

**President's report AGM 2010.****Jon Emery**

Welcome to the first AGM of the Australian Association for Academic Primary Care. We now have a new name and also a new website: (<http://www.aaapc.org.au/>). We will be developing new content over the next few months and aim to keep it regularly updated. Our membership remains solid and I would just like to remind everyone to renew their subscription if not already done so. We ask you to promote membership to general practice and primary care academics and hope that we will continue to gradually grow.

This year we have seen our membership become increasingly vocal via the e-mail discussion list, to the point where we crashed the server due to volume of comments! While there were a few members who complained about this debate cluttering up their already full inboxes, we believe it is important to foster debate about important primary care matters. We have therefore agreed to increase the capacity of the server so that our members can continue to raise topics worthy of discussion. It is worth noting that one such debate led to APHCRI holding a forum in Darwin on Monday on the new policy about diabetes and capitation payments.

There are a number of other items I wish to highlight in my report:

1. It was of course with great sadness that we heard this month of the death of Charles Bridges-Webb. His significant contribution to academic general practice in Australia will continue to be remembered and recognised with the annual award of the medal in his name. This year we received five excellent nominations all of whom would have been worthy of the award. For those of you who attended the AAAPC dinner, you will already know that Prof Mark Harris was awarded the medal, which is very fitting given that Charles supervised his doctorate. We extend our congratulations to him once more on this award. I hope that this medal will be contested so closely again next year.
2. We also judged 16 submissions this year for the AAAPC Distinguished Paper, again requesting a longer abstract to allow us to make better judgements about the quality of the research. We congratulate Damin Si and Ross Bailie for their paper on improving preventive healthcare for adults attending indigenous community health centres. I was fortunate enough to be awarded this prize for our work on a new diagnostic tool for melanoma.
3. We remain in a financially stable position. This is due to last year's generous support from all the academic departments of general practice in Australia. Subscription fees will remain the same for 2010/11.

4. We have continued to lobby government about a number of issues important to our organisation, including the future of PHCRED, the GP Super Clinics, practice-based research networks and academic registrar posts, including the new recurrent posts. We have had direct input into discussions about the future of PHCRED although we remain concerned that there has still be no formal announcement made. We have also presented to United General Practice Australia, reminding them of the importance of education and research to the future of general practice in this country. We are delighted that one of our members, Prof Claire Jackson will become President of the RACGP from October and hope that she will be an important advocate for academic general practice in her new role.
5. Our Executive Committee meets monthly and is the main forum in which we make decisions about the activities of our organisation, including lobbying. Please raise issues with your state representative or through our secretariat if you wish an item to be discussed. I would like to thank our Executive for their hard work throughout the year. I would particularly like to thank our Secretary, Kitty Novy, Marie Pirotta our treasurer and Dimity Pond, the Deputy Chair of the Executive. I have completed my two year term as President and shall step down from this position but hope to remain on the Executive. I extend my warm wishes to the new President who will be elected at the AGM.