

MINUTES

SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday 2nd April
School Meeting Room, Level 9, 10 Pulteney Street

Present: Konrad Jamrozik (Convenor), Nigel Stocks (arrived at 9.35), Greg Bussell, Judy Magarey, John Moss, Anne Tonkin, Sandy McFarlane, Jonathan Newbury (teleconference at 9.35) and Felicia Matthews (Minutes).

1. Welcome and apologies

Apologies received from Janet Hiller.

2. Minutes of previous meetings 19/03/08

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted as true and accurate and will be available on the School website.

Business carried over from previous meeting:

The HOS responded to Vanessa Ryan, IMG Coordinator from Adelaide to Outback, who will be in contact.

The HOS wrote to the Dean about three streams of classification levels and there was some interest from Stuart Matthews.

In regard to the Communications Officer, Stuart Matthews said that the Faculty did not have a Grant Writer as such but suggested Teresa Burgess was the staff member closest to the Communication Officer position. J Magarey said that this was not the staff member she was thinking of at the last Executive.

3. For Discussion or Action:

3.1 Grief and Palliative Care Program review

N Stocks gave a brief overview of the Grief and Palliative Care Program within the Discipline of General Practice; the Program has been running for five years, initially directed by Sheila Clark and Mara Lashchuk because of their interest. Over the years, it has been subsidised by General Practice. Michelle Sexton was the replacement of Mara Lashchuk and felt that it could include more mental health. They have attracted several overseas students and should "break even" this year but will need to increase the number of students for next year. It was the Discipline's only postgraduate program and was given support by HODs, Justin Beilby and then Nigel. The TOR were drafted by Cate Howell and Michelle Sexton. Discussion followed:

- One of the problems with the course is that students have passion to work in the area, but plan to work as volunteers and the University fees are a structural problem of the course remaining viable.
- There have been some GPs who have gone through the Program, but very limited numbers.

- Viability is not covered in the TORs although point no. 6 looks at potential development and marketing.
- Should there be a name change if more mental health was included?
- The way forward may be national consortia.
- UniSA is closing their similar course.
- The program could be broadened.
- The market could be GPs and people who work in support of patients with mental health problems.
- In Melbourne psychiatry registrars undertake a Masters of Psychological Medicine which is compulsory and the University of NSW runs a similar program. This would be a much more viable market.
- Janet Hiller will be involved on the panel and will need to be briefed; Deb Turnbull will also be on the panel.
- Nigel Stocks has a briefing document he will distribute.

To summarise:

- The Committee noted that the program has had a number of unforeseen challenges.
- It has been forward thinking to move to international recruitment and online programs.
- The broadening of content might broaden the market.
- The Program could have a broader stream that would be open to a variety of health professionals including psychiatric trainees and volunteers.
- There is work to be done in coordinating the various activities, with possibly the Schools of Psychology and Medicine.
- If the Master of Psychology in Defence takes off, this will lead to other opportunities.
- The new model may be trans-Discipline (e.g. Nursing, CMVH) or trans-Schools (Medicine, Psychology).
- There may be an opportunity of national collaboration, eg Beyond Blue.
- The possibility of developing a national program akin to the Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia was identified.

Action: Nigel Stocks to give briefing paper to Janet Hiller.

3.2 University Retreat 16/17 May – Dean to nominate priorities for research

The HOS asked committee members to discuss what research priorities for this School need to be put forward at this retreat. Janet Hiller will attend on behalf of the HOS.

- NHMRC capacity building grants.
- Should the School use a new term eg. “health workforce regeneration” or “health system regeneration”, in place of the established “health workforce development”?
- Would we be better off to propose that we are experts in this area, but should do it in partnership and deliver some models, to show that something is happening and planning forward?
- In terms of the University we need some catchy phrase and some important points underneath it.
- Our Executive Dean is on the National Health and Hospitals Reform Commission and our School is in a position to support their deliberations
- The content of the brief is research but it is unclear if it wants focus on forward planning or current achievements in the area of research, but one’s ability to get in to new ideas will be based on critical mass and track record.
- The request was to nominate a sphere of research that the VC could talk about and be of national significance.
- Nigel said that there are a favoured few who are seen as leaders in research within the University and they receive extra resources.
- The University has been through the process about the notion of institutes and centres and as part its drive to become leaders, it is after a limited number of areas that puts its name in lights.
- J Moss believes that we should try to be mainstream about this topic. We should use the traditional wording and make it clear that we are looking for imaginative ideas.
- We all have strengths within our disciplines that we need to link some of those.
- There was lengthy discussion around the Physician Assistant’s/Nurse practitioner role.
- This Committee needs to look at the potential of the School and be a leader in the political changes.
- The VC has a broader view of what the University should be trying to achieve.

- Some of our collaborators as some of our strengths. Should we have a broader perspective than just this School?
- If we put up “health system development”, this could include others.
- The HOS closed the discussion.

Action: The HOS will draft a document reflecting this discussion to send to the Dean.

3.3 Nominations for Dean’s Excellence in Teaching awards

The HOS asked for nominations for the Dean’s Excellence in Teaching awards.

- The information on the website was unclear if an award was given for each School or Faculty.
- There is a fair degree of caution about these awards, given the amount of preparation an application requires.
- Anne Tonkin was asked to leave the room.
- There was discussion about the process. Anne Tonkin may be nominated and is firmly established as an educator. The other will be another nominee from Nursing. He is the strength of the undergraduate program and should gain some recognition for this.
- The HOS asked if the Committee was happy to nominate two on equal merit.
- There was some discussion on a nominee who does not wish to be nominated. The HOS will speak to the AMSS about the 1, 2, 3 prize for this nominee.

Action: The HOS will write to the Dean nominating two nominees on equal merit and will approach the AMSS about the 1, 2, 3 prize nominee.

3.4 Communications Officer

The HOS revised the proposed outline for this position, with a title changed the Publications and Publicity Officer. The HOS asked that this document capture what this position will do before advertising;

- Familiarity with the quantitative methods could be changed.
- J Moss asked if we add Honours graduate in health sciences.

Action: The HOS will contact the Head of Journalism when she returns from leave to discuss the role.

3.5 University postdoctoral fellowships

The HOS has drafted a summary of the data tabled at the last meeting and a proposal:

- The numbers do not add up because the university has struggled with providing 5 year continuity.
- Annette Braunack -Mayer has given some comments.
- Deborah Turnbull thought the rotation was a good idea.

Action: the HOS will get Janet Hiller to pursue in his absence.

4. For Mention:

4.1 Visit of the Vice Chancellor

Both the HOS and Executive Dean were very pleased with the way the visit went and the VC was happy with the structure of the program. The HOS thanked all who were involved.

4.2 Visit of Fudan University

Delegates from Fudan University also visited on 31st March. There are possibilities of joint work and John Taplin discussed seeding money.

4.3 Development of MEBHC

The HOS met with Peter Wimpenny and discussed existing courses that could contribute to this.

4.4 SGRHS budget

The SGRHS budget is over-stretched. Staff have been advised that there will be non-renewal and a report due from UniSA HR Manager, Cathey Brimage, to advise on the next phase.

4.5 Leave balances

The Faculty has over \$11 million "tied up" in the budget for leave accruals. The HOS has mentioned to those staff in our School that leave needs to be taken and encouraged all HODs and Units to encourage staff to take their annual leave and long service leave.

5. For Noting

5.1 Appointment in OHS

Interviews and seminars will be run this Thursday and Friday.

5.2 Chair of Nursing

The position closes this Friday.

5.3 Appointment in Yaiyta Purruna

Short-listing and interviews are being arranged.

6. Any other business

2020 Summit

The University has five nominees for the 2020 Summit, including two from this school. Christian Gericke and Veronica Arbon were selected to attend.

The School budget

The Faculty have not confirmed staff establishment. Our external activities are currently carrying our budget.

Leave

The HOS will be in Perth week beginning 7th April, will return Monday 14th and then Janet Hiller will be Acting Head, during HOS leave period 15th April to 22nd May. All correspondence will continue to go through the School office, with Janet signing documents at 9.00 daily.

This will be Felicia Matthews' last SEC meeting before going on maternity leave from 18th April. A replacement will begin on 14th April and will be full-time in the School office. The HOS thanked Felicia and the Committee wished her well.

7. Next meeting

Wednesday 16th April, School Meeting Room