



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of College on Monday 5 December 2005

Sederunt:

Professor G M Teasdale, President
 Dr D T Roberts, Vice-President (Medical)
 Mr J C Ferguson, Vice-President (Surgical)
 Dr W M M Jenkins, Vice-President (Dental)
 Dr P V Knight, Honorary Secretary
 Mr D J Galloway, Honorary Treasurer
 Dr K R Paterson, Dr R D H Monie, Mr I G Stother, Professor D Hamblen, Dr E Walker, Mr A McKay, Dr B O Williams, Dr M A Roberts, Mr M McKirdy, Mr C G Morran, Dr J A Kennedy, Professor R D Sturrock, Dr R D Stevenson, Mr R Miller, Professor J McKillop, Dr L G McAlpine, Dr C G Semple, Mr D C Smith, Professor K M Cochran, Dr S D Slater, Dr I Watson, Dr P R Mills, Dr H R Scott and others being a quorum of Fellows and Members and Fellows in Dental Surgery.

In Attendance: Dr J A Miller, Chief Executive
 Mr A Campbell, College Clerk
 Mr F E L McCrossin, Wylie & Bissett
 Mr R K Littlejohn, Registrar
 Mrs L Quigg, Finance Manager

1 **Apologies and Intimations**

a) **Apologies** were received from the following –

Mr J R McGregor, Mr A J Mack, Professor A R Lorimer, Dr J Taylor (representing President in London), Dr M M Steven, Professor D G Macdonald, Dr A Reid, Dr J Long, Mr J K Drury, Mr G T Sunderland, Dr J R Pilley.

b) **Obituaries**

The President, the Fellows and Members upstanding, intimated the deaths of:

Valerian Pius KIMATI, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 29 May 2005

Ronald CALDERISI, FRCS(Glasg) which occurred on 29 July 2005

Gerry CREAM, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 7 September 2005.

Abimbola KUTI, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 18 September 2005

George Battersby Shuttleworth ROBERTS, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 25 September 2005

Gordon Campbell MACBAIN, FRCS(Glasg) which occurred on 1 October 2005

John Barclay BARR, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 4 October 2005

William CHAN, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred on 26 October 2005

Arthur Louis FURST, FRCP(Glasg) which occurred in November 2005

HE Shri KR NARAYANAN, Hon FRCPS(Glasg) which occurred in November 2005

c) Welcome

The President welcomed Mrs Lorraine Quigg, Mr Campbell and Mr McCrossin to the meeting.

2 Minutes of the Meeting of College of 5 September 2005, and Extraordinary Meetings of College of Thursday 3 and Wednesday 16 November 2005

The Minutes were approved.

3 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4 The President's Report

The President reported on:

- a) Continuing reorganisation of the College, focusing on its main core activities, and now placing a priority on input from Fellows and Members.
- b) PMETB's assumption of its responsibilities, the scale of the task it has undertaken and funding issues.
- c) Concerns about plans for future career pathways put forward by the England MMC Group, but reassurance that these will not be followed in Scotland.

- d) The difficulty of balancing an increase in training numbers with realistic workforce planning figures. Discussions within MMC addressing delivery of training and the concept of specialty schools.
- e) The continued debate about selection into training and the place in this of College Membership exams.
- f) The decision by the Federation of RCPs to form a single board for postgraduate medical training. Relationships between Colleges and Specialty Associations. A proposal to develop specialty knowledge assessments for physicians.
- g) The presentation to the Senate of Surgery of a detailed web-based curriculum for higher surgical training.
- h) Difficulties between Colleges over electronic logbooks and the principle of opening the Intercollegiate Specialty Fellowship exams in surgery to Article 14 applicants.
- i) The Annual Report of the Scottish Audit of Surgical Mortality, press coverage, and reassurances from the Information Commissioner that he does not see it as being in the public interests to release confidential audit data.

Mr A J McKay criticised the reluctance to allow trainees to take the first parts of membership exams during Foundation Year Two. The President noted that it was PMETB which determined the criteria for entry to Specialist Training and that there were varying views about what these should be amongst specialties in both medicine and surgery. Mr Galloway considered that there was a perverse state of affairs whereby a trainee's experience gained in a specialty might be discounted in the selection process. Several views were expressed about the disadvantages of omitting exams from the selection process, and the possible implications for College finances.

5 The Honorary Secretary's Report

Dr P V Knight reported on the proceedings at the meetings of Council of 13 September and 8 November 2005. The Honorary Secretary's report is appended to, and is deemed to form a part of, these Minutes.

Dr Slater welcomed the College's closer links with the Scottish Medical Journal. He asked whether it would not be better for the proposed historical input to be published in the Scottish Medical Journal, rather than in a College electronic journal. He was assured that this is possible, at the discretion of the Editor.

Dr Slater also welcomed the President's weekly electronic newsletter but suggested that it would be preferable if the covering email came from the President himself, rather than from a member of staff. The President agreed to take note of this suggestion, and a further one from Dr Slater that an International edition of the newsletter should be sent to Fellows and Members furth of the UK.

6 The Vice-President (Dental)'s Report

Dr Jenkins summarised activity within the Dental Faculty since the last meeting of College. This included the first diet of the MFDS Part C to be held in Chennai in India. He referred to work with the Dental Faculty in Edinburgh to update

documentation and protocols for SHO training post inspections. Action was also in hand to attract more applicants for awards from the T C White Bequest Fund.

The most noteworthy event recently had been the publication of a GDC Report on Specialist Lists. The Report's recommendations were generally supported by the Dental Council and it appeared that the role of the Colleges would be relatively unchanged. He hoped that the Faculty would be able to influence implementation of the recommendations.

Finally, he noted that the GDC no longer required candidates to have the MFDS as an essential qualification for specialist training.

7 College Annual Report

The Honorary Secretary introduced the Annual Report for 2005, thanking Dr K R Paterson for the work he had done to establish the Report's format, and Anne Hanlon, Fiona Selkirk and the Registrar for their contributions to it. It detailed the context in which the College was operating, reported on the Library and Archive, but had as its focus a look to the College's future. Dr Knight drew attention to the new Senior Management Team and commended the Chief Executive, Dr Miller, who was already making his presence felt as witnessed by his contribution to the debate on the Business Plan for the MRCP(UK) Central Office.

8 The Honorary Treasurer's Annual Report

Mr Galloway highlighted the financial challenges which the College faced and welcomed Mrs Quigg who, as the Finance Manager, would assist in tackling them.

He reminded Fellows and Members of the main income streams and commented on changes which had occurred in the examination area. The MRCP(UK) provided a reliable income but there were problems which the Honorary Secretary had alluded in accounting for the division of income and expenditure amongst the Colleges. Income from the Intercollegiate MRCS exam had picked up but remained a long way behind what the College had previously received from the FRCS exam.

On expenditure, Mr Galloway drew attention to the College's contributions to Intercollegiate activities which represented 7% of the total. He also referred to the expenditure on Organisational Development. The costs in the year had been close to the estimate of £50,000 but on the advice of the Auditors the figures included around £75,000 which had been committed but would not be spent until financial year 2005/2006. Mr Galloway also referred to a plan to change the College's financial year to end on 31 March bringing it more in line with the tax year.

Mr Galloway said that it had been a privilege to hold the office of Honorary Treasurer. He expressed his thanks and best wishes to Mr Littlejohn who had supported him throughout his term and his best wishes to his successor as Honorary Treasurer, Mr Anderson, and to Mrs Quigg for the future.

Referring to changes in the surgical exams, Mr D C Smith asked whether there had been any formal agreement that no College should be disadvantaged substantially financially by the introduction of an Intercollegiate exam? The President confirmed

that the agreement had been minuted in principle but no mechanism for redress had been specified. He noted that much of the imbalance was from the distribution of the new candidates eligible to take an open exam, and that repeated representations had been made about the need to put the agreed principle into effect. The Colleges' CEOs had considered options and Mr Littlejohn outlined the reasons why they had recommended to the Presidents that none of them would bring about significant improvements. The President said that the onus was on the College to promote its own exam and it was doing so, for example, by holding diets south of the border.

The President said that a report of activity in the Library was included in the Annual Report. There were no questions on this aspect.

9 Proposed Amendments to the Regulations and Bye-Laws

The Registrar noted that there had been no fundamental review of College Regulations and Bye-Laws for many years. Several factors had made a revision more pressing over the past few months and he would highlight the main changes being proposed.

In the first place the Council proposed to reduce to one the number of College Meetings held each year. The provision for the President and Council, or a number of Fellows and Members, to call an extraordinary meeting would however remain unchanged. Much of the routine business currently conducted at College Meetings would be passed to Council or to Office Bearers.

Professor Cochran questioned whether it was appropriate for College to consider such wide-ranging changes in a tabled document. The Registrar reminded him that the Billet had drawn attention to the proposed changes which had been posted on the website and were available in printed form for anyone who requested them. Dr S D Slater questioned the decision to reduce College Meetings to once per year. This would reduce input from the wider Fellowship and he referred to recent examples of the College's Strategic Review and its support for the Scottish Medical Journal where wider input to Council deliberations had been important. Professor D Hamblen supported this view and expressed general concern about the College's ability to represent the views of its junior members. He also asked whether a change in financial year would make a December AGM appropriate. The President responded that College Meetings were not effective ways of communicating with the breadth of the College Fellowship and Membership. Attendance, particularly from juniors was poor. Council proposed that the Annual Meeting would be linked with a major educational event which would be attractive to a wide range of Fellows and Members. Council would consider if December remained the most suitable month. The Honorary Secretary said that he also hoped that the Annual Meeting would be complemented by more topic-based meetings. Dr C G Semple expressed the view that one meeting each year was enough. From his experience College Meetings involved much preparatory work and achieved little outcome. A proposal by Dr S D Slater to retain quarterly meetings of College did not find a seconder.

The Registrar said that a second change was to institute a Faculty of Travel Medicine. This would bring into the College Fellowship and Membership individuals who were not medically qualified. The structure of the Faculty and its rights and privileges of its Fellows and Members were modelled closely on those of the Dental Faculty with one major exception. Unlike those in the Dental Faculty, Fellows and Members of the Faculty of Travel Medicine would not have the right to propose, vote for, or stand as, College Office Bearers. The Faculty would have an Executive Board and an Annual Meeting.

Dr D T Roberts said that the Council had been delighted to support this proposal which matched the way medicine was developing. Instituting the Faculty would put the Glasgow College in the forefront of developments by admitting non-medically qualified people as Associates. He praised the work of Dr Eric Walker in all that he done to make the Diploma in Travel Medicine such a success. Dr Walker said that the need for the Diploma had arisen out of the 25-fold increase in overseas travel in recent years. Its success had produced a national enthusiasm for a Faculty and he thanked the Council for the encouragement it had given.

The Registrar next referred to the proposed introduction of Associate status within the College. He said that current Dental Associates held membership qualifications and had rights very similar to those of Members of the Faculty of Dental Surgery. These would become Associate Dental Members. Holders of non-membership College diplomas, such as the Diploma in Child Health and the Diploma in Geriatric Medicine would be eligible to become Associates of the College. The small number of individuals who were at present affiliates of the College would all be eligible for election as MRCPS(Glasg).

Dr M A Roberts asked whether Associates would be eligible for such benefits as reduced rates for educational events. The President confirmed that this was so.

The Registrar referred to the section of the Bye-Laws on Professional Conduct. There were currently two distinct situations in which College could consider removing the Fellowship or Membership. The first was when an individual had been convicted by a court of law or dealt with by the GMC or GDC. The second was when the College became aware of alleged misconduct, but where the Fellow or Member had not been dealt with by a court or by one of the regulatory authorities. Council had considered whether it wished to retain the option of responding to the second situation and had decided to seek College views on this. The Registrar said that other changes to the Bye-Laws implemented recommendations from the College's lawyers to ensure that the processes adhered to the principles of natural justice.

Finally, the Registrar advised that reference to an Acting Treasurer had been removed, now that the College had employed an accountant as Finance Manager.

A proposal by the President that the amendment to the Regulations and Bye-Laws be approved was carried with thirty Fellows and Members in favour, one against and two abstentions.

10 Election of Office Bearers and Members of Council

The President summarised the position on nominations received for Office-Bearers and Members of Council.

Thereafter, Professor G M Teasdale was proposed as President by Mr J C Ferguson, seconded by Dr B O Williams. There were no other nominations and Professor Teasdale was elected as President for a period of ONE YEAR.

The President reported that, as only the requisite nomination had been made for the post of Visitor, it had not been necessary to take a postal ballot. Dr B O Williams had been elected as Visitor for a period of ONE YEAR.

The President also reported that as only the requisite nomination had been made for the post of Vice-President (Medical) it had not been necessary to take a postal ballot for this post. Dr C G Semple had been elected Vice-President (Medical) for a period of TWO YEARS.

The President invited Dr Williams to join the Office Bearers, gowned him and gave him his badge of office. Dr D T Roberts passed his gown and badge to Dr Semple. The Fellows and Members welcomed Dr Williams and Dr Semple to their posts.

Dr P V Knight was proposed by the President and seconded by Dr D T Roberts as Honorary Secretary. There were no other nominations and Dr Knight was elected as Honorary Secretary for a period of ONE YEAR.

The President reported that no nomination had been received for the office of Deputy Honorary Secretary.

The President reported that, as only the requisite nomination had been made for the post of Honorary Treasurer, it had not been necessary to take a postal ballot for this post. Mr I W R Anderson had been elected as Honorary Treasurer for a period of ONE YEAR.

The President reported that no nomination had been received for the post of Ordinary Councillor (Fellow or Member *qua* Surgeon). Thereafter Mr Marc Bransby-Zachary was proposed by Mr J C Ferguson and seconded by Dr P V Knight. Mr Douglas McWhinnie was proposed by Mr C G Morran and seconded by Mr D G Galloway. The President announced that there would be a ballot for this post and appointed Dr E Walker and Mr D C Smith as scrutineers.

The President reported that two nominations having been received for the post of Ordinary Councillor (Fellow or Member *qua* Surgeon who obtained full registration with the GMC less than 10 years before the date of nomination) a postal ballot had been taken and Dr James Anthony McCaul had been elected as an Ordinary Councillor for a period of FOUR YEARS.

The President reported that no nomination had been received for the post of Regional Councillor (South West Scotland). Mr M McKirdy was proposed by Mr J C Ferguson, seconded by Mr D Galloway. There were no other nominations and Mr McKirdy was elected as a Regional Councillor for a period of FOUR YEARS.

The President reported that as only the requisite nomination had been made for the post of Regional Councillor (Fellow or Member *qua* Surgeon, England and Wales) it had not been

necessary to take a postal ballot. Mr Andrew D Henry had been elected as a Regional Councillor for a period of FOUR YEARS.

The President reported that no nominations had been received for the posts of Regional Councillors for Northern Ireland.

Finally, the President reported that only the requisite nomination had been made for the post of Honorary Librarian. Dr Elaine Morrison had been elected as Honorary Librarian for a period of ONE YEAR.

The President gave personal thanks to those who were leaving Council. Dr D T Roberts had been unstinting with his time and had provided wisdom, insight and commitment. He had combined telling and penetrating contributions with good humour. Mr David Galloway had exuded a calm confidence and common sense and had been strong in his dealings with other Colleges. Professor Robert Carachi had served Council with principle and aspiration. He had provided a very valuable link with the Scottish Medical Journal. Ms Suzanne Elgammal had been a faithful attender at Council. Although she was quiet, her interventions had always been to the point. Dr Lawrence McAlpine had brought a depth of knowledge to Council and had represented College with dignity and stature, in particular as Secretary to the MRCP(UK) PACES Board. Mr John Bancewicz had been a regular attender and had provided a wise perspective on surgical matters in England and Wales. Professor Randal Hayes had made a vigorous and productive contribution to Council. Mr Roy Miller had assumed the role of Honorary Librarian at short notice. He had approached his role as an optimist and was a jovial figure who had represented the College well both within the Library and in wider contacts. Professor Harry Burns had made a major contribution, in particular in leading one of the Review working groups. He was a strong supporter of College and we were fortunate in his appointment as CMO for Scotland. Finally Dr Walter Nimmo had been inhibited by his business commitments but had given wise counsel to the College.

11 Admissions in Absentia

The President announced that the following candidates who were unable to be present and who had signed the Declaration prescribed by the Regulations were duly admitted.

2 Fellows qua Physician

4 Fellows qua Surgeon in Ophthalmology

5 Members qua Surgeon

2 Members of the Faculty of Dental Surgery

12 Election of New Fellows and Members

The President announced that the Council being satisfied as to the character and professional status of the, 33 Fellows qua Physician, 5 Fellows qua Surgeon, _ 91 Members qua Surgeon all as listed in item 12 of the billet calling the meeting, agreed to report to College that they were fit and proper persons for election to the College.

13 Successful Candidates in the MRCP(UK) Examination June 2005

The President announced that a list of candidates who were successful in the MRCP(UK) examinations held in June 2005 was available in the Alexandra Room.

14 Inspector of Drugs

The President nominated Dr Kenneth R Paterson as Inspector of Drugs.

15 Appointment of Auditors

On behalf of the incoming Honorary Treasurer, Mr D G Galloway proposed the reappointment of Wylie & Bissett as Auditors for the coming year. This was approved.

16 Appointment of Clerk and Legal Adviser, Acting Treasurer and Registrar

The College elected Mr Alastair Campbell as Clerk and Legal Adviser for the coming year. In line with the decisions taken earlier and previously the College did not appoint an Acting Treasurer and elected Dr P V Knight as Registrar for the ensuing year.

17 Appointment of College Representatives on Outside Bodies

a) The President announced that –

- i) Mr Alasdair Auld had been elected as Honorary Curator of Art Collections for a period of ONE YEAR.
- ii) As only two nominations had been made for the two vacancies on the Library Committee, the President moved that the Bye-Law as to voting by ballot be dispensed with and that Dr Simon Dover and Mr Robert McKechnie elected of the Library Committee each for a period of FOUR YEARS.

b) The President also announced that –

- i) Nominations for two Directors of the Glasgow Humane Society may be made at the meeting, or in writing not later than Monday 12 December 2005. Mr R Miller indicated his willingness to continue.

- ii) Following the death of Mr Gordon McBain, the College required to appoint a gentleman trustee of the Ure Elder Fund Indigent Widow Ladies. Nominations may be made at the meeting, or in writing not later than Monday 12 December 2005.

18 Any Other Competent Business

The President announced that Mr Marc Bransby-Zachary had been elected as an Ordinary Councillor for a period of FOUR YEARS. He thanked Dr Walker and Mr Smith for their services as scrutineers of the ballot.

The President thanked Fellows and Members for their support of the Triennial Dinner and the recent Admission Ceremony. He reminded them of the forthcoming Cathedral Service, of the House Dinner on 3 March 2006 and the Admission Ceremony on 22 March 2006.

The President noted that this was the final meeting for the Registrar, Mr R K Littlejohn. He thanked Mr Littlejohn for his years of faithful service to the College and, in particular for the help which he had given to himself as an incoming President with little experience of the College.

The poor were visited gratis and the College adjourned.