History, current status and aspirations of the Association of Surgeons of Great Britain & Ireland

John Moorehead
President of ASGBI
Joint ASGBI and UEMS Symposium
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History

• ASGBI founded in 1920 by group of leading surgeons
• Inspiration came from Berkeley Moynihan who later became Lord Moynihan of Leeds
• “surgeons in one town knew little or nothing of surgeons elsewhere”
• Founding objectives were twofold - *the advancement of the science and art of surgery and the promotion of friendship amongst surgeons*
• These objectives remain the same today
Sir John Bland-Sutton

- 1st President of ASGBI
- First meeting held in London
- Second in Edinburgh
- Third in Leeds under the Presidency of Berkeley Moynihan
- Since then meetings held each year in England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland
History

- Initially Fellowship limited to 250
- Women admitted in 1936
- In 1953 Associate Fellowship created for limited number of surgical trainees
- In 1970 Fellowship opened to all Consultant Surgeons and all trainees allowed Affiliate Fellowship
- In 1992 Associate Fellowship introduced for Non-Consultant Career Grade Surgeons
“Omnes ab omnibus discamus”
Let us learn all things from everybody
History

- Initially ASGBI represented all of surgery
- Now one of 10 surgical specialities recognised by the General Medical Council
- The other 9 are - Orthopaedics, Urology, Neurosurgery, Maxillo-facial, ENT, Plastics, Cardio-thoracic, Paediatric, Vascular
Current status

ASGBI is the SAC defined Specialty Association for General Surgery and is recognised by the GMC.

Under the “umbrella” of ASGBI we have:

- Upper GI – O/G & HPB
- Colorectal
- Breast
- Endocrine
- Transplant

These “sub-specialties” have no official recognition from GMC.
Current status

- Council - all the sub-specialty presidents, elected regional representatives, ASIT rep, affiliate rep, the Executive Board. Council meets X2/year

- Executive Board + Sub-speciality Presidents meet at least x2/year

- Executive Board - President (2 yrs), Vice-President (2yrs), Director of Finance, Director of Communications, Director of Education, Director of EGS, Director of Professional Affairs, Chair of SAC, RCS Eng Council rep, General Manager
Strategic Plan 2016-2020

To act as General Surgical Specialist Association in Great Britain & Ireland

- Represent all sub-specialties of General Surgery at the FSSA & other properly constituted professional bodies
- Represent all sub-specialties of GS at the 4 Royal Colleges & have good working relationships
- Work closely with GS SAC re: education & training eg curriculum development
- Collaborate & work effectively with all the sub-specialty associations. Also national & political bodies
- Develop international partnerships with similar bodies
Provide high quality education & useful information for our members

- Annual scientific meeting
- Regional meetings
- Mini conferences
- E-learning
- E-zine, Issues in Professional Practice, regular eReports & Newsletters
Emergency General Surgery

• Develop & expand our role representing Emergency General Surgeons

• Promote this work on our web site, annual meeting and through the Emergency General Surgical Board (set up in 2015 by ASGBI with input from the 4 Royal Colleges and other interested groups)
The Surgical Foundation

- Charitable arm of the Association
- Supports its International Development Committee - runs training courses in Africa throughout the year
- Funds educational bursaries for overseas trainees to attend our Annual Meeting & visit hospitals here
Our plans going forward

- To continue all we have been doing & to be a strong voice for General Surgery in the UK and Ireland
- To also do this for UK & Irish General Surgery at the UEMS
- Through the UEMS to encourage the development of the European Curriculum with the aim of producing uniformly high standards across Europe for elective and emergency surgery