

Minutes for AAAGP AGM
7am Saturday 6 October 2007
Sydney Convention Centre

1 Attendance

Graeme Horton, Mark Nelson, Debbie Mutton, Dimity Pond, Joachim Sturmberg, Jane Gunn, Fiona Millard, Parker Magin, Sanjyot Vagholkar, Steve Trumble, Graeme Jones, Geoff Mitchell, Marthe Smith, Jenny Doust, Peter Schattner. Visitors: George Chu, David Mills, Bruce Hayes, Hung The Nguyen

2 Apologies

S Dennis, T Brett, N Glasgow, Marjan Kljakovic, Charles Bridges-Webb, Nigel Stocks, G Blashki, S Wearne, Kelsey Hegarty, Helena Britt, Emma Kennedy

3 Minutes of Last Meeting

Amendment: J Sturmberg was an apology.
Accepted: D Pond Seconded: G Mitchell

4 Business Arising

4.1 GP Education Summit

Mark discussed the summit in Melbourne and he expressed credit to Jon Emery for moving this matter forward. A3GP was well presented by Mark, Dimity, Jon Emery & Steve Trumble. All chaired a session during the summit and were involved in working up recommendations and producing a document which was then presented to Minister Tony Abbott. All recommendations were accepted enthusiastically by the minister and he also recommended that the Medicare rebate be increased for Drs who have students with them.

Steve Trumble put forward this proposal:

“That AAAGP recommend to the Minister for Health & Ageing that any enhancement of Medicare’s item numbers that rewards medical practitioners for teaching medical students in their practices be linked to performance indicators of quality of teaching”. Jane Gunn seconded this proposal.

Action: Mark to write to the Minister on behalf of A3GP discussing this proposal. Mark

4.2 Appointment of RRADO

Rachel Lee has been elected. She is working on new guidelines for GP registrar academic posts. The application process is very complex leaving some funded positions unfilled. GPET is working to streamline this. There had been some talk that the number of positions would be reduced but Steve stated A3GP had lobbied against this.

4.3 Feedback from PBL Tutors

Nerida Paterson, an RDP from Newcastle Disc GP, conducted a short survey via email. There a number of issues that make their work difficult including:

- a) the tutors are told one week before when they have to tutor for the semester
- b) sudden change to rules eg. Only tutor one group instead of three

- c) rec'd email to write multiple choice exam questions and that they had to attend a workshop on **how** to write questions. This involved a lot of personal time
- d) there is no financial support for tutors for all their extra work.

There are many tutors across all universities. Dimity proposed we add this to our next T/C agenda and move this issue forward.

Action: Debbie to add to next agenda.

Debbie

4.4

Bridges-Webb Medal

Mark stated this medal was created to award excellence in general practice. Charles Bridges Webb was chosen as the person to name the medal after due to his major contribution to both research and teaching and is very honoured to be recognised in this way.

4.5

Research Quality Framework

Many academics are spending a lot of time updating their CVs accordingly. Dimity stated the process disadvantages GP researchers as most are teaching and or have clinical time. Jane raised the issue that there appeared to be no-one appointed on Panel 7 (Public Health) with a strong PHC interest. If this is correct, it would be worthwhile checking their details out.

Action: Jane to "google" names and then contact Warwick Anderson if they are not appropriate.

Jane

Those present agreed that GP research can't compete with basic science researchers

HOD Meeting in Wonca

4.6

Peter Schattner is the official chair for organising this event. It will be held at the next RACGP Asia/Pacific Meeting. It was agreed this was an excellent opportunity to strengthen academic links with colleges overseas. Amanda Barnard identified that there are many female HODs so this may open up an option to support them.

4.7

NHMRC Grant Review Panel

There were originally two panels, however, one was dropped due to insufficient applications. Members were encouraged to apply to NHMRC, because not only does this increase the profile of GP research, but also enables members to get thoughtful reviews..

5 General Business

5.1 President's Report

See Powerpoint Presentation on website.

5.2 Treasurer's Report

Correct financial report will be loaded onto our website as the one presented was for the calendar year (needs to be financial year). We are currently in the black but it is clear we need to increase our membership or find another source of income. Next year will see us running close to the red. Mark suggested another subscription increase as we are still much cheaper than most associations. It has been made obvious in the past that members are against pharmaceutical sponsorship.

We have 141 members with 120 being financial.

The medal will have a one off cost of \$1200 and then a further \$70 each time it is cast.

5.3 Election of Officers

All officers stood down and the elections resulted in the following:

President: Mark Nelson

Treasurer: Marie Pirotta

Secretary: Dimity Pond

WA: Jon Emery

ACT: Marjan Kljakovic

SA/NT: Vacant

QLD: Deb Askew

NSW had 2 nominations and the vote was: Joachim Sturmberg

Tas: to be confirmed

Mark expressed his thanks to Grant Blashki for his role as treasurer for the past 12 mths.

5.4 New Members

There were no new members to be accepted. Debbie reported there had been approx 12 new members this year.

5.5 Debbie's Contract/Invoice for Incidentals

It was agreed Debbie's contract would be continued next year and she was thanked for her hard work and enthusiasm. Newcastle Uni will invoice A3GP for her wages and also the cost for incidentals such as teleconferences/postage/stationery.

5.6 Newsletter

Graeme reported he is pleased with the result of our last newsletter. Articles are still difficult to obtain and he encouraged members to contribute. He stated there must be lots of things happening that could be shared amongst the membership. Any ideas are appreciated.

5.7 Travelling Fellowship Report

This report will be presented at the GP & PHC Conference in Hobart. Mark stated that Petya has started collaboration for her project and there will be a publication.

5.8 **Travelling Fellowship 2007**

Deb Askew from Qld University has been awarded our Fellowship for 2007.

6 **Other Business**

Medicare Enhancement

There was further discussion on this issue. It was agreed someone needs to develop the principle and the criteria. It would then need to be monitored and no department has the funds to do this.

Amanda stated we need to move quickly and suggested A3GP pull together departments who are working on this to be able to present a cohesive argument.

Action: Mark to follow this up.

Mark

7 **Meeting closed 8.20am.**