



27 June 2011

Dear Members

Raj Dhumale, our Founding President, stepped down at this year's ASPC Conference amid many tributes and loud applause. I have now stepped into that large pair of shoes he left behind. I am grateful to the Council of ASPC, the staff at the Royal College of Surgeons and our colleagues in ASGBI for helping me to find my feet.

We have had changes on the Council with Raj Dhumale and John Tisdale leaving and Paul Cundy arriving. Matt Wordsworth who had resigned stood again and was re-elected. He was obviously enjoying it too much to give it up!

The priorities for ASPC this year are, as always, to support the membership in delivering good services for patients, and

1. Make the most of all opportunities to promote surgery performed outside hospital resulting from NHS reforms.
2. Improve the professional credibility of level 1, 2 and 3 primary care surgeons by improving training, accreditation and audit.
3. Liaise with the Care Quality Commission to make sure requirements are appropriate and not excessive.
4. Increase ASPCs representation on other bodies e.g. the GMC, Royal Colleges and ASGBI Council.
5. Consolidate the merger between ASPC and BANSV, and increase overall membership.
6. Retain separate sub-units for focussing on carpal tunnel, vasectomy and skin surgery.
7. Aim to have as successful a conference with ASGBI in Liverpool next year on Thursday 10th May 2012 as we had in Bournemouth this year.

I feel it is an appropriate time to recognise the good work that Emmanuel Amadiogwu has completed in respect to the ASPC website. I have been informed by him that in the first three months we had over 700 visitors, with a total of 1114 since start-up; the average visitor is looking at 3 pages per visit. The website is regularly updated so please keep dropping in!

Also please make good use of Gareth James' amazing work on making audit a much easier process for us all; please ensure you look at this information, sent to you via email on 20th June.



As the year progresses I will keep you posted. At any time if there are matters you want to raise do not hesitate to get in touch through Sarah at ASPC.

Thank you and best of luck with our changing NHS.

Dr Laurel Spooner
President, Association of Surgeons in Primary Care