

**Minutes for AAAGP Annual General Meeting
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre
Thursday 6 July 2006
4pm-5.30pm**

1. Attendance

Mark Nelson, Gail Gilchrist, Jane Gunn, Dimity Pond, Graeme Miller, Grant Blashki, Margaret Kay, Helena Britt, Martin Halperin, Nigel Stocks, Oliver Frank, Jenny Doust, Geoff Mitchell, Fiona Millard, Parker Magin, Nick Glasgow, Caroline Johnson, Kelsey Hegarty, Gerard Gill, Jon Emery, Maria Potiriadis, Lucio Naccarella, Phyllis Lau, David Pierce, Amjad Hussain, Marie Pirota, Doris Young, Nabil Sulaiman, Michelled Yelland, Sanjyot Vagholkar, Ellen McIntyre, Libby Kalucy, Eugen Molodysky, Angela Taft, Richard Reed

2. Apologies

3. Minutes of last meeting

Presented and accepted by Nick Glasgow and Graeme Millar.

4. Business Arising

None.

5. President's report

Jane Gunn gave an overview of AAAGP activities for 2005/06. It was stated that this has been a period of consolidation for AAAGP in regards to new administrative processes and structures. Jane Gunn expressed her thanks to Debbie Mutton for putting the new administrative processes into place. The key highlights of the consolidation phase have been the implementation of a formal accounting system using MYOB, the development of a membership database, improvement of the AAAGP website and revamping the AAAGP newsletter. Jane Gunn expressed her thanks to Grant Blashki for his editorial work on the newsletter. AAAGP membership is at the highest number ever, however Jane Gunn did mention that some members are yet to pay their membership fees for 2006.

Jane Gunn gave an overview of the achievements of AAAGP during the course of her presidency.

AAAGP is now integrated into the annual GP & PHC Conference. Jane Gunn thanked Ellen McIntyre from PHC RIS for allowing AAAGP representation on the conference organising committee. The AAAGP Distinguished Paper Award and the Best First Time Presenter Award continue to be part of the GP & PHC Conference.

The AAAGP Travelling Fellowship has continued and Jane Gunn encouraged members to submit applications to this scheme.

Jane Gunn expressed her thanks to Graeme Millar for his input into the NHMRC ethics review.

AAAGP made a submission on the Research Quality Framework model and also provided input into the PHC RED strategy evaluation, including lobbying for funding for senior post doctoral research positions.

Jane Gunn mentioned Dimity Pond's work with RACGP and NCR to combine FRACGP and PhD training. Dimity has also been lobbying GPET for increased academic general practice posts.

Jane Gunn mentioned the challenges that lay ahead for AAAGP members. There is a need to lobby for a primary health care researcher to be a member of any RQF panels and to lobby for funding for PhDs, post-docs and senior research fellow positions for primary care researchers.

Jane Gunn announced her retirement from her role as AAAGP President. She extended her thanks to members of the executive, Debbie Mutton and state representatives for all their hard work and support during her time as President.

6. Treasurer's Report

Mark Nelson reported on the fiscal position of AAAGP. Copies of the 2005 will be posted on the AAAGP website. Mark Nelson outlined the main expenditure each year is the travelling fellowship, executive member teleconferences and the annual dinner. Institution subscription to the AAAGP will cease.

7. General Business

7.1 New Members

The following new members were accepted:

Dr Karen Tong, Dr Victoria Felix, Dr Heinz Tilenius, Dr Diana Meriyi, Dr Nerida Holdaway, Dr Erin Dixon, Dr Antony Scanlon, Dr Craig Teague, Dr Tristram Duncan, Dr Brett Montgomery, Dr Clare Heal, Dr Skye Boughen, Prof Eugen Molodoysky, Dr John Bennett and Dr Graeme Horton.

7.2 Executive Elections

Jane Gunn declared the position of President vacant. Jane Gunn nominated Mark Nelson for this position and this nomination was accepted.

A nomination for Dimity Pond to remain in the position of Secretary has been received by Catherine Regan. This nomination was accepted.

Jane Gunn declared the position of Treasurer vacant. Jane Gunn nominated Grant Blashki for this position and this nomination was accepted.

Jane Gunn declared the position of Editor vacant. No nominations for this position have been received and members were encouraged to put their names forward if they were interested in taking on this role.

State Representatives

NSW- Joachim Sturmberg

NT- Susan Wearne

QLD- Deborah Askew

VIC- Kelsey Hegarty

WA- Jon Emery

ACT- Marjan Kljakovic

TAS- Mark Nelson will advise the Executive of a new Tasmanian State Representative.

SA- Nigel Stocks will advise the Executive of a new South Australian State Representative.

Incoming President's Address

Mark Nelson thanked Jane Gunn for her hard work as AAAGP President over the past two years. He also acknowledged Debbie Mutton for her ongoing administrative support. He outlined some of the key issues that AAAGP needs to focus on including the low number of medical graduates choosing to go into general practice, the need for increased funding for primary care researchers to move towards sustaining long term research career pathways and the incorporation of a New Zealand chapter with AAAGP.

7.3 Strategic plan for developing formal (MMed/MD/PhD) Academic GP Registrar training in Australia (Jane Gunn)

Jane Gunn outlined that this item was raised at the Heads of Department meeting held on 5th July 2006. It was agreed at this meeting that a feasibility and needs assessment be undertaken to investigate the option of offering part-time PhDs for GP registrars.

ACTION: A working group is to be formed to move forward this issue. The group members will be Jon Emery, Jane Gunn, Mark Nelson, Dimity Pond. Jane Gunn will also invite Steve Trumble to be a part of this group.

7.4 Response to the RQF (Dimity Pond)

Discussion was held on the need for a primary care academic to be a member of RQF assessment panels. A suggestion was put forth that PHC RIS could put together a report of current primary care research projects to illustrate that GP research would be relevant across a number of different assessment panels.

ACTION: Mark Nelson to send a letter to Julie Bishop requesting that a primary care academic be appointed to the RQF assessment panels.

7.5 The impact and responses to the increased student numbers on GP medical student education (Jon Emery)

Jon Emery outlined that this item had been raised at the Heads of Department meeting held on 5th July 2006. Departments of General Practice are beginning to be concerned with the increase of medical student numbers and the strain this is placing on general practitioners ability to take students for clinical placements. It was suggested that this

matter should be raised with the Department of Education Science and Training, with the AMA and the RACGP.

ACTION: Jon Emery to initiate an email to the HOD about establishing a working group on this matter.

It was suggested that Rob Pegram and Bob Wells could be invited to be members of this working group.

7.6 A3GP links with RACGP Scientific Conference

Dimity Pond stated that the RACGP Research Committee is keen to involve research at the RACGP Annual Scientific Meeting. It was discussed that the AAAGP Annual General Meeting needs to be held in the second half of the year due to constitution requirements. It was put forth that the AGM should be held at the annual GP & PHC Conference. Ellen McIntyre stated that there was no guarantee that the annual GP & PHC Conference would be held in the second half of the year.

8. Other Business

AAAGP Membership Fees

Mark Nelson proposed that AAAGP membership fees be increased for the next calendar year. The proposed rate change would be \$100 for full membership and \$33 for students/registrar. This motion was seconded by Jane Gunn. All members voted unanimously for membership fees to increase in 2007.

Survey of workforce

Dimity Pond reported that the workforce survey in Departments of General Practice was progressing slowly due to an unsuccessful bid for funding. Work on the survey will continue.

New Zealand Members

Jane Gunn reported that she has had discussions with New Zealand colleagues on the possibility of incorporating New Zealand academics into the association and the outcome was that they would not join if the association name had Australia or general practice in it. The preference would be for either New Zealand or Australasian to be in the association name. It was suggested that the New Zealand colleagues could be affiliated with AAAGP.

ACTION: Mark Nelson will contact Bruce Arroll to discuss the matter further.

9. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in Brisbane at the RACGP Conference 5th-8th October 2006.

ACTION: Geoff Mitchell to make enquiries about a room booking for the meeting.

10. Meeting closed at 5.35pm.