

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING CHRISTCHURCH, 2007

MINUTES OF THE NZSSD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD MONDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2007 at 17:30 hr

1. **Apologies:**

Don Bevan, Michael Cook, David Carol, Jeremy Krebs

Present:

51 members

2. **Minutes of AGM – Palmerston North May 3rd 2006:**

Tabled and accepted as correct: with one correction from Bobby Milne refer 4.b not to read 'Nurses Special Interest Group' but 'Diabetes Nurse Specialist'.

Proposed: Jim Mann. Seconded: Gavin Hendry and passed by general acclamation.

3. **Business arising from the meeting:**

a. *Western Pacific Region International Diabetes Federation (WPRIDF) meeting 2008 (with NZSSD ASM) including formation of Diabetes Congress Limited*

There was a message from Russ Finnerty saying everyone is now able to register for this meeting. The programme was finalised in a meeting the previous day (5th September) and will hopefully be available on the WPRIDF website in the near future. Tim Cundy reports that this is a great programme and the NZSSD needs to be well represented. Bob Smith requests abstracts and comments the Early Bird registration deadline is 31st October. Jim Mann comments that efforts are being made to make the meeting attractive to GPs.

b. *Professional Development Awards*

Reported by the Executive that this is continuing to run well and that the winners of this year's round were:

Christine Andrews
Eileen Britt
Liz Dutton
Melanie Lubeck
Robyn Mackenzie-Duthie
Bobby Milne
Anette Reinheimer
Rinki Singh
Helen Snell
Claire Turnbull
Mary Yiannoutsos

Congratulations to all and a reminder that the deadline for the next application will be in November.

c. *Website Issues*

The executive expressed thanks to Chris Booker and his excellent work in improving the website. Bobby Milne thanks expressed for DNS page. Chris Booker would welcome any further ideas to this project.

d. Novo Nordisk Research Award

A representative from Novo Nordisk spoke. There is \$40,000 available for 2008. Deadline for applicants is November 9th 2007. Any enquiries please attend the Novo Nordisk booth (or we assume post-conference please contact Novo Nordisk through contacts such as their website).

\$40,000 will also be available for the 2009 Research Award.

e. Eli Lilly Research Award

The winners of the last round were announced:

Lilly Diabetes Specialist Research Grant (\$30,000) was awarded to Dr Jinny Willis (present) from the Lipid & Diabetes Research Group for her research proposal 'HDL-Cholesterol Function and Cardiovascular Disease in Diabetes'.

Lilly Diabetes Nursing Research Grant (\$10,000) was awarded to Lindsay McTavish (absent) from Wellington Hospital for her research proposal 'Effective Treatment of Hypoglycaemia in Children'.

Eli Lilly thanked the assessors (Jim Mann, Patrick Manning, Maggie Wilson and Nic Crook were thanked). Eli Lilly expressed their honour at being part of this initiative and Jim Mann expressed his thanks to Eli Lilly for making these awards possible especially in when the pool of research money in New Zealand is so small.

f. Constitution and Registration as a Charity

The Executive report the constitution is now completed, the registration as a charity is underway. Many thanks to Paul Drury and the previous Executive for doing all the initial hard work on this.

4. Reports: all reports were circulated at this AGM to all present

a. President's Report:

Presented by Patrick Manning. In particular, thanks were expressed to the secretariat and a proposal that a permanent established group performing the organisational duties that fall to the Executive might be something to consider in the future.

Patrick also commented on:

- The issues of insulin pump therapy which has now been passed to be part of the EAG brief (Jim noted that the EAG report is coming out soon).
- The Performa pump and thanked Nick Tunnicliff for his honest, continued communication (Nick noted that Roche are on track for a resolution of these issues in about 1 month).
- The number of takers of the conference grants that have been awarded for this meeting making it more affordable for non physician members.
- At present there is no Newsweet editor, the Executive will take on this role if no one comes forward to accept this important task.
- The development of a retinal screening group information on which is available on the website.
- The work put into the GDM report was acknowledged, the Executive supported this report (not 'ratified' as is written in the President's report).
- The Diabetes Foundation is now once again active.
- Patrick expressed his thanks to the organisers for this conference in Christchurch and urged everyone to attend the meeting in 2008 in Wellington.

Discussion generated from the report: Tim Cundy described how he has been writing to Pharmac regarding the co-prescribing of ACEI and ARB and described it as “Snail racing news”. The co-prescribing of these drugs is well established as mentioned in a talk today by Prof Hans-Henrik Parving. Peter Moore reports that this has not been on the most recent Pharmac meeting agenda (there has only been one scheduled meeting since he took over from Paul Drury). Patrick will write to Pharmac to establish that this is a concern and Jim Mann commented that we must maintain momentum.

b. Diabetes New Zealand:

Presented by Murray Dear. Murray announced that this was his last report as President of the DNZ as he has resigned and introduced his successor Margaret Earl. The points from his report that he brought to the attention of the members was the release of the Type 2 Diabetes Outcomes Model Update. He thanked Jim Mann for his input.

Murray expressed that representing the DNZ on the NZSSD has been an honour and wishes NZSSD well in the future and for the IDF and NZSSD/DNZ co-venture.

Tim Cundy proposed a vote of thanks from the NZSSD Executive, both past and present, for Murray’s continued hard work.

c. Diabetes Nurse Educators’ Group:

Presented by Bobby Milne. Bobby explained that the DNS/E accreditation process is now complete. She described some problems with their society’s electronic communication tree which they are endeavouring to correct and resolve. At present they have reverted to their old system and sending out paper copies of the newsletter. The DNS AGM held at this Christchurch meeting was successful with most re-mits being passed. Bobby declared that she has handed on her role as Chairperson to Mereana Waaka-Murch.

Tim Cundy asked about nurse prescribing/standing orders and where this situation now stands. Bobby replied that this process has come to a halt at present, although it is still in process. She clarified that a standing order is still illegal and that each unit has to establish an audit trail that is accepted by their DHB by writing letters for each nurse saying they are unable to comply and explain why.

d. Dietitians’ Special Interest Group:

Presented by Marilyn Cullens. Marilyn focused on the response to the dietitians workforce survey which had a disappointing response rate of 33% and it will be revisited to improve the response rate. She also commented that only 9 dietitians in New Zealand work full time in diabetes and this illustrates a severe shortage of dietitians both part-time and full-time. New Zealand is lagging behind in appointing sufficient dietitians dedicated to working within the diabetic services especially given the current rise in diabetes prevalence. Marilyn mentioned that the dietitians board has changed its regulations for overseas dietitians; allowing them to register with a limited scope of practice. Marilyn hopes that at the next meeting the dietitians may have a day of their own. Marilyn also discussed the postgraduate certificate in diabetes as is mentioned in her written report.

Discussion arising from the report: a comment was made regards the large number of “nutritionalists” now practicing in New Zealand. Marilyn was asked if these people might/should be “brought into the fold”. Marilyn felt there is a need given such a shortage, but a standard does needs to be set and maintained. A further comment was made asking if remuneration for dietitians was adequate, Marilyn explained that each DHB negotiated this but a scale does exist and due to funding constraints of each DHB a barrier is often met with regards remuneration.

Once all reports had been presented and discussed they all were accepted. Moved by Jim Mann. Seconded by Stephanie Farrand and passed by general acclamation.

5. **Financial Report:**

The Treasurer's report and financial statements were circulated at this AGM. And will be made available on the NZSSD website. Gavin Hendry summarised the report with the "top line", \$13,000 dollars received in subscriptions; there has been an increase in membership numbers. There a 28 members in arrears (which equates to \$7,000 extra in memberships owing).

Gavin expressed great thanks to Ray Toomath for his hard work with the NZSSD membership list and keeping it all up-to-date.

Gavin reported that \$10,000 has been paid to awards/grants and scholarships. At the end of the year we are in credit to the tune of \$163,000.

It was moved by Gavin Hendry that the report be accepted and that the auditor be re-appointed. Seconded by: Robyn Toomath and passed by general acclamation.

6. **General Business:**

a. Quality Improvement Plan:

This was introduced by Jim Mann, who invited Sandy Dawson to present progress. Sandy described this as a plan to give the health sector a good forum to meet and discover what we can agree on and one in which priorities are addressed in a co-ordinated manner. They are expecting feedback from the Special Interest Group soon and initial feed back has been positive. Priority areas have been established, with progress being made in each priority area involving key expertise to address key areas. Diabetes is also one of the 10 key points. The minister is also committed to this.

Sandy also reported that the PMS system that GPs use is nearly complete, upgrading the complete link with GPs to PHO systems with retinal screening hospitals etc. The problem that has been encountered is the availability of the expertise not the IT and the expertise is needed to extract the value from the data. Jim thanked Sandy for his contribution. Paul Drury commented that there is limited funding, that the ministry appears to want DHBs to "do their own thing, but the same thing". The ministry seems reluctant to direct. Paul also commented that the group needs more feedback and urged for feedback so there is strong representation of what people think. Paul thanked Jim for his contribution. Jim Mann will place the report on the website when it is available. Jim will also put an update on the website regarding The Health Select Committee Diabetes Guidelines Group.

b. Election of Maureen Lonsdale for Life Membership:

Dr Laird Madison proposed Maureen Lonsdale be made a Life Member of NZSSD for the dedication to work in diabetes. A report regarding her great contribution to diabetes care was circulated.

Jim asked everyone present to join him with acclamation to acknowledge this with enthusiasm for Laird's nomination.

Moved: Laird Madison Seconded: Jim Mann and passed with acclamation.

c. Venue for NZSSD meeting 2009:

This was not discussed in full. But suggested that members consider this and communicate thoughts to the Executive in the very near future as organisation for this will have to be started very soon.

d. Fostering of research by NZSSD:

Jim Mann spoke to this. Explaining that this is extremely important. He feels that the research in New Zealand is not where it should be and that more support as well as funding needs to be made available. He requested that if members had any ideas as to how the NZSSD might help with this that they contact the Executive. The Executive will produce some thoughts and place on the website for feedback. Patrick Manning asked that people who do have research to put it forward for meetings such as this one in Christchurch as well as others nationally and internationally.

Patrick also asked if the general consensus among the members is that the conference grants made available to non-physicians should continue? All those present agreed to this. Gavin Hendry commented that this is financially possible for this conference and the WPRIDF in 2008, but may not necessarily continue due to constraints within the NZSSD coffers. Jim Mann once more thanked Ray Toomath for his work in assisting with these grants.

e. Any other business:

A comment was made by a member that to date the NZSSD has been supportive of non-medical members and their contributions and a request that this continue (obvious restraints at this meeting acknowledged)

Bobby Milne expressed thanks to the NZSSD Executive.

7. Re-election of Officers:

All officers were re-elected. With a new member, Jenny Rayns, as the DNS representative due to the resignation of Cate Wilson. Moved by Robyn Toomath, seconded and passed by general acclamation.

The meeting closed at 18:25 hr

Stephanie Farrand
Honorary Secretary, NZSSD