



Welfare Special Interest Group

Minutes of the Welfare Special Interest Group Annual General Meeting held during the Combined SIG Meeting, at Voyages Hotels and Resorts, Kulintjaku Room, at 0800 (CST) on Sunday 25 September, 2011

1. **Attendance :** Dr Di Khursandi (Chair)
Dr Prani Shrivastava
Dr Alan Rainbird
Dr Marion Andrew
Dr John Chippendale
Dr Tomoko Hara
Dr Buff Maycock
Dr Tracey Tay
Dr Jane McDonald
Dr Greg Downey
Dr Jenny King
Dr Heather Cosh
Prof John Gibbs
Ms Hannah Burnell (ANZCA)

- Apologies:** Dr Melissa Viney
Dr Sandra Taylor
Dr Michael Fong
Dr Annette Turley
Dr Richard Morris
Dr John Williamson
Dr Robert Gillies
Dr Rob Fry
Dr Grace Koo
Associate Professor Stephen Gatt

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

Resolution

From the Chair

That the minutes of the meeting held on May 3, 2010, be accepted.

Carried

3. SIG status

3.1 Executive

Following the recent election, the executive is now comprised of the following members:

Dr Di Khursandi (Chair)

Qld

Dr Prani Shrivastava	WA
Dr Robert Fry	NZ
Dr Tim Porter	SA
Dr Greg Downey	NSW
Dr Genevieve Goulding	Qld
Dr Nolan McDonnell	WA
Dr Tracey Tay	NSW
Dr Kushlani Stevenson	Vic
Dr Ananand Paramaswaran	Qld (Co-opted trainee representative)

3.2 Membership

The SIG currently has 504 members and one associate member.

3.3 Financial report

Financial Report for 12 months ending 31/12/2010

Income	-
Total Expenses	\$7678.44
Surplus/(deficit)	(\$7678.44)

This figure does not include any income from the 2010 Combined SIG Meeting.

3.4 Biannual reports to ACECC

The chair advised members of the new requirements set out by the ACECC committee. The SIG is required to submit a summary report on the happenings of the SIG twice annually, commencing in May 2012. It was also noted that the SIG chair voting rights had been amended, and now only one representative of all the SIGs would have the ability to vote on the ACECC committee.

3.5 Revised constitution

The chair informed the members that the SIG constitution had been revised and ratified at the recent ACECC meeting. A copy of this new document will be circulated to members when available.

4. Future meetings

4.1 2012 ASM, May 12-16, Perth WA

Dr Shrivastava spoke to the plans for the Welfare session at the 2012 ASM. The session is centred on "critical incident support". An obstetrician will speak on adverse publicity following a terminal foetal inquiry, and its medico-legal aftermath and effects. Dr Mary Pinder will speak on the impending train wreck (of a colleague) and Dr Sean Hood, a psychiatrist, will speak about mental health and how to "self debrief". A separate session on organ donation will also feature in the program, although partially organised by members it is not featuring under the welfare SIG section. Dr Shrivastava called for suggestions for PBLD and workshop topics. The members discussed topics and speakers and it was agreed that the SIG would look further into Stavros Prineas, from NSW, to speaker on critical incident support for doctors. Should this topic not be covered at this meeting it would be suitable for the ASA NSC or other future meetings.

4.2 2012 Combined SIG Meeting, September 21-23, Sanctuary Cove QLD

The chair advised the members of the theme of the 2012 combined SIG meeting “workforce: future force” and that the management SIG would be the main convening group. Whilst keynote speakers are still being discussed, the chair welcomed suggestions for the welfare SIG sessions.

Following discussion, the group agreed it appropriate to invite a generation “Y” presenter to speak about generation “Y” issues. Josh Thomas, TV personality, was suggested.

Dr Jenny King suggested a session relating to the limited availability of jobs for recent graduates, or the limited training positions, would be suitable and relevant at present.

Dr Tracey Tay informed members of a speaker in Hong Kong who recently spoke about leadership, and that within his department he was able to create an environment where “good” doctors were attracted to positions but also enticed to stay. The department ran fundraisers, and various other activities which in turn lifted the morale of the staff and made for a more happy and productive department. Dr Tay to look into sourcing this speaker.

Dr Shrivastava will organise a teleconference in the near future to further discuss these topics, and welcomed any further ideas by way of email.

4.3 2012 ASA NSC, September 29 – October 2, Hobart Tasmania

The chair informed the members of the welfare SIG session scheduled for the ASA NSC in Hobart. Topics and speakers are yet to be confirmed and suggestions welcomed. The chair suggested a presentation on dementia, or depression.

4.4 2013 Combined Simulation, Welfare, Education & Management SIG Meeting, September 20-22

The chair reported that the 2013 combined SIG meeting will be convened by the Welfare SIG, with Dr Shrivastava (Chair-elect) taking over as the main convenor. As international speakers are customarily booked years in advance, the chair advised of preliminary discussions with Michael Yapco PH.D, Clinical Psychologist, to attend and present plenary sessions and a range of workshops.

The chair also advised of other ideas for keynote speakers, Dr Ross Harris, author of “Happiness Trap”, is unavailable at this time but has suggested a local psychiatrist in Queensland who will be available. Dr Craig Hasted, whom also has written a book on mindfulness, is based in Melbourne and may be a potential workshop presenter.

Dr Tay suggested a colleague, Dr Jane Gray as a potential workshop presenter. Dr Gray is a practicing Buddhist and is well versed in “mindfulness”. Dr Tay to look into this further.

4.5 2013 ASM, May 4-8, Melbourne

Dr Shrivastava notified the members of an email received from Dr David Bramley, Convenor of the 2013 ASM in Melbourne, requesting details for the welfare SIG session. Whilst the meeting theme is still unknown, members agreed on a topic promoting trainee well-being. The chair suggested Dr Kushlani Stevenson, the Victorian welfare SIG representative be contacted to potentially facilitate this session, being a new Fellow from Melbourne.

The chair introduced the members to Dr Marion Andrew, the Regional Trainee Welfare Officer from South Australia/ Northern Territory who has recently produced guidelines on how to support trainees. Dr Andrew spoke to the guidelines, and the intended “trainee support system” with the idea of initiating something that prevents incidents and promotes well-being. To date, Dr Andrew acknowledged that seven trainees had accessed the program for one reason or another and hopes this program will assist with preventing future incidents. This initiative follows the recent suicide of a trainee in South Australia, highlighting to the Regional Education Sub-Committee the welfare issue and the need for action. Dr Andrew welcomed feedback from the members about the guidelines, and formally thanked the chair and the College solicitor, Mr Michael Gorton, for their contribution to the document. Dr Andrew suggested there be a link between the trainee section of the ANZCA website, and the Welfare Resource Documents as they highlight many issues relevant to both Fellows and Trainees. Hannah will follow up with this action item. An article in the *ANZCA Bulletin* (September 2011 edition) addresses this initiative.

6. Resource documents

The chair reported on the completion of the resource document projects. All documents are now available on both the ANZCA and ACECC websites.

7. Other business

The chair formally thanked Dr Jane McDonald for her contribution on the SIG executive and noted her retirement from the committee.

The chair alerted the members to a recent article she wrote in the *ANZCA Bulletin* (September 2011 edition) “Coping with the tragedy of anaesthetists suicide”.

Dr Tay reported on her recently received Churchill Fellowship. The Churchill Fellowship was established shortly after Winston Churchill’s death, to foster individual’s development in commonwealth countries. The aim was to send individuals who wanted to develop their trade or skill, overseas to learn and then return with those new skills to their home country. Dr Tay informed the members of her plans, and outlined the various countries she would be visiting over a period of eight weeks. The chair formally congratulated Dr Tay on this achievement.

7.1 New Chair of Welfare SIG Executive Committee

Resolution

From the Chair

That Dr Prani Shrivastava is elected Chair of the Welfare SIG, for a term of three years, commencing 25 September 2011.

Carried

Dr Shrivastava formally thanked the chair for her contribution to the SIG, acknowledging her contribution to the further development of the SIG.

Recommendation

From the members

That the outgoing chair be acknowledged for her contribution to the SIG and the combined SIG meetings.

Carried

6. Date of the Next meeting

The next meeting will be the AGM, to be held at the combined SIG meeting, September 21-23, 2012 in Sanctuary Cove, Queensland.

The chair thanked those who attended and the meeting was closed at 8.55am (CST)

Dr Di Khursandi
Chair, Welfare SIG

ACECC is a joint initiative of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists, the Australian Society of Anaesthetists and the New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists.

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