

Minutes of the AAAPC Committee Meeting Held 17 May 2011

1. **Attendance:** Dimity, Jon, Marie, Ellen, Marjan, Richard, Danielle, Debbie, Joachim and Kitty

2. **Apologies:** Sarah

3. **Minutes of last meeting** of the AAAPC held 19 April 2011 were agreed.

4. **Business Arising:**

- Dimity has yet to write to Ausdoc about providing free copies of journals to those who contribute articles, and she asked that this remain on the agenda.
- Marie proposed that membership at the conference should cost the full annual fee, but might be encouraged by a prize, namely a \$200 Coles Myers Voucher. All new members that have joined this year would be included in the draw, with the Voucher being the prize. Kitty to organise the Voucher.
- Kitty advised that the same day as she sent out the letter to the HoDs encouraging them to promote membership within their departments, Danielle and Mark Harris both nominated people, possibly in response to the mailing. Danielle asked for a breakdown of members by Universities – Kitty to provide a list.
- The venue for the Wednesday lunchtime HoDs meeting on Wednesday has now been arranged.
- The search for a Queensland representative, to represent the AAAPC with the GP Alliance, has not borne any fruit. A renewed effort is required.
- Kitty will undertake further research into the possible to use SKYPE for future AAAPC executive meetings.

5. **General Business**

6.1 Membership

6.1.1 New members: Dr Peter Barton of Monash University, and Jacqueline Schroeder of UNSW

6.1.2 Finances: The current account balance is \$13,000. Kitty will be sending out a further reminder to all those who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions and she will follow this up with invoices for the year's subscription fee.

7. **Health Workforce Australia (HWA).** There was a suggestion that the AAAPC should meet up with GPET and HWA to discuss HWA's intransigence at GP practice funding projects which were not covered by PIP payments. Marjan mentioned the committee of Deans of Medical Schools, which has produced a list of 40 minimal competencies that a medical student should have once they have finished their medical degree; this list is not confined to one single discipline. This has a bearing on student placements, as the student needs to gain the competencies that are available at the General Practice. Dimity suggested that the AAAPC needs to formulate a policy on undergraduate placements; Danielle suggested that it would be beneficial if the AAAPC drafted a position paper, and Marjan thought that this should incorporate data on the undergraduate experience of General Practice. Marjan and Danielle offered to draft this, perhaps

with the assistance of Jon, prior to the HoDs meeting.

8. A representative for the National Research Awards Committee (NRAC) from the AAAPC still needs to be found. Dimity advised that this committee meets once a year, to award grants for relatively modest amounts of money. Kitty email members .

9. The Brisbane Conference:

- Conference news and developments
- The Distinguished Paper: The winner, Nick Zwar - to confirm attending the conference. The session lasts 90 minutes so 30 minutes for his presentation. Kitty to email Nick
- The AAAPC After dinner speaker Dinner. Those considered were Kim Bennell, who is on maternity leave, or the winner of the Bridges-Webb medal, or Chris Delmar who is a humorous speaker. It was decided to see if Chris Delmar will speak
- The Bridges-Webb Medal: update on selection - 4 *nominations to date*. Paul Glaziou has been nominated by Marie but he is not currently a financial member, as he has been overseas for several years. Marie to advise on renewal. Jane Gunn, Mark Nelson and Dimity will make up the selection panel. Kitty to ask all those nominated to supply CVs.
- Judging the First Time Presenters Award: update on the list of first time presenters and the availability of judges – 3 applications received.
- A lunchtime session on Medicare Locals and how academics can engage with them. Joachim has written a paper in the JCP on health care reform and Medicare Locals, Joachim to send his paper to Kitty for wider circulation. There was a discussion on having a debate on whether they will promote health in the community or by contrast are merely an instrument for Government control. Ellen suggested that the final plenary session is in a Q and A format, and thought that sort of question could be raised there. It could be included on the Thursday lunchtime as a topic table discussion. An email needs to be sent to Fiona as she is organising the topic table discussions. Dimity is to confirm the name of the Policy speaker and the available times. Marie is then to email Fiona. Alternatively, it could be a Friday breakfast session; this might depend on the availability of the Policy speaker.
- HoD's Meeting – this is to take place on the Wednesday lunchtime. Suggested agenda items:
 - HWAs and the clinical placement network
 - GPET registrar training and the dual research and higher degree training. Dimity to lead this discussion.
 - PIP payments. . Dimity to lead this discussion.
 - HWA initiatives
 - Financial support for the AAAPC
 - The new NHMRC initiative around the knowledge translation network and its impact on primary care research. There is a background paper, an article about it in the last NHMRC newsletter, which Danielle will send to Kitty for circulation. Danielle to lead this discussion.
- The AGM:

- the agenda for this year's AGM to include:
 - membership in general and the annual fee
 - attracting new executive committee members
 - Health Workforce Australia, student placements and PIP issues
 - revised guidelines on the selection of the Distinguished Paper award
 - a report from the HoDs, and
- list of committee members willing to continue on next year and by default those positions that need to be filled at the AGM. Joachim cannot continue next year, nor can Debbie. So representatives are needed for NSW and QLD. The committee expressed its thanks to both Joachim and Debbie.
- Kitty is to send out the AGM agenda to members, first to Dimity for approval and then to membership S

10. AOB: PIP payments: Dimity met with the Commonwealth Minister's advisor. Last year she met with Michelle Clewett and put to her the idea that the GP's allowance should be increased as well as making adjustments as to how the guidelines should be read. Michelle suggested she see the Minister's advisor about this. Recently she has met with Dr Phuong Pham, the minister's advisor. The Minister's advisor indicated that the amount of the PIP would not be increased this year, given the budget constraints. A discussion ensued about the possibility that the practice nurse might also attract PIP payments for supervising students. The benefits of this are that many GPs are solo and at the present time they can only take one student at time. These practices employ practice nurses and allowing practice nurses to supervise students would effectively see an increase in the PIP payments. In Western Sydney, something like two thirds of GPs practice independently and this change would ease the problem of getting student placements. A possible drawback is that GPs are currently allowed to delegate their taking of a student to a nurse, so the student benefits from time with the nurse and the placement is covered by the PIP payment. By making nurses eligible to supervise students, this existing process would come under scrutiny and it might be questioned.. The PIP payment, is a payment to the practice and every member of the team has a contribution to the teaching of each other. There may need to be some minimum qualifications required. It might be wise to have guidelines as to a minimum time to be spent by a student under GP supervision. Dimity is to revert back to the Minister's advisor, stating that the AAAPC is generally in favour of the proposal but that it is still working on the details. It will be further discussed at the AGM.

11. Next Meeting: 21 June 2011

Allocated Actions

Dimity is to:

- write to Ausdoc about providing free copies of journals to those who contribute articles

- ask Chris Del Mar if he will attend the AAAPC dinner as the after-dinner speaker
- organise the selection panel for the Bridges-Webb medal
- confirm the name of the person from the Commonwealth attending the session on Medicare Locals and the available times for the lunchtime session on Medicare Locals, and
- revert back to the Minister's advisor, stating that the AAAPC is generally in favour of the proposal but that it is still working on the details.

Marie is to:

- talk with Kitty about booking a venue for a lunchtime HoDs meeting on Wednesday at the Brisbane conference, and
- formulate a proposal for a prize for new memberships taken out at the Brisbane conference, and
- notify Fiona of the name of the Policy speaker and the available times, once Dimity has advised her of these.

Dimity, Danielle, Marjan, and Jon are to:

- draft a position statement for the AAAPC on student placements and the HWA.

Marie and Kitty are to:

- draft a short note to be sent out to members, inviting someone to put their name forward as an AAAPC representative to sit on the National Research Awards Committee.

Kitty is to:

- organise a \$200 Coles Myers Voucher as a prize for new memberships
- provide a breakdown of members by Universities, and to provide a copy to Danielle
- undertake further research into the possible to use SKYPE for future AAAPC executive meetings
- send out a further reminder to all those who have not yet paid their annual subscriptions, and she is to follow this up with invoices for the year's subscription fee
- email times to Danielle, Marjan, and Jon, so that a position statement drafting teleconference can be arranged on student placements and the HWA.
- ask Nick Zwar he will be attending the conference and will be willing to present his paper at the plenary session
- ask all those nominated for the Bridges-Webb medal to supply CVs

- circulate the draft agenda for the HoD's Meeting, which is to take place on the Wednesday lunchtime, and
- mail out the agenda for this year's AGM, first to Dimity for approval and then to membership.