

MINUTES

SCHOOL OF POPULATION HEALTH AND CLINICAL PRACTICE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Wednesday 26th April 2006 at 9.00am
Discipline of Nursing

Present: Neville Marsh (Convenor), John Moss, Judy Magarey, Nigel Stocks, Jonathan Newbury, Greg Bussell and Felicia Matthews

1. Welcome and apologies

N Marsh welcomed J Newbury to his first attendance at the Executive Meeting in person.

Apologies: None.

2. Minutes of previous meeting (30th March)

N Stocks requested the following change; "N Stocks has been asked to sit on a NHMRC Primary Health Care and Health Sciences Grant **Review Panel**".

The minutes were accepted with this one change.

3. Matters arising

Indigenous Health Unit

N Marsh will be meeting with Jenni Caruso, (Coordinator, the Indigenous Health Unit) this morning to discuss the role of Yaitya Purrana before the joint meeting with J Beilby, J Newbury, N Stocks and G Bussell on 1 May.

Learning and Teaching/Research and Post Graduate Committees

N Marsh said that as discussed previously, Amy Salter will convene the Learning and Teaching Committee and Annette Braunack-Mayer will convene the Research Committee. A Braunack-Mayer has requested administrative support which will need to be considered for both Committees. There was discussion around the School funding this position or alternatively, Disciplines volunteering resources. J Moss stated that Public Health are currently offering the services of Philip Ryan (at a Faculty level), Amy Salter and A Braunack-Mayer and that there was a need to ensure equitable distribution of School-related staff time across the disciplines. N Stocks said that G Bussell was working for the School in General Practice's time and that he, as the Associate Dean of Students, contributed to the Faculty. He suggested that equitable distribution of workload and resources would be difficult in the short terms and suggested discussing available resources within the disciplines current budget. N Marsh will meet with A Braunack-Mayer to discuss the Research Committee's terms of reference and the amount of time required for administrative tasks before making a decision. N Marsh stated that a Strategic Plan will need to be developed for the long term future of the School, incorporating such issues as administrative support but short term needs need to be addressed on an *ad hoc* basis.

Storage

G Bussell has been to Thebarton campus, but was unable to meet with Ben Yengi. G Bussell will follow up with a meeting and if unsuccessful, will ask N Marsh to chase up.

Change in agenda

N Marsh said that Reports of Disciplines item will come at the end of the meeting to ensure that major items of School business are discussed fully earlier in the meeting.

4. Generic key performance indicators for research – Neville Marsh

N Marsh emailed this document to all HODs for discussion as the Faculty have requested feedback on its proposed targets:

Growing International HDR - J Moss said that it was difficult to set targets for international HDRs as the Disciplines have no control over many issues. Public Health receives significant numbers of applications each year but few provide funding apart from Iranian students sponsored by their government. All overseas HDRs are required to do the Grad Dip in Public Health (1 yr) in the first instance which makes their program a 4 year course. N Marsh stated that we could endeavour to increase the number of international HDRs by one student per year which would meet the Faculty's targets. However, any increase in numbers will depend on the circumstances in other countries and the additional workload for the Discipline.

Growing domestic HDR - N Marsh asked for comments on domestic HDRs and research income and discussed the Faculty's target (for our HDR to increase by 6.4%). The five main bottlenecks were supply of suitable candidates, availability of supervisors, projects, scholarships and space. Of all of these, space was the most pressing:

N Stocks said that research-active staff have left the Discipline and thus they are now lacking principal supervisors for PhD students. J Moss suggested that academics from the Discipline of Public Health with a strong research background may be willing to sit on supervisory panels (not as principal) elsewhere in the School. J Newbury said that SGRHS did not exist as an independent discipline when the Faculty report was created but SGRHS have taken on quite a lot of students over the last few months. He asked about shared students across disciplines and UniSA as RTS funding is meant to be split 50/50 as part of the Joint Venture Agreement. J Magarey reported that Nursing will take on more students with the addition of JBI and has some remote students and others located in JBI offices. N Stocks said that the postgraduate room in General Practice was full but that future students might be "crowded in somewhere" however he said that GP will be less inclined to accept unsuitable candidates and would prefer that the student's research was aligned closely with the Disciplines research strengths and goals. J Moss said that Public Health have full time students sharing rooms but refused to be circumscribed by accommodation and will be making arrangements for conversion of accommodation if necessary.

Research Income – G Bussell reported that the School is currently running at about \$3+ million, and this is not including JBI research funds. Performance has been good in category 3 funding (industry and other funding) in General Practice. G Bussell noted, however, that category 1 funding (National competitive grants) costs the Discipline money. J Moss will discuss grant numbers with the appropriate person who does the recording as the report may not reflect the correct amounts. N Stocks said that GP had lost critical staff members who had previously attracted funding, namely Ian Wilson, Deborah Turnbull and Justin Beilby. The category of funding is important to consider when it came to publishing. N Marsh stated that other Go8 universities had been increasing their grant income by 10-15% annually, which is why these targets have been set and need to be met. However, this growth across the sector cannot be sustained as total research funds available are now capped. It may be possible to have a shared research person/grant writer across the School, funded by the Disciplines to commit more time to research applications. N Marsh will respond to Faculty.

5. TES contract renewal forms

Chris Soteriou has sent G Bussell several TES forms which highlight responsibility of severance payments to the School – if contracts cannot be extended, the Discipline may have to pay 6-8 weeks severance pay. GP has created a severance pay fund which is factored into the larger projects. G Bussell will speak with F Kalamokas and C Knox to ensure they are budgeting for this. N Marsh proposed that a fund could be created out of the salary savings and will discuss the financial risk with G Bussell. A proposal needs to be put to C Soteriou.

6. Reports from Disciplines

General Practice – Nigel Stocks

The Discipline is frantic with submitting NHMRC applications and two would have a reasonable chance of funding.

The Chair of General Practice has been advertised in the *Weekend Australian* and *The Advertiser*. The advertisement missed out on going in the BMJ because of Easter (change of deadlines), but it will go in on Saturday 29 April and BMJ online. The Director of Health and Human Diversity has also been advertised.

Nursing – Judy Magarey

Nursing Expo on Sunday was very busy and worthwhile: they received a large number of undergraduate and postgraduate enquires.

Prof John Taplin met with the education group from Malaysia (as discussed at previous meetings).

The students in the undergraduate program started in their clinical areas today and a PhD student has completed successfully.

A chapter of the Honours society – Sigma Theta Tau International is being set up and was approved through the VCC.

The Lecturer level B (previously David Evan's position) has been filled by Rick Wiechula who will be starting today, but they have been unsuccessful in filling the other 0.5FTE Lecturer level B position (previously J Magarey's position). The 0.6FTE Research Officer position was advertised and closed on 21st April.

J Beilby has approached Nursing to start a Mental Health Program because of government funding available, but they currently have a postgraduate course which has always been undersubscribed. Currently a bid is being developed for extra places in the BNurs.

Rural Health – Jonathan Newbury

J Newbury reported that he has carried out Performance Development Reviews with all University of Adelaide staff.

He has suggested to UniSA to look out the School's website and create a similar version. However the School webpage is still in development stage and not "live" to the www. F Matthews to send J Newbury the web development address.

J Newbury said that discussions continue with UniSA over SGRHS becoming a School within their structure and is positive about the outcome.

Two NHMRC grants have been submitted.

There has been interest in the Senior Lecturer/Associate Professor in Education position with two possible applicants who would be suitable.

Public Health – John Moss

J Moss said that their involvement in the Biostatistics Collaboration of Australia had been approved by PAC. Public Health have made changes to Master of Public Health and their OH&S program which have been accepted by PAC.

It has been decided that the Discipline of Public Health Meeting with all staff will be held four times a year rather than monthly.

J Moss stated that the new Bachelor of Development Studies, which will largely come out of Social Sciences, will include a Public Health course that Afzal Mahmood has been working on with them. He suggested having a School representative on the Committee. J Newbury said that SGRHS currently run international health course which could also be included, but it is a three week intensive course and does not currently have a University course code. J Newbury offered administrative support for A Mahmood.

7. Any other business

N Marsh said that the University is currently undertaking a review of the MBBS degree and asked if our submission should be on a School or Discipline basis. J Newbury stated that he had already made specific responses on behalf of the Discipline of Rural Health. N Marsh said that he would support Disciplines responses in writing on behalf of the School. The current deadline for responses is Friday 28th April but N Marsh will approach faculty for a week's extension.

Judy Magarey reported that the Minutes from the Faculty Research Committee meeting have been distributed.

8. Next meeting

Wednesday 10th May in Public Health.

The following meeting (Wednesday 24th May) in General Practice with Andrew Somogyi in attendance.