

Minutes of Executive Meeting held 25 June 2019, Zoom 7.30pm to 9.15pm

Present: Julian Speight (President), Pete Stiven, Simon Bann (Chair NZBiGS), Aleksandra Popadich, Graeme Roadley (Vice-President), Peter Shapkov (Treasurer), Jasen Ly, Andrew Moot, Gowan Creamer, Vanessa Blair, Grant Coulter, Usha Shan, Rowan French, Bronwen Evans, Claire Nicoll

Apologies: John Lengyel

Missing in Action: Nigel Henderson, Nagham AlMozany, David Moss, Suheelan Kulasegaran

The first Zoom went well with members being able to join with no disruption

2. Minutes of the previous meeting:

Simon Bann moved that the minutes of the previous meeting held 22nd March 2019 were a true and accurate record. Seconded Peter Shapkov

3 Matters Arising:-

3.1 Southern Cross Update – Vanessa Blair distributed an email she received from Southern Cross and this says it all. Southern Cross are instigating their pricing policy regardless of any feedback and it all seems to be a waste of time. However, Vanessa and Lincoln Israel are trying to set up a meeting with SX but Emma is on 6 months bereavement leave. Not sure who is covering for her. Fore approaching Southern Cross as they can help with the contract process.

Andrew Moot said his situation of joining a practice has been sorted. He recommends that members first talk to the entity that holds the APP before contacting SX. They can help with the negotiation.

Vanessa would like to have a communication Position Statement from Southern Cross regarding the contract pricing situation when 'joining an existing practice' or 'setting up a new practice'.

ACTION: Vanessa Blair to contact Stephen Child and request a position statement that can be sent to members. Vanessa to draft up a letter to members of current situation.

3.2 ACC Update – Grant Coulter. Nothing much to update. Julian Speight noted that the draft Hernia paper had been ratified by NZNB. Julian said the latest hernia numbers approved have decreased significantly.

3.3 NiB Update – Grant Coulter. Said not long after NiB attended conference and he had talked to them, he got a letter from NiB stating he was blacklisted for lap colly pricing being too high. It's what Southern Cross pay him and the same price he's been charging for the past 12 months. Is this NiB launching the new portal with lower pricing in the bell curve? Are NiB starting to lower pricing too with this new portal? Grant will report back on situation.

4 Reports

4. 1 President

Julian will be on sabbatical from 13th July and 7th October 2019 but will be on email and contactable but will not be able to attend meetings as he is overseas. Bronwen will check his calendar and arrange coverage of any meetings.

At the last NZNB meeting RACS invited him to the RACS Endoscopy Group meeting so he missed the rest of the NZNB meeting. It was minuted that RACS will not be signing the Endoscopy MoU, and they advise NZAGS not to sign as well. The rationale is that there is no legal entity behind the MoU so it is a bit of a nonsense. Also the funding issue as it runs out in 2020 and still needs to be sorted out.

ACTION: Julian Speight to write to Russell Walmsley stating our support but not signing the MoU/

4.2 Executive Director

Presented a paper on outsourcing the Accounting Office Manager's role due to the small number of hours of work we have.

She also noted a thank you gift was sent from NZAGS and Executive to Hugh Cooke and Atul Dhabuwala for organizing the Bangkok GS programme.

ACTION: The board accepted the proposal and Bronwen to work at looking at a process to disestablish the role with a view to outsourcing it.

4.3 Treasurer's report

Peter advised that the finances were healthy. The Management Accounts were presented and approved.

4.4 Training Report – David Moss was not present so Simon Bann spoke

Selection was held last week and the training committee interviewed 40 and looking to appoint around 15-20. Now moving on to the curriculum and syllabus review.

Competency based training will start with the Dec 2020 training year and move up to five years from the current 4. As a note those trainees starting

Dec 2019 – 2024

Dec 2021 – 2026

This means in 2025 we will have no trainees coming off the training programme and therefore unless we look at doing something different we may have some empty training posts.

5. Business items

5.1 Management Report was read and approved.

5.2 ASM New Plymouth 28 and 29 March 2019 – Nigel Henderson was not at this meeting but Bronwen stated the venue was Devon Hotel. The theme is When Things go Pear Shaped, and that speakers have been identified and invited.

5.3 EGGNZ – discussed under Julian Speight’s president report.

ACTION: It was approved by the board that Claire Nicoll would look at the process for allowing the gastro trainees to access SOLA for their log book as a trail.

ACTION: The Board ratified the sending of the letter for the PFET in Endocrine. Bronwen Evans to send.

5.4 Fiji ASM Paper and draft budget

The paper was tabled as read and it was suggested that Bronwen Evans talk to PISA as soon as possible to feel them out as to a joint conference. If PISA are keen then a review of costs needs to be done before making a final decision.

It was mooted that if they want more specialties involved other than general, that NZAGS step away and perhaps look at asking to combine with GSA to do a joint GSA, NZAGS, PISA conference every 6 years in the pacific islands.

5.5 Ratify the Endocrine response to the PFET. Was ratified.

5.6 Ratify Claire Nicoll paper on developing a web based application for the new assessment training options. It cannot remain paper based as it could result in over 3000 assessments.

NZAGS will be the pioneers in this online assessment space. What ever solution NZAGS selects it must align with SOLA so it makes sense to use the same company who have a proven track record. **The board signed off this spend.**

Simon Bann proposed an increase to the trainee fee to cover the increasing compliance costs the Medical Council drive to assessment based learning is causing.

ACTION: Claire to sign contract for the development. Claire to review what the annual ‘technology’ charge should be in the trainee fee.

5.7 Vice President for 1 April 2020

After the meeting Rowan French offered to be Vice-President from 1 April 2020 and President from 2022 – A huge THANK YOU from the executive. It will be ratified in September 2019 meeting.

5.8 PDSB – Simon will remain as the lead contact for PDSB meetings but if he cannot make it he will be supported by Andrew Moot.

ACTION: Bronwen to notify the secretary of PDSB of the change

5.9 Feedback from Graeme Roadley on the UK surgical conference. Graeme was on call and had to leave this bit. Feedback next meeting.

5.9.1 Policy documents

It was agreed that

Private Practice Ethics Statement would be reviewed by Peter Stiven

Guidelines for Minor Procedures (SX Guidelines) would be reviewed by Vanessa Blair

Complaints Process would be reviewed by Simon Bann

ACTION: Claire to forward the documents to the above and ensure feedback is collected for the September meeting

6. General

6.1 Pediatrics Endoscopy – Andrew Moot

Dr. John Bishop has reached out to Andrew Moot about a closer alignment and extra training for those doing endoscopy for children. How can they connect and build a relationship with General Surgeons?

It was suggested NZAGS could organise a training day or days around the country but NZAGS.

ACTION: Bronwen Evans to email members and ask

1. Who does this work
2. Would you be interested in meeting with the pediatricians for a training afternoon/day

Then contact Dr Bishop (Andrew Moot to provide the email)

Meeting closed 9.15pm

Meetings

7.1 Next Conference New Plymouth Devon Hotel 28 and 29 March 2019

Meeting	<u>Proposed Dates</u>	Proposed Time	Where
Zoom	Tuesday, 10 th September 2019	7.30pm	Zoom
Face to Face	Friday, 8 th November 2019	9.30am	Wellington RACS
Face to Face	Friday, 27 th March 2020	9.00am	New Plymouth
Zoom	Tuesday, 17 th June 2020	7.30pm	Zoom
Zoom	Tuesday, 9 th September 2020	7.30pm	Zoom