



Newsletter

ISSUE 2

MAY 2006

HEADLINES

Zoe Robertson is taking over as CMAS Secretary.

David Ewins will be looking after the website and e-mail communications.

Caroline Stewart will stand down as Chair at the next AGM.

We are planning a new, members only area of the web-site. More details soon! Anything you would like to see there?

We have provisional venues for future Annual Meetings, Salford (2008) and Edinburgh (2009).

Our bank balance currently stands at £9540 and we agreed to invest some of this in the standards work and Birmingham speakers' budget.

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CMAS News

Welcome to our second newsletter, which has grown by one page since the last edition. This has been to allow us to include the news from the annual meeting in Newcastle.

We have now collated the in-

formation from the questionnaires you completed (p2), which has proved very useful. It seems that members are in agreement with the society's main priorities.

We are now starting to plan for

Birmingham '07 (see below). If you have any additional suggestions please let us know.

The next newsletter is due in November but we will be in touch again soon with ballot papers for the elections.

6th Annual Meeting - Birmingham '07

David Pratt and his local organising committee would like to invite you all to CMAS '07 in Birmingham April 2-3 2007.

It is being held at the Birmingham Conservatoire [see www.uce.ac.uk], the venue for 250 public concerts every year, We are using the tiered Recital Hall which seats about 200, It has recently been re-furbished to include a permanent multi-channel sound system, data projector and screen and new acoustic panels.

There is also a generous foyer area for the commercial displays and smaller rooms for the user group and committee meetings.



The venue is right in the heart of Birmingham City centre next to Centenary Square, the Repertory Theatre, the Museum and Art Gallery, the Central Library, all the hotels, bars/clubs and balti houses. It is also close to the National Indoor Arena, Symphony Hall and the re-vamped canal area.

The local committee is already well advanced with the programme and several differences are being tried, including a satellite session on the morning of the first day at Birmingham University

More information to follow soon.

Committee Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy on the CMAS committee as Penny Hewart is standing down. We have now closed for nominations and 2 names have been put forward. Short CVs of the candidates will go out with the ballot papers to all current members.

Newcastle Meeting, March 23rd –24th 2006

The 5th annual CMAS meeting and AGM was held in Newcastle upon Tyne on 23rd and 24th March. The meeting started on Thursday with an extended Vicon user group meeting - a format decided upon following feedback from members after last year's meetings. This was well attended and appreciated, so will be recommended for next year. The user groups were followed by an evening reception at the Centre for Life.

Friday's meeting included a first for CMAS - 2 free paper sessions, the first on Movement Analysis beyond CP to highlight the breadth of work being done in labs and the second on energy measurement techniques. Both sessions were followed by discussions. The keynote speaker was Richard Major, formally of Newcastle and Oswestry gait labs with Penny Butler, of the Movement Centre in Oswestry, speaking in the afternoon.

Attendance at the meeting was good and included several new faces, so it seems that CMAS is becoming better known through the movement analysis field.

Results from the Questionnaire

We asked people attending the annual meeting to comment on different aspects of the role of CMAS. Almost everyone saw producing standards, providing a standards audit mechanism and running an annual meeting as our major roles. Lower priority was given to providing or approving education/training courses and providing a focus for clinical trials.

We also asked for your thoughts on Birmingham 2007. Most people supported the current 1.5 day format, keeping costs as low as possible, certainly under £150.

The Newcastle event received positive scores, with the social events coming out top! The users' groups and Keynote speakers also went down well.

Keynote Messages

Richard Major has worked in gait analysis since the early days of its clinical implementation, and brought a historical perspective. He came up with a methodology for analysing a patient - hypothesis, test, observe - in a feedback loop, a technique he still advocates. He brought a very important message for all, particularly technophiles - thinking is more important than instrumentation. Richard questioned attempts to get children walking 'normally' rather than seeking the optimum gait for each child.

Since retiring late last year, Richard has been spending his time trying to answer the big questions about walking:

Why do we walk the way we do?

Why does changing a treadmill gradient influence metabolic cost?

Why do we allow our prime sensory organs to be perturbed during walking?

Richard explained his thinking on these matters, but stressed that they were speculation - there is still a lot to find out about gait.

Penny Butler talked about a preliminary study that looks at the long term outcome (6 years post op) of surgery in children with CP. The study aimed to identify factors that predicted **why children may stop walking - 'go off their feet'**.

Children were classified using the Hoffer scale. Selected data from gait analyses were used and a pre-operative video was scored by an independent assessor. Subjects were assigned to either community, household or non-walking groups. The household and non-walkers had more severe foot and ankle problems pre-surgically but there was little difference in stance knee geometry whilst only the community walkers had a neutral ground reaction force alignment at the knee at mid-stance.

Although recognised as a small study, it was found that neonatal factors, precise diagnosis and type of surgery did not seem influential while pre-operative slow speed of walking (<0.56m/s), reliance on walking aids, weight (>40kg) and high energy consumption (>0.92 extra heart beats per metre (hbpm)) were indicative of a poorer long-term outcome.

Standards Working Group

Following our workshop in June 2005, 12 labs took part in a trial of the audit checklists, between them covering all the standards. 16 people attended a second workshop in January and further refinements were made to the checklists. These were circulated to the membership prior to the AGM and were unanimously accepted at the meeting in March 2006.

It was agreed that the audit cycle should run over two

years, with up to 4 internal audits and 2 external audits during this time covering all areas. CMAS accreditation will be given on completion of a successful audit cycle. Audit records will be kept for a minimum of five years.

CMAS is currently investigating training for auditors and we will be offering this to members shortly. There will be cost implications for labs for external audit and this could be kept to a minimum by labs volunteering a

member of staff to carry out external audits. Labs that have participated in the audit workshops and trial will have provisional accreditation pending full accreditation on completion of the audit cycle.

The audit standard has been revised and will be circulated to the membership for approval prior to being included in the standards list.

**Renewal
is now
overdue!**

Membership

We agreed to move the membership start date from January to March, to coincide with the Annual Meeting. The combined meeting and membership fee seemed popular at the AGM. We do, however, have some members who have not yet renewed for 2006/7. Please could you send in your form as soon as possible. Thank you.

Education and Training Subgroup

The Sub-group had lengthy discussions by e-mail in the run up to ESMAC. They were able to meet at ESMAC and Adam Shortland presented some possible competencies to shape future training needs. There was also discussion concerning existing courses and the possibility of CMAS 'approving' their content.

At the moment the Education and Training brief is quite wide and much attention is focusing on the standards work. It was felt that once the standards, and their associated audit mechanism, were established education and training requirements would be clearer.

We decided that the Education and Training Subgroup would await future developments.

Martin Gough will continue to take responsibility for the overall area on the committee, with a view to revisiting the issues in the near future.

The Back Page

Laboratory Linking

The first Laboratory Linking event was held at the evening reception on Thursday March 23rd. The launch event was a speed dating session (once people were dragged away from the virtual volleyball game) allowing a representative from each lab to speak for 3 minutes about their lab, fellow staff and work, with the aim introduce labs to each other to help foster professional links. This seemed to go well, particularly as it was accompanied with a couple of glasses of wine!

We would like to explore other ways of linking labs together and this newsletter could be used for that purpose, to help centres wanting to link up for research development or training.

Helen Hill suggested that people with an interest in the Upper Limb might like to form a small discussion group. Anyone interested should contact Helen (Helen.Hill@nottingham.ac.uk).

Dates for your diary

6th Annual meeting of CMAS

Birmingham

April 2nd & 3rd 2007

JAGM '06

Joint meeting of European and American Societies

Amsterdam

September 25th-30th 2006

www.jegm06.org

We have space on the back page for members thoughts and comments.

How have you been affected by,

National Tariffs?

Knowledge and Skills Framework?

Agenda for Change?



Clinical Movement Analysis Society

UK and Ireland

www.cmasuki.org

CMAS grew out of a fledgling organization known as **GLUK (Gait Labs UK)**. The inaugural meeting was held in 2002 in Birmingham and annual meetings have taken place every year since.

The society represents many professional groups, including physiotherapists, clinical scientists and engineers, orthopaedic surgeons, paediatricians and researchers, with a common interest in movement analysis.

There is more information about **CMAS** and **Movement Analysis** on our website.