

Minutes of the Executive Committee of the AAAPC

Held: 18 March 2014

1. **Attending:** Nick Zwar, Julia Walters, Christina Hagger, Louise Stone, Kitty Novy,
2. **Apologies** Marie Pirotta, Danielle Mazza, Sarah Larkins, Dimity Pond, Ellen McIntyre, Grant Russell, Kirsty Douglas Michelle Guppy, Liz Halcomb,
3. Minutes of the last meeting, held 18 February 2013 were agreed
4. Correspondence to the AAAPC, received since the last meeting:
 - The AAAPC's submissions to the Medicare Local review were acknowledged, and
 - There was a letter from Robyn Considine with information on the PHCRED Evaluation – see below
5. Business Arising:
 - i. *APHCRI* – Tom Fleming, the adviser to Peter Dutton, did respond to Nick's email, inviting the AAAPC to meet with him in Canberra; however the date offered was on too short notice. Nick is to write back asking for alternative dates with greater lead in times and is awaiting a further response. On a positive note, at least "the door is open".
 - ii. *Categorisation of APHCRI funding* – Terry Finlay has written back, confirming that APHCRI funding is being treated as category 1 funding on the Australian Pending Branch Register
 - iii. *The APHCRI Research Advisory Board* – There has been very positive feedback on the AAAPC suggestion for funding to cover developmental/pilot work prior to the submission of an application for NHMRC funding. Nick has been asked for further comments on a call for submissions that and Chris Van Weel and Emma Whitehead are preparing; the idea being to get this funding model going for the start of 2015. It was also suggested that APHCRI and the AAAPC might collaborate in evaluating the impact of this stream of funding and even do a joint conference presentation or publication.
 - iv. *Workshop at Primary Health Care Research Conference with AAAPC/APHCRI*. APHCRI has identified someone from NHMRC who is willing to take part and the idea has been passed on to Christina; it has yet to be finalised.
 - v. *Changes to the Constitution to allow for New Zealand membership of the AAAPC* The working group has identified the necessary changes to the Constitution, there will be two representatives from New Zealand on the executive committee. Nick is to send out a draft of the proposed changes to the membership, allowing this to be voted on at the July AGM.
 - vi. *Medicare Locals review* – The report is due in April. One change that seems likely to come from the review is the amalgamation of some Medicare Locals so that they match local health districts, but this is speculation at this stage.
6. The Newsletter the April edition- All in progress. Kitty to email Felicity regarding the main article. Christina offered to write a short article on the conference.
7. PHC Research Conference update: 328 abstracts have been received, 10 with the futures café, and all are with reviewers. Speakers have mostly been finalised: Nancy Edwards for APHCRI, Jeannie Haggerty for the AAAPC, Mark Booth will be giving a lunch time address and the opening and closing sessions will involve live links to panels of local researchers and users of research – highlighting the conference theme of knowledge exchange.
8. Finance – \$21,659.49
9. New Members *Katrina Erny-Albrecht Flinders University* She has agreed to write something for the April newsletter
10. Other Business
 - i. *APCReN progress* – Much activity regarding the upcoming conference, the website now exists in draft form but it is not live yet. There is a need for further long term/core funding to keep the 'network of networks' going, this requires a

coordination unit; the timing of this funding is important as it would need to be in place before the current funding expires. The rationale for continued funding being that the network of networks is still being established, as are the links with the PBRNs and the website would need to be maintained, updated and developed.

- *PHCRED evaluation* – There was a productive teleconference with Robyn Considine; she would like to receive the AAAPC's written submissions as to the group's effectiveness, appropriateness and efficiency of the strategy. Two arguments as to why primary health care research needs ongoing support:
 - If it is accepted that primary health care is the key building block for a fair and equitable health system, then research is necessary to inform how the system functions and on ways to improve its effectiveness, quality and performance, and
 - In creating and sustaining a primary health care workforce with career development prospects.

Nick will draft a submission on behalf of the AAAPC, send it to Kitty for circulation to all the executive committee members.

- ii. *Increase in PIP payment for medical student teaching* – The Minister has publicly stated that PIP payments are to be doubled, which is reassuring but this needs to survive the budget in May 2014
- iii. *Public consultation of the Draft ERA 2015 journal and conference*. Tania Winzenberg has provided draft needs to be checked to ensure all the key primary health care journals are listed, something the general membership could consider and then make individual submissions. Julia Walters to ask Tania on the best way to manage this process: individual submissions v an AAAPC submission
- iv. *AAAPC invitation to Mark Booth to do an open lunchtime presentation*: One suggested topic: "The role of primary health care organisations in supporting primary health care research".

NEXT MEETING April 15th 11.30am