Minutes of the business meeting of the Faculty for the Psychiatry of Old Age
8 March 2018 Newcastle

No.         Subject

1            PRESENT
Dr Amanda Thompsell (Chair)
Dr Ben Akande (Vice-Chair)
Dr Mani Santhanakrishnan (Academic Secretary)
Dr Alex Bailey (Chair, Specialty Advisory Committee)
Dr Sharmi Bhattacharya

47 members were in attendance.

The Chair welcomed everyone.

2            PLAUDITS

Presentation of the Medical Student Essay Prize: Dr Thompsell presented the prize to the winner, George Gillett (essay title: *Advance decisions in dementia: when past conflicts with present*).

Presentation of the Old Age Psychiatrist’s Essay Prize: Dr Thompsell presented the prize to the winner, Dr Gareth Smith. The runner up was Dr Christopher Lucas.

Philip Davis Prize: Dr Thompsell announced the winner of the Philip Davis Prize, Dr Ayesha Bangash (essay title: *Personality disorder: an unknown risk factor for dementia*?). The presentation would take place the following day.

3            REPORT FROM THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Finances
Dr Thompsell gave apologies from the Finance Officer and reported that although the finances were healthy, the Faculty needed to look at how Prizes were funded and which ones to focus on, as some prizes often had no applicants.

Some money has been set aside towards FreeCog, but it had not been spent yet.

Academic Secretary: Dr Santhanakrishnan reported that the rapid-fire poster sessions had gone well and were well received.

Future Conferences and dates for diary:
3 October 2018: Neurology and Psychiatry meeting at the College in London. The Faculty was planning to launch the Young Onset Dementia document at that meeting.
Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC)
Dr Bailey explained that the Faculty Education and Curriculum Committee was now known as the Specialty Advisory Committee (SAC), and was a larger and more dynamic group. The main areas of focus were on recruitment and rewriting the curriculum. The Royal College of Paediatrics had already re-written their curriculum and were assisting the College with its process. It had taken them about 3 years, with the end-result of a 2-page curriculum (backed with about 180 pages of syllabus). Dr Bailey also explained about ongoing plans to engage with trainees and bring them more into the Faculty. Finally, he discussed the competency framework which had been sent out by HEE and needed a lot of work and input, and the bid to get more foundation trainees in Old Age Liaison. A survey of people working in Old Age Liaison would be sent out soon.

NEWSLETTER
Dr Bhattacharya asked if any trainee was interested in applying for the trainee editor position.

OPEN DISCUSSION
Dr Thompsell opened the floor for questions.

❖ Feedback process: A question was asked if the conference feedback forms could be circulated again after 3 months to review the impact of the meeting.

❖ Training – question discussed flexible and part time training

❖ Section 49 report requests – Dr Thompsell explained that some areas were flooded with requests, while other areas were not receiving many. The issue of concern has been raised with NHS England. Dr Thompsell pointed out that LD and General Adult Consultants were also receiving requests and it was suggested that members who get a request should keep a log of the time taken to do the report. Dr Shanu Dhatta (as a BMA exec member) suggested writing to the BMA to consider the workload implications of section 49 report requests. Amanda would write to the BMA and would raise it at the next Council meeting.

❖ Mental Health Act review – Dr Bhattacharya gave a summary of the Faculty’s work on the review of the Mental Health Act and the Mental Capacity Act interface. The Faculty had also been involved in the response to the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) and had argued that the LPS should not be brought in urgently as the process was still fraught with difficulties. Dr Thompsell gave a case example of problems with the interface and invited members to urge carers or patients to share examples with the Faculty of experiences where these transitions had caused difficulty.

❖ Law Commission – Dr James Warner raised concerns about the Law Commission review and the problems that would arise if patients that lack capacity have to be compulsorily detained. There was broad discussion about this concern.

❖ Ageless service – concern raised about the current situation in Birmingham. Dr Thompsell advised on utilising the resource available on the Faculty website.

❖ Media drive – Dr Thompsell invited members to send details of any older people or carers willing to talk to the media about their experiences.
Integration – Dr Thompsell described how the Faculty was engaging with the integration agenda with STP’s/ICS (Sustainability and transformation providers/Integrated care systems) in England. There would be a summary about STPs in the newsletter. She would also raise at Faculty Chairs’ meeting to try and get shared learning from the other Faculties on their approach to these changes.

Upcoming reports: Dr Thompsell summarised the upcoming reports:

- Transitions – links without borders (has been signed by many of the Faculty Chairs)
- Position statement on all ages liaison (joint guidance with the Liaison Faculty)
- Physical health on the mental health acute ward for older people
- Young onset dementia report update
- Depression in care homes
- Updated document on age discrimination in mental health

Close
Dr Thompsell closed the meeting.