

OTAGO MEDICAL SCHOOL ALUMNUS ASSOCIATION INC

Minutes of Annual General Meeting (reconvened from Monday 21 September 2009) held on Thursday 29th October 2009, 4.30 pm

c/- Shirley Skinner
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1. Present:

Emeritus Professor WJ Gillespie (in the Chair), Dr J Adams, Dr JV Allison, Emeritus Professor B Heslop, Emeritus Professor A K Jeffery, Dr R. J McAllister, Emeritus Professor PJ Molloy, Emeritus Professor JG Mortimer, Professor D Robertson (21 September only) and Professor A J Campbell (21 September only)

2. Apologies:

Associate Professor D Gerrard, Mrs E Hendry, Mr J Heslop, Dr P Jackson, Associate Professor J Reid. Professor RJ Walker.

3. Minutes of previous AGM

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 September 2008 (previously circulated) were approved as a true and accurate record. (Proposed JG Mortimer, seconded AK Jeffery)

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Annual Report of the Dean of Faculty

The Report (attached) was received and unanimously endorsed.

6. President's Report 2008-09

The Presidents Report (attached) was received and unanimously endorsed (moved JG Mortimer, seconded JV Allison)

7. Financial Report 2008-09

The Financial statements of the Otago Medical School Alumnus Association Incorporated for the year ending March 31st 2009 (attached in separate file) compiled by Thomson, Lang and Associates Ltd, Chartered Accountants, were presented, confirming a Net deficit for the Year of \$3907, and a total equity of \$76,095

The Financial report was unanimously endorsed (moved JG Mortimer, seconded J Adams).

8. Report of the Honorary Curator of Historical Artefacts

Emeritus Professor Molloy reported that the Association had been successful in obtaining a grant of \$5000 from the Otago District Health Board to employ a part-time cataloguer to deal with an accumulating backload of donated items, and maintenance of materials on display in Dunedin Hospital. A steady trickle of interesting artefacts had been donated; most recently x-ray equipment from the hospital ship *Marama* from the Great War of 1914-18.

10. General Business

The President reported that the first of a series of History meetings would follow the conclusion of the meeting. It would be a presentation on the history of poliomyelitis in the USA in the 20th century, introduced by Professor Barbara Brookes of the Department of History. A subsequent informal meeting would discuss the programme for the academic year 2010.

The meeting concluded at 4.58pm.

Report from the Dean of the Faculty of Medicine: Annual General Meeting, University of Otago Medical Alumnus Association

Monday 21 September 2009 and Thursday 29th October 2009.

It is my pleasure to provide the following brief report of the activities of the Faculty of Medicine for 2008/2009.

Australian Medical Council Accreditation of the medical undergraduate curriculum:

The accreditation process for the University of Otago Faculty of Medicine undergraduate curriculum took place last year. This involved the preparation of the Faculty's documentation in relation to the accreditation standards, a student submission, and a site visit over a one week period in August of 2008.

The accreditation team was led by Professor Fiona Lake, from the University of Western Australia.

The Faculty was pleased to receive notification from the Council meeting of the Australian Medical Council in November that the Faculty had been awarded the maximum possible accreditation period for its curriculum and teaching programmes. Accreditation is for 6 years and with extension for a further 4 years subject to a satisfactory progress report in year 5 of the initial 6 year period of accreditation.

The submissions to the AMC, and the reports, are available from the Faculty website at:

<http://micn.otago.ac.nz/amc>

Curriculum matters:

Professor Tim Wilkinson has taken up the role of Chair of the Faculty Curriculum Committee from February of this year.

He also remains as Chair of the Faculty Assessment Committee.

Professor Wilkinson as Chair of the Curriculum Committee joins the Faculty Executive and the Faculty Committee, strengthening further the links between curriculum development and delivery and the governance and management of the Faculty.

Early Learning in Medicine Programme (years 2 and 3):

The first cohort of students to participate in the new Early Learning in Medicine (ELM) programme will complete the programme in November. The programme consists of four main themes:

- Integrated Case programme
- Clinical Skills programme
- Healthcare in the Community
- Module programme

The ELM programmes appear to have been very successful. A review of the year 2 programme was undertaken at the end of 2008, and a further review is being held at the end of 2009.

Advanced Learning in Medicine Programme (years 4 and 5):

Each of the Dunedin, Christchurch, and Wellington Schools now have full Medical Education Units, with Associate Deans for Medical Education, Clinical Skills Directors, Medical Education Advisors, and Clinical Education Advisors.

Rural Medical Immersion Programme:

The Rural Medical Immersion Programme (RMIP) took in its full complement of 20 students in 2009 (there had been 6 students in the pilot programme in 2007 and 12 students in 2008).

End of year 5 results for students in the RMIP in 2008 were excellent, with RMIP students achieving 3 of the top 5 placings.

The Faculty now has 6 RMIP hubs.

Dr Pat Farry, coordinator of the RMIP for the Faculty, received recognition for his contributions to rural medicine in the Queen's Birthday honours list (NZOM).

Friends of the Medical School:

The Friends of the Medical School is a group of volunteers who assist with teaching and learning for patient interactions and communication skills in the ELM programme, particularly in Healthcare in the Community.

A reception and afternoon tea function was held in the Hunter Centre on Friday 4 September. There were approximately 200 attendees of the 400 'Friends'.

Physical facilities:

The Hunter Centre was commissioned as a Teaching and Learning Centre for the Division of Health Sciences during 2008, and has been very successful. It houses rooms for small group tutorials, larger seminar rooms, student study areas, a cafeteria and large atrium area, a computer learning laboratory, and a small combined anatomy and pathology museum.

Approval has been given during 2009 for redevelopment of space in the Scott and Hercus buildings for redeveloped space for Anatomy and Structural Biology, for Physiology, and for Pathology. Some building work for Physiology has already been completed, and a major research facility (the Zebrafish facility) has been installed in Pathology in the Hercus building.

Space has been acquired on a long term rental basis in Hanover St, and design work is nearly complete to shift General Practice from the Hercus building to the new space. This will be purpose built space for General Practice (now named General Practice and Rural Health). The Injury Prevention Unit will also shift to this new space from the Wellcome building.

In Wellington, further refurbishment will be commencing soon on the upper floors of the School building.

In Christchurch, the Bevan and Rolleston lecture theatres have been refurbished, and the 7th floor seminar and meeting rooms have been completely refitted.

Master Planning for the University of Otago:

The University has commenced a Master Planning process for its campuses with a view to redevelopment over 15 – 20 years. External consultants (DEGW) have been engaged, and the

It is anticipated that there will need to be major building expansion at each of the three main campuses, and also recognition of the needs for students undertaking programmes in regional, rural and remote rural locations.

Medical student numbers:

The Medical Training Board recommended to Government that there is a need to increase the numbers of domestic medical graduates to meet New Zealand's medical workforce needs in the future.

The current Government has committed to an increase in domestic student intakes of 200 further students in the relatively near future. Funding was provided in the May 2009 budget for 60 of these further places.

Otago and Auckland have informed the TEC and Government that they can provide the facilities and the programmes to meet these increased intakes.

Otago will take 24 of the extra students in 2010, and Auckland will take 36. This means that the intake of domestic students for Otago for 2010 will be 234 students. The total intake including international students is expected to be 250 students.

It is planned that the eventual intake of domestic students at Otago will rise to 290. This involves planning for facilities and staffing to accommodate these students.

Associate Deans Maori:

The Faculty has been pleased to announce recently the appointments of Associate Deans Maori at each of its campuses.

They are:

Dr Joanne Baxter, Dunedin School of Medicine
Ms Suzanne Pitama, University of Otago Christchurch
Ms Bridget Robson, University of Otago Wellington

Appointments to the Faculty of Medicine:

New appointments at Professorial level in the Faculty of Medicine during the latter part of 2008 and in 2009 have been:

Professor Paul Glue,	Dept of Psychological Medicine, DSM
Professor Lisa Matisoo-Smith	Dept of Anatomy and Structural Biology, OSMS
Professor Hank Weiss	IPRU, Dept of Preventive and Social Medicine, DSM
Professor Richard Edwards	Dept of Public Health, UOC

Promotions to Professor, effective from Feb 2009, have been:

Professor Greg Cook	Dept of Microbiology and Immunology, OSMS
Professor David Grattan	Dept of Anatomy and Structural Biology, OSMS
Professor Tony Kettle	Dept of Pathology, UOC
Professor Richard Porter	Dept of Psychological Medicine, UOC

Vale:

Anatomy of a Medical School:

The history of the medical school by Dot Page, and published last year with superb support from the Alumni, has been very well received.

The Faculty of Medicine purchased 50 copies to use for presentation purposes. Copies signed by the author were presented at the Faculty December Awards Ceremony to each of the MBChB students graduation with Honours.

Newsletters:

Regular newsletters from the Faculty which may be of interest to Alumni are:

mediNEWSotago

<http://micn.otago.ac.nz/medinewsotago-september-2009>

Early Learning in Medicine

http://micn.otago.ac.nz/wp-content/uploads/micn/2008/05/ELM_news_Sept_09.pdf

Each newsletter can be accessed via the Faculty of Medicine website which is at:

<http://micn.otago.ac.nz/>

Don Robertson
Dean, Faculty of Medicine
Pro Vice Chancellor, Division of Health Sciences
University of Otago

Otago Medical School Alumnus Association (Inc)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2008-09

The past year has been characterised by talking about the potential impact of electronic communications on the way OMSAA works, which offers some intriguing possibilities, seeking funding to support cataloguing of historical artefacts, which continue to be offered, and working with the University Alumnus team. Members have participated in providing talks or visits for a number of reunions, and responding to requests for information from a number of external sources. The executive committee has met twice during the year

Constitution of OMSAA.

The articles of constitution were reviewed by the Executive in June 2009 to consider whether any changes were required – the Executive's conclusion was "not at this time" although it would be important to keep an eye on the implications of any future changes.

Medical History Society

The Executive discussed whether OMSAA should sponsor and organise regular medical history meetings, and supported this proposal, which was stimulated by a report from Dr Ted Nye. The idea has been around, of course, for a good many years, as scrutiny of past President's Reports indicates. We are pleased to announce that the first such meeting will be held on 29th October 2009 (details attached), which will provide some evidence on the levels of interest in the medical, academic, and wider community in Dunedin.

Alumni Relations and Social Networking

The University continues to develop its services for Alumni. OMSAA has developed excellent working relationships with the Development and Alumni Relations Team which is headed by David Gerrard, who is well known to OMSAA members.

Of particular interest to OMSAA is the Net Communities project. This web-based programme, currently being "beta-tested" to confirm whether it meets expectations, will provide, through a secure link to the University's Alumnus Database, an online networking function for Alumni and Friends who choose to register with it, and opportunities for groups such as OMSAA to communicate electronically with their members.

Charitable status

On 1st July 2008, new legislation (The Charities Act 2005) came into effect. OMSAA had not registered with the Charities Commission by that date, as it is not obligatory for incorporated societies to do so, but, it appears that there may be modest tax advantages in doing so, and the Executive will take this matter forward during the coming months.

Historical Artefacts

OMSAA has been fortunate to receive support from the Otago District Health Board Charitable Trust to enable the engagement of a part-time cataloguer of artefacts to support Emeritus Professor Molloy in the maintenance and development of the collection and the display in Dunedin Hospital.

In last year's President's Report, it was reported that members were evaluating the collection of material from the former Medical Photography Unit to assess whether there was archival value.

Provision of the OMSAA website by the University through the Faculty of Medicine, and new information is greatly appreciated. Material is regularly added, but we may not have been so good at flagging older material for archiving; content does need updating from time to time, It may be that some website content, for example, reunions, might be best handled by Development and Alumni Relations The Executive aims to consider now best to do this over the next few months.

Acknowledgments

Our thanks go to Ellen Hendry, whose continuing commitment to the Association and fund of knowledge about past and present issues are much appreciated, as is the work done by Shirley Skinner on a day to day basis dealing with correspondence and financial activities.

WJ Gillespie
21.09.09 and 29.10.09