



G135M

Minutes of the Society for Academic Primary Care
Annual General Meeting 2016
held at Dublin Castle, Poddle Room
on Thursday 7th July 2016 from 12.30 to 13.25

Tabled papers:

Paper B: Chair and Secretary Report (Joanne Reeve and Nathan Hill)

Paper C: Treasurer's Report (Jo Protheroe)

Paper D: HODs and HOTs Reports (John Campbell and Joe Rosenthal)

1. Welcome and updates/news

Joanne Reeve welcomed everyone to the AGM. Attendees at the AGM had been given a members' pack containing leaflets about SAPC, what is APC, an organisational chart, workforce, special interest groups, top tips for elevator pitches, a postcard

Acknowledgements

New chairs:

Mary Dixon woods – Cambridge

Richard Neal – Leeds

Helen Smith – Singapore

Congratulations for the following honours to:

Helen Houston – MBE

Amanda Howe – OBE

Debbie Sharpe - OBE

Appointed as Fellows:

To the Academy of Medical Science:

Kamlesh Khunti

Liam Smeeth

Chris Butler

Renewals of NIHR senior investigator awards

Chris Salisbury
Chris Butler
Robert Walton
Irwin Nazareth
Nadine Foster

Honorary membership (on retiring)

Val Wass
Martin Roland
Paul Booton
Margaret Cupples
Ellen McIntyre, Professor in Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia – in recognition for her work on career development with SAPC

Executive

Welcome to our new SAPC Executive members: Suzanne Richards (Exeter – moved to Leeds later in 2016), James Prior, Keele, Jon Dickson, Sheffield.

Joanne Reeve thanked outgoing members of the Executive: Helen Atherton, Ben Brown and Greg Irving and co-opted member Jeremy Horwood (Comms lead).

Joanne was delighted that Kate O'Donnell has joined the executive as Vice-Chair and would become Chair later in this meeting.

2. Attendance and apologies

The meeting was attended by 63 members including the Executive.
Membership total 620: 388 medical and 250 PHOCUS.

Apologies had been received from Jon Dickson, Phil Evans, Amanda Howe, Blair Smith.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

- a. There were no matters arising. The minutes were approved.

4. Celebrating a year of Making a Difference:

Joanne Reeve reported that this had been another busy year for SAPC and its Executive. She reflected on the changing world of APC and the importance of having a strong Society continuing to raise the profile of Academic Primary Care (APC) and SAPC. The key activities and new developments throughout the year had been focussed on:

- a. Raising the profile of SAPC in departments
- b. Raising the profile at a national and policy level
- c. Thinking about the tools needed to achieve these goals.

Joanne Reeve introduced fellow members of the Executive to report on their area of responsibility within the three pillars of the Society:

First pillar: Raising the Profile of SAPC/APC: at Departmental/member level

Ambassadors

Becci Morris, Ambassador lead

- Becci reported that she had started to assemble a team of ambassadors. She is aiming to recruit one or two ambassadors from each institution to help disseminate information about SAPC and encourage new members to join.
- The Member packs (circulated at the AGM as samples) had been developed for ambassadors to use to distribute to colleagues to show how SAPC can support members and to enable ambassadors to encourage new members. The packs were developed in response to feedback that many people did not know about many of SAPC's activities.
- An open chair at SAPC executive meetings has been agreed by the Executive and will be implemented at the next meeting in September. Ambassadors will be offered the opportunity to attend a meeting on a rotating basis so that ambassadors can learn more about the work of the Executive. Packs will be distributed via the ambassador network.

HODs

John Campbell, Chair of HODs

- The HODs continue to meet twice a year (December and July) and works on many issues at national and policy level.
- SAPC (SAPC Exec, HODs and HOTS) submitted evidence to the Health Select Committee (HSC) chaired by Sarah Wollaston. Evidence from SAPC was extracted and quoted in the HSC report issued in March/April 2016 and this is informing key national policy development especially for SIFT negotiations (new tariff for GP teaching).
- One of the recommendations of the HSC was that primary care and general practice has a key role in the undergraduate curriculum. More controversially the GMC will hold medical schools to account in visits for the exposure of students to general practice teaching.
- Department of Health working group, chaired by Health Education England are taking forward the agenda practically. HODs and HOTS: Joe Rosenthal, Bob McKinley and John Campbell, are part of this group addressing the issue of a tariff for teaching in undergraduate settings in primary care.
- For our longer term profile, an issue that has been going on for 20-25 years is a piece of work around junior clinical academic salaries. Chris Salisbury has done a great piece of work with the English School of Primary Care in bringing together the necessary information. This will contribute to our goal of raising our profile nationally and in terms of policy. Currently we are trying to get it through the NIHR TCC (Training Coordinating Centre).
- Honorary contract arrangements with NHS – Tony Avery and John Campbell will meet Bruce Keogh early in September to discuss matters.
- HODs are reviewing links with RCGP in terms of how the group relates to the College in recognition that RCGP has important roads in to the corridors of power.

- News – Nick Francis will become HODs Secretary. Thank you to Martin Roland for taking on the role as Secretary for the last year. Martin would be retiring soon.

Website

Nathan Hill, Website lead

- The new website was launched a year ago and is working well with many new articles, the whole of the abstract submission, review and registration for ASM 2016 Dublin had been handled via the website. The website has full details of the mentoring scheme and Special Interest Groups, Early Careers Group, Primary Care Scientists Group (PHoCuS).
- The search function is excellent (type in key words in the search box and the site will list all articles and pages relating to your search).
- Members may advertise events in their institutions and jobs by getting in touch via office@sapc.ac.uk
- Upcoming publications by members can go on the website – the SAPC website can be a communication channel for members – email office@sapc.ac.uk to make a request.

Joanne Reeve said that Pulse Live had been in touch to develop an affiliation with SAPC following the development of the improved website.

Second pillar: Building a vibrant workforce - careers

The work on careers that Ann Adams led when she was Secretary has been a driving force for much of the recent SAPC work on careers, especially for the Primary Health Care Scientists (PHoCuS) group led by Christine Bond and Sandra Eldridge.

Primary Health Care Scientists (PHoCuS)

Sandra Eldridge, PHoCuS co-lead

- The group was set up 5 years ago for a section of SAPC membership who have often felt isolated in their departments in terms of a clear or logical career course.
- The group has created a forum to discuss these issues at all the regional meetings, the national meeting and in virtual meetings in between.
- There is a social media presence through a conversation on Twitter @sapcacuk #phocus on the last Friday of each month (led by one of the groups social media champions).
- 15 champions have been gathered to lead initiatives and supporting PHoCuS members.

Mentorship scheme

Christine Bond, PHoCuS co-lead

- The mentorship scheme was established 4 years ago to help the career development of PHoCuS members (non-GPs) but the scheme has just been opened to early career medical members too.
- Here are three quotes from mentees from our recent feedback survey of mentors and mentees: “My mentor’s support has been crucial to my career”, “I would not have applied to my current role if we had not had our mentorship sessions”, “it’s a fantastic resource for

career crises and impartial advice” this is very much about developing the careers of our members.

- Current statistics:
 - 13 ongoing mentors
 - 26 ongoing mentor/mentee pairings
 - 4 slots for new mentees
- In recognition of the success of the scheme SAPC are going to invest in training another cohort of mentors in October 2016.
- Members are welcome to complete an application form to become a mentor or a mentee (available on the SAPC website).
- The mentorship scheme isn't just restricted to PHoCuS it will be rolled out to the wider membership including early career GPs. Clearly something people value and will support careers and helps to expand capacity in the workforce.

Early Career Academic Group

Helen Atherton, ECA lead

1. The success of our first networking and career development event, which took part on the 19th of May 2016. We hope to run these annually, varying the location around the country.
2. The group is considering the development of a Principal Investigator of the year award – awarded to academics judged by ECA colleagues to provide exceptional support, leadership and encouragement for their team through the highs and lows of research, careers and life.
3. The ‘opportunities’ project. We are undertaking a long term piece of work exploring how we can best standardise the opportunities available to early career researchers across primary care departments and groups in the UK. The networking and career development group feeds into this.

Helen thanked the early careers working group, without whom our achievements would not be possible:

Dr Jenni Burt, Dr Becci Morris, Dr Nathan Hill, Dr Greg Irving, Dr Ben Brown, Dr Matt Webb, Dr Sophie Park, Dr Ceire Costelloe

Helen thanked Becci Morris, who took over the role from the AGM.

HOTs

Joe Rosenthal, co-lead HOTs

- The HOTs group continues to meet twice a year at the same time as HODs.
- There are many ongoing concerns relating to GP teaching but the top three are:
 - GP recruitment – this is a national issue, medical schools are part of the solution (not the whole solution). Key concerns are selecting and recruiting the right students, giving them sufficient quality and quantity of exposure to general practice to encourage greater numbers to choose this as a career option. This is also of interest to the wider scientific community, not just general practice.

- Funding – HOTS has been battling for an uplift in the payment rates for hosting students in practices. As John Campbell reported, there is strong support from the Health Select Committee which acknowledges that practices need greater financial reward.
- Promoting academic training for all GPs in training – to work with providers of postgraduate training to provide more opportunities for GPs to get involved in teaching.

aGPs and eGP (GPs with extended roles)

Jane Roberts had initiated this work on identifying and supporting GPs with extended roles that involve scholarship. Joanne Reeve will continue this work as a co-opted member of the SACP executive in the coming year to support Kate O’Donnell and the executive. SACP is continually looking to extend the support it offers to academic GPs. This year, we have also been contacted by a number of GPs who are not in an academic role but would like to get involved in research and scholarship. Joanne will work with Exec and RCGP to explore how we can take this work forward in the coming years

Joanne concluded this section of the meeting by reminding members that that many of these pieces of work offer additional ways for members to get involved with the work of SACP (perhaps as an alternative/precursor to joining the executive). Opportunities include working as ambassadors, early career research group, PHoCuS champions - a chance to gain new skills and experiences as well as support the wider work of our discipline. Getting involved in this way would be recognised as an ‘above and beyond role’ in the career development of the individuals.

Third pillar: Supporting Impact through collaboration

Journals

Jo Protheroe announced that SACP had a new affiliation with the Journal of Comorbidity (Swiss Medical Press). The Journal wishes to get an impact factor. It has offered a 20% discount on Open Access publication which represents a greater discount than the price of an annual membership subscription of SACP. SACP is also in discussions with the British Journal of General Practice (BJGP) and Primary Healthcare Research and Development (PHCRD) with the aim of building a network of affiliated journals.

Stakeholders

Clare Jinks, lead for stakeholder engagement

Clare Jinks recognised that this work has to support the aims of the Society and is looking at academic engagement for mutual benefit. She has been scoping the views of executive members and has been in discussions with the School for Primary Care Research (SPCR) and The Society for Social Medicine (SocSocMed).

She is looking very broadly at engagement and invited members to contact her with ideas and any contacts that they may know of or organisations they may be involved with – c.jinks@keele.ac.uk.

Conferences

Sarah Tonkin-Crine, lead for conferences

Sarah has been looking at regional conferences with a view to exploring areas where SAPC can offer more support to hosts. SAPC offers advertising regional meetings to members through the website and monthly newsletters, a prize to attend the SAPC ASM for the best early career presenter.

The early career workshop was a great example of a new event that SAPC can run for the benefit of members. Sarah invited members to contact her with any new ideas.

Joanne Reeve thanked the whole executive team and invited questions.

Comments

George Freeman

George said that he would be in touch with Martin Roland to invite him to join the Former Heads group. The group had met yesterday. The group came up with a few ideas for solutions to various issues, one suggestion is that members should write to their MP, even if just one MP takes an interest it may be possible to bring about change. Mention that SAPC and our evidence to the Health Select Committee is relevant and important to medical schools. We have a track record for this: when GF was at Southampton he wrote to his MP about medical academic pay and the MP turned out to be very interested and after a meeting he agreed to introduce an early day motion in the House of Commons to alter the Health Service Act to allow the NHS to pay GPs for having medical students at their practices (previously payment was not allowed). There may be an MP out there who could help us take our work forward so engaging with them is important.

Reading the minutes from 2015 in which the wedding of Richard Neal and Nada Khan is mentioned, George added that SAPC has been responsible for another wedding: he met his wife Alison Hill at a regional meeting in Cardiff in 1987.

Roger Jones

Roger congratulated Joanne and the executive team for taking SAPC forward. Regarding the House of Commons Health Select Committee report, and John's comment about the GMC. Roger wonders if we should be in touch with the GMC to help them with the metrics they should apply. Is it worth holding a meeting with Neil Dixon or Terrance Stevens to take this forward?

Joanne thanked Roger for this suggestion and agreed to add this in to plans.

Chris Dowrick

Chris agreed with Roger's comments on the success of SAPC. This seems to be well grounded in England and the UK, is that what we want? Is there a vision for Ireland, Germany and overseas?

Joanne replied that SAPC sees that SAPC has a global role. As SAPC chair she has been a member of the NAPCRG International Committee which also involves Canada, Australia and the Netherlands (Chris van Weel) as well as the UK and Ireland, so we are part of a global network.

John Campbell

John said that there had been a discussion at HODs that there was a need to actively engage more effectively with Europe, especially after the UK leaves the European Union, in order not to be isolated.

New Chair and Thank yous

Joanne Reeve announced that it was time to draw the AGM to a close. She thanked everyone for coming, the SAPC executive team for their work and support. She was very grateful to Helen Atherton, Ben Brown and Greg Irving who were stepping down from the executive. She thanked the host team Tom Fahey, Barbara Clyne, Linda O'Connor, Susan Smith and Emma Wallace for a fantastic conference. Next year she looked forward to welcoming everyone to Warwick. In 2018 the ASM will be in London and in 2019 Exeter.

Joanne thanked Sue Stewart and Sharon Pidgeon for their work on the conference and thanked Sue for her support throughout Joanne's time as chair.

Joanne congratulated Kate O'Donnell for becoming SAPC Chair for the coming three years 2016 to 2019.

Kate O'Donnell thanked and presented Nathan Hill with a gift for his work on the development of the new website.

Kate also gave enormous thanks to Joanne for her time as chair. She's brought a passion, a zeal, a love and commitment for SAPC and has developed a real engaged and fabulous executive. Kate thanked Joanne for all the hard work she has put in to SAPC.

The AGM closed at 13.25.