

Minutes
of the business meeting
of the Faculty for the Psychiatry of Old Age
26 March 2021
Via Zoom



No. Subject

1 PRESENT

Dr Mani Santhanakrishnan (Chair)
Dr Josie Jenkinson (Vice-Chair)
Dr Sudip Sikdar (Finance Officer)
Dr Mohan Bhat (Academic Secretary)

Around 400 members were in attendance.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the business meeting. He acknowledged that it has been a year since the first national lockdown. He thanked every member for providing support for older adults, who are resilient but vulnerable. He thanked the executive committee and the College for helping members through this difficult time.

2 PLAUDITS

Medical Student Essay Prize: Dr Santhanakrishnan announced the winner, Sarah Chitson, who won the prize with her essay: *Later life with substance-abusing children: exploring victimisation, addiction, and bereavement in the case of Ms E*.
The essay will be published in the newsletter.

Old Age Psychiatrist Essay Prize: Dr Santhanakrishnan announced the prize winners:
Joint first: Dr Clare Wadlow and Dr Sharon Holland
Runner-up: Dr Stephanie Vincent
Highly commended (funded by EAGP Silver Jubilee Prize): Dr Eleni-Maria Liaka, Dr Ayesha Bangash, Dr Ayana Hazu, Dr Oli Sparasci, Dr Jennifer Parker, Rosemary Stubbs
Dr Santhanakrishnan thanked the EAGP for funding the commended prizes. The essays will be published in the newsletter.

Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr Santhanakrishnan announced that Prof Ajit Shah was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award in 2020. Dr Sujoy Mukherjee accepted the prize on his behalf, as he is currently unwell in hospital. He described Prof Shah's career and said that he is highly respected by patients, family members, colleagues, GPs and his trainees. Dr Mukherjee thanked the Faculty on behalf of Prof Shah and his family for recognising his contribution.
He asked members to join him in wishing him a swift recovery.
Dr Santhanakrishnan added the Faculty's best wishes for his recovery and the Faculty will invite him to a future conference.

2 cont **Mohsen Naguib Prize:** The oral presentations were video presentations this year. Dr Santhanakrishnan announced the winners:
First: Dr Louisa Mander
Highly commended: Dr Alan Slater, Dr Emily Giles

Poster Prize: 94 posters have been received this year and they were of very high quality. Dr Santhanakrishnan announced the winners:
First: Dr Matthew Roughley
Highly commended: Dr Beth McCausland, Dr Clara Belessiotis-Richards

3 REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Academic Secretary's report

Dr Bhat introduced himself as Academic Secretary. He hoped members enjoyed the conference. He mentioned that trainees got the first session in the conference, to send the message that they are valued as successors and future leaders. He thanked the speakers, particularly the patients and carers for their contributions. He thanked the executive committee, particularly members of the conference organising committee, for helping to organise the conference. He said a special thanks to the conference team, who made the event run very smoothly. He congratulated all the award winners. The videos and posters were very high standard. They are all available on the poster site. He added some songs to the conference website for members' wellbeing.

Dr Bhat talked about the successful joint conferences with the BGS in December and the EAGP in January. Both were well attended with excellent speakers and received excellent feedback. The Faculty aims to organise more joint meetings with other Faculties, organisations and international colleagues.

The March 2022 Faculty conference will hopefully be face to face.

Vice-Chair's report

Dr Jenkinson thanked the conference team and Dr Bhat for organising the conference, and Dr Santhanakrishnan for his leadership. The Faculty's webinars were a highlight last year and the Faculty hopes to organise more. The executive committee would like the membership to be more connected to the Faculty. The Faculty has a jiscmail list for Faculty members and leaders in old age psychiatry, to help collaboration and networking. Members can sign up here: [JISCMail - OLDAGEPSYCHIATRY List at WWW.JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:JISCMail-OLDAGEPSYCHIATRY@WWW.JISCMAIL.AC.UK). Dr Jenkinson invited attendees to follow the Faculty on twitter: @rcpsychOldAge

Finance Officer's report

Dr Sikdar reported that this time last year the College was projecting a £2 million deficit, but this has been turned around, as vacancies were frozen, meetings, exams and conferences were moved online, reducing travel and other expenses, therefore reducing the deficit to less than £1 million.

The College is planning to transform the building in Prescott Street and this will enable hybrid events in the future.

The Faculty held its most successful meetings recently, which impacted very positively on its finances. The joint event with the BGS attracted almost 800 delegates. The current conference is also very successful, with similar delegate numbers.

3 cont Chair's report

Dr Santhanakrishnan reported that the executive committee had last met on 3 March and agreed to focus on the following strategy objectives:

- Service models: CMHF and Integration, ageless services
- Strengthening our voice: how the Faculty can influence the College, the public and other organisations
- Workforce planning: New curriculum, recruitment, retention
- New treatments: Challenges with Aducanumab, how the Faculty can support new service models and treatment pathways

He stressed the importance of wellbeing in these difficult times and asked members to look after themselves.

The meeting closed.