

BSEC President's Report 2015

Cheryl Macpherson, outgoing BSEC President, 2010-2012; 2012-2014
Professor and Chair, Bioethics Department, St George's University, Grenada

In 2015, BSEC's Annual Forum addressed "Clinical Ethics". It was co-hosted and conducted with the Trinidad & Tobago Anaesthetists Association (TTAA) in UWI's Anaesthesia ICU Amphitheatre A at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Trinidad & Tobago on Saturday October 17, 2015.

As BSEC approaches its 10th anniversary in 2016 it is still in its infancy and continues to experience 'teething pains' in terms of its funding, structure, membership, and procedures. This is evidenced in, among other things, the challenges of attaining a quorum for its 2015 Annual Business Meeting (ABM). In the absence of an ABM during its 2015 Forum, Executive Committee members present at that Forum met to strategize and implement an electronic election via email ballots that would uphold our Constitution and Bylaws. Due notice was given prior to the electronic election for a nominated slate of candidates who were elected unopposed. As requested by the Executive, I served as Election Officer.

The 2015 ABM was held on December 7, 2015 via Skype during which the election results were announced (below) and the formal handover to the new Executive was conducted.

BSEC Executive 2016-2018

President Gillian Mignott
Vice President Grace Sirju-Charran
Secretary Sharmella Roopchand-Martin
Treasurer Hariharan Seetharaman

Regional Reps

- Shereen Dawkins-Cox, *North*
- Rosmond A. Adams, *Northeast*
- Candace Kendall, *South*
- Jacqueline Boyce, *Southeast*
- Susan A. Muir, *West*

Past President Cheryl Macpherson

Initial discussion and planning the 2016 Annual Forum was begun with the suggestions of holding it for the first time in St. Vincent or St. Lucia.

I am deeply grateful to BSEC's founder and 1st President, Derrick Aarons, for his vision and guidance before and during my tenure. It has been a privilege to partner with him, our colleagues on outgoing and incoming Executives, and Kamille Williams who runs BSEC's Secretariat as an unpaid volunteer. We, as BSEC members, should each work on further integrating bioethics into our own teaching, research, practice, and professional dialog. For example, intersections between health and the natural environment pose dilemmas and responsibilities with ethical implications, and these warrant particular attention in Caribbean SIDS. BSEC is here to support and advance such attention.

BSEC's Mission: "To increase knowledge and understanding of bioethics through promoting and fostering deliberations across the English-speaking Caribbean, as well as through international collaboration, thereby making a significant contribution to the overall development and implementation of bioethics in human and animal healthcare, research and policy-making."