Chairperson's Report to the AGM, October 2025

The last 12 months has seen the MGMS steadying itself following the passing of our Honorary Treasurer, Brendan Howlin, in August of 2024. We have a new Treasurer, Ewa Chudyk, and a new Secretary, William Glass, and the running of the Society is now back on track. Only the change to a new online system by our banking providers, CAF Bank, has caused some hiccups this year!

Since the last online AGM event in November 2024, there have been 3 "in person" meetings wholly or partly organised by or on behalf of the MGMS. They were:

- The Young Modellers' Forum, 29th November 2024. Following the usual format, the annual YMF once again took place at Lady Margaret Hall in Oxford. This time, the talk prizes were awarded to Finlay Clark (Edinburgh), Michael Strobl (TU Dortmund) and Margaux Haon (Liverpool), and the poster prizes to Shubhangi Kandwal (Trinity College Dublin) and Aleksy Kwiatkowski (Oxford). The 2025 event will again take place at LMH Oxford, on November 29th. Huge thanks are due to my annual co-organisers in this event, Louise Birch and Jiayun Pang, together with Khalid Abdel-Maksoud who has now joined the organisation of the event.
- Memorial Meeting for Brendan Howlin, 16th April 2025. Around 50 people attended this half-day meeting at the University of Surrey's Guildford campus. Organised by Brendan's Surrey colleague Daniel Commandeur, the afternoon consisted of appreciations of Brendan's life and work, including presentations on topics where Brendan had made a contribution. Speakers included Ian Cunningham, David Moss, Marco Sacchi, Ian Hamerton, David Faux, Cedric Vallee, Charlotte Vale, Dan Commandeur and Adrian Dobbs. A visit to the University's memorial tree took place, and the afternoon rounded off with a wine reception. Many thanks are due to Dan Commandeur and the local organisers.
- AI for Pharma: Data, Infrastructure and Algorithms, 5th September 2025. This one-day event was organised by Jiayun Pang and colleagues at the University of Greenwich's campus in the one of the grand old Naval College buildings. Free of charge to attend thanks to an EPSRC grant, more than 40 people enjoyed presentations from Christian Baber, Andy Nichol, Barbara Zdrazil, Prakash Rathi and GianMarco Ghiandoni, Jiayun herself, Nicholas Runcie and Thierry Hanser. These covered many different aspects of the use of AI in the pharmaceutical industry, from scientific through practical to legal and administrative. A fascinating day! Thanks to all the organisers.

Please keep an eye on the MGMS webpage, www.mgms.org, for news of future events.

The MGMS' annual Frank Blaney Award for 2024 was made to Weria Pezeshkian of the University of Copenhagen, whom we have heard from at this meeting. Congratulations to him! Nominations for the 2025 Award will close on 14th November, so please get your submissions in very soon!

The MGMS remains in good financial health! But we do depend on the participation of our members. If you would like to organise a relevant meeting, take advantage of one of our schemes such as the Early Career Workshops, or would like to join the committee, please get in touch.

Steve Maginn,

MGMS Chairperson