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Report to Annual General Meeting of BAPRAS: December 2019

Report from: BAPRAS SFSIG

Name of Representative: Toni Huw Mihailidis

Report

The BAPRAS Student and Foundation Special Interests Group was established in 2016 as the Student Special Interest Group in response to a growing interest in Plastic Surgery amongst medical students, and a recognised desire for students to become more involved in the speciality at an early stage of training. In 2017, BAPRAS SIG expanded its activities to also represent foundation doctors.

Over the last year the SFSIG has continued to offer support and advice to its members and has expanded the SFSIG membership. The BAPRAS SIG has continued to support undergraduate surgical societies, which now exist at a growing number of Universities across the UK. Currently, the new Chair is helping St. George's Medical School to establish its Plastic Surgery society.

The first Electives Newsletter has been produced, which demonstrates the fantastic achievements and activities of medical students undertaking elective placements in plastic surgery with the support of the BAPRAS Elective Bursaries. The new Chair will be responsible for producing the next Newsletter, with plans already underway.

The SFSIG Chair has changed this year for the first time, with Toni Mihailidis being the new chair as of October 2019, with Alistair Reed stepping down. Some additional changes have been made such that the two committee positions previously available have now been removed as they were perceived as redundant: now, the Chair alone will represent the SFSIG. Changes to the online website have been made to this effect. The Chair has and will continue to attend the biannual Education Committee meeting to represent the student and foundation demographic and offer advice where possible.

Actions

There is considerable action planned for the coming year for the BAPRAS SFSIG. Firstly, as mentioned above, the SFSIG Chair will continue to attend Education Committee meetings, with the next planned for February 2019. SFSIG also plans to liaise more with PLASTA to better merge ideas, for example developing an online audit database for student and junior doctors which can act as a base for ideas for those seeking to conduct audits in Plastic Surgery. This may also help to foster collaboration between different centres across the country. SFSIG also sees appealing to medical students and foundation trainees through social media as an important element to continuing to foster and promote interest in Plastic Surgery, and will propose ideas in the coming month to develop a Twitter account. The SFSIG will also inquire as to how it can play a bigger role in the BAPRAS Undergraduate Day. As per usual protocol, the current Chair will step down in 2 years' time, in October 2021, and a new Chair elected to the role.