

Minutes of the AAAPC AGM 2014
Held at the PHC Research Conference Canberra
On Wednesday 23 JULY 17.45-18.45pm

1. Attendance: Nic Zwar, Dimity Pond, Marie Pirotta, Andrew Knight, Jane Gunn, Jan Smith, Grant Russell, Tom Brett, Danielle Mazza, Michelle Guppy, Liz Halcomb, Jon Emery, Andrew Bonney, Andrew Knight, Charlotte Hespe, Sarah Dennis, Sarah Larkins, Ellen McIntyre, Christina Hagger, Tania Winzenberg, Megan Elliott-Rudder, Petra Bywood, Amanda Carne, Amanda McBride, Mieke Van Driel, Ronny Gunnarson, Margaret Kay, Sanjyot Vagholkar, Joan Henderson, Wendy Brodribb, Jane Desborough, Mark Harris, Geoff Mitchell, Jenny Reath, Tim Usherwood, Parker Magin, Elizabeth Comino, Kelly Watt, Clare Heal, Jo-Anne Elizabeth Manski-Nankervis, Kirsty Douglas, Jodie Oliver Baxter, Lynsey Brown, Katrina Erny-Alibrecht, Andrew Stanley, Felicity Goodyear Smith, Teng Liaw, Meredith Temple Smith, Oliver Frank, Suzanne McKenzie, Claire Harrison, Rebecca Evans, Mark Nelson, Michael Yelland, Gerard Gill, Jan Radford, Sandra Davidson, Kitty Novy.

2. Apologies: Marie Pirotta, Caroline Johnston, Nicholas Glasgow, Kelsey Hegarty, Ruth McNair, Victoria Palmer, Aves Middleton, Michael Kidd, John Furler, and Simon Willcock, Louise Stone, Jennifer Walker, Julia Waters, Heinz Tilenius, Peggy Chiang, James Dunbar.

3. Minutes of last meeting: 2013 were approved

4. Business Arising.

4.1. Presidents report –Nick Zwar welcomed all mentioned a number of significant developments that have occurred since last AGM:

- There have been discussions with our New Zealand colleagues about AAAPC becoming a Trans-Tasman organisation. Proposed changes to the constitution were circulated to the AAAPC membership, feedback received and the revised constitution is on the agenda for this AGM
- The award of the first AAAPC conference prize; the winner of the most distinguished paper is now given the opportunity to present this paper at the SAPC meeting with \$500 towards travel expenses, free registration at SAPC and a position in the plenary session to give an oral presentation of the paper. Megan

Elliot-Rudder, last year's winner, had just returned from SAPC.

- The close cooperation between the AAAPC and PHCRED continues
- Lobbying and press releases regarding: the Medicare Locals review; the PHCRED strategy review; GP co-payments; and the 2014 Budget implications for primary care teaching and research;
- Looking forward, the AAAPC needs to address its financial viability by a renewed effort to increase membership
- Thanks were expressed to all management committee members and to Kitty Novy for their hard work over the past year.

4.2. Treasurer's report – Nick Zwar of behalf of Marie Pirotta. The meeting expressed its sincere wishes for Marie Pirotta to make a full recovery from her serious car accident.

- The Profit and Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet had been circulated prior to the meeting.
- The Profit and Loss Statement shows two accounts were in use: a cheque account for day to day operations, and a reserve account with a balance of \$10,343.82
- The Profit and Loss Statement showed the following expenses: teleconference costs, banking fees, the Travelling fellowship award, Salary and wages, the website fees, Conference expenses, the accounting software subscription, and Newsletter costs. It may be possible to reduce the website fees by switching to a cheaper provider and the teleconference fees should be halved by the use of 'go to meeting'.
- The only source of income is membership subscriptions. Nonetheless the year ended with a surplus of \$382.83 on the cheque account and the Balance Sheet showed 'credits' of \$3,260 in membership subscriptions due but not yet paid.

4.3. Constitutional Changes

The Constitution had been reviewed to allow New Zealand colleagues to join as full members and in carrying out the review, some other minor improvements were also suggested. Proposed changes included:

- With the inclusion of primary care academics in New Zealand, the Association's name was changed to the Australasian Association of Academic Primary Carers
- Representation on the executive committee was amended to include two members from New Zealand and up to two members from each State and Territory in Australia

- Mention is expressly made of student membership

New Zealand membership will cost NZ\$150 , The application form for membership will now be available on the website

The meeting unanimously voted to accept proposed constitutional changes.

4.4 Office Bearers 2014/2015

- The following representatives agreed to continue on the executive committee: Alistair Vickery-WA; Ellen McIntyre-SA; Liz Halcomb-NSW; Kirsty Douglas–ACT; Danielle Mazza VIC
- Julia Walters retired as the representative for Tasmania and was replaced by; Emma Warnecke
- Marie Pirotta retired as Treasurer
- Felicity Goodyear Smith and Sue Pollen were appointed as the first New Zealand representatives.
- Nick Zwar agreed to continue as President
- Grant Russell as Secretary, and
- Suzanne McKenzie was appointed as Treasurer
- Phyllis Lau was appointed as the second State representative for Victoria.
- Jodie Oliver Baxter appointed as Student/Early Career Researcher Rep
- Three co-opted positions were continued: Dimity Pond; Christina Hagger, and Louise Stone
- Michelle Guppy agreed to continue as the Newsletter editor
- The position as the Northern Territory representative remains vacant

5. Other Business

5.1. Implications of 2014 budget for primary care teaching and research

The most welcome change was the announcement that, from January 2015, the PIP payment is to be doubled; the support of the AMA was acknowledged in promoting this change. This will result in more practices seeking student placements and should allow for greater expectations for the quality of training provided.

5.2. Changes to GPET and implication for academic registrars

There will be academic registrars next year but it was generally agreed that a new

model for academic registrars is needed; perhaps a program providing a scholarship to combine General Practice training with a higher degree. It was agreed that the AAAPC should continue trying to lobby the Minister. Kirsty Douglas offered to be part of any lobbying panel; this would mean that at least one member of the panel could attend a meeting at short notice

5.2.3. Changes to regional training providers

The AAAPC issued a press release emphasising the importance of standards of quality training programs. The current network of teaching practices is a major resource which should be preserved in these challenging times of rapid change. The meeting again discussed the need to lobby politicians; a broader approach to lobbying was suggested: briefing the College and the AMA in more detail, and/or lobbying the local member and talking to senior public servants.

5.3. PHCRED Strategy Review

Submissions have been made, the review completed, and it is now in the hands of the politicians for a decision. It was agreed that the AAAPC would write and request a copy of the review report and that if this request was denied, consider applying for it under the Freedom of Information legislation.

5.4. Progress of Australian Primary Care Research Network (APCRen)

The AAAPC has received 6 months extension of funding from APCRI for this project with the possibility of future funding. This will enable Natalie Appelby (UoM) to continue to co-ordinate and for a group to be brought together to develop a proposal for a Centre for Research Excellence based on supporting and linking PBRNs

5.5. Any other business

5.5.1 The inclusion of student or early career researchers in academic primary care on the AAAPC committee was welcomed and Jodie Oliver-Baxter/was co-opted onto the executive committee for the coming year.

Next Meeting PHC Research Conference 2015