

SoBRA AGM Chair	Hannah White
Date	2 December 2020

Hannah White delivered a presentation on behalf of the Executive Committee, acting as current chair in 2020 and outgoing chair for 2021. See supporting slides.

The AGM and conference was held virtually over GoToWebinar.

Registered to attend: 261

Attended: 193

General:

Covered the seven core objectives of SoBRA.

Membership – this has remained fairly consistent over the last 12 months.

Collaboration continues with various organisations and working groups including the National Land Quality Mark Steering Group (CL:AIRE and SiLC); The National Brownfield Forum (CL:AIRE); JIWG (dormant); (CL:AIRE); Comparing Critical Concentration Guidance (CL:AIRE) AGS; and SAGTA C4SL.

Conferences:

Events – the SoBRA early careers and summer workshop/conference were both postponed due to Covid-19.

Plans are to repeat the SoBRA early careers event in Birmingham and Scotland in 2021.

Plans are to deliver the postponed ‘Juggling the emerging contaminant time bomb – understanding changing perceptions of risks? In summer 2021, likely venue of Birmingham.

Poll about the format of the summer 2021 conference / workshop –

- In-person 28%
- Online 23%
- Both 50%
- Neither 0%

Publications:

The Distribution of Asbestos in Soil – what can the data mining of sample results held by UK laboratories tell us?

Practical Top Tips: Improving Risk Assessment – Field to Desk.

Accreditation: discussed in detail in subgroup updates to follow AGM. 16% of members are part of the accreditation scheme. January and August windows remain.

Now the scheme is established SoBRA have decided that scrutineers now need to pay annual membership fees (they were previously exempt while the scheme was developed). This will be instigated in 2021.

Subgroups – updates in later part of the conference:

Closed AGAC, GW_{VAP} closed. Ongoing – standards, asbestos, VI, NAPL.

Terms of Reference for all are on the SoBRA website.

Current subgroups:

- Standards
- Asbestos
- Vapour Intrusion
- NAPL
- Permanent Gases

Proposed (if interest):

- Statistics and CSM (to support the new CL:AIRE publication)
 - 85% of respondents would like the group / 37% would volunteer
- Climate change and controlled waters
 - 69% of respondents would like the group / 29% would volunteer
- Early Careers
 - 84% of respondents would like the group

Finances:

Accounts have been audited by Simon Firth for previous financial year. No call for a volunteer for next year was made.

Bursary / Scholarship requests – none in 2020.

Proposing to set up a new category for research, which would need to be larger than the bursary /scholarship category. In the region of £25,000.

- Poll - 98% of respondents were supportive of creating this new category.

Accounts:

Opening / End of 2019-2020 Year Balance (at bank				£24,037.67	£17,354.35
Paypal				£5,187.68	£1,142.04
Income				2019/2020	2018/2019
Membership Fees (not for profit)		62	£620.00		£500.00
Membership Fees (normal)		390	£9,750.00		£9,475.00
Membership Fees (accreditation)		29	£1,450.00		£1,310.00
Accreditation Fees		8	£1,870.00		£2,040.00
Early Years Meeting					£3,380.00
Joint December RSC Event (50% of profit)			£1,720.34		£1,137.90
Total Income			£15,410.34		£30,243.45

Annual Accounts - Expenditure

Expenditure	2019/2020	2018/2019
Refunds	£227.50	
Paypal Fees	£545.24	£693.91
Eventbrite Fees		£319.01
Website	£3,575.00	£5,767.25
Summer Workshop 2018		£1,310.00
Summer Workshop 2019		£1,444.98
Early Years		£956.16
Summer Workshop 2017		£408.00
Insurance	£632.75	£632.75
Miscellaneous (Christmas Conference Cake and Decorations)	£324.71	
Scholarship		£1,500.00
Scrutineering Expenses	£3,199.53	£2,104.70
Committee Expenses (marketing, travel to meetings)	£230.64	£227.05
Support to Specialist Groups		£2,384.19
Total Expenditure	£8,735.37	£17,748.00

Annual Accounts - Summary

	2019/2020	2018/2019
Current Balance	£35,900.32	£28,879.15
Cash in bank at end 30/9/20	£30,295.38	£24,037.67
Balance on paypal at end 30/9/20	£5,604.94	£5,187.68
Liabilities		
Website	£1,080.00	
Contingency	£7,500.00	
Available Sums	£27,320.32	

Next year – what do we wish to do as a Society?

- Build on our accreditation scheme;
- Continue to build our membership, our community and voice within the industry;
- Meaningfully support industry initiatives;
- Reinvigorate our sub-groups and DELIVER - this is where we can make a BIG difference;
- Recruit more active volunteers to assist;
- Build more links with early careers and their educational establishments;
- Support research and strengthen better university links;
- and
- Have fun.

New Executive Committee members:

Nominations for three new members (to replace those rotating off the Executive Committee) were received. Those appointed are:
Tim Rolfe and Aliyssa Glen; Rachel Dewhurst was re-elected.