

MINUTES

SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday 14th March 2007 at 9.00am
Room 1-23, Level 3 Eleanor Harrald Bld

Present: Jeffrey Robinson (Convenor), Nigel Stocks, Judy Magarey, Greg Bussell, Anne Tonkin, Annette Braunack-Mayer and Felicia Matthews (Minutes).

Apologies: John Moss, Jonathan Newbury, Sandy McFarlane, Amy Salter

By invitation: Chris Soteriou

1. Welcome and apologies

J Robinson welcomed and thanked Chris Soteriou for attending the meeting.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (28/02/07) not available.

The minutes from the meeting 28/02/07 will be approved at the next meeting (28/03/07).

3. Matters arising

To be discussed after next item.

4. Chris Soteriou financial report

C Soteriou reported that the Faculty held a 2007 Budget Forum on 22nd February to understand University and Faculty funding. Shane McGregor explained that the University is now a corporate entity and he is currently doing an analysis on what the University could/should borrow, space being one of the reasons to borrow, but this could be two or three years down the track.

RTS is a big issue, now put pressure on the School to be uniformed with the allocation of this funding which creates more management rather than budget issues. The Faculty budget has moved to a revenue based model which is more aligned to the University. Anne Tonkin asked about the teaching load/workload model and it's allocation of funds and J Robinson replied that this may well be reviewed again this year. There was some discussion around the inadequacies of the collation of data: only three of the six schools completed the workload models and the other schools completed the MBBS survey and data was gathered from those results. It was agreed that this was inconsistent and not done well. The Faculty will be the first to undertake the new costing model exercise of the MBBS load which will be a very difficult task. The Faculty needs to understand what each discipline does to contribute to teaching eg. title holders teaching, the off campus teaching, holidays, hours of work, committee time, etc. There are some standards that could be recommended and other Faculties that have undertaken a similar model but there will be a lot of questions to work through to get to the final model. There will be some assumptions and this is the way that disciplines have functioned before the school structure was introduced.

Another issue from the meeting was the transitional funding. Fortunately this school has time to sort out these issues because of the Faculty's current surplus. Disciplines need to think about transitional costs to change to a school model. The Head of school is responsible for the budget and the current model that Neville Marsh adopted may change with the new Head. Faculty distributed funds to all Schools and it is up to the Head of School to manage their destiny. The Committee said that if funds are now responsible to the School, that it is not efficient to add another layer of approval at a Faculty level. C Soteriou said that it is centralised processing through the Faculty, not control, and the University requires the Executive Dean to sign all new and renewed positions. A Tonkin said that the process is extraordinarily inefficient.

J Robinson said that it is important to accept the fact that we are a School and will need to defend the School.

C Soteriou said that there is a presentation available from the HOS, which is open for discussion.

C Soteriou and J Robinson said that this School needs to concentrate on growing the post graduate student numbers, as a new model based on completion targets will be introduced to allocate funds. The Faculty need to move to a structure of three and half year completion rates which will be a big task, but will save time and resources on those not completing in the appropriate time frames.

J Robinson summarised saying that the transition is not going to be easy from Departments to Schools, and this School has had some set backs with the appointment of a Head of School and the issue of space.

5. Reports from Disciplines

To be reported at the next meeting.

6. Report from Sub Committee

To be reported at the next meeting.

7. Report from Faculty Executive Committee

To be reported at the next meeting.

8. Any other business

9. Next meeting (Wednesday 28th March)

Wednesday 28th March in the Discipline of General Practice, Level 3 Eleanor Harrlad Bld.