



CONFIRMED

Minute of a meeting of College Council held on Monday 30th March 2009 4.10pm, within College

Present

Professor B O Williams, President
 Mr I W R Anderson, Honorary Treasurer and Visitor
 Mr D Galloway, Vice President (Surgical)
 Professor P V Knight, Registrar
 Dr E Morrison, Honorary Librarian
 Dr J Taylor, Honorary Secretary
 Mr G Conn
 Dr A Dunk
 Mr A D Henry
 Mrs A Lannigan
 Professor S MacRury
 Dr M McElroy

Dr R McKee
 Mr M J McKirdy
 Dr R Madhok
 Ms J Murray
 Dr R Neilson
 Professor K R Paterson
 Dr R Pilley
 Mr R Scott
 Dr E R Waclawski
 Dr E Walker
 Mr J D Watson

In Attendance

Dr J A Miller
 Mrs C M Capps

ACTION

1. Welcome

Ms Juliette Murray was welcomed as Trainee Representative.
 Dr Richard Pilley was welcomed as the Dental Faculty representative.
 Dr Roddy Neilson and Mr Roy Scott were welcomed as new members of Council.

Ms Valerie Hogg and Dr Brian Howieson were welcomed as observers.

Apologies

Mr M Bransby-Zachary; Professor J Connell; Dr G Cook; Dr H Dobson; Dr F Dunn;
 Professor M A O Lewis; Mr J R McGregor; Mr N Mamode; Dr H Scott; Mr J Steers;
 Dr A Zoma.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th January 2009

These were approved as an accurate record.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes

(3.1) Federation Finances

Dr Miller reported that a split had been agreed between the Colleges, however agreement could not be reached on the method of implementation. Dr Miller reminded Council members that this was an issue which had been raised through the College Audit Process and was likely to be subject to further review



in the forthcoming end of year audit. All agreed that the situation was unsatisfactory Dr Miller indicated that a letter would be sent to the other Colleges of Physicians indicating the RCPSG position. (i.e. that if an agreement could not be reached then the default position had to be status quo) The only outstanding matter for which there was no previous agreement was the inter-college share of the Specialty Certificate Examination costs. The Management Board had would agree a position. Council will be kept informed of progress.

(3.2) Regulation changes regarding Trustee status

Professor Knight reported that the College Regulations are with lawyers who are in the process of revising the Regulations to reflect the proposed changes. It was agreed that once these amendments have been made, the Regulations would be circulated via e-mail to Councillors for comments.

(3.3) Acute Medicine Accreditation

President reminded Council about the previous concerns relating to issues surrounding changes affecting trainee physicians who may find themselves disadvantaged on the General (Internal) Medicine and Acute Medicine curricula pathway.

Dr McElroy indicated that the situation had now been resolved and a statement had now been posted on the Joint Royal Colleges of Physicians Training Board website, www.jrcptb.org.uk

(3.4) Vale of Leven Hospital

President reminded Councillors about the previous discussion at Council regarding a consultation process, underway through the NHSGG&C, with regard to the Vale of Leven Hospital. President confirmed that comments had been sent regarding this consultation on behalf of the College. Comments had also been sent from RCSEd and the RCPed, stressing the importance of patients' safety, standards for training and the quality of service.

Professor Sir Neil Douglas had contacted Professor Williams and suggested making a joint statement with RCSPG with regard to the proposals which had now been sent to the Cabinet Secretary for approval. President stated that should RCPSG agree to a joint statement, any comments would be restricted to the following domains

- (1) issues relating to patient safety
- (2) continuity of care
- (3) quality of training within the organisation

Disappointment was expressed by some Councillors that no further input had been received from those Fellows who had initially raised concerns via the President in December 2008.

Following discussion, it was agreed that a joint statement should be delayed until further dialogue between the President and other key individuals.



4. **Any Other Competent Business**

There was no other competent business.

5. **Items for Discussion**

(5.1) **Election Process**

Council was reminded of various concerns that had been expressed by fellows and members who had not realised that their ballot papers had been included with their College mailing, and these had been inadvertently discarded. Dr Miller reminded council that it was some years since the ballot for elections was conducted by a separate mailing. Dr Miller guided Councillors to document "B", "*Proposed Changes to the Administration of Council Elections*", which offered the following scenarios:

- (1) Electoral Reform Society (ERS) manages and quality assures the whole process
- (2) The nomination process is managed in-house by RCPSG staff and the ERS undertake the range of election processes
- (3) The nomination process is managed in-house by RCPSG and ERS conduct a postal ballot only. No e-voting options would be available
- (4) The nominations and voting process is undertaken entirely as an e-exercise

During discussion the various voting options were fully debated, and cost differentials were clearly outlined by Dr Miller.

President proposed the following 3 options as a way forward:

- (1) Clearly mark on the envelope that ballot papers are enclosed
- (2) Post the ballot papers separately
- (3) Electoral Reform Society oversees the whole process.

It was agreed that the process should be undertaken by the ERS with an electronic option available.

(5.2) **Composition / size of Council**

Council recalled the previous discussion regarding the composition and size of Council and recognised that this would be discussed further once the matter of Trustees had been fully agreed. A formal proposal would be constituted and presented at an EGM.

It was agreed that, when necessary, co-opted directors could attend meetings of Council if they wished, or indeed if there was an item on the agenda affecting their domain.

(5.3) **Recognition of surgical sub-specialties**

President outlined the content of a recently received letter from the President of the Vascular Society indicating their intent to seek sub-specialty status for



Vascular Surgery, and that this request has been supported by the President of the RCSEngland.

President reported that this matter would be discussed at the meeting of the joint surgical Colleges in April.

This was debated at some length and concerns were expressed regarding the following:

- (1) delivery of emergency care
- (2) service delivery in remote and rural hospitals/DGHs
- (3) rota implications, ie skill set of on-call surgeons

President indicated that Council would be kept informed of deliberations at the meeting of the joint surgical Colleges in April.

- (5.4) **Dr Haslam**
RESTRICTED BUSINESS

6. Board Reports

For information and discussion of exceptional issues only

- (6.1) Education and Professional Development Board
Unconfirmed Minute of E&PD Board, 3.2.09
Noted.

Unconfirmed Minute of Trainees Committee, 16.2.09
Noted

- (6.2) Examinations and Assessment Board
Unconfirmed Minute of Examinations and Assessment Board, 3.2.09
Noted.

- (6.3) Membership Services Board
Unconfirmed Minute of MSB, 9.2.09
Noted.



Unconfirmed Minute of Scholarship Committee, 22.1.09

Noted.

Unconfirmed Minute of Lachlan McNeil Scholarship in Ophthalmology, 23.2.09

Noted.

Unconfirmed Minute of the Lay Advisory Board, 17.2.09

Noted.

(6.4) Dental Faculty

Unconfirmed Minute of Dental Council, 26.2.09

Noted.

Dr Pilley advised that Professor Derek Willmot, Dean of RCSEngland, would represent dentistry at the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges, and would provide feedback on relevant dental issues.

(6.5) Faculty of Travel Medicine

Confirmed Minute of meeting of Faculty of Travel Medicine, 6.11.08

Noted.

(6.6) Management Board

Dr Miller reported that there had been an extended meeting in February with each unit presenting their projected business plan. A summary from this meeting would be circulated to Councillors.

Dr Miller also indicated that future meetings of Council would receive copies of the Audit and Remuneration Committee Minute.

(6.7) Academy of Medical Royal Colleges

Executive summary of AoMRC meeting with Sir Christopher Edwards, Chairman of NHSMEE, 10.2.09

Noted.

7. Dates of Future Meetings

- Wednesday 6 May 2009
- Thursday 30 July 2009
- Friday 11 September 2009
- Monday 2 November 2009