

Report of Council (SMC) 2012/3

Once again, the session from 2012 to 2013 has been a year of change and development for the Institution. The new governance structure of both the Strategic Management Council and the Membership and Education Committee are now well-established and functioning well. There have been extensive maintenance works carried out on the building's exterior with plans afoot for improving the conference facilities.

At a time when the NHS is undergoing yet more major change, the relationship between doctors and hospital trusts continues to evolve as does that between primary and secondary care practitioners. The role of the LMI could never be more relevant in providing a forum for education, discussion and communication between all of medicine's disciplines, independent from our place of work. Whilst its role as a postgraduate medical education centre has undoubtedly declined over the last few decades, it is this independent society of doctors that remains at its core and our focus is to strengthen this and invite a new generation of doctors to enjoy the benefits of membership of The Liverpool Medical Institution.

Mr Roger Franks was inaugurated as President for the 174th Session of the LMI and we would like to thank him for organising the 2012-2013 programme. Highlights include the lecture series on the future of the NHS, which was very well attended, and the presentation by the President of the Royal College of Nursing Ms Andrea Spyropoulos. We also look forward to welcoming our new president, Professor Linda de Cossart who will be organising next year's programme from 2013 to 2014 and Mr Max McCormick has been nominated for President for the 176th Session. Austin McCormick has joined as Honorary Secretary.

Few will have failed to notice the shrinking car park, the Everyman development and scaffolding around the younger part of the LMI building. This year a 12 week maintenance project to repair the concrete exterior, which was extensively eroded, has been completed, on schedule and under budget. In addition redecoration of the windows and paintwork on the 1965 building was completed in January 2013, and the building is now safer, looking much better and cleaner. Internally the Main Hall was repainted in 2012, and the Gallery and Oak Study will be repainted this year. The Everyman building has progressed without major disruption to the LMI's functions and further parking facilities have been secured at the Catholic Cathedral.

The Librarian continues to explore pathways to museum status, which could open up new avenues and activities for the LMI. Thanks to all those members who have assisted in the modernisation and reorganisation of the existing collections.

Conference hosting remains a strong part of the LMI's business model despite challenging economic conditions. We welcomed back the Mersey School of Anaesthesia Selective Course amongst many other regular and new bookings. We are always keen to welcome new users, and if members can remember us to any social or professional groups they are part of, who may wish to use the facilities, this would be much appreciated.

The LMI is committed to engaging with younger members and is in the process of developing a short lecture programme for the coming year, to feature speakers on a range of subjects of interest to medical students and doctors in training. Topics are likely to include: exam and interview technique; expedition medicine; forensic medicine; Médecins Sans Frontières; Sports medicine. This will complement the main lecture programme, on a different night of the week and membership of the LMI will be promoted after each talk.

The digital revolution progresses relentlessly and the Institution continues to modernise its information technology. New audio visual facilities to aid teaching and presentations have been installed in the Council Room, which will be helpful to those who hire the room for workshops and meetings. The new videoconference facility has enabled the regular RCP teach-ins to be broadcasted to the Isle of Mann, and many more connections are being established with links to Aintree, Leighton and Llandudno to name a few. The LMI are now on Facebook and Twitter (**facebook.com/LIVLMI - @LMI114**). We would encourage any members who use these social networking services to follow us, as this will enable the Institution to keep you up to date with lectures and functions. A card payment facility has been installed, and can be moved throughout the building, enabling LMI to take payments by card and over the

telephone. This has proved very useful and allows members greater choice and convenience in making bookings. The member login area on the website is live, and members can also now book onto LMI events using the website.

The Institution would like to thank the following for their time and enthusiasm this year: Dr Bethan Jones for her work on the LMI *Transactions*; Dr Tony Ellis for his work as Treasurer; Dr Sally Sheard for her work as Hon. Librarian; Miss Claudia Harding-Mackean and Professor Terry Wardle for their efforts with the Sixth Form Conference.

Of course, a special thank you should also be given to all the staff of the Institution, without whose hard work the LMI's activities could not continue; SMC thanks the Finance Officer, Jim, the administration team Audrey, Sharon and Lynne for their tireless efforts for the membership and conferences, Adrienne and Sue for their expert assistance in the library, Joyce who manages the bar and Tom who controls the car park during evening meetings. Lastly, let us not forget the outstanding services of our regular caterers, Real Food, who are continually outstanding.

We would also like to thank Mr Andrew Swift for his continued dedication and able Chairmanship of the SMC, which have been instrumental in the formation of the initial SMC structure and its continuing success.

Last but not least, the support of members in these challenging economic times is appreciated now more than ever, and we love to see members using and enjoying the building.

Austin McCormick (Hon Secretary)
Sam Pickup (Manager)

Membership Statistics as at 31.12.2012										
	1.1.04	1.1.05	1.1.06	1.1.07	1.1.08	1.1.09	1.1.10	1.1.11	1.1.12	1.1.13
Full Membership	451	429	404	389	367	353	329	284	270	263
Retired Membership	142	137	132	121	120	108	124	121	116	113
Country Membership	129	115	105	104	99	95	85	75	71	68
Joint Membership	66	64	68	67	63	61	53	47	44	39
Reduced Rate	8	17	11	20	29	39	38	44	42	43
Life Members	145	144	144	145	134	137	133	122	122	128
Affiliates	97	74	60	54	48	45	51	44	42	39
Total	1038	980	924	900	860	838	813	737	707	693