

**Minutes of AAAPC Committee Teleconference  
25 August 2009 @ 12 midday (EST)**

1. Attendance: Vicky Palmer, Marie Pirota, Dimity Pond, Deb Askew, Sarah Dennis , Marjan Kljakovic Joachim Sturmberg, and Kitty Novy
2. Apologies: Jon Emery, Richard Reed, Faline Howes, and Jiwa Moyes
3. Minutes of last meeting of the AAAGP – 16 June 2009 agreed but Joachim was an apology
4. Business Arising

4.1 Report on the AGM of the AAAPC

4.1.1 Marie :

- The name change vote: An overwhelming vote in favour of the name change. One consequence of the name change is that many items need changing: the banner we use at conferences, the logos on the web site. We will need lodge statutory declarations with the bank, ACICS (the securities commission), the Victorian Consumers Affairs commission.
- Internet banking: Members at the conference raised this. We need to organise internet banking to make it easier for members to make payments
- Funding of AAAPC membership: a proposal by PHCRED to fund junior researchers with their AAAPC membership fees. This was Ellen's idea, Kit to email her to find out if there is any progress on this.
- The election of next year's committee – all last year's representatives were elected unopposed. One new state representative: Jiwa Moyes WA

4.1.2 Marjan on the HoDs meeting:

- A Lobbyist for the AAAPC: There was a proposal that the AAAPC should persuade the Universities to fund a lobbyist to advance its views regarding super clinics. The Pharmacy Guild has a very successful lobbyist. Unlikely the universities would fund such an expenditure as it would cost upwards of \$60,000.
- The Queensland Conference: it was suggested that someone from the AAAPC executive should attend a meeting in Queensland in October which is to focus on GPSCs. Kit to email Claire, Mark Nelson and Nigel to try and find out more information about this conference.
- The funding of medical placements: reference was made to the Carver report, a document dealing with the funding of all medical placements in the health system in Victoria – In Sydney there are two new medical schools and they have more money for placements than existing medical schools and this is becoming an issue as placements are lost . Marjan mentioned that in the ACT there is special funding in place to pay individual GPs (\$300 per session of 3-4 hours in duration) to teach

students. This is coming from a \$12 Million ACT budget to fund general practice initiatives. Out of 400 practices only about 60 take students in the ACT, hence the new funding for general practice initiatives. One of the two winners of the Best Paper award at the conference, Caroline Lawrence presented a paper on the financial cost/burden of having a medical student at a practice as opposed to having an intern. Marjan will write an article on this once the scheme is set up. The Carver report should be emailed to the entire executive – Kitty to organise this. Dimity raised whether the AAAPC should write to (Peter Brook) the Australian Workforce Initiative to ensure it was involved in the decision making process. Kitty to check with Jane Gunn as to who the AAAPC should be writing to. Dimity to do a draft and then run it past Jon.

#### 4.1.3 Sarah on the Newsletter's coverage of the GP & PHC Conference:

- Selection Criteria: in judging the winner of the first time presenter's award it became apparent that the criteria are only appropriate if judging a research project. She suggested that the AAAPC should review the criteria for this and all other awards. Marie said this should be done soon, whilst it is still fresh in the memory. Volunteers for a working group to consider this and present ideas to a subsequent executive committee: Deb, Sarah, Dimity, and Vicky. Kitty to organise some dates in late October (using a 'DOODLE') and to send out all existing forms and any comments made by the other judges (in a word doc.) for the working group to consider.
- The general running of the conference: lessons learnt and successes to celebrate: Marie said that Kitty should have had an assistant at the conference; in particular if the AGM were to be followed by the dinner, we could employ someone to assist for the day. Kitty to email Ellen about this as she is likely to be organising a schedule for the 2010 conference.
- The last newsletter: thanks to all those who assisted in the last newsletter.
- The next newsletter: is due out in December!
- Nick is overseas at the moment – hoping he might write an article on his current project
- Parker or Dimity to write about the SAPC Conference. Sarah to email Dimity about this.
- might benefit from an update on the Brisbane initiative which is happening again in September, Vicky is going to be part of the new cohort, John Thurlowe and Marie are attending as part of the old cohort. Might give an interesting perspective.

## 5. General Business

### 5.1 Membership

5.1.1 New members: 6 new members: Katrina Wiley, Melanie Marshall, Penny Abbot, Karen

Alexander, Amanda McBride (possibly a lapsed member), Robin Preston and Caroline Bulsara) from the conference and 4 or 5 old/lapsed members signed up again. There are about 155 paid up members and quite a few more have yet to pay their subs

5.1.2 Finances: \$24,000 in bank at present. Allowance has to be made for up to \$4,000 if the Travelling Scholarship is awarded. Kitty is to send out another email to all members about the travelling scholarship. It was agreed that the email should mention the state reps, provide their contact details and invite the applicant to discuss the application with the state rep.

## 5.2 Communications to President

5.2.1 Letter and attached document from William Wong concerning a Masters Program: Strengthening Evidence Base General Practice. This was held over to next meeting.

## 5.3 Non-Clinical Academics

5.3.1 There was a broad ranging discussion on this topic: What is the AAAPC currently doing to support non-clinical academics, regarding training and career development? What might the AAAPC do to improve the support it gives to non-clinical academics? Ideas advanced include: We need to think how the AAAPC might become involved in training support and lobbying in respect of non-clinical academics. If we change our name we should also consider whether we should broaden our work so that we take on board that we have members who are not GPs/clinicians and must support everybody working in primary care, not just the clinicians. We need to market ourselves to all our members, not just GPs. One issue: Marjan posed the question: Can non GPs teach general practice, for example a practice nurse? Joachim expressed concern and the view that only a GP can teach general practice. Marie suggested we might learn something from the UK approach.. Dimity said this would be a great topic for a session at the next AAAPC conference: Non GPs teaching general practice. This should be an agenda item for the next AAAPC executive meeting. Dimity would like concrete suggestions for advertising or activities for our non-GP members.

6. The next meeting: 20 October 2009

7. Other Business: Would need a small working group to look at any applications for the travelling scholarship: Jon and Dimity. Kitty to inform Jon and Dimity of any applications with the closing date being Monday 7 September 2009.

## **Unassigned Tasks:**

Following the name change a number of tasks need attention:

1. The conference banner will need to be altered or made anew
2. The logos on the web site and the web site generally
3. Stationery etc.
4. We will need to lodge statutory declarations with the bank (Jon and Dimity or Marie), ACICS (the securities commission), and the Victorian Consumers Affairs commission
5. Organise internet banking so that members can pay their subscriptions over the internet

**Assigned Tasks:****Kitty to:**

1. email Ellen to ask if there is any progress on the proposal by PHCRED to fund junior researchers with their AAAPC membership fees
2. organise internet banking for members
3. send out another email to all members about the Travel Scholarship extending it by a week or so. The email should mention the state reps and invite the applicant to discuss the application with the state rep
4. inform Jon and Dimity of any applications for the Travel Scholarship (with the closing date being Monday 7 September 2009)
5. email Claire, Mark Nelson and Nigel to try and find out more information about the conference in Queensland being held in October which is to focus on GPSCs
6. email the Carver report to all members of the AAAPC executive
7. to check with Jane Gunn as to who the AAAPC should be writing to concerning funding for medical placements
8. organise some dates in late October (using a 'DOODLE') for a working sub group (to comprise of Deb, Sarah, Dimity, and Vicky) which is to 'meet' to review the selection criteria for all AAAPC awards, and
9. send out all existing forms and any comments made by the other judges for the working group to consider.

**Dimity to:**

1. do a draft letter about the AAAPC's wish to be consulted about changes to the funding of student placements and then run it past Jon, and
2. judge any applications for the travelling scholarship.