

SAPC ASM: Living and Dying well

1st July 2021

SAPC Officers' Annual Report to Members

Chair's report

In my second year of being Chair of SAPC, we have held Executive meetings virtually and much more frequently than previously held. Previously members of the Executive team would meet quarterly for an all-day face-to-face meeting.

More frequent meetings have been necessary to deal with the range of activities we do to support our members and promote our academic community, particularly responding to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As you are aware, we cancelled last year's ASM which was to be held in Leeds. Suzanne Richards and Richard Neal, and their team, had worked incredibly hard to put together a fantastic programme with excellent keynote speakers, and they kindly and bravely agreed to host this year's ASM. We made the difficult decision, at the end of 2020 that the conference should be online – and this was correct decision.

One of the consequences of the cancellation of last year's ASM was a financial hole in SAPC finances (and our Treasurer Jo Protheroe will describe this in the section below). Members of the Executive team cajoled 'lapsed' members to re-join; we introduced a new category of membership (undergraduate student and members of the public) and this has boosted our membership. Thank you to everyone who has re-joined SAPC. As described above, all Executive meetings have been conducted virtually – and this, too, has saved money.

Apart from the cancellation of the Trent meeting, in Spring 2020, other regional meetings have been held virtually and all were very successful. You will find links to SAPC North (<https://sapc.ac.uk/conference/2021-0>) Madingley (<https://sapc.ac.uk/conference/2021sesapc>) and SAPC SW (<https://sapc.ac.uk/conference/2021swsapc>) and the regional teams are starting to plan the next round of conferences, starting with SAPC North which will be held virtually, hosted by Keele, on 11th November 2021.

If you attended the prize presentations session on day 1 of the conference you will be aware of the awards given this year. Professor Kate Walters from UCL was given the "Principal Investigator award" – nominated by her team for supporting early career researchers and providing an environment in which they can flourish. <https://sapc.ac.uk/news/2021/06/24/sapcs-principal-investigator-of-year-2021-congratulations-prof-kate-walters>

This is the second year of the SAPC Doctoral award: Dr Emily McBride from UCL was judged first in the Doctoral award, with Andrew Sturrock from Sunderland highly commended. <https://sapc.ac.uk/news/2021/04/21/sapc-phddoctoral-prize-2021-announcement>

Finally, we had over 60 entries to the medical student essay award – the judges (members of SAPC Executive team and members of the Heads of Teaching group- HOTs) were astounded by the quality of the submitted essays. The winner was judged to be Andrew MacFarlane from ScotGEM (St Andrews and Dundee Medical School), and you can find his essay on the SAPC website. <https://sapc.ac.uk/news/2021/06/24/winner-of-sapc-medical-student-essay-prize-2021>

We decided that there were three other essays worthy of a mention: Hamzah Niaz, SGUL, Jennifer Knight, Oxford and Janvi Karia, UCL.

Well done to all the prize winners. Many thanks to the Executive team and HOTs members who participated in review panels.

SAPC funds along with the RCGP Scientific Foundation Board, chaired by Prof Richard Neal, the Early Career Researcher awards. Formerly known as the Yvonne Carter award, which had run for ten years as a single award, SAPC and RCGP agreed that we should fund two awards – one for an academic GP and one for a primary care scientist. The aim of the awards is to recognise the contributions of early career researchers in advancing the discipline of academic primary care through research and is intended to enable the successful candidate to meet and collaborate with international researchers. The winner of the academic GP award is Dr Samuel Seidu, Leicester and of the Primary health care scientist is Dr Shoba Dawson from Bristol. For details of their work please see the SAPC website. <https://sapc.ac.uk/news/2021/05/21/winners-of-2021-awards-outstanding-early-career-researchers-announced>

The Special Interest Groups are flourishing – see further discussion below.

Joanne Reeve will describe her vital work on the ‘WISE’ GP initiative and the hard work of the WISE interns below. More information can also be found in the Exhibition section of the conference platform.

We have continued to develop and streamline our website, and hope that our electronic newsletter and newsflashes provide welcome and interesting relief in the endless emails that we all receive.

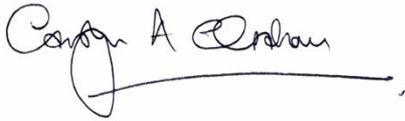
We have asked for your input to the priorities that you, our members, would like SAPC Exec to focus on this next few years. We hope you all completed the survey. We will let you know how we intend to work on these priorities over the summer.

At the ASM in Exeter, in 2019, we suggested that participants might wish to donate to NHS Charities <https://www.nhscharitiestogether.co.uk/>. Last year in 2020, we asked SAPC members to donate the monies that they would have spent on coffee (and other beverages) during the cancelled ASM to their favourite charity. I would like to make this gesture a regular feature of our annual conference – but the success of it is up to all our members – so, as you make coffee or tea between sessions in the programme, do consider making a donation to your favourite charity. Thank you.

Planning next year's ASM has not been easy. The 50th ASM will be held at UCLAN (and you can hear all about it from Umesh Chauhan at the end of this ASM) – initial dates were found to clash with RCGP/WONCA in London so we moved the meeting to the following week, which does slightly overlap with ASME. We are thus hoping to offer some innovative joint events. Do put 4th -6th July 2022 in your diaries.

Finally, I would like to thank Sue Stewart without whom, the role of chair of SAPC would be extremely difficult.

Best wishes to you all at this time, and be kind and supportive to your peers and colleagues.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Umesh Chauhan', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chair, SAPC

Financial report

I am pleased to report that despite the challenging time the financial position of SAPC is much more healthy than a year ago.

As those of you who have read these reports before are well aware, our income relies on membership subscriptions and conference income. Due to the short notice cancellation of the 2020 ASM, we not only faced the loss of income from the 2020 meeting, but we also had some financial obligations from the cancelled ASM that had still to be met. We made the difficult decision to significantly cut our expenditure to the bare minimum for the past year. Whilst some of this was relatively straightforward (after all no-one was travelling and no meeting rooms needed to be booked!) some decisions were more difficult in terms of funding some of our Society's activities.

Alongside this we began a membership drive led by our Chair, Carolyn Chew-Graham and supported by the Chairs of HoTs and HoDs, Joe Rosenthal and Joanne Reeves. Further to this membership drive we are very grateful to organisers of SAPC SE and SW regional meetings and the Primary Care Mental Health conference organisers who encouraged membership by offering free attendance to SAPC members. We also thank SAPC North organisers who donated a share of the income to SAPC. I am delighted to report that membership subscriptions are significantly improved as a result of this and we are very grateful for the support of our current members and new members in achieving this.

In addition, we are extremely heartened by registrations to both regional meetings and this our national conference, demonstrating that we are indeed alive and kicking and in a very healthy state to continue our activities. We plan to restart many of our funded activities, but also to continue to benefit from less travel and meeting expenses in the future.

We want to aim to avoid relying on conference income which, as you are aware, can be very variable. Please help by continuing to support membership amongst your departments and colleagues. If there is anything, or any activities, which SAPC could support, that you think might encourage and retain membership do please let us know. We are in a position to 'pump-prime' projects and plans, which might also make joining SAPC more attractive will be very welcome.

We are open to suggestions from the membership for projects or proposals.

I continue to be greatly indebted to Sue Stewart for her invaluable support and day to day management of the society's finances.



Jo Protheroe, Treasurer SAPC

Current Executive

Carolyn Chew-Graham (Keele) has completed her second, eventful, year as Chair of SAPC.

We had a vacancy on the Executive and we are delighted that Rachel Spencer (University of Warwick) was nominated and is duly elected unopposed to the Executive.

We are pleased to announce that Jo Protheroe (Keele), Treasurer and SIGs lead, Caroline Mitchell (Sheffield), mentoring lead, and Rupert Payne (Bristol), communications lead also stood for re-election, were unopposed and will continue on the Executive for a further 3 year term. Thank you to James Prior who moved institutions and stepped down from the Executive team.

In December we welcomed Emma Healey as Regional Meetings lead as a co-opted member of the SAPC Exec.

Rodger Charlton continues on Exec, Suzanne Richards (Leeds) and Julia Hiscock (Bangor) continue their work as PHoCuS co-leads. Rebecca Morris (Manchester) stood down from the role of Secretary (and this position was not replaced) but continues as Early Career lead.

HODs and HOTs are represented on the exec by Joanne Reeve, Chair of the HODs group and Joe Rosenthal, co-chair of HOTs.

Nick Thomas (RCGP) is an observer, to ensure close working between SAPC and RCGP.

Phil Evans (CRN) is an observer, to ensure close working between SAPC and NIHR CRN.

We operate an 'open seat' policy for our SAPC Ambassadors to come along and see the Executive at work. This allows our Ambassadors see what we are doing and provides an opportunity for the Executive to get a valued view from our Ambassadors and the members they represent.

We are looking to appoint a Vice-Chair for the upcoming year; someone who will take over from Carolyn as Chair in 2022 – could that be you? Please do contact Carolyn (c.a.chew-graham@keele.ac.uk) if you are interested in the role.

SAPC Membership Figures

As of June 2021 SAPC has: 444 members: 268 medical, 146 PHoCuS/academic, 21 honorary members, 9 students/public/career prize winners.

In addition we will have new members from the SAPC ASM 2021.

Supporting our membership

We continue to offer a range of benefits to members, which we hope you are aware of, and will pass onto your colleagues.

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

We have over 20 SIGs with topics covered as diverse as our membership, covering areas of clinical interest, methodological approaches and topics related to the delivery of high quality primary care.

In November 2020 we held our first Zoom meeting for SIGs which was very successful and enabled SIG leads to share ideas and experiences.

These groups are all active and most meet at least once a year, often at the ASM. SIGs have worked together to write papers, develop grant applications and act as a point of support for like-minded people.

The Mental Health SIG (<https://sapc.ac.uk/special-interest-group/mental-health-no-health-without-mental-health>) meets every couple of months and hosted a virtual conference with the University of York in May 2021. The abstracts of presentations will be available on the SAPC website shortly.

Physical Activity/Exercise as Medicine SIG met virtually in May 2021.

The Health Literacy SIG hosted an on-line conference hosted by University of Newcastle in April 2021.

You can find out more about the SIGs at <https://sapc.ac.uk/article/introduction-sigs>

Mentorship scheme

The mentorship scheme continues and is one of the few open programmes available, as others such as those offered by NIHR or Academy of Medical Sciences, are targeted at particular groups. We offer support to both clinical and PHoCuS members who are, mainly, early career researchers. We had to postpone our plans to hold a training event due to budgetary restraint this year but we hope to explore this again in the coming year.

PHoCuS

Under the leadership of Suzanne Richards and Julia Hiscock, our PHoCuS programme continues to develop. As well as the now traditional breakfast meeting at the ASM, the PHoCuS programme offers support to our primary healthcare scientists, particularly through the network of PHoCuS champions. We are continuing to considering how to develop the work and to think about the issues that face mid-career researchers.

Early Career Support

Supporting early career academics (ECAs) in primary care is a key part of the support that SAPC provides, including linking ECAs with appropriate information and signposting them to the different resources available from SAPC. The ECA group launched the Principal Investigator of the Year Award to recognise the valuable support from senior colleagues who go above and beyond to support the ECAs they work with, and candidates are nominated by ECAs in recognition of their support. We have previously run workshops and sessions both within the ASM and throughout the year and please speak to Rebecca Morris if you have ideas for future workshops.

Departmental/member liaison

Our Ambassador and PHoCuS Champions programme is a key part of SAPC's year-long support of our members. The Executive would like to thank everyone involved for their hard work and enthusiasm. We are looking for an Ambassadors lead now that Amy Blakemore has stepped down.

Raising our profile

We continue to promote a number of activities that raise or profile and, as a result, the profile of academy primary care more widely. These activities include:

Website and social media

Rupert Payne is our new communications lead and is focusing on the website, blogs and social media. Our Twitter account (@sapcacuk) now has over 3,200 followers. Do follow us #sapcasm.

SAPC Awards Committee

The Awards Committee is a key contributor to SAPC activity. Hilary Pinnock (Edinburgh) is taking over as Chair of this committee and this year co-chaired meetings with Carolyn.

This Committee oversees the awards for (two) Early Career Researchers, the RCGP John Fry Award, and applications/citations for the national Clinical Excellence Award Scheme in England. Please note that all applications for awards need to be submitted before the advertised deadlines.

Thank you to RCGP and the National School of Primary Care Research for collaboration and support in running these awards.

Hazel Everitt will chair the judging of the best papers from the SAPC ASM 2021, to be presented at NAPCRG 2021 and AAAPC 2022.

We are delighted that the recipient of the John Fry Award in 2020 (presented and announced in 2021) is Dr Kamal Mahtani (Oxford).

SAPC/RCGP Awards for Outstanding Early Career Researcher:

- Dr Samuel Seidu (Academic General Practitioner), University of Leicester
- Dr Shoba Dawson (Primary Care Scientist), University of Bristol

SAPC Principal Investigator of the Year Prize: Professor Kate Walters, UCL

PhD/Doctoral prize: Emily McBride, UCL

SAPC Medical Student essay prize: Andrew MacFarlane, St Andrews and Dundee Medical School

Impact through Collaboration



Championing Clinical Scholarship (WISE-GP)

WISE GP supports the daily knowledge work of modern general practice through championing clinical scholarship.

WISE GP is building new partnerships between clinical and academic primary care communities to support the needs and goals of each; whilst offering new directions for both.

WISE GP grew out of a workshop conversation at RCGP Conference in 2017 where over a hundred clinicians recognised the changing challenges they face in daily practice, and explored the opportunities offered by a new look at how they might use both the knowledge (evidence) and method (reasoning) of scientific practice.

Professor Joanne Reeve, SAPC Exec member and Chair of HODS, leads the WISE GP programme, which runs as a partnership between SAPC and RCGP. SAPC invested in the setup of the programme including establishment of a website. Generous sponsorship from the NIHR School for Primary Care Research enabled us to employ three WISE interns in 2021 to further develop the WISE resources: Dr Annabelle Machin (Keele), Dr Emily Lyness (Southampton), and Dr Johanna Reilly (Edinburgh).

New resources in 2021 include:

- Updated GEMS library: we publish summaries of new research for clinicians, including suggestions for Quality Improvement projects arising from the work
- WISE newsletter: will be launched at conference – a new monthly resource which targets clinicians, offering a themed introduction to new emerging scholarship and inviting new conversations on QI, impact and joint working
- Expanded Learning Resources: our new learning resources page offers an array of resources and links for getting started, and building opportunities in clinical scholarship
- WISE stories: we welcome a range of clinicians and academics on the site to tell their stories of knowledge work and scholarship – through videos, podcasts, personal profiles and blogs. Aimed at recognising everyday scholarship in practice and bringing the clinical and academic sections of our primary care community together
- WISE communities: introduces groups of practitioners working in this space – providing contact for people looking to join a community, and inspiration to those looking to establish

WISE GP offers a number of benefits to the academic community: in showcasing your work eg through GEMS; in raising the profile of your academic group with new audiences - building new partnerships with clinical communities; in sharing your expertise to support knowledge exchange and impact; in building strong and sustainable primary care through united scholarship.

Plans for 2021/22 include development of an online MOOC, ongoing conversations with RCGP on integration of our work, and exploring the opportunities for upgrade of a website which is now 'bursting at the seams'.

You can find out more about WISE GP at our Conference exhibitor stand, or on the website: wisegp.co.uk. Or contact Joanne – joanne.reeve@hyms.ac.uk

NIHR

We are supporting the NIHR Primary Care Incubator in England. As described above, SPCR is supporting the WISE GP initiative.

RCGP

The ECR and John Fry awards are offered jointly by RCGP and SAPC.

Members of the SAPC Executive meet regularly with Martin Marshall (Chair, RCGP) and colleagues to ensure academic primary care has a voice in the College.

SAPC Chair sits on RCGP Council.

The Oxford RCGP Research Surveillance Centre is going through a massive change due to Covid-19. Its growth (>1600 member practices) is enabling key public health surveillance and new clinical trial platforms.

RCGP SFB

SAPC members continue to play a role supporting academic primary care by contributing to the work of the Scientific Foundation Board. As well as the SAPC Chair, several members of the Board are drawn from the SAPC membership.

BJGP

We have an informal relationship with the British Journal of General Practice (BJGP). and hope we can continue to work closely together.

Support for undergraduate education

The Heads of Teaching group (HOTS) have worked tirelessly over the past two years, in collaboration with RGCP, to produce '*Teaching general practice: Guiding principles for undergraduate general practice curricula in UK medical schools*'. This has now been sent to all medical schools in the UK as part of our on-going campaign to promote and support the teaching of general practice in the undergraduate medical curriculum. There will be much activity in the wake of this excellent report, including our active support of the campaign to increase the tariff for teaching in general practice.

International links

We continue to have good links with NAPCRG, with the Chair sitting on the NAPCRG International Committee, and with our Australian colleagues in AAAPC. We also have links with the European Forum of Primary Care, and the Chair has been invited to be on the Scientific Programme Committee of WONCA Europe 2022.

Plans for 2021-22

We need to consolidate and grow the programmes of work outlined above, as well as being open to new suggestions about how we can support our membership.

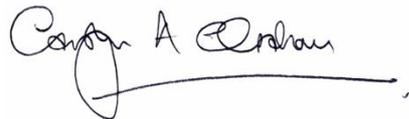
The top three priorities for SAPC are currently:

- Ensuring that SAPC is progressive in its approach to Equality, Diversity & Inclusion
- Primary care workforce and the future – including exploration of career trajectories and needs of mid-career researchers.
- The style of future SAPC national annual conferences.

Final Thanks

I hope this report gives you a flavour of the work and dedication of your Executive team – all of us work on your behalf. As well as the Executive, the HODs and HOTs groups continue to work and lobby for academic primary care at multiple levels.

As Chair – I would like to thank everyone on the Exec for their hard work and commitment to SAPC. Finally, huge thanks to Sue Stewart for her amazing support and dedication as our Secretariat.



Executive Committee July 2020 – July 2021

ELECTED MEMBERS

NAME	UNIVERSITY	Year elected (re-elected)	Lead Role
Carolyn Chew-Graham	Keele	2018-19, Vice Chair 2019-2022	Chair
Vacancy		Vice Chair appointment due 2021	
Rebecca Morris	Manchester	2015-2018 2017 – 2020 2020-2023	Secretary Early career & PPI
Joanne Protheroe	Keele	2010, Treasurer since 2012 2018-2021	Treasurer, SIGs
Sudeh Cheraghi-sohi	Manchester	2018-2022 (one year on maternity leave)	Equality and diversity
Caroline Mitchell	Sheffield	2018-2021	Mentoring scheme
Rachel Spencer	Warwick	2021-2024	
Suzanne Richards	Leeds	2016-2019 2019-2022	PHoCuS co-lead from 2018 ASM 2020/21 host
Rodger Charlton	Leicester	2017-2020 2020-2023	
Rupert Payne	Bristol	2018-2021	Comms

Constitution of Nov 2001 allows 8 Executive Committee members in addition to Chair and Vice-Chair

Terms of reference for Executive Meetings

Agreed at meeting on 16th July 2020

The requirement of attendance at SAPC executive meetings is at least half of voting members must attend (voting members being both elected and co-opted members but not observers).

Executive members: currently 13 people (9 elected and 4 co-opted) therefore 7 required to attend.

NAME	UNI/ ORGANISATION	Year invited	Lead role
Umesh Chauhan & Izabella Penier	UCLan	2021	ASM 2022 host
Joanne Reeve	HYMS	2012 (VC), Chair 2013-2016 2016 2020 -	GP Scholarship & Wise GP HODs chair
Joe Rosenthal	UCL	2011	HOTs co-chair
Julia Hiscock	Bangor	2018 -	PHoCuS co-lead
Emma Healey	Keele	2021 (Feb)	Regional meetings rep
Vacancy			Ambassadors

Constitution of Nov 2001 allows for 7 coopted members

OBSERVERS:

CRN - Dr Phil Evans (Clinical Research Networks 2014-)

RCGP – Nick Thomas (RCGP 2019-)

SAPC REPRESENTATION:

MASC – Caroline Mitchell, Sheffield / Joe Rosenthal, UCL

SFB – Carolyn Chew-Graham, Keele (as SAPC Chair)

SAPC Chair representation and attendance:

SFB

BJGP Editorial Board

HODs meetings

RCGP Council meetings

International Committee – meets at NAPCRG