



Annual General Meeting 01/2018

Date: 7th September 2018

Venue: Jais Alben Resort Restaurant

Time: 8:15pm

Meeting Chair: Dr David Mills

Present

- *Dr David Mills, Dr Ben Radcliffe, Dr Gabriel Yohang, Dr Raymond Saulep, Dr Rebecca Williams, Dr Valerie Archer, Dr Cindy Gaso, Dr Hogande Kiafuli, Dr Kevin Pondikou, Dr Mark Crouch, Dr Imelda Assaigo, Dr Trevor Kelebi, Dr Sharon Brandon, Dr Lawrence Boe, Dr Simon Ganal*

Absent/Apologies

- *Dr Maggie Taune*

Welcome remarks by President

Dr Mills welcomed all the members to the first AGM for 2018 and acknowledged everyone for making time to attend the symposium and be part of the society's program

Agendas

1. Participants feedback on the symposium week

Dr Mills asked the participants about how they felt about the week's program and gaps to improve on if need be. He furthermore emphasized that this symposium was one of the best in terms of participant turn up although the program was quite hectic for the society

Feedbacks

- Dr Lawrence was grateful for the opportunity to be a part of the society; it was a wonderful and different experience for him. He also emphasized that the debate topic for the Society be emailed beforehand so participants can be made aware and prepare well in advance
- Dr Imelda seconded in agreement to having debate topic and preparations well in advance to the meeting. She further elaborated that this year's preparations were quite hectic and it seemed that the executives were quite worked up with it, especially Dr Mills. It was important to reach out to all the other members to assist in any way they can. Dr Mills acknowledged this feedback and emphasized on the importance of responding to emails which he usually sends throughout the year. This will give him some idea as to who is interested in assisting in any way possible.
- In terms of accommodation and venue, Dr Valerie thought it was exceptional and most had enjoyed the site, Dr Saulep thanked the team and especially Dr Mills for his efforts in the coordination and preparation towards the week's program. He was happy and content and so were all other society members

- Dr Imelda emphasized that in the future, to also consider transport and traffic when arranging accommodation so that all members are within suitable reach to the main symposium sessions. Dr Mills supported this as well.

A few suggestions/topics were raised for future Symposium Society programs. These included:

- Have 2 days of workshop
- Have registrars present their thesis papers just before Part 2 examinations. This will motivate and push Registrars to have some deadline to completing their thesis write-ups. This was agreed upon by all members. Dr Rebecca emphasized that this however, should not put too much pressure on Registrars
- Workshop on Eyes
- Research methods/ways to approach a research

2. Book Launching

- All present acknowledged Dr Rebecca for her initiative to create a book (The Last Doctors) with collections of stories from doctors who practice in rural PNG. It was an eye-opener and came at the right time to launch it.
- Dr Mark shared the possibility of having it as an e-book placed through Amazon Kindle. This would give a broader audience to the book. He was assigned this task to work on. A few members raised concerns about copyright which has to be considered in the creation of the e-book.
- Dr Mills discussed the possibility of creating the next volume of the book seeing that the Minister for Health, Dr Puka Temu showed interest at the launching and asked to have his story told.
- The members put forward ideas and it was agreed that 2 more volumes will be created;
 - Volume 2- The Last Doctors: Taim bepo
 - This will obtain stories from the senior doctors and should also tell-tale the Papuan Medical College
 - Volume 3- The Last Doctors: Future generation
 - This will obtain stories from Medical students and the way forward for PNG Rural Medicine

3. Facebook Page/Profile

- Dr Ben has created a Facebook page for the Society and has invited a few members to be administrators of the page. He is inviting all members to email him pictures and stories/captions of outreach patrols and rural practice so he can continue to upload on the FB page

4. Funding

- This year's symposium funding had been made possible by the "St Vincent's Pacific Health Fund". Dr Mills had applied for a 3 year grant of AUD\$ 10 000 per year which was approved.



This year is the first of 3 years. He also acknowledged the Society members for their financial contributions which have also helped in funding this symposium.

- Dr Mills has also applied to Oil search for possible funding. Should all go well; it will greatly enhance our shortfalls to cater for a few new things that the Society will be taking on board. These include:
 - Catering for MMED programs
 - Considering a Rural Physician to be in the Academic structure of SMHS to cater for rural General Practice (may be a new division at SMHS). By 2019, the position and salary will be put in place for a lecturer at SMHS. It would mean that the approved candidate will be Pom-based (something for Rural Health Physicians to consider)

5. Membership Fees

- Dr Imelda raised concerns on the initial membership form and how it didn't clarify the different categories of financial members- Miok and Kumul. Furthermore enquired if these set membership fees were agreed upon in the last AGM. She was concerned that decisions and agreements for the Society were to be made by the society through proper discussions and majority agreements.
- Dr Mills apologized and clarified that this was briefly discussed in the AGM last year but no proper meeting minutes were documented. The new membership form has clarified this. He also added that office bearers have a 2 year contract so new office bearers will be elected come next year

6. Financial Report

Dr Rebecca presented the annual financial report (these documents were distributed to all members during meeting) on the following:

- I. Annual Profit and Loss Statement
 - Total Income- K 41 402.77
 - Total expenses- K 43 326.97
 - Net Loss- K 1 924.20
- II. Balance sheet as at 7/9/18
 - Total assets- K 29 284.02
 - Total liabilities- K 10 817.63
 - Net equity- K 18 466.39
- III. Budget 2018-2019
 - Total income- K 99 000
 - Total expenses- K 36 250
 - Net Profit/Loss- K 62 750

7. AOB

7.1 Dr Imelda raised some concerns to be considered. These included:



- Meeting minutes to be done and forwarded to all members to read through
- Agendas for the next meeting to be done and sent out beforehand
- Debate topics and list of participants should be sent out beforehand for adequate preparations
- There needs to be a committee in place to ensure that all the society members are informed of ideas that are brought up by members and that they have a say so transparency can prevail in the Society

Dr Imelda had volunteered to be responsible for some of these areas for the society. This was welcomed by the members.

7.2 Dr Trevor suggested the following;

- having Society funds placed in IBD to make interest for the Society, an avenue to consider
- Since next year's symposium theme is 'Medical Education' he suggested the Society work on a combined research topic on a community based issue and how we have intervened at respective health facilities. This can be compiled and presented at the symposium. Someone could be appointed to spearhead this research. It was suggested that a survey be conducted on the perceptions of Rural Block for Medical students before and after their rotation to our health facilities. A Registrar could take this on board as their thesis- Dr Rebecca had agreed to do it.

7.3 Dr Mills shared some information on the MMED program registration by the Medical Board and how it became fully recognised in 2017. There are still some issues with the Anaesthesia divisions' Head of discipline regarding our Anaesthesia training.

Meeting ended: 10pm

Minute Secretary: Dr Cindy Gaso

Endorsed by

Dr David Mills

President

Date: 15/10/18