



CONFIRMED

Minute of a meeting of College Council held on Friday 19th September 2008, 2pm, within College

Present

Professor B O Williams, President	Professor S M MacRury
Mr I W R Anderson, Treasurer	Dr L G McAlpine
Professor M A O Lewis, Vice President (Dental)	Mr J R McGregor
Mr D Galloway, Vice President (Surgical)	Dr M McElroy
Professor P V Knight, Registrar	Mr M J McKirdy
Dr J Taylor, Honorary Secretary	Dr H Scott
Mr M Bransby-Zachary	Professor R D Stevenson
Dr A Dunk	Mr J D Watson
Mrs A Lannigan	Dr A Zoma

In Attendance

Dr J A Miller
Mrs C M Capps

ACTION

- Welcome**
Ms Caryn Nicolson (Head of Membership Services) and Mrs Lorraine Quigg (Head of Finance and Support Services) were welcomed as observers.

Apologies

Dr A Bryson; Mr I G Conn; Dr G Cook; Professor J Connell; Mr J Drury; Dr F Dunn; Mr A Henry; Dr R McKee; Dr R Madhok; Dr N Mamode; Dr E Morrison; Dr K Paterson; Mr J Steers; Professor C Suckling; Mr G Sunderland; Dr E Walker.

- Minutes of the previous meeting**

Subject to the following amendment, the Minute was approved as an accurate record:

- page 5, agenda item (5.ii) should read,
“...*Council received the out turn position for 2007/2008*”.



3. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**

(3.1) **Finance – Management Letter**

Dr Miller reminded Councillors that the outstanding issue from the presentation by the Chairman of the Audit and Remuneration Committee was the presentation of the formal audit letter. This was now available having been agreed by the Audit and Remuneration Committee. Each Councillor was provided with a copy of the letter and appended to the Minute of Council.

In referring to the letter, Dr Miller outlined its content and in particular those areas identified as high risk. Dr Miller also commented that this was the first time the auditors had produced such a comprehensive view on areas for action and will form the basis of workstreams for the Audit and Remuneration Committee.

MRCP (UK) processes, the lack of clarity, the lack of suitable data, the absence of formal agreement and inequitable share of financial liabilities was identified as a key area of concern. Dr Miller reminded Council that this issue had been raised by RCPSG through the Federation and despite various suggested solutions, the three colleges had failed to achieve a unanimous decision on the way forward. This was now subject to Presidential level discussion in the hope that a solution can be found.

Evaluation of the Council encapsulated evaluation of the function and effectiveness of Council (and its sub-groups). The meeting heard that self evaluation of effectiveness of groups such as Council, is an important governance issue, and is recommended by best practice and would be viewed as such by OSCR (charity regulator). At the next meeting of Council in November, time will be spent reviewing what College, and in particular Council, has achieved over the year.

Professor Knight explained that Council currently comprises individuals who are elected or co-opted, and reminded the meeting that Trustees have specific obligations and requirements to fulfil. He went on further to state that given the size of Council, difficulties could perhaps be encountered in assessing how the committee works. Professor Knight therefore proposed the following options of who should be a Trustee of the charity:

1. Status quo;
2. All elected members ;
3. Elected Office Bearers only.

Professor Knight asked Council members to give further thought to these options. These will be debated at the next Council meeting with a formal discussion at the AGM.

(3.2) **Single Royal College in Scotland**

Dr Miller reminded Council of the previous discussions on this matter, and reported that a memorandum had been written and presented to both Edinburgh



Colleges. President indicated he had been in discussions with his presidential colleagues, and Dr Miller also indicated that he had been in discussions with his CEO colleagues.

This matter will form a major part of the next meeting at the Scottish Royal Colleges meeting in October. At this meeting each College will be asked whether it is willing to have this discussed and agreed for signature at the next Council meetings.

President enquired of Councillors whether they wished to continue their support towards a single Royal College or whether they wish to withdraw from such a venture. Following discussion, Councillors wished to continue their support towards progression of a single Royal College.

4. **Any Other Competent Business**

None.

5. **Items for Discussion**

(5.1) **Memorandum of Understanding with Digital Design Studio**

Dr Miller reported that MOU (between the RCPSG and Glasgow School of Art) had not yet been finalised, but was hopeful that this would be in due course. A number of Councillors have had the opportunity to visit the Digital Design Studio and comments received have been favourable and optimistic.

Dr Miller indicated that scenario planning for future potential income was currently under way. Council noted that for the first three years, the estimated project costs would be approximately £3.1-3.2million. Dr Miller thereafter sought the approval of Council in proceeding to the next stage in the process. This was agreed.

(5.2) **Policy for Payment for College activities**

Councillors were directed to document D, "*Policy for Payment for College activities*". Dr Miller was invited to lead on this issue and explained that the development of such a policy was in line with the charitable status of College, and also to ensure that all parties, who undertake projects on behalf of third parties, are protected from any adverse comments or view implying personal gain.

During discussion, Dr Miller answered questions posed to him, and it was agreed that the policy be amended to include only two categories:

1. All members of Council;
2. Fellows and Members of College

It was agreed that Dr Miller would amend the current policy and circulate to Councillors.

JAM

6. **Items for Approval**



- (6.1) **Honorary Fellowship/Fellowships *ad eundem***
 - **Nomination of Triennial Surgical Forum Speakers for Fellowship *qua Surgeon ad eundem***

Following discussion surrounding the routine nature of the Glasgow Surgical Forum *ad eundem* fellowships, the nominees were approved.

- (6.2) **Proposal of Professor John MacVicar, FRCS (Glasg) for Fellowship Honoris Causa of the College**
 Approved.

7. **Items for Noting**

(7.1) **Education and Professional Development Board**

Dr Hazel Scott provided a brief update from the Education and Professional Development Board:

- 70 events are planned for the forthcoming year;
- Sir Tom Farmer will deliver a "Leadership Lecture" on 27.10.08;
- *MSc in Clinical Leadership* commenced 19.9.08. There are 13 individuals the course, all of whom will be used as a cohort to help identify further needs for future courses.

(7.2) **Examinations and Assessment Board** **Unconfirmed Minute of the EAB, 4.9.08**

Noted.

Mr Galloway indicated that the EAB were currently exploring the potential for new qualifications / courses / examinations.

A meeting between Dr Asad Zoma, Director of International Affairs, and the RCSI would take place in October with a view to exploring the potential for collaboration with the Arab Board for Medical Specialisations. Mr Galloway/Dr Zoma will provide feedback to Council in November.

(7.3) **Membership Services Board**

(7.3.1) **Unconfirmed Minute of Scholarship Committee, 21.8.08**

Noted.

(7.3.2) **Unconfirmed Minute of Extraordinary Meeting of College, 3.9.08**

Noted.

Dr Taylor provided an update on progress with the triennial conference, and encouraged Councillors to continue raising awareness of this event with their colleagues.

(7.4) **Dental Faculty**

Unconfirmed Minute of Dental Council, 28.8.08

Professor Lewis directed Councillors to item (10.1.4) in the Dental Council Minute regarding TC White Bequest Fund, and indicated that a booklet is being produced outlining how to access TC White awards.



Professor Lewis anticipated that at the College November AGM ratification of the new category of dental associateship would be received. Thereafter dental care professionals would be eligible to apply for this category.

(7.5) Faculty of Travel Medicine

Unconfirmed Minute of the Faculty of Travel Medicine Board, 8.9.08

Noted.

Professor Knight drew attention to agenda item (7) from the FTM minute, outlining the fee for the MFTM examination. Council noted the difference in the amount payable by medically qualified candidates as opposed to all other candidates, and following discussion, it was agreed that this should be re-examined.

JAM

(7.6) Management Board

Unconfirmed Minute of Management Board, 20.8.08

Noted.

Dr Miller reported that whilst there is no on-site IT back up, processes are in place to counteract any problems that may be experienced. In responding to a question, Dr Miller reassured Council that an internal IT team has been established (comprising named individuals from each unit) and is supported by external parties with IT expertise until a long-term solution is found.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

Tuesday 18 November 2008, 4.10pm

Monday 19 January 2009

Tuesday 31 March 2009

MAY 2009 – TO BE CONFIRMED

Thursday 30 July 2009

Friday 11 September 2009

Monday 2 November 2009