Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Faculty of Pain Medicine, Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, held on Monday, May 2, 2016 commencing at 12.00 noon Upper NZI 4 and NZI 5 at the Aotea Centre, 50 Mayoral Dr, Auckland 1010, New Zealand

1. Attendance and Apologies

Present:
E Shipton (Dean and Chair), C Hayes (Vice Dean), M Alcock, C Brooker, M Bryant, S Cartwright, M Cohen, M Craigie, K Davies, P Farrell, R Garrick, P Gray, N Harris, W Howard, D Jones, R Lattick, D McCoy, B Moore, F New, G Palmer, L Roberts, D A Scott, P Slattery, G Speldewinde, M Vagg

In attendance:
H M Morris (FPM General Manager), D Sequeira (AO)

Apologies:
M Hogg, R Goucke, H Sheppard

The Dean welcomed Fellows to the Annual General Meeting.

2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Fellows held on May 3 2015.

There being no amendment, the Dean moved, seconded by C Hayes, that the minutes be accepted as an accurate record.

Resolution: E A Shipton/C Hayes

That the Minutes be accepted as an accurate record.

Carried.

3. To receive and consider the report of the FPM Board presented by the Dean

The Dean spoke to the Faculty’s 2015 Annual Report which is accessible at: http://www.fpm.anzca.edu.au/communications/annual-report

In 2015 the Faculty of Pain Medicine (FPM) continued to focus on delivery of the 2013-2017 strategic plan to promote the FPM vision “to reduce the burden of pain in society through education, advocacy, training and research.

Highlights were many in this very busy and successful year. This reflected the significant contribution of the FPM Board, its committees and sub-committees, regional and national...
committees, working groups, Fellowship and committed college staff. Being Dean of the Faculty of Pain Medicine and heading up a talented Board and Staff has been a great honour.

**Five Areas of Progress**
The Dean reported on the five areas of progress that were mainly focused on in 2015.

*Help sustain the progress and implementation of the Faculty’s Curriculum Redesign Project*

Training and education of specialist pain medicine physicians remains at the heart of the Faculty’s role. The year 2015 marked the launch of our redesigned curriculum and training program, the culmination of many months of work by the authoring groups and the Curriculum Redesign Steering Committee. A Learning and Development Committee was established to assume responsibility for ongoing oversight, support and evaluation of the training program.

The revised curriculum training program is competency-based and is founded on particular CanMEDS roles. It focuses on the patient’s perspective, and is delivered centrally (with a knowledge focus), and in the Training Units (with a skill’s focus). It incorporates ongoing work-based formative assessment and progressive summative assessment, completed in two stages, the core training stage and the practice development stage. E-learning resources for the nine essential topic areas as well as cultural competency, communication, management and professionalism resources are all available on Networks. In November 2015, 21 candidates successfully completed the core training stage and its formal summative assessment. Thirty-eight trainees were admitted to fellowship during 2015.

New assessment and examination processes (Foundation Examination, Regional Long Cases) were implemented and supervisor of training orientation support resources were developed. The trainee prospectus was updated to reflect the revised curriculum. The written examination was held across FPM regional and national offices on 13 November 2015. The clinical examination was held at the Pullman Hotel in Melbourne on 28 November 2015. Twenty-one candidates successfully completed the FPM Fellowship examination including one International Medical Graduate Specialist candidate. The Barbara Walker Prize for Excellence in the Pain Medicine Examination was awarded to Dr Charlotte Hill from New Zealand (studied in NSW), and a merit award was awarded to Dr Jacquelyn Nash (Vic).

During the year, two new Clinical Skills Courses were designed and delivered to trainees. The feedback received from Trainees was exceedingly positive. A successful basic clinical skills course was held over the weekend of February 20 and 21, 2016 at ANZCA House. The orientation course was convened by Dr Michael Vagg and Dr Diarmuid McCoy (Geelong, Victoria). The course was entitled “So you want to be a specialist pain medicine physician and other helpful hints,” and introduced trainees to the breadth and depth of this branch of medicine. Twenty-three trainees attended from across Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong.

Implementation of the FPM Curriculum Evaluation Strategy 2015-17 remains ongoing. Feedback about the training program was recently obtained from supervisors of training and heads of department. This will be considered by the Learning and Development committee as part of the ongoing quality improvement process.

This year the Practice Development Stage (PDS) has commenced for trainees in the first cohort of the 2015 training program. This is a mandatory 44-week period of approved activity chosen by trainees, and directly relevant to pain medicine. Nineteen trainees have had their PDS proposals approved to date.
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Help design and implement an on-line modular educational program for primary healthcare: ‘Better Pain Management – Pain Education for Professionals’ is an interactive online education program that examines best practice Pain Management for all health care professionals. It fosters consistency and excellence through a multi-disciplinary approach to the management of pain. The second six modules to supplement the first six (available on Networks) have now been developed. The access portal to the program for Faculty and ANZCA Fellows and trainees is at present through Networks.

An independent review of the project’s needs and its possible market was undertaken by Flaxworks. Arising from this review, Course Merchant (a system designed for the sale of online courses) was the recommended solution to deliver the modules in a marketable format. Marketing and analytics should follow at a later date to monitor its use. For the first time, there has been a feeling of confidence within the Faculty about finding a solution to address challenges to external user registration, and in gaining knowledge about what was available on the market.

A working group of the FPM Research Committee spent 6 months developing an Opioid Dose Equivalence table positioned with Faculty Professional Document PM01 Recommendations regarding the use of opioid analgesics in patients with chronic non-cancer pain. The impetus for this table, launched in October 2015, was the need to compare opioid doses used in clinical practice as part of the electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC) data set.

An Opioid Calculator smart phone app for Apple and Android smart phones has been developed to facilitate the use of conversion factors in the Opioid Dose Equivalence table. The app helps to compare different opioid regimens in individual patients or in patient cohorts. The FPM Opioid Calculator smart phone app is available for downloading in both Apple and Android formats. There are currently more than 6500 unique users. Early feedback is that the app is a highly useful tool that helps to compare different opioid regimens in individual patients or in patient cohorts. The FPM Opioid Calculator app has come in 18th on a list of best medical apps to come to market in 2015 on the imedicalapps website. There is a marketing plan to encourage our affiliated colleges to advertise the app. The next step would be to investigate the cost of its translation into different languages.

Help build the capacity and capability of the Australian and New Zealand Fellowship, including promoting pain medicine as a career and attracting trainees:
In the past year our Fellows continued to promote pain medicine topics on radio, television, and in print that have reached a cumulative audience of more than 4.1 million readers, listeners and viewers. Seven medical schools took up the opportunity of awarding the Faculty’s prize to the student who excelled in Undergraduate Pain Medicine.

Help further develop the multidisciplinary approach of FPM’s new specialty, and grow the Faculty:
The Faculty maintained its advocacy efforts with both independent and collaborative representations to government and other bodies, thereby indirectly advocating for patients suffering in pain. Fifteen pain medicine media releases were published. Independent and collaborative submissions with ANZCA and Painaustralia were undertaken with regard to key issues including caution on the use of “medicinal cannabis”, the proposed re-scheduling of codeine by the TGA, the PBS listing of generic modified- release oxycodone preparations, opioid prescribing guidelines, and the National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards
Version 2. Commitments were sought for improved access to pain services as part of advocacy work during the Queensland and New South Wales state elections. A new memorandum of understanding was signed between the Faculty and the Medical Council of New Zealand to update requirements related to the assessments of international medical graduates and recertification of pain medicine specialists.

The Faculty continued to review professional documents. Professional Document PM1: Principles regarding the Use of Opioid Analgesics in Patients with Chronic Non-Cancer Pain was updated. In response to increasing public debate with regard to ‘medicinal cannabis in Australia and New Zealand, the Faculty developed PM10: Statement on “Medicinal Cannabis” with particular reference to its use in the management of patients with chronic non-cancer pain.

Throughout the year the Faculty Board sought to engage with stakeholders. Visitors to Board meetings in 2015 included the President Australasian Chapter of Addiction Medicine, the Acting Director of Health Workforce New Zealand, and the Chair of the FPM South Australian Regional Committee. The ANZCA President and CEO were regular attendees to Board Meetings as well. We thank them for their support.

The Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC) described adult patient treatment outcomes by specialist pain services in Australia and New Zealand using a standard set of data items and assessment. The first benchmarking reports (for adults and one for children) of the Electronic Persistent Pain Outcomes Collaboration (ePPOC) became available in 2015. Progress continues with this initiative with over 13,000 patients currently represented across 50 services. The Faculty continued to be represented on both its Management Advisory Group and Scientific and Clinical Advisory Committee. There is an increasing interest in the ePPOC dataset, with five ePPOC/external collaborative projects at various stages of progression.

Help establish the Faculty as a leading trainer of Specialist Pain Physicians in the world: The fourth edition of Acute Pain Management: Scientific Evidence was published online in December 2015. This publication covers a wide range of clinical topics, combining a review of the best available evidence for acute pain management with expert current clinical practice. It was the result of many months of hard work headed up by Prof Stephan Schug and his hard-working and enthusiastic editorial team. It will be launched in print form in May 2016 at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting in Auckland. Endorsement from international organisations is being obtained. It would be launched in print form by the ANZCA President and the FPM Dean in May 2016 at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting in Auckland. The Faculty has raised AU$ 72,000 to support the printing costs.

The third edition set the standard in acute pain medicine, and was endorsed by the International Association for the Study of Pain, and by Colleges, Societies and Associations from the United Kingdom, Ireland, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia, and recommended to its members by the American Academy of Pain Medicine. It is recognised as probably the finest test on this subject in the world. Both the Faculty and the College are immensely proud of its prestige.

The European Pain Federation (EFIC) s decided in 2015 to embark on developing a Diploma in Pain Medicine. EFIC is a multidisciplinary professional organisation in the field of pain research and medicine, consisting of the 37 chapters of the International Association for the Study of
Pain (IASP). Chris Wells, President of EFIC requested permission to use and modify the Faculty’s curriculum for this purpose. The Faculty granted EFIC approval to use the parts of the FPM curriculum that were in the public domain for modification with appropriate acknowledgement that included the Faculty’s logo. Such is the prestige of the FPM Curriculum.

The progress in the above five areas remain a testimony of the efforts of those Fellows who have willingly donated their valuable time, and to efforts of the Faculty’s staff.

Scientific meetings
The FPM program at the ANZCA Annual Scientific Meeting in Adelaide was well attended. The Refresher Course Day in conjunction with the Annual Scientific Meeting attracted 174 delegates.

The Faculty Spring Meeting took place on the shores of Lake Wakatipu in Queenstown from 2-4 October. Queenstown is New Zealand’s premier lake and alpine resort. The Faculty was pleased to welcome the President and the CEO to the FPM Board Meeting on 01 October. It provided an opportunity for the Board members to meet and interact with the new CEO. The theme of the meeting was: “Adventures in pain.” It focused on acute and chronic pain management in trauma, in sports and in remote settings. Beth Winkelstein, the Professor of Bioengineering and Professor of Neurosurgery, at the School of Engineering and Applied Science, at the University of Pennsylvania was the international guest speaker. The Spring Meeting attracted 99 delegates.

Fellowship
By December 2015, the number of Fellows admitted reached 423. This includes 12 honorary Fellows and 251 admitted through training and examination. Of the 380 active Fellows, 297 are based in Australia, 28 in New Zealand and 55 in other countries. Those with a primary specialty in anaesthesia make up 66 per cent of the active fellowship. Thirty eight Fellows were admitted to fellowship in 2015, all by training and examination. Thirty Fellows had a primary specialty in anaesthesia, two in rehabilitation medicine, two in medicine, one in psychiatry, one in general practice, one in occupational medicine and one in surgery.

CPD
The second year of the new and innovative CPD program with a dual focus on evaluation of practice as well as more traditional learning and activities has been completed. In 2016 the committee will review a number of professional documents. The emergency responses will be developed as well.

Pain device implant registry
The Faculty continues its efforts to advance a Pain Device Implant Registry. Discussions are ongoing with regard to obtaining funding to support a pilot study. The Dean held discussions recently with Dr Simon Thompson in Perth who is heading up the implementation of a Pain Device Registry in the United Kingdom. Some wider lobbying with Government, Department of Veterans’ Affairs,’ and Health Insurers is needed.

TUAC
It has been a busy year for this unit with the reaccreditation of units. New applications for accreditation are awaiting consideration by TUAC. On offer from the Federal Government are training under the Specialist Training Program (STP) component of the Integrated Rural
Training Pipeline (IRTP). TUAC is working with ANZCA to put in place an integrated rural training pipeline-funded model of permanent rural training posts in pain medicine.

**FPM in New Zealand and Regional Australia**

**New Zealand**
The NZ National committee is chaired by Kieran Davis whose term expires next month. Two face-to-face meetings and a teleconference were held in 2015. Work has concentrated on supporting the pain medicine workforce by improving the profile of pain medicine as a specialty. Discussions were held with the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) on its review of pain management services, and an Advocacy Plan for 2015-2017 developed.

**New South Wales**
The NSW Committee is chaired by Marc Russo. The NSW training program went from strength to strength under the guidance of Dr Paul Wrigley. The CME dinner meeting was held on Thursday May 28, 2015, with the topic "Medicinal Cannabis - Promise or Peril?"

**Queensland**
The Regional Queensland Committee chaired by Richard Pendleton held four CME Meetings throughout the year. Dr Matthew Bryant, Dr Scott Smith, Dr Jayne Berryman, and Dr Jo Rotherham have been elected for 2016-2018 term of office.

**South Australia**
The FPM SA Regional committee chaired by Bruce Rounsefell met three times in 2015 and addressed issues, including CME activity and training of Specialist Pain Medicine Physicians in South Australia. On August 3, 2015 a Paediatric and Adolescent Pain Medicine Meeting was conducted. Dr Bruce Rounsefell, Dr Tim Semple, Dr Andrew Somogyi, and Dr Graham Wright have been elected for 2016-2018 term of office.

**Victoria**
The FPM Victorian Regional committee is chaired by Diarmuid McCoy. A new initiative has been developed to explore possible pathways by which the Faculty could grow its trainee numbers.

**Western Australia**
The FPM Western Australian Regional Committee is chaired by Dr Max Majedi. The committee held three meetings in 2015. It focused on retirement and workforce planning, 2015 Curriculum and Training program, schedule 8 prescriptions, accessing patient notes cross campuses, over medicalisation, state wide pain training, IT Baclofen therapy, the Medical Benefits Schedule, and WA Framework for persistent pain.

**Communications**
In addition to the bi-monthly Synapse and Training E-Newsletter, the Faculty circulated a monthly Curriculum Resign Project E-Newsletter to ensure Fellows and trainees were kept up-to-date with this significant piece of work. The Faculty also provided regular contributions to the ANZCA Bulletin and ANZCA E-Newsletter.

**Advocacy**
The Faculty continued its collaboration with the Australian and New Zealand pain societies through regular teleconferences, and collaborated with them on the development of a poster to mark the 2016 Global Year against Joint Pain. An informal combined Boards’ breakfast was recently held during the Australian Pain Society ASM in Perth. Penny Briscoe is the Faculty’s representative on the Painaustralia Board. The Faculty works closely with Painaustralia, contributing expert opinion towards submissions and media releases issued by Painaustralia. Support to Painaustralia continued that included representation on their Board and Clinical Advisory Committee. The Faculty joined ANZCA, the ASA and NZSA in supporting a position statement supporting universal access to safe affordable surgery, anaesthesia and pain relief.

**Conclusion**

Professor Ted Shipton acknowledged all Fellows and staff who have worked hard on the Faculty’s committees and sub-committees. The FPM Director of Professional Affairs, Professor Milton Cohen, whose leadership and workload had been inspirational, was acknowledged as well. The Faculty General Manager, Ms Helen Morris, was thanked for her tremendous support and her dedicated staff for their significant work for the Faculty and its various functions.

Professor Shipton remained indebted to the voluntary energy shown by fellow Board members, the Chairs of all FPM portfolio committees, regional committees, and the national FPM committee of New Zealand. In addition, Professor Shipton was also appreciative to the Pain Society Presidents, Geoff Speldewinde (APS) and Fran James (NZPS) and to Lesley Brydon, CEO Painaustralia for their collaborative efforts and support.

The Dean opened up the meeting to questions.

The Dean noted the recommendation to change the terminology of FPM Professional Document PM10 subject to: Statement on “Therapeutic Cannabinoid” so that it is used in a more professional pharmacologically oriented prescription of that subject.

There being no further questions from members present, the Dean moved that the Dean’s Report be accepted.

**Resolution:**

E A Shipton/C Hayes

**That the Dean’s report be accepted.**

Carried.

4. **To receive the annual financial report**

The Governance Report to December 2015 was circulated at the meeting.

The Faculty finished the year over budget in 2015. A number of key factors contributed to the deficit including:

- Employee costs reflected additional staff contracted to support the transition of the revised curriculum and implementation of the 2015-2017 curriculum evaluation strategy.
- Annual Training Fee income reflected changes to the application process and was partly offset by the favourable registration fees.
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- Travel costs reflected higher than budgeted exam related costs (venue and equipment hire) and increased overseas travel associated with the October Board meeting held in conjunction with the Spring Meeting in Queenstown.
- Meeting sponsorship and delegate registrations were below expectations for the Spring Meeting in New Zealand.
- Increased facilities expenditure reflected the unfavourable turn in exchange rates for the Pain Medicine Journal.
- Professional services relating to the expansion of BPM were higher than budgeted but the project remains on budget overall.
- Three Board members undertook Company Director’s courses.

The positive variance in examination income reflected the higher number of long case candidates.

**Capital expenditure:**

- The Curriculum release 2 project was successfully delivered on time and under budget. The Dean opened up the meeting to questions.

In discussion that followed, it was noted that the sources of income reflected the income from subscriptions, trainee fees, sponsorship and CME events.

Fellows were reminded that they could contact the Faculty Dean or General Manager with any enquiries with regards to this report.

**Resolution:** From the Chair

**That the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Account be received.**

Carried.

5. **To receive the declaration of the poll for election of members to the Board**

Nominations closed on February 5 for the one vacancy on the FPM Board. As only one nomination was received, a ballot was not required and Dr Newman Harris, FRANZCP, FFPMANZCA was elected unopposed. The New Board took office following the AGM on May 2 comprising:

Dr Meredith Craigie (SA), Dr Kieran Davis (NZ), Associate Professor Raymond Garrick (NSW), Dr Newman Harris (NSW), Dr Chris Hayes (NSW), Professor Stephan Schug (WA), Professor Edward Shipton (NZ), Dr Michael Vagg (Vic), Dr Melissa Viney (Vic), and Associate Professor Andrew Zacest (SA).

[Subsequent to the AGM, Associate Professor Brendan Moore was appointed as the co-opted Queensland Representative to the Board].

6. **Dean’s Prize Presentation**

The FPM Dean’s Prize had been developed to promote and encourage research, and was open to Trainees of the Faculty and of the five participating professional bodies of the FPM or FPM Fellows within eight years of admission to their original Fellowship.
The Dean announced the prize winner of the FPM Dean’s prize:

Dean’s Prize: Dr Linda Trang (NSW)

“Postoperative analgesic efficacy of continuous wound infusion of local anaesthetic compared to opioid patient-controlled analgesia after laparotomy: a prospective study”.

7. Best Free Paper Award

The Best Free Paper Award was open to presenters in the FPM Best Free paper session not eligible for the Dean’s Prize.

The Dean announced the prize winner of the FPM Best Free paper session:

Best Free Paper Award: Associate Professor Philip Peyton (Vic)

“Reduction of chronic post-surgical pain with ketamine (ROCKet) pilot trial”

8. Other business of which due notice has been given to the General Manager in accordance with the by-laws of the Faculty

There being no other notified business, the Dean opened up the meeting for other business.

G Speldewinde referred to discussion at the 2015 AGM with regard to his proposal that it was timely to consider the options over the next 5-10 years for the Faculty to become more self-sufficient and independent of ANZCA. To further advance this discussion, G Speldewinde proposed that the Board consider establishing a committee or task force to explore the proposition of an independent college or society of pain physicians in Australasia as part of the strategic planning process. He suggested that a detailed separate budget of operational costs would assist the Faculty in the planning process going forward.

The Dean thanked G Speldewinde for opening the conversation on this issue but anticipated that there would first need to be a groundswell of support from the Fellowship to advance such a proposition.

The Vice-Dean noted that the planning is underway for refreshing the Faculty’s strategic vision for the 2018-2022 period, concurrent with ANZCA’s strategic planning. Separation from ANZCA was not seen as inevitable. It would be something that would have to be weighed carefully across the fellowship over time. Currently, there was mutual benefit on both sides, which was seen in evidence with the development of the curriculum and training program, and in the development of various FPM projects such as Better Pain Management and the Opioid Calculator App.

It was highlighted that whatever the governance structure, the Faculty’s mission was to advocate for pain medicine. The Faculty was currently being enabled to be as effective as it could possibly be and was in the best position to grow. It was anticipated that the Faculty would continue to test the temperature across the Fellowship regarding separation form ANZCA.
The Dean acknowledged the new ANZCA CEO, J Ilott, for the support provided by him to the Faculty.

C Brooker noted that the MBS Review Taskforce would form a Pain Management Clinical Committee later in the year and queried whether the Faculty and College had any involvement. It was confirmed that ANZCA and the FPM had been engaged from the outset, providing nominations to various clinical committees. It was highlighted that the College had no influence in the final clinical committee selection.

There being no further questions, Professor Ted Shipton introduced the new Dean, Dr Chris Hayes, and congratulated him on his election and thanked him for all his support to the Faculty during his term as Vice-Dean. He wished the Faculty well under the new Dean.

There being no further business, Professor Shipton thanked Fellows for their participation and closed the meeting at 12.30pm.