

Society for
Reproduction
and Fertility

**Pentland Room
Edinburgh International Convention Centre, Edinburgh
12.20 -13.20hrs, Friday 10th January 2020**

**General Meeting of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility
Followed by the
61st Annual General Meeting of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility**

General Meeting Agenda

1. Articles of Association update

61st Annual General Meeting Agenda

- 61.1 Apologies for Absence
- 61.2 Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held at ICC, Birmingham, 4th January 2019 **Paper A**
 - 61.2.1 Matters Arising
- 61.3 Adoption of the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2018 **Paper B**
- 61.4 Appointment of Auditors for the financial year ending 31st December 2019
- 61.5 Chair's report **Paper C**
 - 61.5.1 Fertility survey results
- 61.6 Vice-Chair's report **Paper D**
- 61.7 Treasurer's report **Paper E**
- 61.8 General Secretary's Report **Paper F**
- 61.9 Programme Secretary's Report **Paper G**
- 61.10 Election of Early Career Member
- 61.11 Any Other Business

Following the conclusion of Society business, the following presentations will be made:

Professor Marilyn Renfree – SRF Marshall Medallist 2019

is taken not more than 48 hours after it was demanded, be delivered in hard copy form to the Chairman or to the Secretary or to any Trustee at the meeting at which the poll was demanded,

and in calculating the periods referred to in this Article 37, no account is to be taken of any part of a day which is not a working day.

- 38 In default of delivery or receipt in accordance with Article 37, the instrument of proxy shall be invalid and no instrument appointing a proxy shall be valid after the expiration of 12 months from the date of its execution.
- 39 An instrument appointing a proxy shall be deemed to confer authority to demand or join in demanding a poll.
- 40 No objection shall be raised to the qualification of any voter except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting shall be valid. Any objection made in due time shall be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision shall be final and conclusive.
- 41 A vote cast or a poll demanded by a proxy shall not be rendered invalid by reason of the death or mental disorder of the appointor or by the termination or revocation of the proxy or the authority under which the proxy was executed unless notice of such shall have been received by the Charity not later than the latest time at which the proxy would need to have been delivered to or received by the Charity in order to be valid for use whether to vote in person or on a poll at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the proxy is used to which it relates. Such notice of termination shall be made either by means of an instrument in hard copy form, delivered to the Office or in electronic form received at the address (if any) specified by or on behalf of the Charity in accordance with Article 37, regardless of whether any relevant proxy appointment was effected by means of an instrument in hard copy or electronic form.

THE COUNCIL

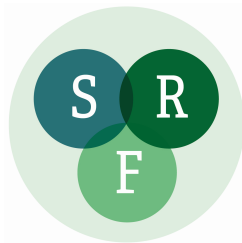
- 42 The Council shall consist of the following Trustees:
- 42.1 the Chair, who shall hold office for three years;
- 42.2 the Chair Elect, if any;
- 42.3 the Chair of the Public Engagement Committee, the General Secretary, the Programme Secretary and the Treasurer (all of whom shall hold office for four years),
- together referred to as the Officers;
- 42.4 not more than nine elected Trustees ("the Elected Trustees"); and
- 42.5 not more than two Trustees appointed by resolution of the Council who shall hold office for a term not exceeding four years.
- 43 The Officers, save for the Chair and Chair-Elect, and the Elected Trustees shall be elected pursuant to the provisions of Article 50.
- 44 Those individuals who are Trustees at the date of adoption of these Articles and whose details have been filed with Companies House shall continue to serve as

Trustees until their respective terms of office expire and, shall be eligible to be reappointed to serve a further term or terms of office in accordance with these Articles.

- 45 Except to the extent permitted by the Articles, no Trustee shall take or hold any interest in property belonging to the Charity or receive remuneration or be interested otherwise than as a Trustee in any other contract to which the Charity is a party.
- 46 The Trustees may be paid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meeting of the Council (or its committees or sub-committees) or general meetings or otherwise in connection with the discharge of their duties.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

- 47 At the next AGM following adoption of these Articles and at every subsequent AGM Elected Trustees who have served for a continuous term of four years shall, subject to Article 48, retire from office and shall not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year.
- 48 For so long as any Trustee remains an Officer, the provisions of Article 47 shall not apply to him and he may continue as a Trustee until he ceases to be an Officer, at which point he shall retire and not be eligible for re-election for a period of one year.
- 49 The Chair-Elect shall be appointed by resolution of the Board in the year preceding the expiry of the term of office of the current Chair, and on the expiry of that term, shall take up the office of Chair.
- 50 All elections to membership of Council shall be conducted by electronic means on the following basis:
- 50.1 notices of elections shall be issued to all Company Members; and
- 50.2 the notices of election shall be issued by direction of Council not less than eight weeks before each AGM.
- 50.3 Each notice shall:
- 50.3.1 specify the names of the Trustees whose retirement gives rise to the vacancies in respect of which the election is to take place;
- 50.3.2 invite nominations for candidates to fill these vacancies;
- 50.3.3 contain such other particulars as shall be prescribed by Council.
- 50.4 Each nomination form shall relate to one candidate only and shall contain such particulars as shall be prescribed by Council including a declaration signed by the candidate of his willingness to serve if elected as a Trustee.
- 50.5 To be eligible for election candidates must be nominated by at least two Company Members and must be recommended for election by the Council.
- 50.6 In cases where the number of valid nominations does not exceed the number of vacancies all candidates shall be elected without any further procedure.
- 50.7 If the number of candidates nominated for election shall exceed the number of



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Held in Hall 10, International Convention Centre, Birmingham

12.20 -13.20hrs, Friday 4th January 2019

Present: WC Duncan (Chair), R Robinson (Vice-Chair), T Fleming (Treasurer), A Watkins (General Secretary), R Lea (Programme Secretary)

81 Members:

R	Abayasekara	H	Critchley	S	Granados	G	Mailionyte	C	Nwachukwu	K	Spiller
C	Achikanu	A	de Mestre	E	Gruszyk	G	Martin	E	Papadopoulou	R	Summer
M	Adana	M	Diaz	B	Heap	G	May	G	Price	M	Tharmalingam
O	Adesina	T	Fahey	E	Hogg	E	Mbegbu	L	Relav	H	Urbanski
T	Adniran	A	Fazeli	W	Holt	P	McKeegan	S	Rice	M	Van Der Mescht
U	Agwuegbo	L	Flook	M	Johnson	J	Meadows	J	R-Santos	J	Walters
A	Allais	N	Forde	K	Jonas	J	Medguno	P	Ryane	P	Watson
T	Allen	A	Foulai-Nashta	G	Kalthur	T	Michael	O	Sandra	L	Watson
M	Baryla	S	Franks	S	Kumari	A	Mihajlovic	R	Scarannis	N	Wheelhouse
S	Basatvat	R	G Barros	K	Larsen	D	Miller	A	Scarnff	S	Williams
L	Baxter	D	Gibson	E	Lucas	B	Mohammed	A	Sferruzzi-Perri	E	Williams
B	Bjarkadottir	K	Godakumara	A	Luciano	H	Morgan	D	Sharkey	S	yao
A	Childs	E	Goryszewska	M	Maidartl	J	Morrell	C	Shilton	H	Zebari
						S	Mowla	N	Spears	B	Zeebaree

In attendance: A Graves, J Scannell and C Swindall (The Conference Collective Secretariat)

MINUTES

60.1 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Thomas Hildebrandt.

60.2 Minutes of the 60th Annual General Meeting held at ACC, Liverpool, 5th January 2018

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as a correct record.

Proposed by Suman Rice

Seconded by Ali Fouladi-Nashta

60.3 Adoption of the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2017

No questions were posed regarding the report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017 and they were duly adopted.

Proposed by David Miller

Seconded by Paul Watson

60.4 Appointment of Auditors (PEM) for the financial year ending 31st December 2018

The appointment of PEM to conduct the 2018 audit was agreed by the members.

Proposed by Richard Lea

Seconded by Suman Rice

60.5 The Chair represented his report

Presented by WC Duncan

The Chair commented on the health of the Society and thanked the Executive Committee, Reproduction Journal editors Greg Fitzharris and Chris Price, the journal publisher, BioScientifica and the Secretariat, The Conference Collective for all their hard work.

The Articles of Associations have been confusing for many members in particular with regard to the responsibilities of statutory and non-statutory membership. In the current format the only people able to vote are the statutory members, which means that the majority of the membership do not have a vote. At the last 59th AGM there was a lot of support to modernise the articles, which has now been done with the involvement of a solicitor. The need to have a safeguard in place was a concern and it was confirmed that the council who make the decisions with regard to funding and competitive grants, will continue not to benefit as they are the decision makers.

The Chair announced that the new Articles of Association have been circulated to the Statutory members and voting is currently taking place and if voting confirms that changes should be made the members are happy to adopt the changes.

There were no objections recorded by members present. It was subsequently confirmed that 22 voting members were in favour of adopting the new Articles of Association, there were no objections.

The Chair advised that Fertility 2020 will be held one week later than 2019 and that this is the third joint meeting. He noted that the EC went to the members four years ago with the suggestion of a trial joint meeting with BAS and ACE to replace the annual summer meeting on a trial basis for 3 years. The summer meeting numbers had reduced steadily the 3 previous years and the average cost to the Society was over £50,000 for the meeting. Currently the society are still spending the same amount but able to support significantly more members to attend the Fertility meetings. It was also noted that the summer meetings have not stopped, and smaller meetings organised by members are still being supported.

The Chair will be writing a paper outlining the main reasons that this decision was made with members comments and feedback from delegates. This will be circulated for discussion with the membership. Feedback has highlighted that the timing of Fertility is difficult, happening so soon after New Year, the pros and cons will be noted in the paper.

R Abayasekara asked if the number of SRF members attending the Fertility meeting had increased, it was confirmed that 4 years ago there were 7 members at the Fertility meeting and in 2019, 140 members attended with support from the Society.

Fewer people had been driven to attend the summer meeting because the meeting had been getting smaller.

K Jones, asked how the Society will respond to the vote and if majority will be required. His worry was that there would not be enough time to make arrangements if the vote was in favour of returning to the summer meeting. The Society are currently signed up for 2020 in Edinburgh. If the majority are happy to continue that should be fine but if not, it is unclear what the options are and there will need to be more discussion.

The Chair confirmed that it is important to understand what the membership want and if Fertility is popular with the majority then they will carry on. If not they will need to clarify what members want before any decisions are made or members are asked to vote on options.

T Allen, agreed that Fertility is a good meeting but the sessions are very human oriented. In response the Chair advised that they would like members to contact the Committee with their interests and it is possible to have input in the symposia content. This year the Programme Committee have not badged the sessions as SRF, ACE or BAS in order to encourage interaction

between the sessions. SRF can also influence up to 10 speakers so members are encouraged to give suggestions for the programme, and this can be done via the secretariat.

60.6 Vice-Chair's report

Presented by Bob Robinson

The Vice-Chair role covers membership, policy and public engagement. The Vice-Chair's report summarised the main points of his report. Membership numbers at the end of 2018 stand at 457 which is an increase from the previous year and has doubled since 2015. This is probably related to the generous Fertility bursaries and online subscription to Reproduction. Membership is in an extremely healthy condition and the Society is becoming more international with 40% of members coming from overseas. A total of 249 members had renewed by the end of December 2018. The Vice-Chair confirmed that he will be asking members for details of their interests and species interest in a survey that the Chair previously mentioned.

It has been agreed by the Committee that membership cost should be frozen for a further year for all membership categories.

B Robinson is also responsible for Si3C series, 2019 speaker is Sarah Robertson presenting 'Partner compatibility: the immune system and reproductive success'. The series will be held in March.

This is a public engagement series and members were encouraged to promote public participation. The Vice Chair welcomed any ideas on how they can expand the public engagement of the society and how they can do this. The committee will draft a new plan to move forward with this event. It was noted that 2020 will be the 10th anniversary of Si3C and the aim is to make this particularly special.

B Robinson is also charged with Public Engagement Committee and the new terms of reference will be available online to view. As part of this, the SRF is regularly invited to respond/support by Royal Society of Biology in terms of promoting science in the public domain. The committee responds where it can to such requests.

S Williams asked if there is a breakdown of members who are badged from more than one society. She also asked if membership of SRF is appealing to multiple disciplines, and where should the Society look to attracting members with wider interests.

R Abayasekara requested that SRF reintroduce the option to pay by Direct Debit payment, it was confirmed that this is currently being arranged.

It was noted by M Johnson that one clinician from BFS has indicated interest in attending the EC Workshop.

A Fouladi asked if the Si3C lectures could be recorded. B Robinson confirmed that this is something that the SRF will be looking to do. It is proposed to stream the Nottingham talk to QMC hospital in Nottingham.

60.7 Treasurer's report

Presented by Tom Fleming

The Treasurer covered the key areas of his report, a slide he presented showed income over the past 5 years which has been stable at approximately £1.9m over the period. The final net income from BioScientifica will be approximately £200k for 2018. The revenue from the Journal had previously declined but this has now increased significantly with the new contract signed in 2015. It was confirmed that a new 5 year contract was signed in late 2018 with BioScientifica.

The Treasurer confirmed that sponsorship for the Fertility conference bursary has increased.

For Fertility 2018 the final amount was just over £66K and 86 members were awarded funds. To date around £79K and 96 members have been awarded bursaries to attend Fertility 2019. The Treasurer noted that in comparison the summer meeting in 2016 cost £55,257 and in 2015 it cost £40,846 but there was less benefit to members in the form of a bursary.

It was also noted other forms of sponsorship including grants and other awards is continuing to increase and the Treasurer concluded by noting that the Society is in good financial status.

A Fouladi noted that the SRF assets are in the bank and the return on the cash investment is limited. It was confirmed that there is a small cash return of approximately 5% per annum and that the success of the journal sales support the Society's financial position.

T Allen asked where the money came from? It was noted that some of it was from the sale of the SRF office premises in Cambridge.

The Treasurer confirmed that fund is managed by a portfolio manager at Credit Suisse, who reports quarterly. Every single transaction is reported on and funds are held in a low risk, ethical portfolio.

60.8 The General Secretary's Report

Presented by Adam Watkins

The General Secretary oversees the Education and Engagement Committee which covers the grants and bursaries provided by the SRF. It was noted that the Committee is constantly looking at how members can be supported and what additional schemes can be introduced. The Committee has expanded the Academic Scholarship into 3 tiers, covering early career researcher; members returning to work; and the standard academic scholarships. This typically does not support post-docs, but the Committee are keen to start to fund Research Fellows on independent fellowships and it is hoped a new scheme will go live later in 2019.

This new scholarship scheme is a collaborative research scholarship to send a researcher to another lab or to bring experts to the member's laboratory in order to learn and provide new skills. This will run in parallel with academic scholarships.

It was noted that the vacation scholarships supported 10 of the 16 applicants in 2018. This scholarship allows students to spend up to 8 weeks in a lab. The committee hope to support more members in 2019 and applications are now open and anyone interested was referred to the SRF webpage for details.

Finally, it was confirmed that SRF supported 14 travel grants in 2018. The Committee is planning to make a few changes to this scheme in 2019 which will expand it to make it more accessible for people from poorer countries.

There were no questions from the floor.

60.9 The Programme Secretary's Report

Presented by Richard Lea.

The Programme Secretary is responsible for the organisation of meetings and conferences. It was confirmed that SRF will maintain its own identity at Fertility through the various strategies described by the General Secretary, but it will also work closely with other societies. He noted that 21% of the attendees at Fertility 19 are SRF members. The current meeting includes three SRF update sessions; puberty and seasonality, reproductive senescence, and obesity and reproduction.

Highlights for the meeting included the SRF Marshall Medal which will be presented at the end of the AGM. The Anne McLaren Memorial lecture was an excellent start to the conference, he also congratulated the speakers presenting the 2017 and 2018 New Investigator lectures and

the SRF exchange lecture. There are also 33 SRF members' posters being presented.

The Programme Secretary confirmed that Fertility 2020 will take place from 8-10 Jan 2020 in Edinburgh. He confirmed that as part of his role he is always looking for new ideas and encouraged members to contribute.

He thanked retiring members Olivier Sandro and Michelle Johnson for their hard work and contributions on behalf of SRF from the Committee.

S Williams commented that the previous night's SRF session was fabulous and worked really well.

K Jones asked if the Society would be involved in WCRB and it was confirmed that this event would be a priority in 2019.

The Programme Secretary congratulated and welcomed Suzannah Williams and Mark Fenwick onto the SRF Committee and Jessica Roche as the new Early Career representative. He also thanked Olivier Sandro and Michelle Johnson. Final thanks were given to Tom Fleming for all his wise advice and guidance during his term as Treasurer.

60.10

60.10.1 Election of Honorary Members

The Chair reminded members that nominations for Honorary members are welcome though out the year. In 2018 in recognition of being awarded the Marshall Medal Professor Tom P Fleming and Professor Rex Scaramuzzi were elected as Honorary members. Suggestions should be sent to the Secretariat.

60.10.2 Election of Ordinary Committee Members

Suzannah Williams and Mark Fenwick were confirmed onto the SRF committee as Ordinary Members.

60.10.3 Election of Early Career Member

Jessica Roach was confirmed onto the SRF committee as an Early Career Representative.

These proposals were carried Nem Con.

60.11 Any Other Business

The Chair introduced Professor Rex Scaramuzzi who had been awarded the Marshall Medal for 2018. This is highest accolade that the Society can give to someone who has made an outstanding contribution to reproductive biology.

Registered number: 00647816
Charity number: 261433

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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UNAUDITED

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Members of The Council of Management, who are also directors of the Charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the audited financial statements of Society for Reproduction and Fertility (the Society) for the year ended 31 December 2018. The Council of Management confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the Charity comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Charity's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) (effective 1 January 2015).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

<u>THE OBJECTIVE</u>	<u>MEETING THE OBJECTIVE</u>
To further the knowledge of the reproduction processes and fertility in man and animals by supporting research, teaching or clinical practice.	By grant funding research projects, fellowships and studentships both in the United Kingdom and abroad.
To disseminate the useful results of such research.	By publishing peer reviewed work in our international journal "Reproduction." By providing travel grants, vacation scholarships and bursaries to support the attendance of investigators at international meetings on fertility and reproduction.
To support researchers, new investigators and established clinicians in disseminating the useful results of research into reproduction and fertility.	By holding Scientific meetings as fora for discussion and publishing abstracts of research presented if appropriate. By supporting attendees and inviting leading specialists to explore new directions in research. By collaborating in an annual meeting with other relevant UK societies to disseminate research, information and education. By contributing to the delivery of an international conference every three year on the subjects of fertility and reproduction.
To advance the education of researchers, health professionals and the public in the subject of reproduction and fertility, in particular but not exclusively by supporting research and education of individuals interested in the subject.	By holding an annual series of public talks entitled "Sex and Three Cities" with contributions from an internationally renowned speaker.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Professional Collaborations

The last year has seen the ongoing development of the working relationship between the SRF and its sister societies in the UK. The 12th annual joint Fertility meeting was held in Liverpool, organised through the formal partnership with the Association for Clinical Embryologists (ACE) and with the British Fertility Society (BFS). This event has become the largest UK educational forum on fertility and reproductive medicine.

The SRF annual conference, the joint Fertility meeting, continues to be a success and the place where the Society's support for research into reproductive biology and medicine is most visible. This impressive conference has shown the work of SRF members in its very best light. Attracting over 600 fertility experts, the Joint Fertility Conference continues to be an excellent opportunity for fertility professionals to learn about cutting edge research and educational advances and to network with peers.

The SRF Council continues to be part of the Associated Fertility Societies, a network of 7 societies who share a common interest in fertility and reproduction. This collaboration which represents different specialities in the field, enables the societies to speak with a common voice, to members as well as to the scientific and clinical communities that each seeks to support and represent. The Society also continues to support the lecture exchange programme - where a member from each society is given the opportunity to present at the annual conference - with the Society for Reproductive Biology (SRB), Australia and the Society for the Study of Reproduction (SSR) in the USA.

The Society plan to work in partnership with 6 international societies and will be involved in organising the 5th World Congress of Reproductive Biology (WCRB 2020) in Beijing, China. The Congress is a joint venture with; SRB (Australia), CSRB (China), KSAR (Korea), SRD (Japan), SRF (UK) and SSR (USA). Leading academic scientists, researchers and research scholars will be attending. This will be an opportunity to share interests, experiences and research findings about all aspects of reproductive biology.

The successful ongoing working relationships that the Council has with our publisher, Bioscientifica, and with the secretariat, the Conference Collective Ltd. (CCL) continues. Both companies constantly work to implement innovative and exciting ways to better support members. This is reflected in the new five year contract signed with Bioscientifica and *Reproduction* continues to be a successful and respected journal with an excellent Impact factor

Public Benefit

The Trustees have assessed the disclosures made in the Council of Management report and consider that these sufficiently detail the significant activities undertaken in order to carry out the Society's aims for the public benefit. When planning the Society's activities, the Trustees have given regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Strategic review and membership survey

In 2018, the Council focused their attention on

- Continuing to develop new funding schemes (including financial and operational/logistic support for workshops)
- Planning for future joint Fertility conferences.
- Supporting a number of events that marked 40 years of IVF

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Communications

The SRF's communication activities continue to go from strength to strength with a dynamic, informative website, regular monthly newsletters to members and continued growth in membership communications.

Our activity on social media contributes to member engagement and raising awareness with the reproduction community as a whole.

The Society's new Public Engagement Committee continues to think of new engagement activities and delivers the successful public lecture series 'Sex in 3 Cities'.

Continuing increase in membership numbers

At the end of 2018, the Society had a total of 446 members representing another increase in membership, the majority of these are early career (combined student and post-doc categories) or full members. This follows the ongoing trend in increasing numbers over recent years. The increase is largely supported by the benefits offered to members, which includes vacation, academic and travel grants, bursaries to attend SRF/Fertility conference, and online subscription to *Reproduction*. The majority of the members (62%) are UK-based but the Society has members across the globe including Europe, Japan and Africa.

Academic Scholarships

The Society continues to support the research and development of its members through the award of Academic Scholarships. This scholarship now has three separate schemes that appeals to a wider audience in the membership. Applications are invited from early career researchers return to research for members who have had a period of parental or carers leave and the original academic scholarship for members already in an academic post. Demonstration that this expansion to our Scholarship awards was much needed was evident by the increase in total number of applications being submitted. There was a slight decrease in applications in 2018, a total of 8 were received (5 academic scholarships; 2 return to research and 1 early career), compared to 12 in 2017). Out of the twelve applications the Society agreed to fund 6 applications at a total cost of £73,416 (2017: 7 applicants £79,738).

As always, the Society believes that our members should be fully aware of how the Society's funds are being spent and what the outcomes, impact and outputs are from all Society supported activities. As such, the Council will continue to engage with current and future Scholarship awardees to ensure the maximal benefit and impact can be achieved with the Society's funds.

The Council is representative of the Society and its members and looks to support our members in as many ways as possible. As such, the Council continues to respond to members' comments and, where appropriate, address funding issues we believe are appropriate for our members. However, we are always open to additional suggestions of how our members feel they could be supported further by the Society.

The launch of new funding schemes has allowed the Society to target financial support to our Early Career Researchers (ECR's) as well as to Society members returning to their research careers after periods of parental leave. The Committee will continue to encourage members from all these areas to apply for these scholarships.

Vacation Scholarships

Vacation scholarships are offered to undergraduate students who want to get experience of conducting cutting-edge reproductive research for a period of up to 8 weeks over the summer. In 2018, the Society agreed to fund 16 (2017: 10) vacation scholarships from a total of 21 applications. An ongoing indication of the value and impact of our vacation scholarship scheme is the number of our awardees who are selected for oral presentation and the SRF's student prize session respectively at the joint Fertility conference.

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COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Travel Grants

The travel grant scheme is offered four times a year and grants are offered based on distance travelled rather than awarding a flat sum. In 2018, the Society awarded 55 travel grants allowing members to attend national and international conferences, approximately half of the applications were to attend conferences focusing on 40 years of IVF conferences. Applications for Travel Grants are considered throughout the year but must be submitted in advance of the meeting to which they are being applied for.

Fertility Bursary

The SRF Bursary available for the annual joint Fertility conference and offered to all members. The bursary covers registration, accommodation, conference dinner and a travel allowance based on the fixed band system of the distance travelled. In 2018 the Fertility conference was based in Liverpool and a total of 95 bursaries were offered.

Public Engagement

The "Sex in 3 Cities" series of public lectures continues to go from strength to strength, and Professor Thomas Hildebrandt, from the Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin, Germany delivered lectures in the three host cities of Edinburgh, Nottingham & London. This series of meetings is targeted at members of the public as well as academic and research staff and attendance is free of charge. The lectures received very positive feedback.

These events are widely promoted and receive good local publicity helping to boost attendance levels.

Reproduction Journal

The main source of income to the Society is from our journal Reproduction published by Bioscientifica and our general running costs tend to be covered by this plus membership subscriptions and return on investments. The subscription income for 2018 figures compared well with income achieved in 2017.

Press and Media Activities

The Society is regularly requested to comment on advances in fertility and reproductive medicine by both the national media and health journals. These enquiries are answered by relevant members and more complex queries referred to the Trustees to disseminate to experts.

Education and Awareness Raising

Following the decision to replace the SRF Annual conference with the annual Fertility Meeting, the Society invited members to bid for sponsorship to organise local and national workshops. In 2018, SRF agreed to sponsor 9 non-SRF conference events compared with 8 equivalent events in 2017.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Society had a deficit before gains on investments of £135,119 in the year to 31 December 2018, compared to a deficit of £84,952 in 2017. After investment losses of £188,443 (2017: gain of £159,834), the net deficit reported for the year was £323,562 (2017: £74,882).

Total income in the year to 31 December 2018 was £321,206 (2017: £348,687) with total expenditure of £456,325 (2017: £433,650).

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

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COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

As at 31 December 2018, the Society held investments totalling £1,733,761 (2017: £1,937,907) and net assets amounted to £1,856,002 (2017: £2,179,564).

Reserves Policy

The aim is to establish and maintain sufficient reserves to enable the continuance of activities at current levels in the event of financial difficulties, such as might arise from significant reduction in subscription revenue, by:

- Maintaining reserves to meet at least one year's running costs, including all overheads.
- Maintaining the investment funds held with Credit Suisse at a level which equates to approximately £1.9m
- Holding reserves which will defend the Society against significant changes in subscription income from publications and income from investments.

The unrestricted fund comprises funds held to meet the day to day operation of the Society. As at 31 December 2018 the fund amounted to £1,865,002 including the investment portfolio of £1,733,761. Investments are held for the long term with the intention of generating growth but also to generate income to support the charitable activities. Free reserves amounted to £122,241 (2017: £241,657).

The Council of Management believes that the financial position of the Society at the balance sheet date is such that adequate resources exist for the Society to continue its activities for the foreseeable future.

Investment Policy and Objectives

The investments held by the Society have been acquired in accordance with the powers contained in the Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association and are managed by Messrs Credit Suisse according to a mandate revised in 2005 and M&G Charities. The mandate imposes no ethical restrictions except that investment in tobacco products is to be excluded. The Society receives regular information on fund performance which is reviewed by the trustees.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The Society for Reproduction and Fertility is a charitable company limited by guarantee, established in 1960 and incorporated on 25 January 1960. The company was established under a Memorandum of Association and is governed by its Articles of Association, which were last amended on 11 July 2012. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

Appointment and Resignation of Trustees

The Society is governed by Articles of Association and associated Bylaws. Trustees are elected by the Society's members and achieve trustee status and also become Directors of the Limited Company by virtue of election to the Council of Management of the Society.

All Trustees who have served for a continuous term of four years shall retire from office and shall not be eligible for re-election for one year unless elected as an Officer of The Society for Reproduction and Fertility.

Changes in Trustees are detailed in the Reference and Administration details on page 8. The Society for Reproduction had 11 serving Trustees as at 31 December 2018.

Qualifying third party indemnity provisions

The Society has made qualifying third-party indemnity provisions for the benefit of its directors during the year. These provisions remain in force at the reporting date.

Trustee Induction and Training

Long-serving Trustees are already familiar with the work of the Society. New Trustees are provided with a briefing document on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the decision-making processes, future plans and objectives and the recent financial performance of the Society. They are also invited to discuss their responsibilities with the Chairman and Treasurer at any time.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Trustees, which must consist of at least five members, administers the Society. The Board meets four times a year. A Finance Sub-Committee also meets 4 times a year to discuss grant applications, bursary requests etc and to review and discuss the annual budget. A professional Secretariat is appointed by the Trustees to manage the day to day operations of the Society in collaboration with the board. To facilitate effective operations, the Secretariat supports the Chairman who has delegated authority, within terms of delegation approved by the Trustees, for matters including finance, administration, membership and marketing activity.

Risk management

The Trustees, Executive Committee and Finance Committee have conducted a review of the major risks to which the Society is exposed. A risk register is reviewed and updated at regular intervals.

The Trustees have a risk management strategy which comprises:

- Regular reviews of the risks that the Society faces
- The establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate risks identified
- The implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the Society should those risks identified actually materialise.

A key element in the management of financial risk is the setting of a reserves policy and the regular review of this policy by the Trustees.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Council of Management (who are also directors of the Society for Reproduction and Fertility for the purposes of company law) is responsible for preparing the Council of Management's report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company and charity law requires the Council of Management to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Council of Management is required to:

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

The Council of Management is responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company 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 charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

So far as each of the Council members are aware at the time the report is approved:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Society auditors are unaware, and
- They have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.

This report was approved by the Council on 24/9/19 and signed on its behalf, by:


.....

Prof. WC Duncan
Chair

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEE AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

Council of Management

Dr Anthony Michael (Chairperson) (resigned 5 January 2018)
Dr Adam Watkins (General Secretary)
Professor Thomas Patrick Fleming (resigned as Treasurer and Company Secretary on 4 January 2019)
Dr Franchesca Houghton (Programme Secretary) (resigned 5 January 2018)
Professor William Colin Duncan (Chairperson)
Dr Ali Akbar Fouladi-Nashta
Dr Douglas Alistair Gibson
Dr Richard Graham Lea
Dr Amanda Marjorie De Mestre (appointed 5 January 2018)
Dr David Miller (appointed as Treasurer and Company Secretary on 4 January 2019)
Dr Daniel Bruce Murphy (appointed 5 January 2018)
Dr Suman Rice
Dr Robert Robinson
Mr Olivier Sandra (resigned on 4 January 2019)
Dr Kathryn Woad (resigned 5 January 2018)
Dr N Wheelhouse (appointed on 5 January 2018)

Company registered number
00647816

Charity registered number
261433

Registered office
8 Waldegrave Road Teddington Middlesex TW11 18HT

Company secretary
Dr David Miller

Chair
Professor WC Duncan (from 5 January 2018)

Independent examiners
Peters Elworthy & Moore, Salisbury House, Station Road, Cambridge, CB1 2LA

Bankers
Barclays Bank PLC, 6 Clarence Street, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 1NY
Lloyds Bank, 3rd Floor, Market Square House, Nottingham, NG1 6FD

Solicitors
Wilsons Solicitors, Alexandra House, St. Johns Street, Salisbury SP1 2SB

Investment managers
M&G Charities, PO Box 9038, Chelmsford, CM99 2XF

Credit Suisse UK Ltd, One Cabot Square, London, E14 4QJ

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the company for the year ended 31 December 2018.

This report is made solely to the company's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the company's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an independent examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's trustees as a body, for my work or for this report.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the trustees of the company (and its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the company's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the company's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I can confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. Accounting records were not kept in respect of the company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. The accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. The accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. The accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION
AND FERTILITY**

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT (continued)

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Jayne Rowe

Signed:

Jayne Rowe FCCA

PETERS ELWORTHY & MOORE

Chartered Accountants
Salisbury House
Station Road
Cambridge
CB1 2LA

Date: *30 September 2019*

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (incorporating the Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

		Unrestricted Total funds 2018 £	Unrestricted Total funds 2017 £
	Note		
INCOME FROM:			
Charitable activities	2	281,396	320,793
Investments	3	39,810	27,905
TOTAL INCOME		<u>321,206</u>	<u>348,698</u>
EXPENDITURE ON:			
Raising funds – investment managers fees		16,674	16,100
Charitable activities	4	439,651	417,550
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>456,325</u>	<u>433,650</u>
NET (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE INVESTMENT GAINS/(LOSSES)		(135,119)	(84,952)
Net (losses)/gains on investments	9	(188,443)	159,834
NET (DEFICIT) / SURPLUS AND MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(323,562)	74,882
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:			
Total funds brought forward		2,179,564	2,104,682
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>1,856,002</u>	<u>2,179,564</u>

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)
Registered Number 647816

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018**

	Note	£	2018 £	£	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Investments	9		1,733,761		1,937,907
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	10	295,718		257,426	
Cash at bank		7,767		64,105	
		<u>303,485</u>		<u>321,531</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(181,244)</u>		<u>(79,874)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>122,241</u>		<u>241,657</u>
NET ASSETS			<u>1,856,002</u>		<u>2,179,564</u>
CHARITY FUNDS					
Unrestricted funds			<u>1,856,002</u>		<u>2,179,564</u>

The company's financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The Council of Management considers that the Society is entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 ("the Act") and members have not required the Society to obtain an audit for the year in question in accordance with section 476 of the Act.

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2016 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of the financial statement.

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Council of Management on 24/9/19 and signed on their behalf, by:


.....
Prof. WC Duncan - Chair

The notes on pages 13 to 22 form part of these financial statements.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Society of Reproduction and Fertility meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

No significant estimates or judgements were made by management in preparing these financial statements.

1.2 COMPANY STATUS

The Society is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Council of Management named on page 8. In the event of the Society being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £1 per member of the Society.

1.3 FUND ACCOUNTING

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Council of Management in furtherance of the general objectives of the Society and which have not been designated for other purposes.

1.4 GOING CONCERN

The Council of Management have reviewed the financial position of the Society and have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, the financial statements continue to be prepared on the going concern basis.

1.5 INCOME

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Society; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

Dividends are recognised once the dividend has been declared and notification has been received of the dividend due.

Income in relation to the journal royalties is recognised at the later of the publication date or receipt of an order.

Conference income is recognised at the point the conference is held.

Subscriptions received in advance are included within creditors falling due within one year.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.6 EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Support costs, including governance costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the Society and include management carried out at the principal office. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the Society and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year-end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds represents the fees paid to investment managers in connection with the management of the Society's investments.

1.7 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Society only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

1.8 INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance Sheet date, unless fair value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment.

All gains and losses are taken to the Statement of Financial Activities as they arise. Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their opening carrying value or their purchase value if acquired subsequent to the first day of the financial year. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated as the difference between the fair value at the year end and their carrying value.

Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and shown in the heading 'Gains/(losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.9 FOREIGN CURRENCIES

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date.

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated into sterling at the relevant monthly average exchange rate.

Exchange gains and losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Foreign exchange gains and losses arising on investments are disclosed within investment income.

1.10 STOCK

No account is taken of stocks of publications in hand at the year end. At this point in time, all publications become back issues and it is difficult to predict the realisable values of these, but they are not considered to be material.

1.11 DEBTORS

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments and accrued income are valued at the amount repaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.12 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.13 CREDITORS AND PROVISIONS

Creditors are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Creditors are recognised at the amount that the Society anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

2. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2018 £	2017 £
Journal royalties	233,631	224,009
Conference income	24,610	29,541
Society membership subscriptions	22,905	26,965
Other income	250	40,278
	<u>281,396</u>	<u>320,793</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	2018 £	2017 £
Income from listed investments	39,796	27,895
Bank Interest	14	10
	<u>39,810</u>	<u>27,905</u>

4. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE

	Direct Costs 2018 £	Grant funding activities 2018 £	Support and governance costs 2018 £	2018 £	2017 £
Charitable activities	<u>107,154</u>	<u>255,127</u>	<u>77,370</u>	<u>439,651</u>	<u>417,550</u>
2017 comparative	<u>144,644</u>	<u>181,717</u>	<u>66,492</u>	<u>417,550</u>	

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

5. DIRECT COSTS

	2018 £	2017 £
Cost of production and despatch	-	9,898
Insurance	3,191	4,067
Website costs	1,306	1,074
Editorial expenses	38,807	42,530
Secretariat charges	28,631	33,984
Conferences	33,406	42,279
Advertising, PR and marketing	815	9,459
Print, postage & design	998	1,353
	<u>107,154</u>	<u>144,644</u>

6. GRANT FUNDING ACTIVITIES

	2018 Number	2018 £	2017 Number	2017 £
Grants to Institutions:				
Academic scholarships	9	103,324	4	44,242
Vacation scholarships	16	41,360	10	23,000
Grants to Individuals:				
Grants made – travel, accommodation and Meeting attendance support	150	110,443	151	114,475
	<u>172</u>	<u>255,127</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>181,717</u>

In 2018, the Society committed to fund 6 (2017: 7) Academic scholarships amounting to £73,410 (2017: £79,738). Two of these grants, (£23,600) were recognised in 2018 as conditions were met. The remaining grants (£49,811) will be charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in 2019 if conditions are met.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

Institutional grants made in excess of £1,000 are as follows:

	2018	2017
University of Cardiff	2,750	-
Exeter College	2,750	-
Institute of Animal Reproduction and Food Research	12,480	-
Newcastle University	5,245	-
Royal Veterinary College, University of London	14,965	-
University of Birmingham	2,750	-
University of Nottingham	14,249	-
University of Southampton	12,500	-
University of the West of Scotland	11,100	-
University of Cambridge	2,750	5,000
University of Aberdeen	-	2,750
University of Sheffield	2,750	5,500
Aston University	-	2,250
St. George's, University of London	14,270	2,750
University of Bristol	-	7,037
Edinburgh Napier University	14,750	12,250
University of Edinburgh	27,125	16,455
SLU (Swedish University of Agricultural Services)	-	12,500
Other grants under £1,000	4,250	750
	144,684	66,492

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Governance £	Support £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
Bank and credit card charges	-	2,369	2,369	2,183
Subscriptions	-	3,171	3,171	6,670
Travel expenses	-	-	-	3,923
Foreign exchange differences	-	(1,431)	(1,431)	(5,482)
Other accountancy fees	-	2,000	2,000	14,350
Independent examination fee	6,100	-	6,100	5,900
Sponsorship and prizes awarded	-	26,986	26,986	34,802
Council of Management and other travel costs	29,996	-	29,996	20,603
Other expenses	-	8,179	8,179	8,240
	36,096	41,274	77,370	91,189

8. NET INCOME

This is stated after charging:

	2018 £	2017 £
Independent examination fee	6,100	5,900
Other non-accountancy fees	2,000	14,350

The key management personnel of the charity comprise the Trustees. The Trustees all give their time and expertise without any kind of remuneration or other benefit in kind (2017: £Nil). During the year, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £7,093 (2017: £8,284) were reimbursed to or paid directly to 13 (2017: 13) Council Members.

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

9. FIXED ASSET INVESTMENTS

	Listed £	Cash held for investment £	Total £
MARKET VALUE			
At 1 January 2018	1,888,983	48,924	1,937,907
Additions	391,970	-	391,970
Disposals	(409,169)	-	(409,169)
Revaluations	(178,811)	-	(178,811)
Movement in cash held	-	(8,136)	(8,136)
At 31 December 2018	<u>1,692,973</u>	<u>40,788</u>	<u>1,733,761</u>

All investments are carried at their fair value. Investment in equities and fixed interest securities are all traded in quoted public markets, primarily the London Stock Exchange. Holdings in common investment funds, unit trusts and open-ended investment companies are at the bid price. The basis of fair value for quoted investments is equivalent to the market value, using the bid price. Asset sales and purchases are recognised at the date of trade at cost (that is their transaction value).

The Society uses investment managers to manage the investment portfolio and do not consider that they The Society is operating an investment policy that provides for a degree of diversification of holdings within different unit trust investments. The Society has invested in a number of unit trusts in order to protect the Society's exposure to volatility in the market and seek low risk investments wherever possible.

The Society does not make use of derivatives and similar complex financial instruments as it takes the view that investments are held for their longer-term growth and annual income.

The Society has no material investment holdings in markets subject to exchange controls or trading restrictions.

10. DEBTORS

	2018 £	2017 £
Prepayments and accrued income	295,718	230,722
VAT recoverable	-	26,704
	<u>295,718</u>	<u>257,426</u>

SOCIETY FOR REPRODUCTION AND FERTILITY

(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018**

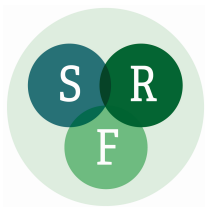
11. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade creditors	50,173	11,447
VAT payable	49,545	-
Accruals and deferred income	81,526	68,427
	<u>181,244</u>	<u>79,874</u>

Deferred income amounts to £2,105 and relates to 2019 conference registration fees. The deferred income brought forward from 2019 was £8,180.

12. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, Dr N Wheelhouse, a member of Council, received an academic award amounting to £12,035. The academic award was awarded prior to becoming a member of the Council but payment occurred after appointment. There were no related party transactions in 2017.



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Chair's Report 2019

61st SRF AGM, EICC Edinburgh, 10th January 2020

This is my penultimate annual report as chair of SRF and I'm pleased to report that it has been a successful year. I am supported by excellent officers, council members and secretariat any successes this year are entirely due to them. Overall, the society remains in very good fiscal health, which allows us to maintain our generous support to members, particularly with regards to supporting annual meeting attendance.

We have new Articles of Association that allow all members to have their say. However, the first business of the day is to approve the updated Articles as the ability of council members to apply for an officer position was inadvertently omitted when the Articles were transferred. This is ensuring that all members, including council members, can apply for an officer position. The legal advice is that the chair should have the confidence of the trustees and thus should be elected by the trustees who are members of council. However, in order to ensure that any member who has ambition to become chair has the ability to do so there will be an additional election onto council in the year before the chair demits. Anyone wishing to become the chair-elect or to join the council is very welcome to apply when the call for nominations opens shortly. In addition, as Chair of the SRF I am very happy to write supporting statements for members who are applying for promotion within their institute and we are dedicated to supporting members throughout their career.

The year started with Fertility 2019 in Birmingham, which was a great success. The feedback on the meeting was very positive. We welcomed more SRF members to the meeting than previous Fertility conferences and this year we have exceeded that once again. The Fertility conferences are being attended by many more members than the last several years of SRF stand-alone conferences and this is a very good sign. We want to maintain our friendly and inclusive feel and we have organised networking events and supported stand-alone meetings, including the pre-conference postgrad workshop. The SRF is crucial in driving the scientific excellence for these meetings and it is important that all members are able to suggest speakers to the programme committee. Richard Lea chaired the Fertility programme committee this year to great effect. His committee is keen to get suggestions for speakers at future meetings from the membership. This year we surveyed the membership to find out more about the research interests to ensure that we provide something for all members. However, it is important that you let Richard know who you'd like to speak.

This year for the first time in more than 5 years we increased the membership fees. However, when compared to other learned societies they represent exceptional value with unparalleled benefits. The main public lecture each year that we support is the Sex in 3 Cities lecture. In 2019 it was given by Professor Sara Robertson and all who attended were entertained and educated. In 2020 it will be given by Professor Allan Pacey and we're sure it will be very popular. The membership and public engagement committee is very active and ably led by Bob Robinson.

The main source of income to the society are investment returns and revenues from the journal. The editorial team for the journal: Greg Fitzharris and Chris Price, both based in Canada, lead a truly international highly-regarded editorial board. It is very clear from author surveys that the response time and interaction with the editions are amongst the best in academic publishing. The mean submission to first response is less than 20 days. The society are very grateful to Greg and

Chris for their very hard work and the journal continues to flourish. Reproduction is supported by Bioscientifica, through a profit-sharing arrangement, and this relationship has consistently delivered impressive revenues to the society in challenging times for publishing. In this meeting we are celebrating the 60th anniversary of the journal. No finer a year to find out our impact factor has exceeded that of Biology of Reproduction for the first time. We have an excellent relationship with Jane Roscoe and Lindsey Flook (currently on maternity leave) from Bioscientifica. We are delighted to be able to facilitate the Reproduction prize winner for the best paper to present at this meeting. The council has been looking at the impact of Plan S in detail and looking into a risk assessment on journal finances and is looking into how to mitigate any impact on our hybrid journal. We anticipate important developments in the near future.

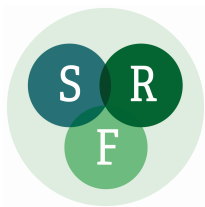
The finances of the society are stewarded by David Miller and he has managed to impressively maintain the support for the societies activities in challenging times without risking the financial platform that underpins the health of the society. We are looking to develop new budgetary paradigms that will maintain our ability to support our disparate activities. Adam Watkins is the secretary of the society and he chairs the grants and awards committee. He has developed new funding streams and his hard-working committee award student, academic and travel scholarships.

We consulted you about the model we have adopted with the annual winter Fertility meeting with support for more specialised summer meetings. We will continue to ensure that the model works for the society and will always welcome feedback from our members. The advisory ballot showed a 75% vote to continue the current model. We will plan for Liverpool next year and are pleased that we can help the Fertility conferences go from strength to strength. We are working closely with the other societies and the Joint Executive Committee works to ensure that the scientists, clinicians and clinical scientists interact together to enhance each other's practice. In addition in 2020 we will be supporting the 5th WCRB which will be held in Beijing. The WCRB in Okinawa in 2017 was a superb meeting, with good attendance from SRF members, and we hope that the China meeting will surpass this.

I would like to thank Rebecca Sumner who is demitting office as the senior postgradoc representative on council. She has been a fantastic colleague and has organizer very well-received activities for the postgradoc members. She will be very much missed. I would like to thank Alex, Jacinta and all at Conference Collective for their support as our secretariat. once more the council members who have all served the society in various committees. Finally, the society is nothing without its members and I wish you all a prosperous and academically satisfying 2020.



Professor W. Colin Duncan
Chair



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Vice-Chair Report 2018

61st SRF AGM, EICC Edinburgh, 10th January 2020

Membership update

At the end of October 2019, we had a total of 444 members which is similar to the 446 members registered in October 2018. The majority of these were early career (combined student and post-doc categories; 41%) or full members (41%). This consolidates the real transformation from the declining membership that was observed in previous years (2013-5). As expected, there is a significant turnover of early career members (a total of 75 new members for 2019) in particular. It is likely that the enhanced support offered to members such as increased travel grants, bursaries to attend stimulating Fertility conferences, and online subscription to *Reproduction* helps to maintain the membership numbers. We have added the requirement for a brief resume to the application process. The majority of the members (62%) are UK-based but we have members across the globe including Europe, Asia and Africa. The SRF council wish to once again thank CCL who have performed an excellent job maintaining the membership list and chasing up membership renewals.

Notification of renewals for 2019 membership to SRF have just been sent out with the membership fees for 2020 (£60/£35). We strongly encourage our members to renew as soon as possible enabling them continued access to the excellent benefits.

Sex in 3 Cities public science lecture

The 2019 Sex in 3 Cities public lecture was delivered by Professor Sarah Robertson and received truly excellent feedback once again. The overall mean feedback score across the 3 venues was 9.3 (on a 0-10 scale). We have reviewed all the feedback and are making additional changes (eg. improved branding, additional refreshment prior to lecture, stalls to showcase reproductive activities) to further enhance the experience of this important event. The 2020 event will be free to attend and open to the public as on previous occasions. Local coordinators and CCL are actively preparing and promoting this lecture series and build on its previous successes.

The 10th speaker in the SRF Sex in 3 Cities public science lecture series will be Professor Allan Pacey from University of Sheffield with events being held as follows:

- 27th February 2020 at 18:00, Sutton Bonington campus, Nottingham
- 4th March 2020 at 17:30 Queens Medical Research Institute (QMRI), Edinburgh
- 11th March 2020 at 17:00, Royal Veterinary College, Camden Campus, London

It promises to be another excellent and engaging lecture titled '*Let's Talk About Sperm*' ('*Sperm you can bank on, so let's talk about them*') with further details are available on the SRF website.

The most exciting development is that the lecture for the London's leg will be combined with the Royal Veterinary College's '*Night at the College*'. The event typically attracts 500-600 members of the public and thus offers us a real opportunity to fulfill our remit of public engagement in the wonders of reproductive biology. Alongside, Allan's seminar, there will be 12-14 stands, live dissection demonstration and a comparative reproduction seminar. It promises to be a fantastic event and I wish Mandi and Ali for driving this forward. We, as ever, strongly encourage members of the SRF to attend this event with its networking opportunities.

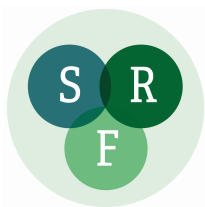
We will have a straight-forward booking system in place to encourage as many people to book in advance to assist local organisers with the catering requirements. We always appreciate nominations for speakers at this prestigious event with a list of previous speakers available on the SRF website.

Other activities

We continue to develop the Membership and Public Engagement sub-committee, which is chaired by the SRF Vice-Chair. The terms of reference have been developed. This committee will review the Sex in 3 cities lecture series and continue to seek new opportunities for some new public-facing events in the future. It also continues to respond to consultation requests from the Royal Society of Biology (i.e. the impact of Brexit on the UK's scientific community).

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robert H. Robinson" followed by a horizontal line.

Bob Robinson (Vice-Chair, SRF)



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Treasurers Report

61st SRF AGM, EICC Edinburgh, 10^h January 2020

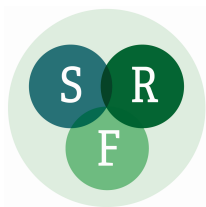
- At Council's Nov 2019 finance meeting, the Credit Suisse (CS) portfolio was valued at £1,646,695. On Dec 20th 2019, its value stood at £1,452,037, a net loss since Nov of £ 194,658 (-11.8%). The latest valuation, however, includes a withdrawal of funds of £231,000 in Nov-Dec covering essential costs. Taking this into account (£1,683,037) compares with £1,585,006 on Dec 31st 2018 or a modest gain of £98,031 (+5.82%). This figure also takes into consideration withdrawal from CS earlier in the year to cover incidental costs arising from Fertility 2019.
 - Our M&G Charifund investments were valued at £165,932.55 compared with £160,761 reported in May 2019, an increase of £5,172 (+3.2%). In Dec of 2018, the investment reported a value of £161,353, so a Q3 gain, since then of £4,580 (+2.8%). Hence based on current performance, this investment is recovering albeit very slowly. M&G is a relatively small investment for SRF (compared with CS) and recent developments regarding the freezing of equity release is unlikely to have much impact on us. On Dec 23rd 2019, the current balance on the Barclays account was £169,454.58 compared with £3,572.90 reported at Council's May 2019 finance meeting. This includes the cash injection mentioned above
 - In 2015, we began a new 5 year profit-share contract with Bioscientifica, which provides the Society's main source of income through publication of the *Reproduction* journal. Including monies from membership subscriptions and investments, this income stream more or less covers our general running costs. Due to the financial success of this model, Council agreed to renew this contract early (starting from Jan 2019 for 5 years). Journal subscription income for 2019 up to Q3 (Sept 30) minus Bioscientifica's costs and editorial board expenses resulted in a net direct surplus to SRF of £182,974. This compares with £205,905 at the end of 2018, £195,538 at end of 2017 and £188,353 for 2016. A final value covering 2019 is not yet available.
 - SRF has continued in its remit to support charitable activities. Demand was lower in 2019 compared with 2018, with the SRF sponsoring:
 - 26 travel grants awarded (£16,257) compared with 55 (£33,771) last year.
 - 14 vacation scholarships awarded (£21,488) compared with 16 (£34,860) last year.
 - 3 academic scholarships awarded (6 last year) breaking down to
 - 2 scholarships for full members awarded (£24,907) compared with 4 awarded in 2018 (£49,877)
 - 1 early career scholarship awarded (£12,439) compared with 1 last year (£12,317)
 - Sex in Three Cities event cost £5,717 compared with £5,035.91 in 2018.
- Collectively, this sponsorship amounted to £107,367, a decrease of £39,902 over the sum for 2018 (£147,269) and of £29,361 over the total for 2017 (£136,728) and an increase of £20,749 for the same figure in 2016 (£86,618). In addition, SRF have agreed to sponsor 13 non-SRF conferences/workshops in 2019 amounting to £ 31,850. This compares to 12 conferences in 2018 (£48,725), 9 in 2017 (£28,481) and 6 in 2016 (£16,000).
- Bursary costs have been increasing year on year and have now more than doubled since 2017. This year, SRF is providing 155 bursaries for members attending the current Fertility 2020 conference to the tune of £119,682. This compares with 2019 when we supported 96 members amounting to £79,920; £66,912 supporting 86 members attending Fertility 2018 and £53,095 supporting 75 members attending Fertility 2017.
 - The SRF Annual conference for 2019 was Fertility 2019 held jointly with BFS and ACE. The meeting made a surplus of £34,541 with £10,450 distributed to each society so far*. This compares with £54,218 surplus and £18,072 for each share in 2018 and £85,513 surplus and £28,504 for each share in 2017. (The venue and dates of these meetings influence their finances). This broadly compares with previous summer stand-alone Annual conferences which had a final net cost of £55K (2016 Winchester) or £40K (2015 Oxford) but funding profiles are not directly comparable.
 - The SRF Independent examination (audit) of our accounts for 2018 was completed successfully by PEM with considerable help from our secretariat, CCL, and accounts logged with Companies House and the Charity Commission.
 - Improving and maintaining income streams from the journal, annual conference and investments has enabled sponsorship, grants, awards and bursaries to be continued without increasing membership fees, all funded on a reasonably secure capital base.

In conclusion, income from journal royalties, investments, subscriptions and other sources more or less keeps up with our annual expenditure (~£258K covering the 12 months in 2018 and 11 months so far in 2019) including charitable giving, administration and other essentials. However, costs are rising year on year and monies taken out of our investments to cover essential spending cannot be re-invested with any economic efficiency, hence we are more dependent on portfolio growth to compensate for essential withdrawals that have to be made before any other income is available (through royalties, for example). As we move into what are certain to be unstable financial markets for the foreseeable future, greater vigilance would be prudent.

* £3,100 still owing to Fertility 2019 by Coast Science

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Miller', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

David Miller (Treasurer and Secretary, SRF) 24 December 2019



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

General Secretary's Report 2019

Academic Scholarships: This year the Society continued to support our three main Academic Scholarships, supporting tenured early career researchers at the start of their academic career, members wishing to return to research after a period of parental or carers leave and our main Academic Scholarship. In 2018 we only received a total of 8 applications, out of which the Society funded 6. In 2019 we received a total of 9 applications, out of which 7 were considered by the Grants and Awards Committee. After careful consideration and discussion, the Committee decided to support 3 applications at a total cost of £33,981.

In 2019, the Society announced our intention to expand the Academic Scholarship scheme further to support members who are principal investigators on a project and who hold an independent or institutional research fellowship. This scheme will not be intended to support postdoctoral researchers. Unfortunately, this scheme was not made active in 2019 however, following discussion at our most recent Council meeting, it is our intention to make it available when the 2020 Academic Scholarship scheme opens later in the year.

As always, the Council continues to respond to members' comments and, where appropriate, address funding issues we believe are appropriate for our members. However, we are always open to additional suggestions of where our members feel they could be supported further by the Society.

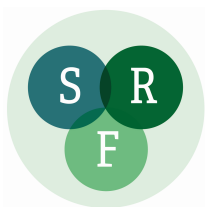
Vacation Scholarships: In 2019, the society supported 14 vacation scholarships out of a total of 19 applications. Our Vacation Scholarships enable undergraduate students to get experience of conducting cutting edge reproductive research for a period of up to 8 weeks over the summer. From the feedback we receive from the students and their supervisors, the Council believe the Vacation Scholarships offer a valuable opportunity for students to experience first-hand a research environment. As such, we will continue to support as many applications as possible.

The call for 2020 vacation scholarship scheme is now open and the closing date is the 19th of April 2020. Please see our website for more details and the online application form <http://srf-reproduction.org/grants-awards/grants/vacation-scholarships/>. Projects can be a maximum of 8 weeks long, and include a stipend funded of £250 per week to cover living costs for the student, plus an award of £750 to be paid to the host laboratory to cover the cost of consumables for the project. As always, the highest scoring applications will be funded, irrespective of institution/location.

Travel Grants: In 2019, the Society awarded 32 travel grants at a total cost of £21,171 allowing members to attend national and international conferences. Applications for Travel Grants are considered throughout the year, but must be submitted in advance of the meeting to which they are being applied for.

Finally I would like to thank Suzannah Williams, Rebecca Sumner, Nick Wheelhouse and Ali Fouladi-Nashta, for their continued work on Grants and Awards Committee.

Dr Adam Watkins
SRF General Secretary
Chair of the Grants and Awards Committee
January 2020



Society for Reproduction and Fertility

Programme Secretary Report 2019

Looking back over 2019, the SRF programme committee has had a challenging, successful and exciting year. In January, **Fertility 2019** (12th joint conference of the UK Fertility Societies) was held at the ICC in Birmingham with a conference focus of "Technologies and controversies in reproduction". The conference was hugely successful with 648 paying delegates and, balancing expenses against registrations, resulted in a profit of £34,541 which was equally split across the 3 societies: SRF, BFS and ACE. These include the support of junior members, an early career researcher's symposium, a post-doctoral prize session and the exchange lectures with the SRB and SSR. Feedback from the delegates was excellent with networking and the quality of the scientific sessions flagged as particular positives.

Attention is now focussed on **Fertility 2020** with an overall theme of "Reproduction in a changing world". At the time of writing this report (December 19), we had 728 paying delegates including 182 SRF members (25% of attendees). In addition, the budget statements indicate that once again, we are over target and will therefore generate a positive financial return to each of the 3 societies. Our treasurer David Miller will provide further details on this.

It has been an honour to chair the Programme Committee for Fertility 2020 and the 3 main fertility societies have worked diligently together to generate an exciting programme that addresses issues of global importance to a rapidly changing world. Of note is that many of the sessions in the programme are not badged against any specific Society. This initiative was successful for Fertility 2019 and similarly we expect that attendance of sessions at Fertility 2020 will be on the basis on scientific and clinical merit across Societies. Having said that, the journal "Reproduction" along with SRF has organised an update session entitled "Reproduction at 60". This is to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the journal and presentations are delivered by 2 previous editor in chiefs and by 2 current associate editors. Two additional update sessions primarily driven by SRF are entitled "Environmental impact on reproduction" and "Reproductive challenges of animal conservation". Each has an excellent array of speakers and of course we have had input into the other quality update sessions along with the other societies.

Fertility 2020 also encompasses some highly prestigious plenary and prize presentations. In this regard, I am delighted to announce that the SRF Marshall medal, the societies' highest award, will be presented to Professor Marilyn Renfree (The University of Melbourne, Australia) for her outstanding contribution to the study of fertility and reproduction. This will be awarded at the SRF AGM. I would also like to congratulate Professor Graham Burton (University of Cambridge) who will deliver the esteemed SRF Anne McClaren Memorial Distinguished lecture.

This year we also offer our congratulations to Dr Douglas Gibson (University of Edinburgh), who will present the SRF New Investigator lecture, and to Dr Francesca Duncan (Northwestern University, Chicago, USA) who will present the 2019 SSR New Investigator lecture. We also welcome Avinash Gaikwad (Monash University, Australia) who will present the SRF-SRB Exchange lecture. The winners of the SRF Student prize, Postdoctoral prize, Poster prizes and Stewart Rhind Science Writing Prize will be announced at a Prize Giving ceremony at the end of the conference. The final SRF accolade is the Reproduction journal prize awarded to the corresponding author Jan Nevoral (Charles University, Czech Republic) and co-authors for their publication on "Long-term exposure to very low doses of bisphenol S affects female reproduction".

A key event for the SRF in 2020 is its contribution to the **5th World Congress in Reproductive Biology** which will be held in Beijing from the 16th to the 18th of September.

The meeting is hosted by The Chinese Society for Reproductive Biology and is a partnership between 7 international societies of which the SRF is one. The programme is well under way and each society has proposed a plenary speaker and 4 additional speakers to represent their respective societies. Details of the programme will be released very shortly.

Fertility 2021 will take place in Liverpool from January 6-9 with a theme of "Barriers and breakthroughs". Please save the date and if you have suggestions for speakers, or topics for inclusion at this or future joint Fertility/SRF meetings, please let us know by emailing srf@conferencecollective.co.uk or complete the online form at www.srf-reproduction.org/contact.

Finally I would like to express my thanks to Suman Rice, Bruce Murphy, Mark Fenwick, Doug Gibson, Robert Abayasakera and Amanda Sferruzzi-Perri for their great team work on the programme committee. Thanks also go to Alex, Jacinta and support staff of Conference Collective for doing a great job as the SRF secretariat. I would also like to thank Profile Productions for their organisational support of the Joint Fertilities meetings.

Dr Richard Lea
SRF Programme Secretary
December 2019