



## AUGIS Trainees Newsletter February 2011

Dear AUGIS trainee members,

Welcome to our first trainee newsletter. It will be published twice a year and its aim is to keep you up to date with current issues around training and to publicise events.

2010 has seen the AUGIS trainee membership grow to over 200. To respond to this AUGIS has set out to engage more with its trainee members. It staged the first formal election for its trainee representative and has established a new trainee committee comprising representatives from around the UK and from across specialities. Your AUGIS trainee committee members are:

Role		Grade	Sub-speciality	Region
President	John Hammond	STR5	HPB	Nottingham
Past-president	Natasha Henley	SpR5	OG	Manchester
Secretary	Alan Osborne	STR5	Bariatric	Bristol
Scotland	Simon Gibson	SpR5	OG	Glasgow
Northern Ireland	Claire Jones	STR4	HPB	Belfast
Webmaster	Tricia Duncan	STR5	HPB	Manchester

After much deliberation we have decided to rebrand Barrett's Club as AUGIS the Association of upper GI Surgical Trainees. We feel that this better represents the varied speciality interests of its members. The traditional annual dinner following the Training day will retain the name the AUGIS Barrett's dinner.

The AUGIS website will be going live in February 2011 at [www.augist.org](http://www.augist.org). It provides range of useful content on training, fellowships and education. We hope you use the website. If you have suggestions for its development let us know.

Many of the issues that currently preoccupy AUGIS relate directly to those in training. Over the next year we will work tirelessly to keep you informed of these issues. To help us represent you better, we would be grateful if you could complete any surveys we may send out from time to time.

The quality of gastrointestinal endoscopy training remains an important concern for upper GI trainees, and the preliminary results of the national survey carried out on behalf of the Joint Advisory Group on GI Endoscopy has highlighted some of the current deficiencies in training. The results of this survey will be presented at ASGBI and we will provide further guidance around gaining JAG certification in a future newsletter.



We are also pleased to announce the launch of the ASiT-AUGIS prize for the best upper GI abstract submitted to their meeting in Sheffield in April 2011. This should increase the profile of AUGIS among younger trainees and act as incentive to present their research at the ASiT and future AUGIS conferences. We are grateful to AUGIS supporting this award. Details can be found at [http://www.asit.org/events/conferences/index\\_conference\\_2011/prizes](http://www.asit.org/events/conferences/index_conference_2011/prizes)

Finally it remains for us to thank Natasha Henley for all her excellent work as trainee representative. The next 2 years will hopefully see AUGIS continue to grow and develop.

This is an exciting time to be an upper GI trainee. We look forward to seeing you all at AUGIS 2011 in Belfast.

John S Hammond  
President

Alan Osborne  
Secretary