

Minutes for the Executive Committee of the AAAPC

Held by Teleconference on:

16 October 2014 @ 1.30-2.30pm (EST)

1. **Attending:** Nick Zwar, Sarah Larkins, Felicity Goodyear Smith, Sue Pollen. Grant Russell, Liz Halcomb, Louise Stone, Michelle Guppy, Jodie Oliver-Baxter, Lynsey Brown
2. **Apologies:** Danielle Mazza, Kirsty Douglas, Suzanne McKenzie, Ellen McIntyre, Christina Hagger, Alistair Vickery, Phyllis Lau, Emma Warnecke,
3. **Minutes : The minutes** of the last meeting, held 18 September 2014 were accepted
4. **Correspondence** There was no correspondence received this month
5. **Business Arising:**

- i. **APCReN Centre of Research Excellence** Nick presented an update and thanked all those including Ellen and Sarah who sent in comments on the draft. There have been a couple of meetings of the group to develop advice to APCRI about putting a call for proposals for a Centre of Research Excellence based on a linked up group of practice based research networks. Much thought has been put into this by a lot of people particularly by Meredith Temple-Smith UoM .We now have a document ready to send to Terry Findlay and it needs to go out asap. We are expecting that this will go to the Research Advisory Board of APHCRI that meets on the 8th November for their consideration about if they want to go ahead with the call for proposals. We are of the belief that it will have to come from their existing resources (we think they have about 2 million left in their kitty) Nick will send out and we shall await to see how he responds

ACTION Nick to send document to Terry Findlay

- ii. Nick discussed the GP academic registrar positions. Not a lot has happened since last meeting and Nick still to send out the email to Penny Shakespeare. He felt he needed input and would like to discuss the finer points of this email with Louise Stone before he sends this communication. The email was in relation to a follow-up on the meeting that Kirsty and Nick had with Penny Shakespeare. Trying to encourage the Commonwealth to continue to support Academic Registrar positions and the idea that the support and co-ordination of these positions could sit with the College of GPs and College of Rural & Remote Medicine as a collaboration. It was noted that AAAPC as an Organisation would be happy to support in that endeavour. Nick also thought the AAAPC might be able to support the Registrar Research Week and the academic registrar selection process. .

Sarah mentioned that Richard Murray chair of ACRRM wanted to strengthen the association between registrars and Departments of General Practices as there had been a bit of a drift from linking the two in the past couple of years. The idea that link ups can still be done even if a Department is not geographically close. Sarah noted that Lucy Walters would be the new chair of ACRRM in late October
Louise Stone gave an update on state of GPET. At this stage she has not received an offer from the Dept – and time is running out . As AAAPC she felt it was important to respond if this does not eventuate. Nick asked if it was worthwhile raising this in an email.

Louise felt it might be worthwhile to liaise with the National Standing Committee research of the RACGP and the Academic committee of ACRRM and to have a discussion about what may happen if it does not eventuate. It seems a lot is going over to the Colleges- a potential for the academic program going sideways. Would be good to have a plan if this does happen

Nick noted that Penny Shakespeare raised the idea that the support for the Academic Registrars would go to the Colleges so the email from the AAAPC would be to encourage her to continue that thinking. Time is the issue. Louise suggested we might need to make contact with the Colleges. Penny Shakespeare is

meeting every 2 weeks with the Colleges but Louise has only managed to secure 1 meeting in the last 8 months

Louise noted that she had heard RRADO position is safe for the immediate future but no confirmation of that. There is a verbal assurance that program will continue for 6 months and the people there to run it are sound, and Louise believes the Colleges will run selection and that the training program is in secure hands Her understanding is that the academic Registrars will stay with the Department but not sure how long that will be

Louise unsure of her job and what sort of contract she will be given

With vocational training Louise feels there is nothing else the AAAPC can do Nick felt that the AAAPC should try to set up a discussion with the College Research Committee chair, Nigel Stocks and Lachlan MacCiver the chair of the ACCRM Academic Awards Committee

ACTION Nick to FU, will try to set up a teleconference with the Research Committee , chair Nigel Stocks and Academic Committee chair , Lachlan Mclver is the chair and Louise

- iii. Nick sent out the request to join United General Practice and there has been no feedback so far on how it was received or even if it was discussed The meeting was to be held sometime in October so Nick will FU

ACTION Nick to FU

- iv. The Senate Select Committee on Health was discussed Nick thanked Sarah for sending through information on the submission that James Cook put in Nick sent out a statement to the committee based on a rewording the AAAPC press release. An acknowledgement that it was received was sent to Nick

- v. Felicity and Sue gave the committee an update on New Zealand Matters They had presented the possibility at the recent N.Z Research retreat about an introductory discount for new New Zealand members, a one off for 2014 only, with 50% off the usual membership. This will be followed up with Suzanne today and KN and report to Felicity and Sue. The committee were happy with the discount suggested. Nick suggested that the current New Zealand member who signed up recently might be given membership for 2 years so as not to disadvantage him signing up

Felicity felt that there was a degree of enthusiasm for joining up

There was a discussion on trying to avoid a date clash with the College Conference and the PHCRIS conference which happened this year. The tentative date for next year looks as if there will be a clash so this could be an issue

Felicity was also hoping that the AAAPC Organisation would be able to contribute a small piece about themselves to a book on International Perspective on Primary Health Care Research which she is putting together as part of the Walker Working Party on Research. Nick would be happy to write a short piece

ACTION Nick to write a short 500 word piece

- vi. The Social Media Strategy for the AAAPC was reported on by Jodie and Lynsey. There are now 35 followers with 2 tweets a week going out. They are following all the members that are tweeting and Nick encouraged everyone to join up. He also thanked Jodie and Lynsey for all the work they have been doing Jodie encouraged committee and members to send anything that needs to be shared date The second phase of the media strategy is setting up a blog for Early Career Researchers and that is happening at the moment. Nick mentioned that at a Social Media seminar held this week at UNSW it was noted that if you use social media you can increase the citation of your articles by at least 15-%20%. The policy makers are often looking at social media not journals first Jodie mentioned that they had tweeted a paper of Nick's recently and to look and see if the citation had increased

- 6. **The Newsletter** The main article for the December issue was discussed Jodie thought it would be a good idea

for an article on the benefits of Social Media would be great K,N to ask Gerry Considine from the GP team to see if they would be happy to do something Jodie will send through the contact details and KN will FU

ACTION K.N to FU with the articles

7. **Travelling Fellowship** The date was extending to 31st October and a request was sent out to the members again and to the HOD's encouraging them to FU with anyone in their Departments who might be keen to apply but might need some help One application has been received.
8. **PHC Research Conference 2015** There was an email from Ellen to say she was hopeful that the date for next year's conference will be announced in the next 2 weeks. There is a difficulty with the New Zealand members ability to come because it clashes with their conference. The PHC Research team is aware of this and hope that in the future this can be avoided
9. **Finance** \$7,753.45
10. **New Members** *Sue McInnes University of Wollongong*

Next Meeting Thursday 4th December 2014