

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held on Saturday, 27th June 2020 from 11.00 – 12.30 via Zoom

Due to the exceptional circumstances of the pandemic, the Board agreed that the AGM would be held virtually, and that the voting would be conducted electronically in advance.

All members of the ACP and members of the ACP Board including non-executive lay members were invited to attend the AGM and members were invited to vote electronically. Members were asked to vote on decisions on the agenda via an online poll sent to all members, by ticking 'yes', 'no', or 'abstain', against specific questions. The voting closed at 5pm on Wednesday, 24th June 2020. IP reported on the result of the voting throughout the meeting.

I. Attendance and Apologies

Present:

Stella Acquarone; Rachel Allender; Anne Alvarez; Lynne Amidon ; Neil Austin; Jo Bent-Hazelwood; Suzanne Blundell; Liz Bodycote; Catrin Bradley; Marie Bradley; Faye Brierley; Nicole Brodie; Nicola Buttress; Francesca Calvocoressi; Alison Cantle; Sue Chantrell; Matthew Chuard; Jo Collinson; Maria Consta; David Cornelius; Annie Coyle; Simon Cregeen; Gabrielle Crockatt; William Croxton; Kanese Da Costa; Dilys Daws; Andrew Dawson; Penny de Ruyter; Sarah Dobson; Ruth Dunstan; Elizabeth Edginton; Jane Elfer; Verity Emanuel; Kate England; Sandra Fentiman; Miranda Feuchtwang; Fionnuala Frances; Elizabeth Francis; Riccardo Gentile; Jasmin Gill; Sarah Gilmour; Jo Goldsmith; Eve Grainger; Lucy Griffin-Beale; Jeremy Gunson; David Hadley; Becky Hall; Carol Hanson; Carolyn Hart; Lydia Hartland-Rowe; Sarah Hartley; Joanne Higgins; Kathryn Hinchliff; Debbie Hindle; Elly Holden; Claire Hopkins; Ann Horne; Margaret Hurst; Rory Hutchinson; Anjum Iqbal; Leslie Ironside; Danny Isaacs; Laurence Kalbreier; Jason Kaushal; Jenny Kenrick; Gweneth Kirkwood; Trudy Klauber; Oliver Klott; Paula Land; Heather Lee-Messner; Catherine Lemberger; Tanya Leonard; Katie Lewis; Nikki Lusher; Jillian Mackenzie; Elena Mardegan; Anna Marrion; Alessandra Marsoni; Lisa McCafferty; Meryl McCartney; Andrew McGibbon; Phillip McGill; Lorraine McLeod; Jasmin Meier; Julia Mikardo; Joanne Miley; Lisa Miller; Sheila Miller; Amanda Mintowt-Czyz; Petra Mohr; Maria Monzo; Emily Morgan; Kate Morris; Jennifer Ng; Sean Nolan; Louise O'Higgins; David O'Mahoney; Caryn Onions; Maria Papadima; Nicola Parrott; Claire Peatfield; Mary Penwarden; Gail Phillips; Louise Phillips; Jemima Phorson; Isobel Pick; Emma Pinnock; Charlotte Pitt; Maria Powell; Margaret Randall; Katie Reid; Helen Ritzema; Nicola Rivers; Kate Robertson; Kate Rothwell; Alison Roy; Margaret Rustin; Andrew Satchwell; Alexandra Sayles; Barbara Segal; Ruth Seglow; Rajni Sharma; Janet Shaw; Janet Sherrard; Gillian Sloan Donachy; David Smith; Tim Smith; Anna Spedding; Janine Sternberg; Heather Stewart; Liz Stockwell; Daphne Storey; Georgina Taylor; Janine Tully; Susan Turner; Alex Volovisky; Jenifer Wakelyn; Mary Walker; Brian Waring; Belinda West; Liz Wheatley; Karen Wheeler; Claire Whitefield; Michael Wood; Rebecca Woodhams; Biddy Youell; Joanne Young and Cristina Zago.

Apologies:

Judith Golberg; Sarah Gustavus Jones; Jeanne Magagna; Angelina Veiga; Ferelyth Watt; Christine Wright.

IP welcomed everyone to the meeting and the Executive Directors present introduced themselves: Francesca Calvocoressi, Director of Professional Standards; Janet Shaw, Registrar; Jason Kaushal, Director Training; Jemima Phorson, Director of Finance; Kate Robertson, Vice Chair; Marie Bradley, Director of Scientific Development Committee and Nick Waggett, CEO.

2. Minutes of AGM 2019 - Corrections, Approval and Matters Arising

The Minutes of the 2019 AGM meeting were approved by majority as an accurate record and no corrections were offered. There were no matters arising.

3. Results of vote on approval of Annual Reports from Committees

Isobel Pick (IP) reported that the annual reports for the Operations and Liaison, Professional Standards, Scientific Development, Training Council committees were approved.

4. Treasurers Report and Accounts

Jemima Phorson (JP) reported that the annual accounts were approved and presented an overview of the financial landscape of the ACP looking at profit and loss.

In response to a question, JP clarified that the bank charges mainly refer to the cost of online payment processing charges and that business and operational costs refer to the cost of recruitment and temporary staff: replacement for maternity cover.

There was a question regarding the profit and loss of the events program separate from the annual conference. IP explained that this area had suffered as a result of the pandemic and the Events and Development Manager being on maternity. However, the ACP would be rolling out a program of CPD events in the Autumn.

It was suggested that to protect the income and keep connectivity that the annual conference should take place via zoom. This had been considered but given the unpredictability due to the pandemic and the Events and Development Manager being on maternity, it was felt that postponing the event was more appropriate.

5. Union Report

Julia Mikardo (JM) reminded the members that she is one of the two national ACP representatives on the Unite Health Sector applied psychology committee. The other co-representative is Danny Goldberger.

Their role is to represent child psychotherapy along with other psychology professions in thinking about common issues of terms and conditions and strategies for ensuring that these are well represented with employers across the country. They also represent ACP members.

DG and JM can liaise with local union representatives if, as a Unite member, members have a particular issue with their employment.

Dave Munday, who joined last year's ACP conference, is the lead for mental health in Unite Health and is now attached to the Unite Health Sector applied psychology committee which has been a helpful development. This year he assisted the ACP with the HEE review of training funding.

Over the year, the applied psychology committee also dealt with the threats to the 'agenda for change' and access to the WAT scheme.

Since March, the applied psychology committee have been focused on the employment issues surrounding the pandemic in terms of safe working conditions for members and adequate PPE, and has been paying particular attention to the issues arising for Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic members.

The link between the applied psychology committee and the ACP COVID Response Team has been very useful.

6. Results of vote on informal title for the profession

NW explained that the Board of Directors had asked members to consider the standard title for members of the ACP to be changed from “Child Psychotherapist” (CAPT) to “Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist” (CAPPT) but the resolution was subsequently withdrawn due to new developments. He read out this statement:

Note on decision to postpone AGM vote on use of title ‘Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist’.

We originally notified you that there would be a vote on a resolution from the Board to the effect: That the standard title for members of the ACP should be changed from “Child Psychotherapist” to “Child and Adolescent Psychoanalytic Psychotherapist. The vote was subsequently withdrawn and I will now explain why we did this and in the process update you on developments in relation to the regulation of child psychotherapy.

Members will be aware that there are currently two systems for the regulation and registration of healthcare professionals overseen by the Professional Standards Authority (PSA). Doctors, nurses, pharmacists, psychologists and allied health professionals are statutorily regulated and use of these titles is protected in order to prevent unregulated practice. Counsellors and psychotherapists, including child and adolescent psychotherapists (CAPTs), are part of the Accredited Registers (AR) programme of the PSA which is a voluntary registration scheme.

10 years ago a process was under way for all psychotherapy and counselling professions to become statutorily regulated through the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). In 2010 the coalition government stopped this process and ‘closed the door’ to further statutory regulation and instead introduced the system of voluntary regulation. The ACP, which had been some way along the road to applying for statutory regulation, along with other counselling and psychotherapy bodies, applied instead for accreditation by the PSA and we were successfully accredited in 2014. Whilst we have been supportive of the AR programme we have also become increasingly aware of its limitations including concerns about public safety.

Our key concerns include:

Voluntary registration does not preclude unqualified individuals practicing as child and adolescent psychotherapists.

The absence of regulation of counselling and psychotherapy titles means that there can be a wide range of individuals using the same title but with very different trainings, qualifications, skills and competences. Whilst all practitioners working within the AR framework have an important contribution to make to the health and wellbeing of patients the lack of clarity about titles and levels of competences is concerning as it makes it hard for the public and employers to differentiate between the skills and competences of practitioners.

CAPT, as an AR, is excluded from some NHS developments such as the Advanced Clinical Practice scheme and National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Integrated Clinical Academic (ICA) Programme. There is an ongoing issue that some NHS employers inappropriately use HCPC registration as a criteria for generic mental health roles.

The provision of statutorily regulated healthcare is exempt from VAT by HMRC but practitioners on voluntary registers are not. This puts psychotherapists and counsellors in independent practice at a significant disadvantage as well as decreasing access for patients to mental health care.

At the ACP Board meeting in January we reviewed these issues and considered what could be done to address them. It was decided to approach the PSA for a meeting to discuss our regulatory status including the possibility of making the case for statutory regulation. Our view is that CAPT has a particularly strong case due to the vulnerability of our patients, a highly specialist set of competences and because the training is funded by the NHS. We have now had two meetings with the PSA, including the new Chair Dame Glenys Stacey, and they are interested in what we have to say and sympathetic to the concerns we are raising. However, our understanding is that the current government remains opposed to further SR. Therefore the other thing that was decided was to increasingly use the title ‘CAPPT’ to distinguish ACP members from others using the title “child psychotherapist” and to put this to a vote at the AGM as being the agreed title within the profession. The title is what was used for the competence framework and best describes our specialist role.

However, two things have happened that mean we think we should hold off making that decision for the time being. One is the development and increasing importance of the psychological professions workforce group and the associated definition of the 12 psychological professions in the NHS. CAPT is one of those 12 and it is clear that this title refers to ACP members and is linked to the HEE funded training and our role in the NHS long term plan. If you look at the career map for the Psychological Professions the definition of CAPT speaks specifically about our role. The danger of adopting the title “CAPPT” at this time would be that we might position ourselves as different to this definition.

The other significant development in the last few weeks is that the PSA have announced a strategic review of the AR programme. We are hoping that this might lead to opening the door to statutory regulation and if so this is something we would wish to pursue. There is though no guarantee of that and in any case it is the government that makes the final decision. As this might be an opportunity to protect the title ‘CAPT’ it feels premature to adopt a different title at this time and allow others to move to claim it. For these reasons we have postponed the vote. We will keep members informed about the PSA review and revisit our options as necessary.

Following NW's explanation, a member suggested that the ACP may want to repeat circulating template letters for members to send to their MPs so that they might support the profession on any change in the regulatory system when it comes through. IP thanked for that suggestion. NW agreed the ACP and members may need to lobby. In the meantime, IP & NW are talking to NHS England and Health Education England as they also recognise the limitations of the current system.

7. Chair's Report

IP reported that the Chairs' report was approved.

8. Vice Chair's Report

KR presented the results from diversity and equality monitoring form.

The monitoring form, which was carefully put together by members of the diversity and equality working group, was completed by 70% of the ACP membership following their membership registration.

The ACP wanted to find out more about who the ACP members are and how and if the profession is changing. As well as being essential to securing future funding of the training, this is essential for the profession to grow and develop and so that we know how to help people enter the profession and what obstacles members encountered.

The ACP hope to use the data to contribute to thinking about how to increase the diversity of the profession.

9. CEO's Report

Due to time constraints, it was agreed for NW to record his presentation and make it available on the website for members to view.

10. Discussion (including AOB from members)

The ACP was thanked for the helpful information that had been provided about COVID-19; It was prompt, well presented and impressive.

A member asked if the ACP was able to access any business grants as a result of the pandemic? JP responded that the ACP will be looking into it.

Would there be a possibility of moving the annual conference to March/April as July is the end of the academic year and busy with academic demands such as marking? The ACP has rescheduled the annual conference for June 2021, this suggestion will be considered.

A member put forward a request for the ACP to consider payments of membership fees to be spread across the year via direct debit as one payment in January is difficult for a lot of people. JP explained that the finance and remuneration committee are looking into it.

11. Results of elections to the Board

IP announced that all the appointments to the Board were ratified by vote of the members:

- Kate Robertson as new Chair, from January 2021 (London)
- Laurence Kalbreier as Vice Chair from January 2021 (London)
- Jason Kaushal, Training Director, in post (Leeds)
- Claire Hopkins, CAPPT NED, from July 2020 (Leeds)
- Mick Wood, CAPPT NED, from July 2020 (Bristol)
- Lay NEDs: Kath Hinchliffe, Anjum Iqbal, Brian Waring, Emma Whitlock.

12. Results of votes to ratify appointments to Committees and Groups of the ACP

Members agreed by vote the ratification of the following appointments:

Campaign Group

- Jennifer Davids

Comms and Rapid Response

- Ryan Lowe

Ethical Practice Group

- Erica Bradley
- Geraldine Crehan
- Gill Hardman
- Melissa Midgen
- Mary Penwarden
- Emily Ryan

Independent Practice Group

- Paul Bell
- Adam Duncan
- Joanne Higgins
- Heather Lee-Messner
- Zahr Ngah
- Diana Radeva
- Jacqueline van Roosmalen
- Belinda West
- Eva Whitefield

Professional Standards Committee

- Louise O'Dwyer - CPD Lead
- Janet Shaw - Registrar

Research Group

- Jane Elfer
- Joshua Holmes
- Arianna Pulsoni

Scientific Development Committee

- Matthew Chuard - Deputy Director

Training Council

- Patrick Easen, lay member
- Elizabeth Francis
- Jane Herd, lay member
- Jemima Phorson
- Charlotte Pitt
- Andrew Satchwell - Deputy Directory
- Jessie Wood

Trainee Forum

- Sophie Morgan

13. Vote of thanks to those standing down from ACP roles**ACP Board**

Barbara Lund (Lay NED)
Andrew Hughes (Lay NED)
Phillip McGill (Director of Training)

Diversity and Equality Working Group

Maaike Engelen
Eleni Hourdaki

Employment Standards Group

Janet Shaw

Ethical Practice Group

Sue Batcheler (Lay)
Barbara Segal
Rob Wall (Lay)
Larry Kaplan (Lay)

Independent Practice Group

Judith Golberg
Valerie Alison
Maike Engelen
Juraj Kralik
Ryan Lowe

Operations and Liaison Committee

Eleni Hourdaki

Professional Standards Committee

Claire Whitefield

Research Group

Sarah Peters

Scientific Development Committee

Patricia Langton

Student Registration Group

Catherine McFarlane

Training Council

Susannah Marks
Teresa Cooke
Louise Allnutt

70th Birthday Working Group

Marie Bradley
Fiona Brodie
Isobel Pick
Kate Robertson
Hilary-Ann Salinger
Leanne Stelmaszczyk

Thanks were also given to all those serving on ACP committees and working groups and those taking up new roles.

I4. Welcome to New Members and Farewells

Nick Waggett thanked Isobel Pick for her exceptional contribution to the ACP especially as Chair but also in her previous role as Director of Training Council.

Francesca Calvocoressi noted with sadness the loss of the following members during the last year:

Deceased Members

- Anita McCann 26/01/2020
- Alessandra Cavalli 17/05/2020
- Mary Boston 14/01/2020
- Alan Levy 17/12/2019

Francesca Calvocoressi welcomed the following new full members of the ACP, who had qualified during the last year:

Birmingham Trust for Psychoanalytic Psychotherapy

- Charlotte Green
- Michelle Grierson
- Medina Horne
- Louise Miller
- Charlotte Pitt
- Angela Pye
- Sarah Willows
- Rachael Winstanley

bpf/IPCAPA

- Rachel Acheson
- Holly Dwyer Hall
- Sarah Kavanagh
- Soledad Larrea Eguiguren
- Theodora Manolopoulou
- Holly Martin
- Nancy Rostant
- Konstantina Tsoukala
- Nia Verdenhalven

Northern School of Child and Adolescent Psychotherapy

- Sally Baker
- Sarah Fox
- Emma Higgs
- Diane Hofschorer
- Catherine Hole
- Andrew Satchwell
- Sam Zupardi

Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust

- Laura Balfour
- Jonathan Bowden-Howl
- Kate Boyd
- Rhona Gihooley
- Alkistis Holmes
- Danny Isaacs
- Yaeri Kang
- Melisa Kuzubasoglu
- Jane Lowe
- Andrew McGibbon
- Anthony Ogoe
- Tamara Oliven
- Diana Radeva
- Nicola Rivers
- William Roberts
- Victoria Stephens
- Anya Suschitzky
- Christine Volney
- Kate Waltham
- Sonia Wogan
- Mariachiara Zappa