

IMSIS (International Mass Spectrometry Imaging Society)

Trustees' Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 2024

(Period: 31 December 2023 – 31 December 2024)

1. Introduction & Legal Basis

IMSIS is an international, non-profit scientific society dedicated to fostering exchange, collaboration, and education in the field of mass spectrometry imaging. The purpose of the society is to support the field via conferences, publications, networking, training, grants, outreach, and other relevant activities.

The society is governed by a Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees is nominated by Full members and following consultation with members it was agreed that each current full member (IMSIS Europe and IMSIS Americas) would nominate 3 Trustees. This led to the Board of Trustees being expanded from 3 to 6 members in March 2024.

This report is prepared in accordance UK charity law.

2. Objectives & Activities During the Year

2.1 Mission and Strategic Aims

During 2024, IMSIS continued its mission (and the missions of the founder member societies (IMSS/MSIS) to:

- Promote scientific exchange and collaboration in mass spectrometry imaging (MSI) globally
- Organize conferences, workshops, and regional meetings
- Provide training and educational resources
- Support early career researchers via travel grants, awards, or fellowships
- Disseminate news and developments in the field via newsletters, website, and communications
- Expand membership and regional presence

2.2 Major Activities & Achievements in 2024

Below is a summary of key achievements, events, and initiatives:

- i. *Annual / International Conference*
The IMSIS conference took place in September 2024 and was held in Munster (Germany). The scientific program included keynote lectures, invited talks, poster sessions, workshops, and vendor exhibitions. The meeting was attended by 313 participants from around the world and was organised in collaboration with The German Society for Mass Spectrometry.
- ii. *Workshops, Training & Tutorials*
IMSI supported the University of Wisconsin – Madison Summer Workshop (IMSI-Americas) – <https://imsisamericas.org/> held JULY 28-30, 2024. This was aimed particularly at early career researchers and newcomers to the field and had 106 attendees.
IMSI supported the British Mass Spectrometry Society Imaging and MALDI Special Interest Group Meeting held on 10th May 2024. This was attended by 105 participants.
- iii. *Grants, Awards & Travel Support*
Issues with opening an IMSIS Bank Account meant that the Society was unable to award any grants, awards or travel support in 2024. (See details under Challenges and Risks below).
- iv. *Communications & Outreach*
 - Website & Social Media: The IMSIS website was created and updated to include news, resources, and event listings. (<https://www.msimaging.science/>).
 - Collaboration: IMSIS established or strengthened partnerships with related scientific societies. The Annual Conference was arranged in collaboration with the German Society of Mass Spectrometry DGMS. Discussions around other joint initiatives are ongoing with the International Mass Spectrometry Foundation (www.imss.nl).

2.3 Challenges and Risks

During the year, IMSIS faced (or mitigated) the following risks and challenges:

Financial

A major issue encountered was the difficulty in forming a Bank Account in the UK for IMSIS since some Trustees were based overseas. This led to delays in the transfer of funds from the founder societies and led to IMSIS being unable to undertake any financial activity. This was mitigated by delaying the dissolution of the founder societies. Regional groups and the founder societies (IMSS/MSIS) also took on the financial risks for the events organised e.g. the Madison Workshop or these were taken by collaborators e.g. The German Society of Mass Spectrometry who underwrote the Annual Conference. **Note:** A bank account with CAF Bank was opened in February 2025.

Volunteer capacity

As a volunteer-led society, recruiting committed volunteers for committees, editorial work, and event organization can be challenging.

Regional equity

Ensuring that researchers from underrepresented regions or countries can participate (financially and logistically) in IMSIS events is an important issue for IMSIS. Trustees Martina Marchetti-Deschmann and Prof Peggi Angel have led contacts with researchers in Japan and Australia about the formation of an IMSIS Asia /Pacific Group and holding an IMSIS meeting in Japan in 2026.

3. Governance & Structure

The Board of Trustees met biannually to discuss progress on completing the formation of the Society and the election of the Executive Board.

3.1 Trustees

The following individuals served as during 2024:

Name	Role / Position	Term start / end	Notes*
Malcolm Clench	Chair	3/22-9/26	conf 9/24
Peter Marshall	Member	3/24-9/26	conf 9/24
Martina Marchetti-Deschmann	Member	3/22-9/26	conf 9/24
Richard Drake	Member	3/22-9/26	conf 9/24
Peggi Angel	Member	3/24-9/26	conf 9/24
Julia Laskin	Member	3/24-9/26	conf 9/24

*conf = confirmed

The Trustees thank all departing members of the Boards of the previous regional organisations for their service.

4. Financial Review & Statements

4.1 Overview of Financial Position

Due to the issues with opening a Bank Account there was no financial activity in 2024

4.2 Income & Expenditure Summary

Income	:	£0
Expenditure	:	£0

5. Plans & Forward Look for 2025 and Beyond

Looking ahead, the Board of Trustees:

- i. Confirm that the IMSIS conference will be held in UC Davis, Davis California, USA in September 2025.
- ii. Confirm that elections for the formation of an Executive Board should be held no later than the end of the 2025 Annual Meeting (to be held during the IMSIS conference).
- iii. Seek to expand membership to include a group from the Asia/Pacific region.
- iv. Increase travel support and inclusion for underrepresented researchers
- v. Strengthen strategic partnerships with industry, national and international scientific societies.
- vi. Support the development of the website resources (e.g. shared data, software, protocols) and improved member services.
- vii. Recruit active members to serve on the Executive Board, with mentorship and capacity building
- viii. Review membership fee structure and benefits to ensure sustainability and value
- ix. Continue prudent financial management to maintain or build reserves

6. Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the annual report, ensuring the society complies with relevant laws and regulations, and preparing financial statements that give a true and fair view of the society's affairs. They must also ensure proper systems of internal control, regular review of risk, and sound governance.

7. Approval

This report has been approved by the Board of Trustees on 10/10/2025, and is signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Clench', written over a horizontal line.

Malcolm Clench

Chair of Trustees

Accounts Period 31st December 2023 – 31st December 2024

Balance Sheet IMSIS

Note Ref		Total Funds	Prior Year Funds	Details
		£	£	
	Fixed assets			
	Intangible assets	0	0	
	Tangible assets	0	0	
	Heritage assets	0	0	
	Investments			
	Current assets			
	Stocks	0	0	
	Debtors	0	0	
	Investments	0	0	
	Cash at Bank and in hand	0	0	
	<i>Total current assets</i>	0	0	
	Liabilities			
	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	0	0	
	<i>Net current assets or liabilities</i>	0	0	
	<i>Total assets less current liabilities</i>	0	0	
	Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	0	0	
	Provision for liabilities	0	0	
	Net asset or liabilities excluding pension asset or liability	0	0	
	Defined benefit pension scheme asset or liability	0	0	
	Total net assets or liabilities	0	0	
	The funds of the charity			
	Endowment funds	0	0	
	Restricted Income Funds	0	0	
	Unrestricted funds	0	0	
	Revaluation reserve	0	0	
	Pension reserve	0	0	
	<i>Total unrestricted funds</i>	0	0	
1	Total Charity Funds	0	0	

Notes

- 1 See Annual Report Sections 2.3 and 4.1 for details due to issues with opening a UK Bank Account there was no financial activity in 2024.

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Approved by Chair of Trustees on behalf of the Board 15/10/2025

M.Clench

