The Extraordinary Council meeting was called principally to announce the election results to the Council. The formation of an HIV special interest group within the Society was also on the agenda.

The Education Sub-committee met several times throughout the year. As is its remit, the sub-committee helped formulate the scientific programme for the incoming year, selected the various prize-winners throughout the year and selected the papers for presentation at the Spring meeting.

Genitourinary Medicine continues to be a highly successful journal under the new editorship of Dr Mosen Shahnazesh. Papers covering most aspects of genitourinary and HIV medicine were published during the year.

The MSSVD secretariat has seen many changes since it settled within the Academic Department of the Royal Society of Medicine. The present secretariat officer is Ms Sarah Carney who has just recently taken over from Catherine Barnett who left to work at the Royal College of Nursing. The Academic Department at the Royal Society of Medicine now has Ms Jo Parkinson as its head and I would like to wish her every success in the post. Thanks are also due to Ms Marty Adair, Dr John Green, Mr Howard Croft and other members of staff at the Royal Society of Medicine for their advice over the past year.

I have served four years as Honorary Secretary of the Society and it is now time for me to hand over the reins to a new Honorary Secretary. The past four years, eventful years for me personally, have slipped past rather quickly, and I look back on many changes within the Society. I feel that, because of developments such as the formation of special interest groups, the MSSVD is in a position to become an even more effective academic society ready and able to lead the postgraduate education so necessary for its members. I would especially like to thank Dr R W Harris, Dr J S Bingham and Dr R Basu Roy, the three Presidents of the Society, with whom I have had the pleasure of working. Another special thank you is due to my fellow officers over the past four years Dr M FitzGerald, Dr A McMillan and Dr D Barlow.

I would like to congratulate the new Honorary Secretary, Dr Angela Robinson and the new Honorary Assistant Secretary, Dr Keith Radcliffe and wish them every success.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the Society for electing me to the post of Honorary Secretary of the Society, this was a great honour, and for giving me support throughout my years in the post.

Dr T McManus,
Honorary Secretary, Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London W1M 8AE, UK.

The third Conference of EUROGEN will take place in Paris, France, 25–27 March 1997. Information is available from BAXON, 69/73 Avenue de Général Leclerc BP 304-92102 Boulogne, France