ANNUAL MEETING OF FELLOWS

in the Max Rayne Auditorium
Monday 2 March 2015 at 6.30pm

AGENDA

1. To receive and sign the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting of Fellows held on 1 July 2014.

2. To receive the President’s Report (AMF 14/15/1).

3. To receive the Dean’s Report (AMF 14/15/2).

4. To receive the Chief Executive’s Report, including the financial situation of the Society (AMF 14/15/3).

5. To receive and adopt the audited Accounts for the session 2013/14 (AMF 14/15/4).

6. A review of RSM Auditors will be held later in the year. The meeting is asked to approve the appointment of auditors for the 2014/15 session following the recommendation of that review and subject to confirmation by Council.

7. Questions from Fellows.

8. The next Annual Meeting of Fellows will be held at 6.30pm on Monday 29 February 2016
UNCONFIRMED Minutes of the ANNUAL MEETING OF FELLOWS of the Royal Society of Medicine held at 1 Wimpole Street, London W1G OAE on Tuesday 1 July 2014

Present:  Professor Sir Michael Rawlins, President (in the Chair)
Mr Ian Balmer, Chief Executive
58 Fellows

The President welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of Fellows. He gave apologies for the Dean, Professor John Betteridge, who was unable to attend due to illness.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the last Annual Meeting of Fellows held on 16 July 2013 were signed as a correct record.

2. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The Report from the President was noted (AMF 13/14/1).

Sir Michael was pleased to report that the Society continued to flourish. Programmes in Global Health, Innovation Summits and Society lectures and meetings, continued to provide members with outstanding educational opportunities. Sections, too, had continued to provide their members with intellectual nourishment of the highest quality. They had also arranged many opportunities for Trainees, in their relevant subjects, to contribute to the disciplines of their choice. Also during the year, a new Section – Gastroenterology and Hepatology – had been established to fill what was an obvious gap.

The Society also continued to provide opportunities for school children to learn about careers in medicine and dentistry, as well as sessions for patients and the public.

The President was delighted to advise that Council had been able to provide additional resources for over 1,000 e-books and more than 3,500 e-journals to be made available to Members and Fellows.

In July the Society would be awarding Honorary Fellowships to Professor Dame Sally Davies, Professor Sir Simon Wesseley and Sir Magdi Yacoub and the immediate-Past President, Professor Parveen Kumar. In this way the Society will be able to recognise the contributions these most eminent of physicians and surgeons have made to British Medicine. On that same evening, the Rt Hon Lord Walton of Detchant, Past-President of the RSM, would receive the Society’s Gold Medal. This recognised his contributions as a clinician-scientist, medical administrator and parliamentarian. Honorary Fellowships would also be awarded to Professor Don Berwick and Professor Sir John Sulston in the coming months.

Two members of Council would complete their term office. Surgeon Commodore Grant McMillan, who had served on Council for four years, two of them as Vice-President. Dr Stephen Hempling would complete his second term of office. The Society was very grateful to them for the efforts they had made on its behalf.

However, the RSM would not be such a successful organisation without the enthusiastic commitment of its staff. Under the leadership of the CEO, Ian Balmer, they were responsible for running the Society’s day-to-day activities and the President believed we owed them much. On a more personal note he said a special thank you to Jo Rose, PA to the President and the CEO.
As he demitted office, Sir Michael was more than re-assured that his successor, Mr B Sethia, was taking the helm. He was a most remarkable individual who would unquestionably carry the Society to even greater heights. Sir Michael wished him, and all Fellows, the best of luck.

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE’S REPORT

The Report from the Chief Executive was noted (AMF 13/14/2). Mr Balmer gave a brief presentation.

Methods of acquiring members were noted, with specific marketing campaigns allowing for the majority of new members, most of whom applied via the website. Reasons for not joining varied but the main reason was the cost of membership. Retention of members was important and those who decided not to renew were asked why they let membership lapse. The majority did not give a reason, but of those that did, answers varied between cost and not using the benefits. However, despite this, retention rates were still above 90% for most categories, with only 74% of Trainees retaining membership.

Membership offerings were being reviewed in order to tailor them to the needs of healthcare professionals.

E-learning offerings were particularly important, particularly to Trainees who would like to have e-revision aids. Despite this, attendance at meetings was improving. In particular, the Medical Innovation meetings were always over-subscribed.

The global health initiative continued to go from strength to strength, and had received funding from the Gates Foundation.

The availability of 3,000 e-journals and 1,000 e-books were resulting in over 6,000 downloads per week.

Public engagement meetings were attracting major speakers and large audiences.

There had been major fundraising efforts over the year, with a large donation from the Exilarch Foundation to name the new Naim Dangor Auditorium and Dangoor Medical Education Centre. Mr Balmer congratulated Mr Summerfield on securing this donation.

It was extremely important to recognised that Conferencing and Hospitality underpinned the work carried out at the Society. The rebranding of the conferencing as 1 Wimpole Street had been a huge success and the number of bookings received had increased. In order to meet demand, it was essential that we offered state of the art Audio Visual facilities and these were being updated. Mr Balmer was also pleased to announce that the RSM Audio Visual team had recently won a prestigious national award and congratulated them on this.

Mr Balmer referred to the two leaving members of Council. Grant McMillan, the Vice-President, who had been extremely active in ensuring the Audit Committee were able to give good advice and guidance to Council. Stephen Hempling, who would shortly complete his second term of office, had provided measured guidance throughout his four year term. Both would be missed and Mr Balmer thanked them for all their efforts.

Finally, Mr Balmer wished to thank the President, Sir Michael Rawlins, for all he had done over the past two years. He had given wise leadership and brought many different attributes to the role. The Meeting endorsed this.
Mr Balmer asked for questions from the floor.

A Fellow asked why the website had been so delayed, and whether this had taken it over budget. Mr Balmer advised that as the work went on, the brief increased in complexity. It was decided that further functionality should be added to the site now. This had resulted in a much better website with a range of availability. However, this had not impacted on the budget.

4. **AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE SESSION 2012/13**

The Annual Meeting of Fellows received and adopted the audited accounts for the session 2012/13 (AMF 13/14/12).

5. **APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS FOR THE SESSION 2014/15**

The President and Council recommended that Grant Thornton be appointed as Auditors for the 2014/15 session. The Annual Meeting of Fellows approved this recommendation.

6. **NEW MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

The Annual Meeting of Fellows received the list of members of Council (AMF 13/14/15). The President reported that there had been three vacancies on Council. Two of these places had to be filled by Regional Fellows. A total of 18 nominations had been received. Following the recent election, the candidates elected to Council were Reverend Hilary De Lyon, Professor Roger Motson and Dr Natasha Robinson. Therefore, the composition of Council for the 2014/15 Session would be:

**Honorary Officers**

- Mr B Sethia: President
- TBC: Vice-President
- Miss Rachel Hargest: Honorary Treasurer
- Professor Nadey Hakim: Honorary Secretary
- Professor Gillian Leng: Honorary Librarian

**Council Members**

- Mr Martin Bailey
- Reverend Hilary De Lyon
- Dr Susan Horsewood-Lee
- Professor James Malpas
- Professor Roger Motson
- Dr Rashmi Patel
- Mr Peter Richardson
- Dr Natasha Robinson

**Co-opted Members**

- Mr Adrian Beckingsale: Chairman, Academic Board
- Sir David Clementi
- Professor Sir Andrew Haines

Council would seek candidates from amongst its number for the vacant Honorary Officer post over the summer.

7. **MOTIONS FROM FELLOWS**

The President reported that three motions had been received from Fellows. He would introduce each in turn, and ask the proposer to speak to it.
AMF Agenda Item 1

i) Dr Shahrzad Connolly

‘The RSM should become a professional body and allow Fellows to use the post-nominal: FRSM.’

Dr Connolly was not present at the meeting. The issue was considered and the majority of those present were of the opinion that post-nominals should only be awarded for by degree, diploma or peer election. Therefore the motion was not approved.

ii) Dr William Cattell

‘Given the fundamental importance to the Society of a possible sell off of upper floors at 1 Wimpole Street and any associated building works, it is proposed that any plans must be put to the entire Fellowship/Membership before acceptance.’

Dr Cattell addressed the meeting. The motion was self-explanatory but he believed it was of extreme importance that the Fellowship were kept informed of potential plans. The suggestion of selling off certain areas of the building had caused alarm. The President and Chief Executive agreed with this and advised that they once Council had discussed the issue and some firm idea of how they wished to proceed, it had always been planned to advise the Fellowship. However, the President was concerned with the word ‘put’ and asked Dr Cattell whether this meant he wished the Fellowship to be able to vote on the matter. Dr Cattell advised this was not the case, as it was down to the Trustees to make the decisions relating to the Society, he simply wished to keep people informed. It was proposed that the views of the Fellowship and membership should be sought of part of this process. This motion was approved.

iii) Mr Harvey White

‘In order that the views of the Fellowship are properly represented in the future strategy, planning and development of the Society, I propose an advisory forum of a representative from each Section and Officers of the Society chaired by the President-elect or until identified, the President, to meet twice a year.’

Mr White addressed the meeting. He was concerned that Fellows and Sections did not get an opportunity to raise any concerns or communicate with Council. He suggested an advisory forum would be a suitable way of achieving this. The President said that this was already achieved via the Academic Board, which had a representative from each Section attending. However, Mr White did not think this was the case. For example, the Retired Fellows Society did not have a representative on the Academic Board and therefore had no way to reach Council. Mr Beckingsale, the current Chairman of the Academic Board, advised that the Board undertook a variety of discussions and obtained opinion from active members of the Society. However, he would be happy to widen discussion and have either an extra meeting, or dedicate one of the meetings, to discussion of strategic issues. He could then report on this at Council.

Mr White welcomed this but was still concerned that certain members of the Society would be disenfranchised. However, the President advised that a representative of the Retired Fellows Society could attend the Academic Board. Professor Malpas reported that he attended the Academic Board and was a member of the Retired Fellows Society.

During the discussion, Mr Beckingsale illustrated the fact that this meeting was well represented by those at the more senior end of the age spectrum and he felt the challenge was to attract younger members into the life of the RSM.
Mr White agreed to withdraw his motion for the time being, subject to suitable actions being taken and addressed.

8. QUESTIONS FROM FELLOWS

The President asked for questions from the audience.

A Fellow requested that fees be reduced for Missionaries who, although UK Fellows, worked overseas for much of the time and were unable to attend the Society. Mr Balmer believed this would be possible and he would look into this.

ACTION: IAJB

Dr Scadding asked if it would be possible to have the agenda and papers for the meeting available on the website prior to the meeting. He believed this would help attract individuals to the meeting. Mr Balmer agreed this could be done.

Mr Richardson asked if it would be possible to have the Annual Meeting earlier in the year. At present, the meeting was held in July but dealt with finances and issues relating to the previous academic year. He also requested a full financial breakdown and presentation of the figures. Mr Balmer would arrange this for the following year.

A member of the audience suggested that younger members of the Society should be included wherever possible in discussion and debate by using survey tools where appropriate.

Dr Cattell questioned why other organisations didn’t hold more joint meetings with the RSM. Mr Balmer agreed this would be desirable and work was ongoing to do this. It was also useful in terms of membership recruitment.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Following discussion at the meeting, it has now been agreed to hold the next meeting on Monday 2 March 2015.

The President thanked everybody for attending and formally closed the meeting.
President’s Report for the Annual Meeting of Fellows

This is the first occasion on which our Annual Meeting is being held in March and I hope that this change, which allows us all to contemplate the activities of the previous academic year in a timely manner, is felt to be helpful for our entire membership.

My predecessor, Sir Michael Rawlins, reported at our last Annual Meeting on the expanding activities of our Society. I am pleased to report that this process continues apace. In addition to our flourishing academic programmes, your Council is exploring options for a further increase in our facilities both at 1 Wimpole Street and opportunities for new collaboration on a national and international basis. Our expectation is that this will benefit our members and also further support our financial imperatives.

I have now met with the Presidents of several of the Medical Royal Colleges and note a new willingness to collaborate with the RSM in areas of mutual interest. We retain a unique opportunity to foster collaboration within healthcare and to promote opportunity for young people who may wish to enter our professions. Following a very successful ‘Awayday’ meeting of Council last September, our strategic objectives were combined into an Action Plan. This plan is a focus for continuous discussion and enables Council to evaluate progress towards the achievement of our objectives. To date, I am pleased to report that we remain on target to deliver these objectives by the end of the academic year, as planned.

In February we are hosting the first Annual ‘London Clinic’ Lecture. This important event replaces the Wellcome series of annual lectures and I am grateful to Earl Howe for agreeing to deliver the inaugural talk, as well as to the London Clinic for their sponsorship of this event.

As reported last July, Council has a number of new members this year. I have previously, in my monthly updates on the RSM web pages, congratulated Professor Nadey Hakim and Mr Martin Bailey on their elections as Vice-President and Honorary Secretary respectively. I am grateful to both of them as well as to all my colleagues on Council for all their hard work on behalf of our Society. I also would like to thank Ian Balmer and his Executive colleagues for their huge contributions without which the RSM could not achieve our current success.

Finally, at the last Annual Meeting of Fellows concern was expressed regarding the possible ‘disenfranchisement’ of Fellows with regard to participation by the membership in the strategic development of our Society. Whilst one effective means of addressing this issue is through the discussion at the Academic Board, I have initiated a regular series of monthly Updates on our web pages and asked for feedback via e-mail or by writing to me directly. To date, very little such feedback has been forthcoming. I encourage you to make contact on matters that you perceive to be relevant. Your observations, ideas and even criticisms are valuable as we seek to foster excellence in all that we do.

B Sethia
President
Dean’s Report for the Annual Meeting of Fellows 2015

As I write this report the President of the USA, Mr Barack Obama has delivered his annual ‘State of the Union’ address to Congress. “Tonight we turn the page” he said. “The shadow of crisis has passed and the ‘State of the Union’ is strong.” Well, at RSM I am pleased to report that there has been no crisis in academic and educational activities and indeed they go from strength to strength! In this report I will update Fellows on some important aspects of our extensive activities over the last academic year starting with individual Sections which are the bulwark of the institution.

Sections
In academic year 2013/2014, 311 Section meetings were held attracting 29,000 delegates. Of course the overwhelming majority of these meetings attract CPD credits which are enormously useful to our Fellows in discussions with their Responsible Officers as part of the appraisal and revalidation process. I am pleased to report that the effectiveness of planning procedures of Section meetings has increased with the result that fewer meetings have had to be cancelled, delegate attendance has increased and finances have been better balanced. Indeed, many sections have now accumulated considerable reserve funds and I am sure that discussions are in progress within individual Sections to determine how best these funds should be used to fulfil the aims of the Section and the wider RSM. I am pleased to report that the latest and, in my opinion a very welcome addition to our profile of Sections namely Gastroenterology and Hepatology has made an impressive start not only in its educational output but also in securing its finances.

Academic Fund
As Dean I chair the Academic Fund committee, which was established to support the charitable educational aims of RSM by funding section meetings with strong academic content where costs could not be covered through sponsorship or registration fees. More recently we have added two further ways to support Sections namely the International Speaker programme and the Visiting Professor programme. In the last academic year Academic Fund approved 23 out of 24 applications for international speakers to attend Section meetings. The feedback from Section Presidents on the added benefit this programme brings to individual meetings is very encouraging. The Clinical Immunology and Allergy Section welcomed our first Visiting Professor, Antony Rosen from Johns Hopkins who spoke at RSM, a regional meeting in Cambridge and an evening meeting at Imperial.

Public Engagement
RSM’s public engagement programme extends our charitable purposes directly to the general public and patients and carers in addition to our Fellows. RSM is rightly proud of the Medicine and Me meetings which bring together healthcare professionals and patients/carers so that experiences can be exchanged on the diagnosis and management of a variety of illnesses. Patients’ and carers’ voices are given equal weight in the programmes. The meetings are planned jointly with the appropriate national charities and I have listed our programme for the last academic year.

Living with:
- Diabetic eye disease
- Intensive care unit (ICU)
- Congenital adrenal hyperplasia (CAH)
- COPD
- Stroke
As you can see we cover relatively rare conditions as well as more common problems. For such a rare condition as CAH it was particularly rewarding to see a full Max Rayne Lecture Theatre including 110 patients and carers. If any Fellow is closely associated with a medical support charity and would like to discuss the possibility of a meeting please contact the Academic department. So far for this academic year we are planning to cover macular degeneration, myeloma, inflammatory bowel disease, heart failure and difficult asthma.

Schools Programme
We have run three joint meetings for year 11 and 12 pupils under the title ‘Medical careers day: so you want to be a doctor?’ In addition to our annual meeting on home ground we were hosted by Oakham School in Rutland and by Eton College. These meetings are very popular and often oversubscribed. I am happy that we are reaching a wide range of schools but we can always do better. In order to extend our outreach programme we held our first Medical Careers Advisory Conference for science teachers and careers advisors and welcomed representatives from more than 50 schools. In the current academic year we are planning our first meeting on the Wirral. These meetings are made possible by the enthusiastic support of many colleagues from various schools and universities who cover every aspect of the application to medical school.

Flagship lectures
This programme has expanded and the feedback from Fellows has been very encouraging. The latest addition is our joint lecture with the Royal Academy, ‘Art society and Medicine’. As a general rule we have over 300 applications to attend within 24 hours of the announcement of the title and date of each meeting which indicates their popularity. I have listed the lectures from the last academic year.

- Darwin lecture on science and medicine: ‘Cell differentiation from embryos and tumours to experimental genetics and therapies’ by Sir Martin Evans
- Christmas lecture: ‘The origin of life - may the proton-motive force be with you’ by Dr Nick Lane
- Art, society and medicine: ‘Architecture as medicine’ by Mr Sunand Prasad
- Jephcott lecture: ‘The profession of medicine after Mid-Staffordshire’ by Mr Robert Francis QC
- Anne Silk lecture: ‘Neurodegeneration - from molecules to medicines’ by Professor Giovanna Mallucci
- Easter lecture for young people: ‘Survival: Who lives, who dies, and why?’ by Professor Hugh Montgomery
- The William Harvey lecture: ‘Creating a Nation of Lifesavers! CPR; past, present and future’ by Dr Andrew Deaner
- John Hunter lecture: ‘The heart of Leonardo seen through contemporary eyes’ by Mr Francis Wells

Conclusions
I hope that from the above update you will agree with my assessment that education and public engagement are in robust good health at RSM. It might be tempting to rest on our laurels but that would be to the detriment of the future quality of our RSM product.

Professor John Betteridge
Dean
CEO Report to Annual Meeting of Fellows

The year covered by this Report has been one of major development for the RSM. The Academic programme, which is at the core of the RSM, has expanded to include over 29,000 delegates as has the average number of attendances, which has now reached 91. This growth reflects the huge effort provided by the Sections of our Society who continue to work tirelessly to improve the educational output of the RSM. Efforts to improve the out of London profile of the RSM have meant that a total of 28 meetings have taken place outside the capital. We now have over 5,000 visitors per month to the RSM Video website, which contains in excess of 500 hours of potential viewing. This aspect of the RSM’s work, like several others, will be developed over the next few years on a partnership basis.

The Society continues to develop the various activities to support both Trainees and Students, including 82 prizes which are fought over and jealously valued.

Funding of US$359,000 was secured by Dr Joseph Fitchett, Director of the Global health Film Initiative, from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation for the development of an RSM project in partnership with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Our Global Health programme also attracts large numbers of Trainees and Students. This area of the Society’s work will develop over the next few years by when we hope to be making a significant contribution to this agenda at a national level. The next twelve months will see the continued exploration of the issue of ethical electives and what role the RSM can play in fostering this development.

The RSM charitable aims have been supported by a large number of philanthropic donations in the last 12 months, several of which were from donors who wished to remain anonymous. I would however like to mention just one major donation: from the Dangoor family. This will make a substantial difference to the future of the Society.

The next few years will see major changes with regard to the services we offer to members. These changes will need to reflect the needs of the healthcare community and the way education will be provided in the future. The services offered to members will be significantly improved by our new website, which went live in May 2014, and will make the interactions with the Society both easier and personalised to the needs of each member.

The last year saw a small increase in new members, compared to the previous year, with a healthy proportion being Students (28%). Retention of members remains strong although we need to be thinking more imaginatively with regard to how we retain Students and Trainee members. The next twelve months will see significant work with regard to membership packages and what the RSM can offer.

This year has seen major developments in the services provided by the Library. The past year has seen over 30,000 visits to the Library with an additional 15,000 requests by telephone and email, etc. Key major investment has been made in digitisation of the journal stock (and additional £800,000 last year), so making access much easier for the vast majority of members around the world. This programme will continue over the next few years to ensure this unique resource is available to an increasing number of people. We continue to be most grateful to our band of conservation volunteers and their work to ensure our unique collection is maintained appropriately.

The Society’s Innovation programme goes from strength to strength and will hopefully expand in a number of new and exciting ways over the next few years. Last year a total of 33 briefings were provided, including two flagship summits which attracted speakers from around the globe.
The various and ambitious aims of the RSM can only be achieved if the contribution made by RSM Support Services continues and grows. The last twelve months have seen very major improvements in the performance of the commercial services offered by the RSM. This should be seen as the very major achievement that it is. The last twelve months saw the launch on an online booking service for Domus, as well as the launch of a re-branded 1 Wimpole Street site for commercial event bookings. The next twelve months will see a detailed review of our assets and how we use them in support of our charitable objectives. 2015 will see another Membership Survey undertaken, which will inform a review of Member Club facilities.

It is gratifying to see that the cumulative balance held in Section funds now is in excess of £880,000, which gives Sections individually and working together the opportunity to create some imaginative funding opportunities. Recent years have seen some turbulent times with regard to the Society’s finances. There is no doubt the financial position of the Society has improved in the last few years and our reserves are increasing. Although there is no doubt things have improved it is still the case that we need to work to provide a sustainable financial future for the Society. The recent growth in our reserves has been very much as a result of fortuitous donations and other one-off income generation. We continue to have to examine how the Society can generate more income to develop appropriate reserves and allow investment in exciting new areas. This will be achieved if we remain focused on a clear strategy, which is underpinned by a continual demand for quality in all we do.

The period covered by this report also saw the untimely death of Dr Stephen Hempling who demitted office as a Council Member in September 2014. Stephen had been on Council for two separate terms and had contributed in a number of ways.

Ian Balmer
Chief Executive
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – ATTACHED AS A SEPARATE DOCUMENT