



# Society for Reproduction and Fertility

## 59.6 Vice-Chair Report 2017

### 59<sup>th</sup> SRF AGM, ACC Liverpool, 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018

- At the end of October 2017, we had a total of 412 members. The majority of these were early career (combined student and post-doc categories; 36%) or full members (47%). This is a further increase on 383 members at the end of 2016. This consolidates the real transformation from the declining membership that was observed in previous years (2013-5). The exact reason for the increased membership is unknown but is likely to reflect the enhanced support offered to members such as increased travel grants, bursaries to attend stimulating SRF/Fertility conferences, and online subscription to *Reproduction*. 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 thank CCL who have performed an excellent job updating the membership list and chasing up memberships that had elapsed for technical reasons.
- Notification of renewals for 2018 membership to SRF have just been sent out with the membership fees for 2018 (£55/£35) kept the same as for 2017. We strongly encourage our members to renew as soon as possible enabling them continued access to the excellent benefits.
- The 8<sup>th</sup> speaker in the SRF *Sex in 3 Cities* public lecture series will be Professor Thomas Hildebrandt from IZW, Berlin with events being held as follows:
  - 12<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 18:30, Royal College of Obstetrics and Gynaecology (RCOG), London
  - 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 17:30, Queens Medical Research Institute (QMRI), Edinburgh
  - 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 18:30, Sutton Bonington Campus, Nottingham

It promises to be another excellent and engaging lecture (further details are available on the SRF website). This year's *Sex in 3 Cities* public lecture was delivered by Professor Richard Sharpe and received truly excellent feedback. The overall mean feedback score across the 3 venues was 9.1 (on a 0-10 scale).

The 2018 event will be free to attend and open to the public as on previous occasions. Local co-ordinators and CCL are actively preparing and promoting this lecture series and build on its previous successes. A key remit of the event is the engagement of public to the wonders of reproductive biology and so can we encourage all members to spread the word around. We have further simplified the booking process to encourage as many people to book in advance as possible to assist the local organisers. We have changed the Edinburgh venue to one more centrally located in response to feedback. For logistics reasons, we have taken the difficult decision to move the London leg to RCOG. It will be necessary to book in advance for the London lecture and currently we already have 12 people booked across the 3 venues.

- We are currently in the process of inviting our 2019 *Sex in 3 Cities* speaker and hope to have this confirmed in time for the 2018 lectures. We always appreciate nominations for speakers at this prestigious event. Previous speakers can be viewed online on the SRF website.
- We are also in the process of creating a new sub-committee which will be chaired by the SRF Vice-Chair. The key remit of this exciting new development will be to co-ordinate the Public Engagement and Policy activities of the SRF. The terms of reference are being developed and it is planned that there will be some new public-facing events in the near future.

**Bob Robinson (Vice-Chair, SRF)**