



King's College London Dental Alumni Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 4th March 2017

1. Welcome

There were 43 officers and members present. All were warmly welcomed by Professor Stephen Challacombe, Vice-President of the King's College London Dental Alumni Association, to the 2017 AGM. Professor Challacombe advised attendees that unfortunately Dr Jerry Asquith, President of the Association, had been taken ill and so he will chair the AGM. He extended his best wishes for a speedy recovery from all attendees to Jerry Asquith.

2. Apologies for absence

Dr Jerry Asquith

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 5th March 2016

These were accepted as a true record.

4. Matters arising

a) Guys' Tower Floor 31/32 redevelopment

Eric Whaites reported that redevelopment of the space has been slow but that it has now progressed to the Full Business Case being put forward. The Trust has invested £300,000 and there is strong support for the project from the Trust's Chief Executive and Director of Finance. EW reported that the aim is to create a second event space similar to the Robens Suite in Guy's Tower. It is intended that it would be used by Dentistry during the day and available for hire in the evenings and at weekends – ideal for various Alumni functions.

b) Mentoring Programme

Tarik Shembesh advised attendees that the formal mentoring programme via the King's Connect platform has been a great success. Dental Alumni are invited to upload a profile onto the database, detailing their experience and interests within the field of dentistry or otherwise. The platform is open to current students and graduates who wish to contact Alumni for mentorship in their career or other interests. Stephen Challacombe reported that the feedback from students has been tremendous and AGM attendees were strongly encouraged to consider joining.

5. President's Report

Given by Professor Stephen Challacombe on behalf of Dr Jerry Asquith:

- Passed on his thanks to Jerry Asquith on behalf of the Council, for his leadership as President over the last two years. In particular, he thanked Jerry for his work in strengthening the linkage between Alumni, dental practices and the Dental Institute.
- He thanked Clare Grant for her work as Secretary over the last year and Pat Reynolds, in her capacity as Immediate Past President, for her stalwart support of the Council over the last two years. He also thanked the other members of the Council.
- Four Dental Alumni Association Council Meetings have been held since the last AGM, on 05/07/16, 11/10/16, 17/01/17 and 03/03/17. It is an active Council with good representation from Alumni with a varied age range.
- The Dental Circle is growing strongly, and currently has more members than the Medical

Circle. The work and financial generosity of these individuals is greatly appreciated. The financial donations of the Circle have enabled many students' dental electives through the Elective Awards.

- The Annual Dental Dinner was held at the Grange City Hotel last night (3rd March 2017), which was a lively and enjoyable dinner with 88 attendees. Stephen Challacombe thanked SPS Dental for their sponsorship.
- Clinical Day 2017 being held today in New Hunt's House and Guy's Hospital Tower Wing at Guy's Campus, with 146 pre-bookings. It was hoped that this change in direction back to being partly held in the Tower would meet with Alumni approval. Stephen Challacombe asked that all attendees put forward formal feedback to the Alumni Office following the Weekend, particularly on the incorporation of the Tower. He extended his formal thanks to all Institute staff who were delivering lectures at the Clinical Day.

6. Interim Dean's Report

Professor Mark Woolford reported:

- Professor Dianne Rekow retired on 31st December 2016, after five successful years as Dean of the Dental Institute. A successful and enjoyable farewell event was held for Professor Rekow in December. Professor Mark Woolford is currently appointed as Interim Dean until the appointment of the new Dean in April/May 2017. Professor Rekow has passed on her best wishes to all AGM attendees.
- Academic Promotions: Dr Richard Cook, Dr Rebecca Moazzez and Dr David Radford have all been promoted to Readers in the Institute, whilst Michael Escudier and Julian Naglik have been promoted to Professors.
- Elections: Congratulations were extended to Professor Michael Escudier who has been elected Dean of the Faculty of Dental Surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons of England and to Dr Rupert Austin who has been elected as President of the Odontology Section of the Royal Society of Medicine (2016-17).
- Aaron Gurmail Award: BDS4 student Zain Hameed was presented with the first Aaron Gurmail Dental Society Student of the Year Award for his organisation of numerous fundraising events for the betterment of communities over the last year. The Award was set up this year and is named after dental student Aaron Gurmail who qualified from the Dental Institute in 2014 and died tragically a few months following his graduation. He was a valued member of the Dental Institute and contributed greatly to the wider community through his work on the KCL Smile Society.
- 'Not the usual drill': The Dental Society and student body put together a YouTube video for the Dental Institute Open Day. This was a massive success and went viral online, with 24,000 views in the first 24 hours.
- Research: The Biophotonics Research Group, a multidisciplinary team of clinical and non-clinical researchers, was shortlisted for the King's Award for the Research Project of the Year 2016 and were featured on Sky TV. In collaboration, Dr Richard Cook, Dr Frederic Festy, Professor Tim Watson and Dr Neveen Hosney developed a new portable Microvascular Scope, which is able to image and diagnose oral cancer early and in a non-invasive manner.
- Science Gallery London: Due to open in 2018, this free-to-visit space will offer King's staff and students exciting opportunities to engage with the public, conduct research and develop transferable skills. The pre-opening project 'MOUTHY' ran from July-November 2016 and included workshops, installations and performances developed in collaboration with the Dental Institute. This was a great success in advancing links between the Institute and the public, as well as with industry facilitating commercial partnerships with KCLDI.
- KCL-PKU Joint Symposium on Oral Science: The second Joint Symposium with Peking University was held in London in November 2016, which involved presentations from

researchers from both Institutes. It focused on progress in oral science research and a number of research projects have since been developed from the collaboration.

- PhD graduates have been the recipients of numerous national and international awards.
- Dentine regeneration using Alzheimer's drug: Research at the Dental Institute led by Professor Paul Sharpe has suggested the drug Tideglusib can be used to promote the development of reparative dentine via resident pulpal stem cell mobilisation.
- Celebrity Masterchef: The Dental Institute looks forward to playing host to the TV series Celebrity Masterchef. Later this month, the contestants will cook for dental staff and students in an episode which is scheduled to be screened in October 2017.
- Guy's Tower Floor 31/32 redevelopment: Professor Woolford thanked the Guy's and St. Thomas' Trust for their support with the development of the Tower.
- Student Finance: A total of £60,000 in gifts from Alumni has been used to support students and keep those who are struggling financially within the course. Professor Woolford extended his sincere thanks to the Alumni for their donations.
- Tours of the Institute: Invitations to tour the Dental Institute were extended to all Alumni – those interested should contact the Dean's Office.

7. Treasurer's Report

Dr Tarik Shembesh reported the various Alumni Endowment accounts for the previous financial year.

- Endowment Funds: The KCL Alumni Association Fund stands at £79,043, which last year generated an income of £2,554. The Dental Society Fund now stands at £89,482 and last year attracted interest of £6,939. The Tom Pitt Ford Fund has increased to £14,140. The Ron Wilson Fund currently stands at £32,199. This is to support PGT students in Prosthodontics, Periodontology, and Endodontics.
- Contributions from The Dental Circle were acknowledged.

8. Secretary's Report

Dr Clare Grant reported:

- 4 Ordinary Council meetings in the last year and they have been very well attended by the Council members, with an average attendance of 11 per meeting. A wide range of matters are covered in these meetings.
- Acknowledgements were given to Jennifer Russell, Amy Webb and the KCL Alumni Office for their work in organising this Weekend.
- She thanked Dr Jerry Asquith in his absence for his leadership as President and Professor Stephen Challacombe for his support as Vice President, as well as the other members of the Council.
- This is unfortunately her last meeting as Honorary Secretary. The new Honorary Secretary will be confirmed via nomination and election in due course.

9. Alumnus of the Year Award and Distinguished Service Award, 2017 winners.

Professor Challacombe reported the 2017 Alumni Association award winners:

Alumnus of the Year Award - Professor Mark Woolford.

Distinguished Service Award - Dr Lyndon Cabot.

10. Any Other Business

None was tabled.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 3rd March 2018.