**Eating Disorders Faculty Report for Executive Committee Meeting**

**25 February 2016**

This is the second report to College of the new, small ED Faculty, and reflects the development of this body into full Faculty status. We enclose the Minute of a recent meeting of the Faculty on November 11th 2015

**Constitution and office holders**

Please see item 3 of the Minute for discussion of our evolution from a ‘SIG’ (special interest group) through being a ‘Section’ of the College (EDSECT) to current faculty status. A small enduring core of psychiatrists has steered the business of the specialty in Scotland and continues to occupy some of the key positions in most of the national bodies. As services expand and trainees join the Faculty, it is hoped to become a more democratic group. As a start, key positions will be open to nomination and election at our next meeting, and we will attempt to integrate into College structures and the supports provided in Queen Street, once reliable VC facilities become available.

**Service & training issues and succession planning within the specialty**

We warmly welcome 2 new consultants, Dr Katherine Morton of NHS Glasgow, and Dr Richard Taylor of NHS Lothian. It is also heartening to include at least 2 Higher Trainees to the speciality. In the absence of separate accreditation in Eating Disorders, one option for trainees (and any Psychiatrist with an interest in the field) is to enrol for the EEATS Accreditation (Eating Disorders Education and Training Scotland, set up with initial funding from NES in 2010).

We were all saddened by the untimely death of Dr Yvonne Edmonstone, Consultant in Highland NHS Eating Disorders Service. Her Obituary appeared in last month’s BMJ and online. Her position has not been filled in spite of being advertised twice. However, it is hoped that there will be interest in the post in about 18 months’ time.

SCOTFED is examining current specialist staffing across Scotland – some preliminary details are documented in the minute. In addition to the absence of any consultant input North of Aberdeen, we noted that the Fife ANITT (anorexia nervosa intensive treatment team) is staffed by General Adult Consultants offering 2 sessions each rather than by specialists. For other areas we are seeking information as to whether those posts resourced for specialist Psychiatrists are actually filled. There is also concern about the situation in Greater Glasgow and Clyde where the new consultant (KM) is the only Consultant Psychiatrist (Eating Disorders) for a population of over 1 million. Other colleagues are helping, with 2 sessions from a GP. There is no history of trainees and any who become attached will be training in general psychiatry rather than committed specialists. This situation is typical of most parts of Scotland.

**Forthcoming plans and fostering links with other Faculties**

A further meeting of SCOTFED is scheduled for Friday 11th March at 3pm, in Aberdeen at the Offices of the North of Scotland MCN for Eating Disorders. VC facilities are available and a bridge will be booked to allow multiple centres to participate. Any colleagues wishing to attend by audio phone only can also be accommodated as in the past.

As in the past we welcome colleagues from CAMHS, and plan to appoint a CAMHS representative to the elected Committee. Dr Kandarp Joshi currently fills this role on a voluntary basis. We are most grateful for his commitment. We would also welcome attendance from other interested Faculties, particularly when there is joint business to be discussed, or would be pleased to send copies of our minute explicitly to interested Faculties.

We have started discussions with Dr Roch Cantwell (Chair) and Dr Selena Gleadow-Ware, of the Faculty of Neonatal Psychiatry to plan a joint one-day Conference later in the year. We have also been approached by Dr Neil Masson, Chair of the General Adult Faculty, RCPsychiS, who has invited presentations on Eating Disorders at their next Conference in May.

We would obviously have much in common with the Faculties of Liaison Psychiatry, Psychotherapy and Substance Misuse, and look forward to approaching them to discuss campaigns, conferences and other matters of mutual support and interest.

Dr E Jane B Morris