



Minutes of the Aerosol Society Annual General Meeting

Thursday 7th November 2019.

The Edgbaston Park Hotel & Conference Centre, University of Birmingham.

Present: 71 Society members attended the meeting.

Jonathan Reid (Society President) welcomed everyone to the 2019 Aerosol Society AGM and introduced the Committee Members. He informed everyone that Diane Foster had now replaced Sonia Mills as the Aerosol Society Administrator.

Approval of the Minutes of the Last Annual General Meeting (8th November 2018). Jonathan Reid asked if any member had any questions regarding the minutes from last year – no questions.

The minutes (which are on the website) were approved as an accurate and true record of the 2018 AGM. **Jonathan Reid requested the minutes were formally adopted and asked who was willing to propose and second this.**

Proposed: Rachael Miles

Seconded: Ian Colbeck

Motion carried.

Jonathan Reid confirmed there were no matters arising.

The President and General Secretary's Report to the 2019 AGM

Introduction

Welcome to the 2019 Annual General Meeting of the Aerosol Society. This is our sixth successive Annual Conference and General Meeting at the University of Birmingham. We made the short move last year to our new conference venue, which we hope will provide us with a platform upon which to improve the delegate and sponsor experience at the Conference, learning from valuable feedback to allow us to grow the meeting and extend the range and reach of the aerosol science we discuss.

Drug Delivery to the Lungs, Combustion Aerosol and Focus Meetings

The *Drug Delivery to the Lungs* conference in Edinburgh continues to go from strength to strength, the 29th DDL Conference held in December attracting a record number of delegates, sponsors and exhibitors with almost 850 attendees and more than 100 sponsors. This continued success underpins much of the work of the Society, enabling us to provide support and investment for students and scientists starting out in their careers in aerosol science. Preparations are well underway for the 30th Anniversary edition of DDL in December, which we are certain will be a great success.

The Society also held its first *Combustion Aerosol Conference* at the University of Cambridge in June, a three-day meeting co-held with the well-established Cambridge Particle Meeting and co-sponsored by the UK Combustion Institute. Approximately 60 attended the first two days from the UK, North America and Europe, swelling to over 100 on the final day.

The Society co-sponsored the three-day *Droplets 2019* conference (our Focus Meeting 13) held at Durham University in September covering many elements of free-droplet processes (e.g. drying) and droplet impacts on surfaces. Going into 2020 we will continue to host and co-sponsor meetings with other groups and societies, exploring in more detail particular topics of interest to our members. In January, we will support the Third Atmospheric Ice Nucleation Conference which will be held in Boston, US. In early April we will host Focus Meeting 15 in Bristol on the subject of Bioaerosols, a follow-up to a meeting the Society organised in 2017.

As always, we warmly welcome proposals or ideas for future Focus Meetings from our membership. Work is also beginning to ramp up in preparation for the European Aerosol Conference 2021 in Birmingham which will be hosted at the International Convention Centre.

2018 Annual Aerosol Science Conference

Our Annual Aerosol Science Conference in 2018 was again held at the University of Birmingham on 8th November 2018, albeit at the new Edgbaston Park Hotel and Conference Centre, a short walk up the road from our location for the previous four meetings. 83 delegates were present, almost reaching last year's record-breaking attendance of 86. The plenary speakers were Prof. Andreas Schmidt-Ott (TU Delft, Netherlands) *Reflections on a career in Aerosol Science and future challenges*, Prof. Catherine Noakes (University of Leeds) *Modelling Bioaerosols in Indoor Environments* and Prof. Roy Harrison (University of Birmingham) *Diesel Exhaust Aerosol: Atmospheric Processing from Tailpipe to Lungs*. Delegates also saw a range of proffered presentations and posters across a wide range of aerosol science topics, covering aerosol technology, combustion, synthesis, bioaerosols, indoor air, atmospheric aerosol and health. As always we are very grateful to our exhibitors and sponsors, and we thank Enviro Technology, Air Monitors, Scielutions, TSI, NPL, Eurochamp 2020, Filter Integrity and Biral for supporting this event. As this was the first edition at the new venue, and we were among the earliest groups to use the space, we were especially interested in feedback as to the delegate and sponsor experience, and we hope we have taken as much of that feedback as possible on board in preparing for this year's conference. We encourage attendees at this year's event to let us know what you liked about this year's meeting, and what isn't working so well – anonymous feedback forms will be provided, but if you prefer you can also speak directly to any of the conference organisers or committee members, or send us an email with your comments.

Fundamentals of Aerosol Science

The Fundamentals of Aerosol Science day was run prior to AASC 2018 at the University of Birmingham on 7th November 2018. Attendance at this event was down on last year, with 43 attendees compared with 60 in 2017. However, largely positive feedback was once again received, and we thank the 25 delegates who took the time to give us their thoughts on the day. We maintain that this event is very valuable in providing a short but thorough introduction to the field for students and researchers from academia, industry and government bodies. The long-term viability should be aided through increased attendance from CDT students, who will be encouraged to attend in their first year. The final lecture, which links the fundamental aerosol science introduced during the day to the following day's Annual Conference, was given by Dr Steve Lever (DSTL) on *Aerobiology and Pathogens*.

Grants and Awards

During 2019 we continued our review of the Society's awards and grants, in order to enhance our support for students and early career researchers in aerosol science. We awarded our first *Doctoral Thesis Prize* and *Photography Competition* prize, continue to offer *Early Career Scientist Travel Awards* and *Undergraduate Research Bursary*, and have updated some of our other awards. The CN Davies Award has been renamed the *Aerosol Society Doctoral Student Award*, and the Small Research Grant has become the *Career Development Grant*, both with slightly different eligibility criteria, reflecting the career stages and development outcomes we are focusing on for each award. We have also updated the deadlines for some of these awards, so please visit the website for details of when and how to apply: <https://aerosol-soc.com/grants-and-awards/>

Committee News

We have welcomed new co-opted members to the committee since the last AGM, bringing expertise and knowledge from a variety of areas which we hope will benefit the work of the Society going forward. At the last AGM Darragh Murnane stepped down from the Deputy President role, after long service as Deputy or President of the Society, although he remains an active member of the committee. Ben Murray vacated his post as Education Officer to become the new Deputy President, and in turn Janine Jordan was elected as Education Officer. Jacqui Hamilton and Matthew Wright were elected as Treasurer and General Secretary respectively, after a period co-opted into these roles prior to the 2018 AGM. We also welcomed Marc Stettler as a full member, elected at the AGM after being co-opted in 2018. During the year, Dan McCluskey and Rachael Miles were co-opted to the committee. We also gave a fond farewell to the Society's Administrator, Sonia Mills, who has moved on to pastures new, and we warmly welcome Diane Foster as our new Administrator, who can be contacted at the same email address admin@aerosol-soc.com. We are always

looking for new committee members, so if you have an interest in shaping how the Society is run and would like to contribute to the work of the committee, or just want to find out more, please contact Diane or any of the current committee members.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

We are also in the process of formulating an *Equality, Diversity and Inclusion* policy and code of conduct, seeking advice from colleagues and organisations with an outstanding track record in this important area. Our ED&I policy should ensure we perform our work in a way that enables individuals, the Society and the aerosol science community to flourish regardless of our individual backgrounds and experiences. Amanda Lea-Langton and James McGrath have agreed to take on responsibility for developing a Society policy. As a first step, our website now states our Society values as:

The Aerosol Society recognises the importance of our diverse community and believe that to produce the best quality science we must encourage a proactive and inclusive approach to equality. This can be achieved by developing and retaining a diverse range of talented people to achieve their full potential free from discrimination. We acknowledge our role in engaging with the wider aerosol science community to develop a fair and friendly environment by promoting equality, diversity and inclusion for all, recognising that we come from varying backgrounds and experiences.

The EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Aerosol Science

We are delighted to report the success of the consortium bid to the Engineering and Physical Science Research Council (EPSRC) for a *Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Aerosol Science*, hosted at the University of Bristol. The first cohort of 14 students have recently enrolled and begun their study. Several Aerosol Society committee members were involved in the bid and they and others have put a huge effort not only into securing the £6.4 million funding from EPSRC and matched £7.7 million from academic, industrial and public sector partners, but also in creating a bespoke, comprehensive training package for future aerosol scientists across a wide range of disciplines. The Society will benefit from the CDT in numerous ways. Not only do we hope that the CDT will contribute to a growing and vibrant aerosol science community in the UK and Ireland, but the Society will host the training portal as a legacy at the end of the CDT, making it available for student training and continuing professional development. Members will also be able to register to attend training events over the coming years, listen to research webinars and collaborate on PhD projects hosted by the 7 partner universities. We wish everyone involved in this endeavour, including the students themselves, every success.

Society membership update

Our year-on-year membership has continued to grow, with our current membership standing at 853 members, compared with 605 in October 2018 and almost double the number we had two years ago. For ordinary membership, very pleasingly, we are seeing this increase across the board, although our student membership is growing particularly strongly, now at 469 members (up from 311 last year). The number of academic members has also increased significantly, to 136 (up from 95 last year) and this year we have also attracted more industry members (222, up from 180 last year). Our retired membership has again increased, to 16 (up from 9 last year and 3 in October 2016) and we hope these members are able to take advantage of reduced rates for our events. We are also grateful for the continued support of our 10 Corporate members, many of whom also provide valued support for our events through sponsorship. As ever, we are very grateful for the support of our members, without whom we would not be able to do the work that we do. As we continue to grow as a Society, we would be very grateful for feedback on what we are doing well, and where we can improve. If you have any comments or suggestions, we would be delighted to hear them. Please get in touch with Diane at admin@aersol-soc.com or speak to a committee member.

Website and communications

We continue to send out monthly Newsletters via email. This remains an important vehicle for communicating our activities, reaching a growing audience of Society members. Although we maintain regular content and features curated by the Committee and our Administrator, we would be delighted to include contributions, large or small, from members and strongly encourage you to consider submitting an article. If you have any comments on items in the Newsletter or on the Website, or would like to contribute a topical news article, showcase your group's research, or advertise a job, PhD vacancy or upcoming event, please submit these contributions to Diane Foster (admin@aersol-soc.com).

European Aerosol Assembly News

The *European Aerosol Conference 2019* took place at the Swedish Congress and Exhibition Centre in Gothenburg, 25th-30th August 2019. The conference was very well attended with over 1,000 delegates and around 50 exhibitors, and as

well as a packed schedule of presentations (10 slots of 6-8 talks in up to 6 parallel sessions, totalling around 420 talks), three poster sessions (over 600 posters in total) and of course the 5 plenary lectures. There were side events (including visits to AstraZeneca and Volvo) and social activities to keep delegates busy! In addition, as usual, EAA Working Group Meetings were held. The five Working Groups (WG1 Aerosol Technology, WG2 Atmospheric Aerosol, WG3 Aerosol Measurement Techniques, WG4 Aerosols and Health, and WG5 Basic Aerosol Processes) perform the vital role of organising the various sessions within each EAC programme. Until 2020, GAeF (Association for Aerosol Research) lead the EAA, provide the President (Helmuth Horvath, University of Vienna) and Secretary General (Birgit Wehner, Leibniz Institute for Tropospheric Research) and will also be the hosts of the European Aerosol Conference 2020 in Aachen, Germany. After EAC 2020, the 'baton' will pass to the Aerosol Society as the hosts of the European Aerosol Conference 2021 in Manchester.

European Aerosol Conference 2021

As we reported to the 2017 AGM and again last year, the UK will host the European Aerosol Conference from 29th August to 3rd September 2021 at the International Convention Centre in Birmingham. Progress is being made on securing suitable venues for the conference dinner, welcome reception and other social events. Several innovative events debuted at EAC 2019 in Gothenburg, and we aim to keep in contact with the organisers of this and the EAC 2020 (Aachen) meeting to provide delegates not only with a world-class scientific conference but also some interesting social activities as well!

New initiatives for 2019-20

During the next year, we intend to review how the Society engages with industry and public sector partners, with a view to building stronger and more substantive links across the UK aerosol science community. We also intend to focus our attention on developing our policy on ED&I, establishing the connections between the CDT delivery and the operation of the Society, and continuing preparations for EAC 2021.

Jonathan Reid (President)

Matthew Wright (General Secretary)

Treasurer's Report to the 2019 AGM

This annual report covers the financial year from April 2018-March 2019 (labelled as Year 2018 in this statement). It should be noted when comparing values that last year's report covered the period from January 2017 until 31 March 2018, a period of 15 months. The Aerosol Society has made a net profit of £125,104 for the 2018 financial year, which compares to a small profit of £2,204 in 2017. The finances for the Society in 2018 therefore indicate a significant surplus was obtained.

Sales in 2018 continue the recent increase and were up approx. £73k at £613,981 from £541,358 from (2017). Significant growth in the attendance at DDL, in particular for exhibitors, as well as growth in attendance at Focus meetings has grown sales ahead of predictions. All Aerosol Society events made a profit and attendance at non-DDL events continues to grow strongly year-on-year. The Society's finances continue to benefit immensely from the increasing success of DDL, which continues to provide resources to undertake activities which further the development of aerosol sciences in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

2018 was a strong financial year for the Society with a gross (trading) surplus of £271,352 from events including a successful DDL29. The DDL Sub-Committee have had extraordinary success of attracting over 800-plus conference attendees, with significant growth in the number of top-level sponsors and exhibitors from the pharmaceutical industry. All predictions are that the sponsorship and attendance remain strong throughout the 2019 financial year, the 30th Anniversary year of the DDL conference.

The total value of awards in 2018 was £15,110 covering the Student Travel Bursaries and the Small Research Scheme, Doctoral Thesis Prize, Photography Competition. This value is slightly lower than last year as a result of changes to the application deadlines. However, this value will increase in the next year as the first Career Development Grants are awarded, increasing our commitment to developing the next generation of Aerosol scientists. The Society incurred significantly lower costs for the website in 2018 (£3,690 compared to £17,365 in 2017). The administration costs in this period were slightly lower in 2018 (£73,972 compared to £82,230), which reflects the timing of this report, which covers 12 months rather than the 15 months last year. The benefits of the

extra administrator continued to be displayed in 2018, with increased delegate numbers at our meetings, increased numbers of corporate sponsors at events such as the AASC, and improved communication with members. Meeting expenses have maintained a steady level of expenditure, with Aerosol society meeting (£4,157) and DDL meetings (£15,875) covering members travel and room hire.

As a result of the large profit generated in 2018, the overall net worth of the society, as of 31 March 2019 has increased to £412,416 from £287,314. However, the long-term cash reserves of the Society remain untouched (£161,087) which have grown with a small yield to be expected in the current economic climate. The Committee has therefore been able to accommodate year-on-year investment for society development, enhancing the appeal of the DDL conference, education and training entirely within the annual cash flow of the Society. Over the coming 12 months period, the banking structure of the society will change, with the DDL and Aerosol Society committee each having separate operating accounts. A proportion of the surplus generated in 2018, will be put into an additional savings account to build up a reserve for the upcoming European Aerosol Conference in 2021. A reserve of ~£500k is deemed appropriate given the considerable turnover expected in 2021.

Jacqueline Hamilton

Treasurer

(Final accounts are available on the Aerosol website)

Education Officer's Report. November 2018 - 2019

Training.

The Fundamentals of Aerosol Science.

A single day course, The Fundamentals of Aerosol Science, was hosted by the Society at the Edgbaston Park Hotel, University of Birmingham, on November 7th, 2018. The content of the course was similar to previous years, with seven lectures covering a broad range of topics in aerosol science from aerosol sampling from the environment to aerosols thermodynamics and kinetics. The final lecture, which has a more applied focus, was given by Dr Steve Lever from the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory on Aerobiology and Pathogens.

The course started at 10.30am, giving attendees the opportunity to arrive in Birmingham from many destinations after peak travel time, and concluded at 5.15pm.

There were 7 lectures each of 45 mins duration. The following lectures were presented:

- (1) Welcome and Introduction: Professor Benjamin J. Murray – University of Leeds
- (2) Basic concepts: Professor Ian Colbeck – University of Essex
- (3) Environmental Sampling: Dr Simon Parker – Defence Science & Technology Laboratory
- (4) Optical Properties: Dr Rachael Miles – University of Bristol
- (5) Physicochemical Characterisation: Dr Jurgita Ovadnevaite, National University of Ireland Galway
- (6) Thermodynamics and Kinetics: Professor Benjamin J. Murray – University of Leeds
- (7) Aerobiology and Pathogens: Dr Steve Lever, Defence Science & Technology Laboratory

There were 43 attendees coming from a wide range of backgrounds, including industry, academic research, atmospheric science, drug delivery etc. and government labs. Attendance was slightly lower than the previous year (60 in 2017) but we believe that this was due to the FAS coinciding with various field trips.

Feedback was largely supportive, with most attendees responding positively to the balance of topics covered, the length of the day and the appropriateness of the location and venue. Everyone was complementary about the food.

Given the success of the course over the last few years, the committee recommended that the course should again be held at the Edgbaston Park Hotel, University of Birmingham in November 2019, just prior to the Annual Aerosol Society Conference. It was evident that many students stayed on for the annual conference on the following day and this was considered a positive route to encouraging engagement with the wider activities of the Society.

Looking to FAS in 2019 the general structure and focus will be maintained.

The planned structure for 2019 is:

- (1) Welcome and Introduction: Dr Janine Jordan – Defence Science and Technology Laboratory
- (2) Basic concepts: Professor Ian Colbeck – University of Essex
- (3) Environmental Sampling: Dr Simon Parker – Defence Science and Technology Laboratory
- (4) Optical Properties: Dr Rachael Miles – University of Bristol
- (5) Physicochemical Characterisation: Dr Jurgita Ovadnevaite, National University of Ireland Galway
- (6) Thermodynamics and Kinetics: Professor Benjamin J. Murray – University of Leeds
- (7) Guest speaker: Dr Michelle Dawson - GlaxoSmithKline**

Awards.

The Society currently offers five education related awards for its members:

Early Career Scientist Travel Award.

Awards in the form of bursaries of agreed amounts are available to early career scientists (including postdoctoral researchers) who are members of the Aerosol Society to attend Overseas Conferences and present their work. The following awards have been made Nov 2018 – Nov 2019:

Name	Affiliation	Event	Awarded
Malcolm Kittle	University of Bristol	AAAR 2019	500
Ciarrai O'Toole	NUI Galway	ISES – ISIAQ conference 2019	500
Yusuf Bhatti	University of Leeds	EAC 2019	500
Mara Otero-Fernandez	University of Bristol	AAAR Annual Conference 2018	500
			£2000

Undergraduate Research Bursary.

This bursary scheme provides an opportunity for undergraduate students enrolled in a range of physical science, engineering or technology-based degree programmes to spend a minimum of six weeks working on an aerosol research project. Through support from the bursary scheme, an undergraduate will be able to gain experience in aerosol science research and encourage them to pursue a career in aerosol science. The bursary provides £1200 in funding, based on £200 per week for six weeks and eligible supervisors are encouraged to apply. For further details, please refer to the website.

This year Dr Marc Stettler and Thibault Audic from *Imperial College, London* were awarded this bursary in order to conduct a project entitled - Remote sensing of vehicle particulate failures using portable exposure instruments.

Aerosol Science Career Development Grant.

The Aerosol Society is passionate about supporting aspiring researchers in aerosol science. This flexible grant is intended to support new and emerging aerosol scientists by funding projects which contribute to a scientist's career development. The grant can support scientists from public, private and university organisations.

The successful applicants were Kirsty Pringle and Evgenia Ilyinskaya.

Aerosol Society Doctoral Student Award.

The Aerosol Society Doctoral Student Award is designed to recognise, reward and encourage doctoral students who are engaged in aerosol science. The award is aimed at graduate students who are within the first two years of studying for a doctorate at a United Kingdom or Irish University (considering part time working).

The successful applicants were Amy Peace, Hannah Edwards, Natalie Green and Sarah Barr.

Doctoral thesis prize.

The Aerosol Society awards this annual prize for an outstanding body of original aerosol-related research. The winner will be announced at the AASC 2019.

If you would like to apply for any awards please refer to the Society website for the full terms and conditions.

Dr Janine Jordan

Education Officer

Proposed elections to the committee

President of the Society

The Committee were asked if anyone else wished to stand as President of the Society.

No one requested to stand

Darragh Murnane: proposed that Jonathan Reid be re-elected for another year until November 2020.

Ben Murray: seconded the motion.

Motioned carried.

Jonathan Reid: proposed that Adam Boies and Dave Worton are re-elected and that Daniel McCluskey and Rachael Miles become full members.

Janine Jordan: seconded the motion.

A full show of hands was given in the room.

Motion passed.

Marc Stettler: Proposed that Ian Colbeck and Simon Parker be re-elected as Committee Members,

Amanda Lea-Langton: Seconded the motion.

A three-quarter majority was needed to carry this motion. There was a full show of hands.

Motion passed

AOB

Jonathan provided feedback about the CDT at the University of Bristol and presented slides of the portal. It was funded by EPSRC and launched in February. At present, seven institutions were involved but this would expand over the coming five years.

It was a first in terms of training. There are 16 courses and they want to open these up and allow academic and student members to attend. They can register as a student for access to the training portal and there was an option to join in-house training between Oct and April.

There are weekly webinars, streamed live and you could ask questions.

If anyone requires further information, please contact Jonathan (j.p.reid@bristol.ac.uk), Rachael Miles (Rachael.Miles@bristol.ac.uk), Kate Lucas (Kate.Kucas@bristol.ac.uk) or go to the website

<https://www.aerosol-cdt.ac.uk/>