

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The Minutes of the ELEVENTH Annual General Meeting held in the Lomond Auditorium, SEC Centre, Exhibition Way, Glasgow G3 8YW on 11th September 2018

1. Welcome

The President, Dr Tajek Hassan, welcomed the 57 Fellows, 1 Associate Fellow, 4 Members and 4 Associate Members to the meeting.

He thanked colleagues, Dr Jason Long and Dr Alastair Corfield for their collaborative work with our partners for the conference, the European Society for Emergency Medicine (EuSEM).

2. Notices

Dr Hassan asked members to note the sad deaths of 3 Fellows, Dr Mitam Barooah, Dr Conor Egleston and Mr A K Mitra.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr Ian Anderson, Dr Ian Crawford, Dr Ffion Davies, Dr Linda Dykes, Dr Ed Glucksman, Dr Henry Guly, Mrs Lisa Munro-Davies and Dr Jim Wardrope.

4. Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held in Liverpool on 16th October 2017 were accepted as a correct record.

5. Matters arising

There were none.

6. President's report

Dr Hassan reported on the RCEM Vision 2020 and work with NHS England, Health Education England and NHSI looking at securing the future workforce for EDs in England. He also pointed out the work being carried out in the devolved nations, noting that 85% of our members live and work in the UK and Ireland, with 15% overseas.

Through its committees, the College is looking at service design and configuration as well as substantiable working practices and how to optimise flow through departments.

Dr Hassan provided statistics on the examinations of the College in the last year:

- 6 examiner workshops
- 20 examinations run over 51 days
- 7,700 examinations attempts made by over 5,000 candidates
- 495 examiners used over the last 12 months
- 1,794 days of examining
- 1,000 new questions written

The research strategy for the next few years includes collaboration with NIHR, establishment of TERN (trainee research network); Emergency Medicine Incubator and the Young Investigator and Principal Investigator. We continue to appoint College Professor and award PhD Fellowships, offer research grants and we are looking to establish Associate Professor posts. He thanks Dr Alasdair Gray for his work to 'make research normal'.

Dr Hassan spoke about the milestones of the last year which included the opening of our Education Centre, Octavia House in January, when we were privileged that our Royal Patron, HRH The Princess Royal could perform the ceremony. We concluded our year of celebrations of the 50 years of EM with a reception at the RSM. Dr Hassan was honoured to report on visits to Buckingham Palace for a Garden Party and more than one visit to No 10 Downing Street.

Dr Hassan highlighted the work of the Quality in Emergency Care cluster, particularly acknowledging the work of Dr Adrian Boyle who leads on this, together with the staff in the College office.

The RCEM Learning platform goes from strength to strength, thanks to Dr Becky Maxwell and Dr Chris Walsh and is the number one member benefit according to the membership survey carried out earlier in the year.

Dr Hassan acknowledged the work of the Informatics Committee and its chair, Dr David Gaunt as well as highlighting that there is a clinical directors forum and WhatsApp group. This has been created for sharing of best practice but also has a drop box function, links to websites and a Survey Monkey option,

Finally, Dr Hassan wished to recognise a founding father of the specialty, Maurice Ellis. Dr Ellis worked in Leeds and Dr Hassan was asked to unveil a blue plaque at the LGI to coincide with 50 years of the specialty.

Dr Hassan's report was welcomed by members.

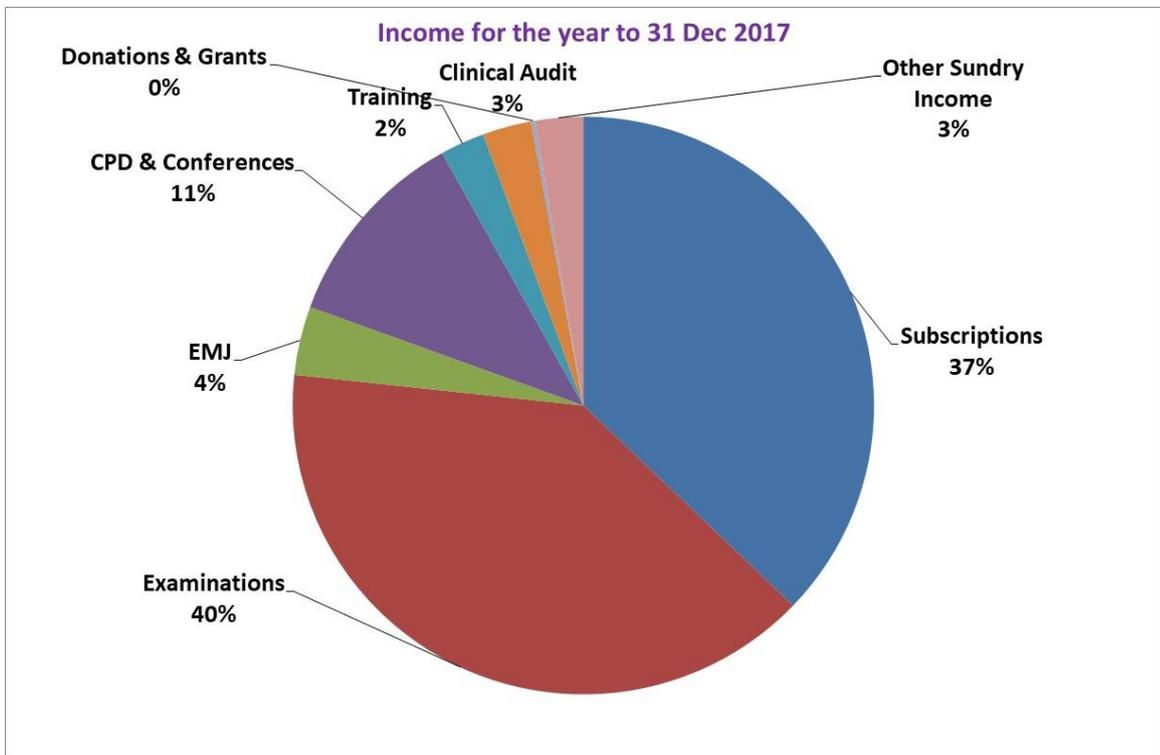
7. Treasurer's report

Mr Miles delivered the Treasurer's report in Dr Hepburn's absence and presented the 2017 Accounts for approval.

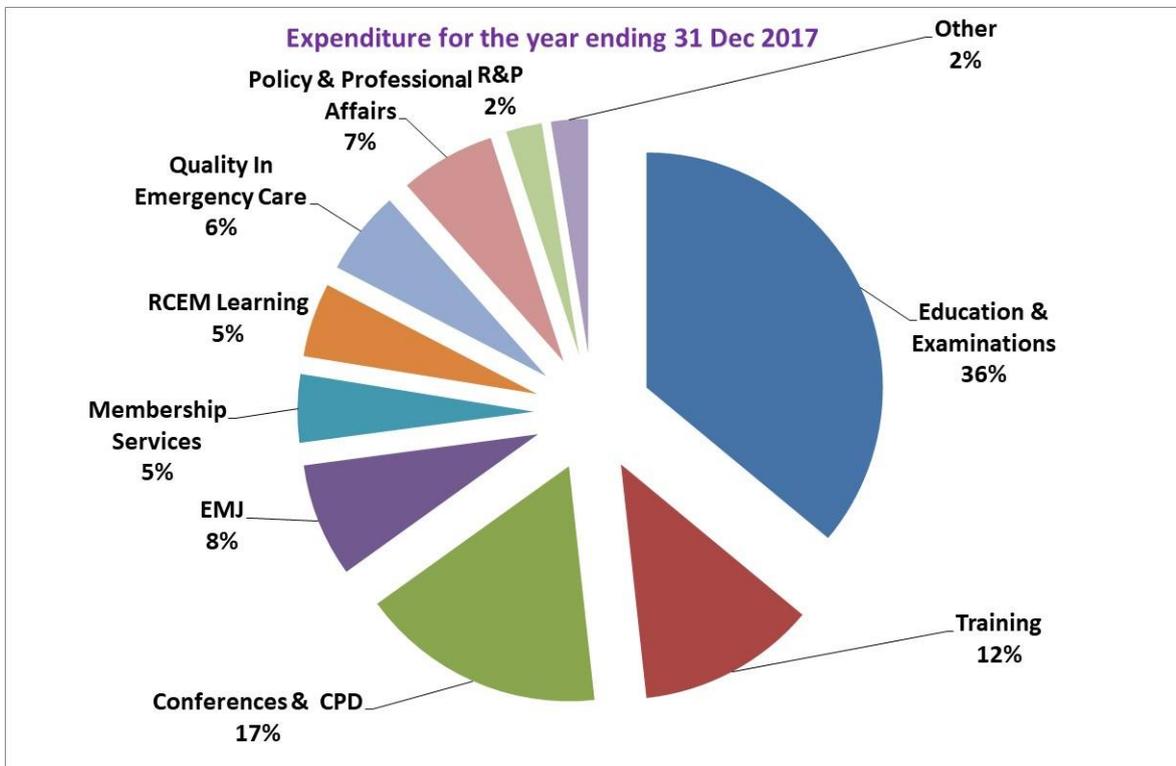
For the year ending 31st December 2017 the summary in annual report shows

Income:	£6,374,247
Expenditure:	£5,945,917
Gains on investments:	£97,800
Net surplus	£526,129

Income for the year can be broken down as follows:



Expenditure:



The highlights of 2017 include the new committee structure of 51 committees

- An increase in the Examinations Team staffing to meet the high demand
- IT investment is below levels that would be reasonable for an organisation of this size
- Increased interest in membership from Advanced Care Practitioners
- RCEM Foundation launched

- 50th anniversary of the specialty celebrations expenditure carefully managed

Subscriptions for 2019

Mr Miles advised that no change is proposed in subscription levels for 2019 notwithstanding inflation of 2.3% (12 months to end July 2018).

Subscriptions were increased in January 2018 (the first increase since 2013) and Mr Miles highlighted that feedback from the membership survey was noted and our budget is being set to manage within this constraint.

The AGM approved the subscriptions for 2019 as well as approving the Accounts for 2017.

No change is proposed regarding the appointment of the auditors Haysmacintyre and this was therefore also approved.

There were no questions.

8. CEO's Report

Mr Miles spoke of the highlights of 2017 which include

- Record numbers of examination candidates sitting our examinations
- The workforce strategy was agreed in England which should deliver more trainees over time. Discussions in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland continue
- The College managed to maintain its high media profile over the winter despite there being more competition as the wider NHS is under pressure and other specialities are pushing hard too
- RCEM Foundation launched
- International strategy is under development
- 50th anniversary celebrations of the specialty were supported and catalysed
- ISO9001 quality management standard achieved

Mr Miles reported that the membership numbers continue to increase, reaching over 7,000 in 2017. The committee structure was revised with 51 committees or sub-committees now serving the needs and interests of those working in EM. Staffing numbers have also risen to 44, compared to the RCP which has over 400 staff.

The challenges faced by the College include

- Our membership growth creates more demands upon us which causes resource pressure, we need more automation of processes
- Our IT investment needs to increase to help us automate and process redesign our approach to our operations
- We wish to do more to develop more regional engagement but are constrained by EM physician time and a lack of employee resources to develop this
- The RCEM Foundation really needs a professional fundraiser
- The International Strategy could generate demand for assistance that we are not resourced to meet.

Mr Miles spoke about the membership survey sent to all Fellows and Members in the spring to which we received 1,165 responses. The 30 questions included a request to say which three benefits of membership were more important, questions about the regional structure and feedback on College staff; guidelines, events and ways we communicate

with the membership. Overall, 28% responded that they were very satisfied with the College and 39% somewhat satisfied with just over 1% very unsatisfied.

Mr Miles then set out what we hope to work on in 2019:

- Our regional structure needs some reinvigoration in England
- Our communications approach is about right, but more podcasts, blogs and online streaming are sought
- Overall our performance is sound but there are several areas identified where we could do better
- Our policy approach is supported with the clear themes for future policy lay around staffing, sustainability and wellbeing, safety and crowding
- Despite being the UK's fastest growing medical specialty, there was striking pessimism about the current state of play for EM: The main themes of concern were clearly around staffing and resources to meet demand, sustainability and burnout, crowding and safety. This feeds into our policy work and our campaigning approach.

There were no questions from the floor.

9. Honorary Fellowships

None were approved this year.

10. Medal and other award winners

This year the President's medal is awarded to Dr Jason Kendall

College medals go to

- Julia Harris, outgoing chair, TSC
- Robin Harris, outgoing Vice President, Wales
- Sean McGovern, outgoing Vice President, Northern Ireland
- Katherine Henderson, Registrar (2013 – 2016)
- Suzanne Page, former staff member (Examinations Supervisor) who has worked for the College for over 12 years and has now left

The Luka Randic medal is awarded to Jennifer Bessant

The Alison Gourdie Medals go to

- FRCEM – Joanne Bareham
- MRCEM – Matthew Lo

11. Any other business

- i. Dr Hassan wished to record thanks to the College Policy Team (Simon Howes, Luke O'Reilly and Zoë Moulton) to the Dean, Jason Long, and his team working on education, curriculum, examinations as well as to Will Townend for all the work on the curriculum 2020 project.

12. Date of next AGM

The next AGM of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine will take place on 1st October 2019 at the Scientific Meeting taking place from 1st – 3rd October 2019 at the Sage in Gateshead.