

Association of Clinical Electron Microscopists
Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting
held at
The Queen Elizabeth Medical Centre, Birmingham
12th November, 2004

Present: Tim Ryder (TR, Chairman), Jill Moss (JM), Liz Curtis (EC), Alan Curry (AC) and Bart Wagner (BW)

Apologies: Val James (VJ) and Brian Eyden (BE)

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 28 November 2003: Accepted

Matters Arising: None.

Minutes of the AGM 8th July 2004: Comments were invited on the circulated draft

Action (All):

- *review the draft and report back to the Chairman in good time before the next AGM.*

ACEM Secretary

Noted: no nominations for the post had been received

Action:

- *AC to approach Pat Tarpey to encourage her to take on the position*

Treasurer's Report: AC reported that the balance as at 27/10/04 was £1652.59
A further £100 was still to be paid into the account (NetBanx receipts, etc)
There had been only one major item of expenditure: Amsterdam expenses (Patrick Costigan)

Agreed:

- *The Association would not offer honoraria to speakers at the next scientific meeting*

NetBanx Online: EC reported that NetBanx was working at the end of August but the e-mail alert was not implemented until the end of September. The system produced a monthly statement and could be set for renewal reminders.

Action:

- *EC to send emails to lapsed members, a few at a time, inviting them to renew their membership online.*

Meetings Secretary: BW reported that he had approached two members to take on the position. Both, after some thought, had declined. BW offered to continue for a further year provided he had some help with circulation of information to members.

Action:

AC to assume the responsibility of posting information to members.

Newcastle Meeting:

Noted:

The date of the next scientific meeting will be Thursday 7th July, 2005.

- Principal Research Fellow = 1
- 6 were registered with HPC as clinical scientists
- 1 was registered with HPC as a medical laboratory technician
- 1 not registered but had no service commitment
- 2 registration not stated but both had a service commitment

Action:

- *TR to forward data to RCPATH Workforce Planning Department*

IBMS Advanced Practitioner

BW reported that he had prepared a draft of the technical syllabus for the proposed exam.

Action:

- *BW to circulate committee members with the draft for comments when complete*

EQA

Noted:

IBMS generic advanced practitioner schemes usually have a requirement to participate in EQA.

Proposal:

BW to set up two histological EM schemes, one technical and one interpretative

Agreed:

- *BW to proceed with working out the fine detail of a technical scheme but should not proceed, at this time, with an interpretative scheme due to the conflict it may cause with medical colleagues.*

Minimum Data Sets

BW tabled minimum data sets for common EM examinations and proposed they be promoted by ACEM

Agreed:

- *Individual members of the committee to look at the MDS's and feed back comments to BW*
- *ACEM would not be formally involved until agreement was reached on the philosophy of MDSs in EM.*

Web Site

EC reported that self-updating pages are to be implemented on the web site. This would allow committee members to change the content of pages without the need to go through the webmaster.

Noted:

There had been no progress to date with the image database

Action:

- *A monthly case ("Case of the Month") to be put on the web site (moderated by BE and AC)*
- *JM to find out if electronic versions of the symposium papers were available through the Imperial College library, failing that find out if scanned copies of the papers could be converted to .pdf files*

Noted:

Other items are required to keep the web site active and encourage members to visit.

Action:

- *EC to put an item on the web site about Ilford going into receivership.
Members to be invited to suggest alternative sources of photographic material*
- *EC to put an item on the site regarding repetitive strain injury to the thumbs of
EM operators (e.g. JM), members to be invited to report any similar injuries*

Any Other Business: None

Date of Next Meeting: To be decided subject to developments

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 5pm.