

FACULTIES AND SECTIONS: HOW IS THEIR WORK FINANCED AND SUPPORTED?

INTRODUCTION

The activities of Faculties and Sections are funded primarily by College general funds. The largest single contributor to College general funds is membership fees (44% of the general fund and 28% of the total).

FACULTIES AND SECTIONS SUPPORT COSTS

Direct support to Faculties and Sections, funded by general funds that have not been recharged to them to date, includes dedicated committee managers, and part of the time of the Conference Unit. A policy manager and a website manager have also been appointed recently specifically to support Faculties and Sections. The new Handbook for Faculties and Sections

<http://www.rcpsych.ac.uk/college/faculties.aspx> contains further details.

Support by committee managers increased in 2009. They work on a range of activities – these will include managing the cycle of committee work, preparing agendas, minuting executive committee meetings, undertaking follow up actions, liaising with the elections administrator to ensure elections take place correctly and supporting scoping and working groups. Committee managers can help with all aspects of correspondence and communication within the Faculty or Section, and will be happy to progress any issues involving other College staff or departments.

Each Faculty or Section receives an average of one working day per week of committee manager support time. For the financial year ending 31st December 2009, these gross staff costs totalled £128k.

The gross salary costs of the staff time devoted to Faculty and Sections by the Conference Unit, in the year to 31st December 2009, were £81k. Faculties and Sections are not required currently, in setting their conference budgets, to meet the costs of this support. Conference fees therefore, do not reflect full costs but are subsidised by College general funds, including membership fees. The annual gross salary costs for the Policy Manager and Website Manager support to Faculties and Sections are in the region of £74k annually.

The figures above do not include overheads. The formula used by the College to attribute overheads depends upon the staff costs associated with any Department/activity. According to this formula, the attributable overheads in relation to the above staff support to Faculties and Sections amounted to approximately £144k. However, Faculties and Sections do not pay overheads – rather overheads are absorbed by general funds, which in turn are dependent upon membership fees and other income streams.

Although we do not attempt to quantify them here in financial terms, many other Departments of the College assist in the work of the Faculties and Sections – including other staff in Communications and Policy, Membership Relations, Professional Standards and Publications and Website – not forgetting of course, the Chief Executive, governance functions and colleagues in the College Centre for Quality Improvement and the National Collaborating Centre for Mental Health.

DIRECT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION BY FACULTIES AND SECTIONS TO CENTRAL COLLEGE FUNDS

Faculties and Sections are able to income generate. The main source of income generation is through conferences. Faculties and Sections are charged a 15% contribution to the College Development Fund for these activities. The 15% charge applies to total gross income and not surplus. It should be recalled that, although Faculties and Sections contribute to the Development Fund, they do not pay overheads.

The total turnover (not surplus) for the financial year 2009, for Faculties and Sections was £614k. The amount levied for the central Development Fund was, therefore, £79k. In the past the Development Fund income has been used to fund campaigns and plans for the new building.

Different Faculties and Sections differ in their success in generating surpluses. In 2009, as a group, they made a deficit of £9k. Faculties and Sections have been allowed over the years to keep any surpluses and determine their use, subject to approval from the Finance Management Committee and the Central Executive Committee. The end of year balances of different Faculties and Sections for 2009 were as follows:

FACULTIES	Number of Members at 31st December 2009	Balance Available / (Overdrawn)
Academic	2,235	3,469
Addictions	2,949	19,978
Child & Adolescent	3,457	61,314
Forensic	3,297	86,755
General & Community	7,379	72,231
Learning Disability	1,992	18,258
Liaison	3,615	(3,884)
Old Age	3,604	27,707
Psychotherapy	4,106	(9,394)
Rehabilitation & Social Psychiatry	2,871	15,250

SECTIONS	No. of Members	Balance Available / (Overdrawn)
Eating disorders	2,096	13,090
Neuropsychiatry	2,725	18,543
Perinatal Psychiatry	1,706	8,807

A TEAM EFFORT

The work of the Faculties and Sections is integral to the mission of the College as a whole, and it wouldn't be possible without the individual time and dedication of College members who work, often at unsocial hours and in their personal time, to make these activities successful. Many are supported in this work by secretaries and administrators in their remunerated roles, and the College recognises this by offering very modest honoraria as a "thank you" for this support (a total £4,590 was paid in the year ending 31st December 2009).

A special thank you goes to Faculty and Section Finance Officers who do much to ensure the smooth running and integrity of the finances of the College.

The current Finance Officers are:

Dr Josanne Holloway (Forensic Faculty)
Dr Andrew Robinson (Addictions Faculty)
Dr Frances Burnett (General & Community Faculty)
Dr Steffan Davies (Rehabilitation & Social Psychiatry Faculty)
Professor Paul Harrison (Academic Faculty)
Dr Rafey Faruqui (Neuropsychiatry Section)
Dr Adrian Flynn (Liaison Faculty)
Dr Angela Hassiotis (Learning Disability Faculty)
Dr Kevin Healy (Psychotherapy Faculty)
Dr Anthony James (Child & Adolescent Faculty)
Dr Jane Shapleske (Eating Disorders Section)
Dr Anandamandiram Ramakrishnan (Old Age Faculty)
Dr Alain Gregoire (Perinatal Section)

Financial arrangements can seem complex, but we hope that this short article is helpful in explaining levels of support in this key area of College work. Further details may be found in the Annual Accounts and Returns available on www.charity-commission.gov.uk

You should also feel free to ask for further information from your Faculty or Section Finance Officer or from the Honorary Treasurer.

Professor George Ikkos

Honorary Treasurer

01.10.10