

## Meeting of Palliative Care Research Society AGM

### Minutes of the Palliative Care Research Society Annual Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at St Anne's College, University of Oxford

Present	Apologies
Bridget Johnston	Chris Todd
Marilyn Kendall	
Christine Ingleton	
Gunn Grande	
Louise Jones	
Fliss Murtagh	
Gail Eva	
Deidra Sives	
Mike Cornbleet	
Wendy Prentice	
Ros Johnstone	
Mike Bennett	
Jane Seymour	
Paddy Stone	
Stephanie Gomm	
Irene Higginson	
Barbara Hanratty	
Sarah Yardley	

#### 1. Minutes of the last meeting

Agreed as correct

#### 2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the last meeting

#### 3. Chair's report

Mike Bennett reported on development of the PCRS strategy, since he took over as Chair of the Society in 2006.

The Executive Committee, in order to better reflect the size of the Society as a whole, will move towards a maximum size of 10, with 8 full members and two co-optees.

The PCRS aims to hold two events per year, and this has been achieved with a conference on spirituality in January 2007, and the ASM in September 2007. In 2008 the Society will hold a masterclass on Primary Palliative Care in Edinburgh on 6<sup>th</sup> March, and will assist with the PCC in Glasgow in April. A conference on end-of-life decision making is also being planned

The PCRS website is now permanently hosted on the PCC server, and has been revised, with further improvements to follow.

Catherine Walsh, Communications Officer, has been sending frequent e-mail bulletins to members

#### 4. Secretary's report

Jane Seymour reported on the slimmed down secretarial duties, to now a purely administrative role, and her imminent handover of that role to Marilyn Kendall

5. **Treasurer's report**

Gunn Grande gave the report. She confirmed that all membership duties are now held by the treasurer

**Current account and membership status**

Current account balance September 2007	£22,320.57
Subscriptions for 2007 to date	£2,760.00

Paid up members to date 2007	105
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Gunn noted that about one third of members have not increased their payment to the new rate of £30pa, and requested that members check their standing orders.

Paddy Stone asked what steps could be taken to increase the membership. MB detailed discussions from the Executive Committee addressing this issue, including links to the two SuPac collaboratives and offers of group membership [eg for academic departments] Paddy suggested looking at the possibility of exchanging standing order payments for direct debits, and that people could become members through attending any of the society's events [ie membership fees would be included in the price] and these events would not be open to non-members

6. **Presentation of the Frances Sheldon prize**

Frances, who died a few years ago, was a founder member of the Palliative Care Forum. We are pleased that her family have supported our wish to offer an annual prize in her name. The award is £100 for the best abstract submitted to either the PCRS ASM or the PCC by a student studying for a post-graduate degree eg masters, PhD, M Phil DMedSci, MD. In the years when we hold only our one day ASM, the prize will also include up to £250 for travel/accommodation

We are pleased to award the Frances Sheldon Prize for 2007 to Deidra Sives, for her abstract : Preferred place of care at the end of life- are we asking the question? Deidra A Sives, Michael A Cornbleet, Scott A Murray

7. **AOB**

None.

8. **Date of the next meeting**

April 2008 Palliative Care Congress, Glasow