, Mike Edgar, Jukka Meurmann, Michel Goldberg and Mariano Sanz) plotted the formation of a supra-divisional entity, the Pan-European Federation of IADR Divisions, to supervise an ever-closer harmony with joint meetings, and to strengthen the voice of Europe in IADR especially with regard to hosting International Meetings.

In 1999, a Steering Committee representing the four Divisions with Michel Goldberg as Chairman, Mike

Edgar as Vice-Chairman and Angus Walls as Secretary was set up to facilitate the aims and activities of the Federation. An inaugural meeting was arranged to be held in 2002 in Cardiff, and a joint bid by PEF was submitted to the IADR central office for the IADR General Session to be held in Gothenberg in 2006.

The concept of a Federation of geographically linked Divisions was welcomed by the IADR, and several similar Federations have since been established. So far, the ambitions of the initiators of the PEF have been fulfilled, with subsequent meetings in Dublin in 2006 and in London in 2008.

## Reviewing of Abstracts

At the Annual Business Meeting in Belfast in April 1988, a considerable amount of time, feeling and hot air was generated by a discussion paper from the Management Committee that the abstracts submitted for presentation at the Annual Meeting, and subsequent publication in the *J Dent Res*, should be subjected to a refereeing procedure. On submission for inclusion in the programme for the Annual Meeting, the Secretary already had the responsibility of checking that abstracts technically met the formal requirements in terms of layout, length and format, but the new proposal was for scientific vetting. This proposal arose mainly because IADR itself, and other divisions review abstracts, and look askance at BSDR for not doing so.

However, many members were opposed because of the time constraints involved; because the value of ‘work in progress’ reports would be affected; because of difficulties in judging papers on the basis of the abstract; and because of possible conflicts of interest when

reviewers might also be involved in assessing grant applications.

The issue was conflated with the more general question as to whether abstracts should be published at all – some seeing value as ‘short communications’ of work in progress, yet others thought such premature publication to be deplored; lack of publication might deter some from attending meetings, but if publication was the only reason for attending the meeting should the paper be presented anyway? For younger researchers, published abstracts were useful in appraisals to help their careers, but for more experienced workers abstracts were no longer counted as publications in job applications.

The Management Committee’s proposal to review abstracts on an experimental basis for two years was accepted by the members at the Annual Business Meeting. Accordingly, when the abstracts for the next meeting in Liverpool were received by the Secretary of BSDR, they classified as to subject matter, and were passed on to two reviewers from the relevant BSDR

Group (or if no appropriate group, to reviewers appointed by the Management Committee). Reviewers were asked to comment on ways in which the abstract could be improved, or to recommend rejection. Amended abstracts were then approved, and recommendations for rejection were scrutinised by members of the Management Committee; of 20 initially recommended for rejection, six were excluded from the programme. The same procedure was repeated for the 1990 meeting at King’s College when 27 abstracts were excluded.

At the ABM at King’s, the Secretary, David Adams outlined the result of the trial and recommended that for exclusion of some 5% of the abstracts, the effort required was not justified; and the members present agreed to discontinue scientific reviewing while retaining technical vetting by the Secretary. The weight given to abstracts as publications in members’ CVs was receding, and the question whether they should be published was of reduced importance. Thus ended one of the most divisive and time-consuming issues ever discussed at the ABM.

## Corporate Membership

The relationship between dental research in academia and companies and is invaluable and mutually beneficial. A considerable proportion of clinically based research is supported by industry and although contracts will exist between individuals, the role of BSDR in facilitating this process has been important.

A suggestion proposed in 1989 that a new category of Corporate member should be established was the subject of discussion in the Management Committee for several years. The delay was partly because of some resistance on the part of potential Corporate members who thought that they were doing their bit already through sponsorship of the Annual Meeting and other forms of support; and partly because the Committee were wary that by asking for fees for Corporate membership, companies would have little left for other forms of sponsorship including the Oral and Dental Research Trust. However, with the passage of time and after due soundings it was felt appropriate that the ABM be asked to consider changing the Constitution to include the category of Corporate Member, and this amendment was proposed by the Secretary in 1995, and approved by the ABM in 1996.

Colgate Palmolive, Unilever, Mars, Coca-Cola and Boots duly became corporate members. On payment of a fee determined each year by the Management Committee, Corporate members are able to send representatives to the Annual Meeting and have the rights and privileges of ordinary members. Membership changed a few years ago from a direct payment to BSDR to IADR instead and hence these corporate members no longer pay their dues directly to the BSDR. Nonetheless, these changes have not affected the importance that BSDR and industry place on their relationship.

## Future of the Society and a new name

In 2008, a quarter of a century after becoming the British Society for Dental Research, the Society formally voted to change its name at the Annual Business Meeting held at the PEF in London with effect from the Annual Meeting in Glasgow 2009. The new name – The British Society for Oral and Dental Research or BSODR - is intended to more accurately reflect the breadth of research conducted by the membership. In addition, the new name demonstrates its close alliance with the Oral and Dental Research Trust which represents the only UK charity solely devoted to funding research in this field. The Society does of course remain a constituent Division of the IADR and an integral component of PEF, which is also undergoing a name change to the Pan European Region or PER of the IADR.

The key objectives of the Society remain as important to the improvement of oral health in the UK as they were more than 50 years ago when the British Division of the IADR was first established. The Society therefore aims to continue to support and represent the entire oral health research community in the UK, to encourage the development of junior research workers in particular and to foster the development of international research collaboration through the IADR and its Federations.





