



UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Faculty of Podiatric Medicine held on Wednesday 24th June 2020

1	Welcome and Apologies The Dean, Professor Robert Ashford, welcomed all attendees to the AGM.	
2	Minutes of the Annual General meeting of 26 June 2019 The minutes were approved as being an accurate record of the previous meeting.	
3	Matters arising from the minutes There were no matters arising.	
4	Dean's Report <p>The Dean begun his report by reflecting on the privilege he feels having held this office for the past three years, after many years of involvement in College activities beginning with his role as a Founding Fellow of the Faculty. The Dean offered his thanks to College staff for their support, advice, council and continued encouragement. He offered particular thanks to Dr Linda Irvine, Dr Steve Graham and Professor Jackie Taylor for demonstrating unstinting support for the Faculty. The Dean also thanked David Thomson and Karin Bredfelt as well as colleagues and friends for their support during his term as Dean, and as Chair of Education, Training and Professional Development Board, with particular thanks to Prof Stuart Baird, Mrs Christine Skinner, Prof Sarah Curran, Julian Livingston, and all past and current members of the Executive Board.</p> <p>The Dean described his involvement in College Boards and Committees, including the College Council, College AGM and the Scholarship Committee. The Dean then described the activities of the Faculty over the past year, starting with the Faculty Executive Board, which has met quarterly with discussion focusing on the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Faculty strategic plan • admissions and proposals to change membership categories • collaboration with kindred organisations • educational delivery • faculty recruitment strategy • marketing activities • international activities • examination plans <p>No examination report was presented as the Membership exam is on hold until further discussions and agreements are reached with regards to the format and rationale of the exam.</p> <p>The Faculty's strategic plan was formulated following the November Executive Board meeting. The Dean highlighted that the plan reflects the Faculty's professional and educational needs for the foreseeable future. This plan was constructed prior to the pandemic and as such some of the short-term actions have not yet been fully addressed.</p> <p>The Faculty Committee which consider applications for membership and fellowship has met and processed many applications over the last year. The Dean also attended the College's Fellowship Committee to present the Faculty's third Honorary Fellowship recommendation which was approved.</p> <p>The Dean described representing the Faculty at the FIP meeting in Miami in November 2019, where he gave a key-note lecture, was involved in small seminars and "fire-side" discussions, and manned a booth/stand in the main thoroughfare, recruiting new Members and Fellows. This was very productive trip resulting in 30 new applications for Fellowship. The trip was also an opportunity to continue discussions with the American Board of Podiatric Medicine. This collaboration is on hold and will be rekindled after the pandemic.</p> <p>A joint webinar was held at the beginning of June with the College of Podiatry (CoP) in London which proved to very fruitful and evaluated extremely well. Joint student days were also held with CoP – three were planned nationally but only two went ahead in London and Birmingham, the third event in Glasgow was cancelled due to the pandemic.</p>	



The Regional Advisor network - along with the regional advisors from the Travel Medicine Faculty - met at the CoP offices in London last year. This was a very productive meeting, with new and innovative outcomes, and the plan is to hold a similar structured meeting this year in Glasgow.

The Dean welcomed a new Lay Member onto the Executive Board - Professor Alison Britton and noted that she will make a worthy addition to the business of the Board.

The Dean presented the Faculty membership statistics for the past year. The Faculty has 265 core members (Members and Fellows), an increase from 250 core members in 2019 which equates to a growth of 6%. There has been an increase of 2.9% in total membership numbers (including Affiliate and Student members). The total membership numbers recorded for 2019 was 339 and with the increase in 2.9% now stand at 349. The Dean was delighted to report an influx of international Fellows, primarily DPMs based in the USA. The Faculty also welcomed its second Honorary Fellow, Professor Peter Cavanaugh, at the November 2019 diploma ceremony. The Dean welcomed all new Fellows and Members to the College and invited them to enjoy and engage in College activities.

Last year the Faculty had 13 podiatrists signed up to the College's Academy of Clinical Educators (ACE). The number registered for 2019/20 has remained static and the Dean encouraged all colleagues to consider being part of this programme.

The Dean highlighted the fantastic work of the College's charity, the HOPE Foundation. This foundation enables the College and its members to contribute to supporting the healthcare and social needs of individuals and communities who would otherwise struggle to have little, or no access, to important health and social care facilities. As many of the foundation's fundraising events have been cancelled due to the pandemic, the Dean encouraged all colleagues to consider donating, however small, to this wonderful philanthropic initiative.

The Dean concluded by expressing that his involvement with the Faculty has been an exciting, rewarding, and enjoyable experience. He again offered his thanks and gratitude to all individuals involved with the Faculty. In conclusion, the Dean wished the College and the Faculty every success. He also wished the new Dean, Mrs Christine Skinner, every success in her role.

Professor Stuart Baird reported that the Faculty's two key international activities were curtailed by the pandemic. This included the postponement of Professor Baird's participation in a College delegation to a conference in Myanmar, and a project to deliver education on Diabetic Foot management in Blantyre, Malawi. This project had been funded by a grant awarded by the HOPE Foundation.

An online educational programme on Diabetic Foot is under development, with the first two modules of the programme currently being recorded. This online programme will be utilised in a number of countries where there is a pressing need for Diabetic Foot education.

5 Education and Professional Development Report

The Dean presented the Education Report on behalf of Professor Sarah Curran, who has resigned her post as Director of Education for the Faculty.

This year has seen the delivery of a range of events based on clinical and core contemporary topics that support the continued professional development of our profession as well as other health professionals. Whilst the arrival of COVID-19 and lockdown disrupted some of the planned events, the Faculty has been positively responsive in live streaming two events during June 2020 which are highlighted below.

Events

The Faculty ran a number of events this past year, the first of which was on Friday 28th February 2020 entitled **"A Collaborative Approach to the Surgical Management of the Foot and Ankle"** with a total of 60 delegates in attendance, with feedback being very positive. The Summer 2020 flagship event due to be held today (Wednesday 24th June 2020) and based on a series of vascular topics led by David Wylie and Sheryl Braidwood has been postponed due to COVID-19. It is hoped this can be run in early 2021.



Two webinars entitled “**COVID-19: A Podiatry Perspective**” and “**Integrating Foot Protection**” were delivered in June 2020 in response to the range of COVID topics being delivered by the Royal College. Both webinars had a range of well respected, international speakers who deliver front-line care to COVID-19 patients. Both webinars gained attention on social media by addressing the challenges podiatry is facing from the COVID pandemic.

Online Training and International Education

Gulf Training

Early in 2020, discussions took place with one of our Fellows (Noor Janeri) to consider the development of local anaesthetics training and other topics that can assist in initiating training events in Dubai in a cost effective manner. This will be pursued further.

Diabetes and the Lower Limb – Online Product

Whilst development of an online module on diabetes and the lower limb had started earlier in the year, changes in work streams for the digital learning team and COVID-19 took priority. Although progress has been limited, it is hoped in due course that this online product can be developed to enhance the high level of learning and teaching material offered by the Royal College.

Undergraduate Events

Three student conferences were due to run in collaboration with the College of Podiatry in London and Glasgow based on career development and pathway. The first was held in London (February, 2020) and the second in Birmingham (March, 2020). The third in Glasgow (April, 2020) was postponed due to COVID-19. Both events were successful, and each event showcased the opportunities of being a member of Royal College.

Clinical Research Awards

This is the second year of the Clinical Research Awards. The criteria has been extended to include graduates from 2019 and information was sent to all Schools of Podiatry across the UK and Ireland and posted on social media. Five poster and abstract submissions were submitted. A prize for first place and runner-up will be awarded – at an online event this evening. Thank you to the judging panel who took time to review all submissions.

The Dean relayed Professor Sarah Curran’s gratitude to all members of the Executive Board and the Education Team, along with her well wishes for the Faculty’s future activities in providing educational and professional development for the profession.

6 Investiture of new Dean

Mrs Christine Skinner, having been duly elected as the Dean of the Faculty of Podiatric Medicine of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow received the medal of office and gown. Professor Ashford offered his congratulations to the new Dean.

Mrs Skinner presented Professor Ashford with a Past Dean’s medal and thanked him for his term of office.

Mrs Skinner said it is an honour and privilege to be elected to the position of Dean of the Faculty of Podiatric Medicine. She was one of the Founding Fellows of the Faculty and has served on the Executive Board since its inception. The Dean described her vision for the future to ensure that, as a Faculty, we uphold the College purpose of having a forward-looking progressive approach to training, assessment, career support, and professional development; to inspire and nurture our Fellows and Members to ensure they deliver the highest possible standard of care to their patients; to ensure all Fellows and Members are upholding the College values and commitments to be inclusive, engage with their communities, demonstrate integrity, be innovative and inspiring. The Dean expressed a hope to recruit more Members and Fellows to the Faculty. The strategic goal is to be the ‘go-to Faculty’ for leadership, education in podiatry, and raising the standards of the profession, thereby raising the standards of care. The Dean will be writing to all Faculty Members to outline her goals and priorities and to seek their engagement and support in achieving these aims.



7	Faculty Election Results The Dean presented the results of the Faculty Elections. One nomination was received the post of Dean Elect. Mr David Wylie has been duly elected to serve for one term of two years. One nomination was received for the post of Honorary Secretary. Ms Fatima Cassim has been duly elected to serve for a first term of three years. Three nominations were received for the posts of Ordinary Member (3 vacancies). Mr Euan McGivern, Dr Jean Mooney and Miss Deborah Wilson have each been duly elected to serve for a term of four years. The Dean congratulated all new members of the Executive Board.	
8	Any Other Competent Business No other competent business had been submitted for discussion.	
9	Date and Time of 2021 AGM The date of the next AGM is 23 rd June 2021. The Dean thanked all for attending this year's AGM.	