

## **Oral Medicine and Pathology Group**

The Group lunch at the BSDR/PEF meeting in London, September 2008 was very well attended (approximately 30) and benefitted greatly from the presence of a number of European colleagues. A number of suggestions were made regarding development of the group activities and membership including the formation of a European group. It was noted that the IADR oral medicine & pathology group would be present at the meeting in Barcelona 2010. It was suggested that an article be written for the IADR report stating our intention to form a European group and to utilise the central office and website for the dissemination of information. Group membership details can be obtained from IADR and it may be worth emailing the relevant dental school departments regarding group activities. It was noted that the structure of the specialities differs across Europe, for example in Sweden oral medicine is undertaken by surgeons. A group that therefore covered a broader speciality base may be more appropriate, including radiology.

It was suggested that a reception provides an ideal opportunity for members to meet and would draw potential new recruits if open to non-members. It would be sensible to ask junior researchers what would be most beneficial to them, students presenting at poster sessions could be approached in this regard. It was felt that the award of a specific prize would be highly desirable and it may be that BSDR could fund this award and the reception.

At the Group lunch the following officers were elected/re-elected:

President: Professor Paula Farthing, Sheffield, [p.farthing@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:p.farthing@sheffield.ac.uk)

Secretary: Dr Simon Whawell, Sheffield, [s.whawell@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.whawell@sheffield.ac.uk)

Member of Council: Dr Richard Cook, KCL, London, [richard\\_james.cook@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:richard_james.cook@kcl.ac.uk) (underscore after Richard)

The group has sponsored a symposium at the current meeting (immune mechanisms in oral mucosal disease) and a group member (Sushmita Roy, Sheffield) was awarded the Unilever poster prize.

Following the success of the oral cancer symposium in Dublin, it was suggested to organise a similar session at the Barcelona meeting.