



British Association for Psychopharmacology

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2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

MONDAY 29 JULY
HARROGATE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE
17:00 – 18:30

Chaired by Professor Jo Neill, Meetings Secretary

Professor Neill welcomed Members to the 2013 AGM and asked them to sign the register. She was pleased to introduce Professor Barbara Sahakian, the BAP President.

1. Presidential Address

Professor Sahakian reported on activities and events since the 2012 AGM. The 2012 Summer Meeting generated good feedback from attendees. Council is very pleased that 98% of those who attended considered the meeting to be good value for money and over 80% are regular attendees – that is they attend at least one BAP summer meeting every 3 years.

This year we have an excellent scientific programme with a wide range of symposia and oral sessions and Professor Sahakian thanked all those who have organised symposia and the speakers for taking part. We have also been very lucky to have Helen Mayberg here to present the annual BAP Guest Lecture and we are grateful to her for making the trip to BAP. Professor Sahakian was particularly delighted because Helen is the second female BAP Guest Lecturer out of 18, which has to be an advance. The third plenary mental health session was held today: it was well attended and provoked an enthusiastic debate. Professor Trevor Robbins was an excellent discussant and Professor Sahakian thanked all those who took part in this important session and particularly Jeff Nye for putting the programme together.

Most of the younger BAP members attending this meeting are here in large part because they have been awarded a bursary and BAP continues to be very committed to supporting our young scientists in this way – they are the lifeblood of the Association. This year we were extremely grateful to receive a donation from the Gatsby Foundation towards our bursary fund.

This year we have more posters than in 2012 and the poster hall is a vibrant and interesting place to be. Once again this year we are supporting undergraduates in what is for many their first trip to a major conference.

Professor Sahakian is very grateful to the companies who are supporting this conference with satellite symposia, a BAP special session, and stands in the exhibition. This is a difficult time for industry and BAP appreciates the support towards the annual meeting.

BAP Council members and others involved in various aspects of the Association attended a very important meeting earlier this year: the fourth Strategy Day. Discussions were wide-ranging and included finances, education, the increasing diversity of our membership, and venues for our summer meeting. Next year the Summer Meeting will return to Cambridge and the list of symposia for that meeting is in the back of the current programme. Professor Sahakian is sure it will be a popular meeting.

Another item discussed at the Strategy Day was the possible re-branding of BAP, because in some senses the name no longer represents all the Members we have, such as the cognitive neuroscientists who understand the neurobiological basis of psychiatric disorders which may lead us to effective treatments, but who may not actually work with drugs. Council is considering a change of title, among other things, and Professor Paul Harrison, the President-elect, is heading a small sub-committee to consider the various issues.

BAP educational events are thriving under the leadership of Hamish McAllister-Williams and Professor Sahakian is extremely grateful to him and the very committed group of loyal BAP presenters. The educational portfolio has also

been very important to the BAP finances. We are grateful to Dr Paula Moran and Professor Hugh Marston for developing the previous modular Preclinical Certificate Course into a residential meeting which will launch in February next year in Cambridge. Further details are available at the back of the conference programme and of course on the website.

Peter Haddad, BAP General Secretary, will report further on education in his report.

Professor Sahakian updated Members on the status of BAP consensus guidelines, which are always well-received and popular with psychiatrists.

Anxiety, led by Professor David Baldwin, will be published very early in 2014.

Adult ADHD, led by Professor David Nutt and Dr Blanca Bolea will also be published very early in 2014.

BAP guidelines on the use of psychotropic medication preconception, in pregnancy and postpartum - Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams is co-ordinating the writing-up of this guideline.

The update of the Antidepressants Guideline is being co-ordinated by Professors Carmine Pariante, Allan Young and Tony Cleare.

BAP Council is moving forward with plans for a consensus meeting covering Autistic Spectrum Disorders. This is being led by Professor Nicol Ferrier and BAP Members Drs Ekkehart Staufenberg and David Coghill.

2013 Prizes and Awards

Professor Sahakian is delighted that the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to one of our most distinguished past-Presidents, Professor Charles Marsden, and a citation summarizing some of his many achievements may be found in the conference programme. Charles has been an important part of BAP for a great number of years and continues to contribute in a number of different ways.

86 Part 1 Clinical Certificates have been awarded in the past year to those attending 3 or more modules of the Certificate Course. Congratulations are extended to Dr Ashleigh Duthie and Dr Maryanne Freer, who have achieved Part 2 of the Certificate with the submission of written work.

The winners of the BAP Psychopharmacology Awards, to reward excellence in clinical and non-clinical science, are Dr Angela Attwood (Bristol), Dr Jonathan Roiser (London) and Dr Kuan-Pin Su (China Medical University, previously at the Inst of Psychiatry). Professor Sahakian encouraged Members to attend their short oral presentations at this conference.

The third annual Hannah Steinberg BAP Conference Bursary has been awarded to Dr Abigail Benn (Bristol).

We launched a new prize last year, supported by Cambridge Cognition, for the development of novel approaches in psychopharmacology and the 2013 prize has been awarded to Professor Marcus Munafò. Marcus can't be at the conference but has the very good excuse of a brand new baby to keep him away this year.

This year BAP launched another new prize: The BAP Public Communication Prizes will be awarded annually to reward excellence in both clinical and non-clinical science communication to the public in the area of psychopharmacology. There are two prizes of £200, one for a Training Member and one for a Full Member. The nominations are reviewed by a panel of BAP Council members and are for individuals who have contributed to public engagement during the preceding year, for example by posting articles on the BAP website, blogging, contributing to science festivals, radio/tv appearances etc.

Professor Sahakian was delighted to announce that the first winners are Dr Suzi Gage from Bristol - Suzi is very well known for her superb blogs and, coincidentally, is the official blogger at this meeting, and Professor Carmine Pariante from London who takes the Full Member prize. Professor Sahakian encouraged Members to look at their articles on the public information page on the BAP website.

Decisions on the poster prize and undergraduate award winners will be made on Tuesday and presentations made at the conference dinner.

Professor Sahakian thanked the Governance Panel (Professor Charles Marsden, Dr Clare Stanford and Professor Guy Goodwin) for their interest in BAP activities over the past year and for their positive steering on many issues. Their annual report to Members is available on the website and the panel Chair, Professor Marsden, will present the key points later at this meeting. Professors Marsden and Goodwin will stand down from today; Dr Stanford will

become Chair and Council is very pleased that Professors Thomas Barnes and Richard Green have agreed to join the Panel for the next few years.

BAP continues to participate at various Science Festivals. This year BAP held a joint session with the Wellcome Trust at the Cambridge Festival. Dr Liz Tunbridge then organised a BAP session at the Cheltenham Festival in June. Entitled "Brain Enhancing Drugs: Would You?" The BAP Council greatly appreciates the participation of BAP Members in these sessions, which are important for BAP's engagement with the public and always generate excellent feedback.

Dr Anne Jackson has worked hard, with support from Ms Sarah Channing-Wright, to commission articles for the public information part of the website. There are now quite a substantial number of interesting pieces on the site and Professor Sahakian encouraged Members to take a look – and maybe offer to provide something for inclusion.

BAP also took part in the Festival of Neuroscience held in April at the Barbican. There was a wide range of sessions across the meeting and BAP sponsored a symposium entitled "Impulsivity, compulsivity and habit formation", co-ordinated by Professor Val Curran, and of course a number of BAP members presented in various symposia during the event. BAP also had a stand at the Barbican.

Council was pleased to nominate Professor Hugh Marston and Dr Gerry Dawson for the Research Excellence Framework 2014.

BAP's increasing engagement with outside bodies in both clinical and non-clinical areas has meant a lot of work for our External Affairs Secretaries and Professor Sahakian particularly thanked Professor Naomi Fineberg and Dr Paula Moran for their assistance in this regard.

Professor Sahakian reported that there have been a number of changes on the BAP Council this year, and there will be further changes in 2014. Dr Haddad will detail these in his General Secretary's report but Professor Sahakian wanted to thank all those who stand alongside her – on the Council for their hard work and service over the past year.

2. Motions for approval:

2.1 That the Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting be adopted as an accurate record

This motion was proposed by Professor Val Curran, seconded by Dr Anne Jackson and approved by those present.

2.2. Journal of Psychopharmacology Editor's Report

Professor David Nutt reported that overall it has been a straightforward and successful year and the Journal has made another substantial contribution to the BAP finances, due in part to the efficiency of the Journal Manager, Dr Pallab Seth.

The online publication system is working well, the acceptance rate is stable at around 40% and articles are usually published within 4 months of acceptance. There are 3 peer-reviewers for each submission.

Over the past year the Journal has received 271 manuscripts, including 32 reviews and commentaries, 183 original papers and 31 short reports. Around 40% of total submissions are from United Kingdom and United States. Submission from EU has decreased recently but we are receiving more papers from other countries like India, China, Brazil, Taiwan, Korea, Iran and Turkey.

The 2012 Impact Factor (IF) for Journal of Psychopharmacology is 3.374, an increase from last year (3.036), with a rolling IF of 3.441. The fall in 2011 was due to the clearing of old submissions, a move strongly encouraged by the BAP Council, but it is hoped that the IF will continue to rise from now on with the publication of 120-140 manuscripts each year.

The Journal's ranking within the categories of Clinical Neurology, Neurosciences, Pharmacology & Pharmacy, and Psychiatry, has risen over the past year.

The data for citations shows that BAP consensus documents were the most highly cited articles over the past 2 years. The most highly-cited issue published in 2010 was the supplement issue entitled, 'Mortality in

Schizophrenia – Emerging trends and mechanisms' (Nov 2010) sponsored by Eli Lilly and Co. This reassures Professor Nutt that supplements produced for JoP are of a high quality and well-received.

The most highly-cited article in the history of the Journal is "5-HT and mechanisms of defence", by Deakin JFW and Graeff FG. Published in 1991, it has been cited 464 times. As part of the forthcoming Special Issue on Serotonin, the original paper will be re-published alongside a commentary by Professor Bill Deakin on how the field has changed over the years.

Professor Nutt shared some of the interesting data collected by the publishers of the Journal. There were 202,099 downloads (including 162,718 paid downloads) of *JOP* articles in 2012 (an increase of 17% from 2011). 2,594 institutions now have access to *JOP* through sales to library consortia. It is pleasing to see that the Journal is increasingly accessible.

The clinical/non-clinical balance is an issue constantly monitored by the Editors and it currently stands at 2:1.

Unfortunately there have been only two supplements over the past year and Professor Nutt would welcome more.

There will be two special issues soon: Serotonin (detailed above) and Noradrenaline, which was originally planned as a supplement but will now be a special issue. There are no further special issues planned but Professor Nutt would be happy to discuss this with anyone who would like to act as Editor for an issue.

The publishers are still structuring around half the volumes as themed issues and there was a large issue on the endocannabinoid system which worked very well. There are currently a number of submissions on ADHD and these will be held back so as to be included in the issue containing the updated BAP guidelines.

The 2013 Sage Citation Prize has been awarded to Dr Martina Di Simplicio for the paper "Oxytocin enhances processing of positive versus negative emotional information in healthy male volunteers", Authors: Di Simplicio M, Massey-Chase R, Cowen PJ, Harmer CJ, Vol: 23 Issue: 3 Pages: 241-248, published in May 2009, which has been cited 50 times.

The motion to accept the Editor's Report was proposed by Professor David Baldwin, seconded by Professor Elemer Szabadi and approved by those present.

2.3. Honorary Treasurer's Report

Professor Catherine Harmer began her report by expressing gratitude to the BAP Office, particularly Susan Chandler and Lynne Harmer, for their advice and guidance over the past year.

All Members will have received the 2012 audited accounts and Professor Harmer's presentation will summarise the key points and resulting financial position of the Association.

As indicated by Professor Nutt, the Journal of Psychopharmacology remains the biggest source of income to BAP, with a surplus of £80.5K in 2012 (2011: £90K). Over the past 6 years the Journal has been a relatively reliable source of income although we are all aware that with the changes in the publishing world and current climate that income is increasingly unpredictable.

BAP holds key meetings held through year such as the Certificates, Masterclasses, Consensus and Summer Meeting. Taken together, meetings generated a surplus of £17.5K in 2012, which is quite a drop from £66K during 2011. This occurred for two main reasons: firstly the summer meeting in 2012 suffered a deficit of £36.5K. Secondly, the consensus meetings, which used to run at a surplus, now often run at a deficit because of the reduction in industry support (£24K deficit in 2012). The lower level of income from meetings is set to continue, at least in the short-term.

On a more positive note, the Online CPD Resource, spear-headed by Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams and assisted by Sarah Channing-Wright at the BAP Office, has had a fantastic year, resulting in a surplus of £36.5K. This is unexpected at this relatively early stage of its development and it has made a real contribution to both the BAP finances and our education portfolio.

The subscription fees from Members are another important source of income and provided an income of £58K in 2012. This has been relatively stable over the past few years, in line with our membership figures.

Major sources of expenditure include the Council meetings and economy travel expenses for Council members to attend those and other events on behalf of BAP. That totalled £7K in 2012, similar to 2011. Council members do not receive any payment for anything they do directly on behalf of BAP.

As we have heard already at this meeting, as part of BAP's policy of increasing education and awareness of psychopharmacology we have taken part in a number of science festivals and this cost just over £6K in 2012.

The hub of the BAP, the Office in Cambridge, cost £141K in 2012.

BAP also supported the in vivo Training Fund in 2012, to enable 2 young pre-clinical scientists to undertake a project, the Pre-clinical Certificate bursaries, and also paid a number of professional subscriptions to other bodies.

Put together, BAP generated £615K in 2012 and spent £609K, giving a surplus of £6K. This is down a little from the past couple of years. However, put together with accumulated assets over the years, BAP now has net assets of £1.4million, which includes the property in Cambridge and our investment portfolio. Of these, around £1.1million are our 'cash reserves', i.e. relatively easily accessible funds. Council aims to eventually retain around £1.5million cash reserves, i.e. 2.5 times our annual expenditure, which is the recommended figure in case of financial difficulty.

In summary, Professor Harmer believes BAP is in reasonable financial shape, especially given the current financial climate. However our margins are extremely tight and our sources of income are relatively unpredictable. The BAP Office has done an amazing job of reducing expenditure and boosting income wherever possible, but we must be mindful of the tight margin going forward.

In response to a question from the audience, Professor Harmer confirmed that the 'cash reserves' are in fact held in investments which can be liquidated quite easily if it became necessary.

The motion that the Trustees/Directors Annual Report and audited accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2012 be received and adopted was proposed by Professor Charles Marsden, seconded by Professor Paul Harrison and approved by those present.

2.3.a Proposal that the Full Membership subscription be increased to £100 from March 2014

Professor Harmer reported that membership subscriptions have remained static at £80 for 11 years and therefore represent a decrease in real value. Increasing the fee to £100 would make the fee comparable with membership of other bodies, such as ECNP. The proposal is to increase the Full Membership subscription to £100 but to leave the subscription fees for all other membership classes, particularly Training Membership, at their current rates.

In response to a question from Dr Mohammed Shoib, Professor Harmer reported that the BAP Council has considered the possibility that BAP will lose Members due to this increase. Of course we cannot guarantee that we won't lose Members; however the increase is relatively small in real terms and it is hoped that our membership will remain loyal to BAP. Dr Shoib asked what precipitated the proposal to increase the fee. Professor Harmer replied that it is standard to increase costs in line with inflation; however this has not been done year-on-year. Of course all BAP costs have increased and Council decided to make the increase in 2014 so that it can then remain static for a number of years after that.

Dr Sarah Bailey reported that she is a member of BNA and BPS and their membership fees are around £70. It may be that for pre-clinical Members the decision about which Society to join will be made on economic grounds. Professor Richard Green commented that the BPS also has a number of Fellows, who pay substantially higher membership fees, and he feels that the BAP increase is a reasonable compromise. Professor Harmer replied that Council had considered having a two-tier membership, with Fellows and Ordinary Members; however they decided to keep the Full Membership as one category. The anticipated additional income to BAP from the increase is around £5K.

Professor Barbara Sahakian proposed that the Full Membership subscription be increased to £100 from March 2014. Professor David Nutt seconded the proposal and it was approved by those present.

2.4. Honorary General Secretary's Report

Dr Peter Haddad began by reporting on membership issues. The membership currently stands at 804. Over the past decade, up to 2009, membership was fairly static at around 1050; then followed three successive years of falling membership, no doubt reflecting the economic recession. In his 2012 AGM report, Dr Haddad reported the

lowest membership figure for a decade and he outlined a number of initiatives adopted by Council to tackle the problem. These included a more assertive advertising promotion of BAP, which has been successful and he now feels that the ship has been steadied. He emphasised that the current membership level is very respectable and BAP remains one of the largest psychopharmacology organisations in the world.

After successive falls, there has been a significant rise in new applications over the past two years. Again, this suggests that the promotional activities have been successful. The reason membership is at a plateau despite new members joining, is largely due to those members who do not pay their annual subscription and are subsequently removed from the list. This month there has been a concerted campaign to chase defaulters and this has proved worthwhile. Dr Haddad thanked Professor Sahakian for the lead role she took in that campaign.

15% of the total membership comprises Training Members and this category is vital to attract young scientists registered for degrees and with limited income. The Council is committed to supporting Training Membership; however over several years it has become clear that the criteria were ambiguous. As a result, the criteria were updated earlier this year and are now explicit in stating that Training Membership is not available to medical applicants (i.e. doctors), unless there is an exceptional reason in which case it may be awarded at the discretion of the General Secretary.

Clinical members (499) outnumber non-clinical members (191) and BAP has 50 industry members. This division has remained fairly stable over many years.

Turning to Council matters, Dr Haddad reported that Professor Jo Neill leaves the post of Meetings Secretary. She has worked very hard on behalf of BAP, especially with regard to planning the programme for the summer meeting and co-ordinating the abstract and poster reviewers, an intense and time-consuming task. She has also been a great support to the BAP Office in the general planning of events. She will be a hard act to follow; however Professor Marcus Munafo has been elected to the post for 3 years and he is sure to do an excellent job.

Professor Naomi Fineberg retires from the post of Secretary for Clinical External Affairs. Naomi has done a tremendous job in dealing with the seemingly almost-constant stream of consultation documents received from NICE – and for some reason these consultations tend to arrive at the start of the Easter and Christmas holidays. Naomi has dealt with this with her trademark calmness and efficiency and as a result BAP has a high profile within NICE and has influenced many of their consultations for the better. Council thanks her for her conscientious efforts on their behalf. Dr Oliver Howes has been elected to the post for the next 3 years and Council thanks him for taking this on.

This year two Council members retire: Dr Anne Jackson, who amongst other things has done so much to instigate and progress the public information pages on the BAP website, and Professor Val Curran who has helped in many ways, including the co-ordination of the BAP presence at the Festival of Neuroscience this year. Council thanks both of them for their commitment and hard work on behalf of BAP and we are delighted they will continue to be involved in the Association.

Council seats are structured in terms of numbered places and there is an election for two seats every year to enable a smooth transition within the Council. This year's election attracted eight nominees of immense quality and it is a testament to BAP that so many people of such calibre want to work with BAP. Dr James Stone from London and Dr Sarah Bailey from Bath were elected for a four-year term.

However, two of the existing Council members, Dr Oliver Howes and Professor Marcus Munafo have each been elected to an Officer post. This means that there are two empty Council seats, despite the election, because Professor Munafo was due to be on Council until 2014 and Dr Howes until 2016. In addition, three Officers will retire from Council in 2014. The existing and future vacancies are of major concern, particularly considering the potential re-branding of BAP. After careful consideration, and in keeping with the Constitution, Council has decided to take the following action: the one-year vacancy created by Professor Munafo will be filled as a casual vacancy by Professor Jo Neill. Her expertise as the previous Meetings Secretary will be invaluable in the run-up to the 40th anniversary meeting in Cambridge. The three-year vacancy created by Dr Howes' move will be filled by Dr Maxine Patel, again as a casual vacancy. In addition, Professor Jeremy Hall will be co-opted to serve on Council for 3 years. These decisions took account of the fact that both Maxine and Jeremy polled joint third in the recent election.

In the recent election, 23% of those eligible to vote did so. This is an improvement on the 21% who voted in the 2012 election; however it still means that three-quarters of those eligible do not vote. This might be seen in a positive light and one could argue that the membership is very happy with the way business is conducted and believe the existing Council members and candidates are of a high calibre. Nevertheless, Council does want to

find ways to encourage voting and Dr Haddad reminded those present that BAP is their Association and these are their Council members, elected with their votes.

Dr Haddad proceeded to update Members on BAP Education. The Clinical Certificate remains extremely popular with all the modules over-subscribed each year. In fact the Child and Adolescent Module, due to run in March 2014, was fully booked in April 2013, almost a year in advance. As a result, the speakers have kindly agreed to repeat the Module in November 2014 and half those available places have already been filled. BAP is clearly filling a major need with this Module and it is hoped that a Child and Adolescent Module will be produced for the Online CPD Resource very soon. The Substance Misuse Certificate Module is being revised in light of the recent changes in addiction services and this will be re-launched in December 2014. The other Modules are regularly reviewed and revised as necessary in response to delegate feedback.

The BAP Masterclasses run twice each year in London. Again, these are always over-subscribed and well-received.

Dr Haddad thanked all those who organise and present on the Clinical Certificate and Masterclasses for their commitment and expertise in making both initiatives such a great success.

The Online CPD Resource has been an immense success story. This is a testament, not only to the presenters, but the incredibly hard work put in by the BAP Director of Education, Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams, and the administrative support of Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright at the BAP Office. Their commitment has made the Online Resource another quality BAP product. Since January 2013, 22 Trusts have signed up almost 800 subscribers, and almost 100 individual subscribers have also joined. This makes a total of almost 2000 subscribing to the Resource. The project is only two years old but is already in profit, even though the business plan predicted a break-even point between 2-4 years. The emphasis now is to ensure the long-term viability, and for subscribers to find continuing value in the Resource. There is a well-planned series of initiatives to help achieve this.

Turning to the BAP collaboration with the Royal College of Psychiatrists, over the past couple of years there has been a more positive perception of psychopharmacology and the BAP within the College. BAP continues to organise several symposia within the RCPsych congress and these are always very successful. This year the topics included substance misuse, treatment-resistant depression and perinatal psychiatry. In addition, there were several other sessions which, although not badged as BAP, had a major BAP input.

At the start of his presentation Dr Haddad outlined a more assertive promotion of BAP which is seen as important in maintaining and increasing our membership, despite the difficult economic circumstances. Promotion is also vital to ensure the success of our educational activities. This year Sarah Channing-Wright took the BAP stand to a number of national meetings, including the RCPsych congress. This allowed her to meet delegates, answer their questions and demonstrate the Online Resource. Sarah regularly supplies other meetings and Societies with flyers and leaflets describing BAP activities. Council has approved Sarah's post being increased from part-time to full-time and this will allow her to update and maintain the website, make more use of social media, and expand the Online Resource. It will also facilitate BAP's engagement with the College, ECNP and other organisations, as well as our membership and the public. These interactions are vital to the success of BAP.

Dr Haddad ended his report by thanking all the BAP Council members for their hard work over the past year. It has been a great pleasure for him to work with such a vibrant and interesting group of people. Finally, he thanked the BAP staff: Susan Chandler, Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright, for their constant commitment, enthusiasm and support.

A number of those in the audience congratulated Dr Haddad for continuing his presentation during the very loud thunderstorm pounding the roof of the building!

The motion that the Honorary General Secretary's report be received was proposed by Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams, seconded by Professor Naomi Fineberg and approved by those present.

2.5 Governance Panel Report

Professor Charles Marsden reminded those present that this is his last presentation as Panel Chair and that his co-Panel members for the past year have been Dr Clare Stanford and Professor Guy Goodwin.

Professor Marsden summarised the role of the Governance Panel: it monitors what the BAP Council is doing and tries to make sure that their actions are in the real interests of the membership. The Panel cannot decide whether

the decisions made by Council are right or wrong, but they have the responsibility of confirming that the decisions are made with due process. The Panel may also identify issues which Council might wish to consider.

With regard to activities during the past year, the Panel has noted the continued excellent working relationship between the Secretariat in Cambridge, with Susan Chandler, Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright, and the members of Council. This has been exemplified by the reports made during this AGM. The Panel also feels that the appointment of the Director of Education has provided a real focus and expertise to that area of the BAP. The Panel has noted the high attendance record of Council members at their meetings and this again is indicative of their involvement with the aims of BAP.

With regards to the 2012 summer meeting - and the Panel is sure that the current meeting will be similar - the costs have continued to rise and sponsorship has continued to decline. The Panel supports the action taken by Council so far to control expenditure, but the Panel thinks that further action might be needed in the future. As regards the 2014 meeting in Cambridge, Professor Marsden is sure that that will be a great event but the membership should be prepared for logistical problems, as well as a high financial cost. The Panel admires the work of the Secretariat in putting on the show in the first place to the best of their ability.

Turning to education and training, it is clear that the quality has been maintained and these have achieved excellent recognition. As an aside, Professor Marsden mentioned that the Child and Adolescent Module (at which he presents) has been running for 11 years and has always sold out.

The Clinical CPD Course must be congratulated for its success. The Panel also supports the proposed revised Preclinical Course and the increased range of Consensus statements.

External Affairs is a very active area. While the Panel welcomes the involvement of BAP in national debates and active participation in the various scientific festivals, in particular in the past year the involvement in the Festival of Neuroscience at the Barbican, it must be appreciated that these activities bring more work into the Office and for Council. Those involved must be protected from being overwhelmed with work. Professor Marsden suspects that after the success of the Festival of Neuroscience, this may indicate the need for further, joint ventures.

The Panel encourages the membership to become more involved with the BAP web pages.

The BAP is financially sound despite the current climate and the Panel is confident in the way in which Council continues to control expenditure wherever possible and are aware of potential changes to the cash flow.

The increasing range of activities does draw on BAP resources, both human and financial. Council must be aware of the need to take care of both.

Professor Marsden asked the membership to consider a question: whether they would prefer regular inflation-based increases in certain prices such as meeting registration and membership subscription, rather than the current trend for irregular, larger increases.

Constant care needs to be taken that all the interests are represented within the BAP and also in the membership of Council. While the BAP faces financial challenges, the Governance Panel is confident that the Council has the necessary plans in place to address them.

In conclusion, the Panel this year considers that the BAP is well-organised, effectively governed and maintains suitable financial reserves.

Professor Marsden welcomed the new Governance Panel: Dr Clare Stanford will take over as Chair and will be joined by Professors Thomas Barnes and Richard Green. He thanked Professor Guy Goodwin (and Dr Stanford) for all their help over the past 3 years.

Professor Neill thanked Professors Marsden and Goodwin for their hard work for the Governance Panel and their continued support for the BAP.

The motion that the Governance Panel's report be received was proposed by Dr Liz Tunbridge, seconded by Dr Anne Jackson, and approved by those present.

3. Discussion chaired by Professor Jo Neill

Dr Clare Stanford offered a comment about the regular consultations sought by various bodies. The period of time given for such consultations is getting shorter and shorter and for many groups such as BAP it is becoming more difficult to rally a consensus of what the membership thinks. It is important to include a point in any response to indicate that the consultation period has not been adequate to be confident that the response submitted reflects the views of the membership. Unless this point is made, if the final decisions made are totally unsatisfactory then there is no further course of action that can be taken.

Professor Neill thanked Members for attending the 2013 Annual General Meeting. She closed the meeting and encouraged people to attend the satellite symposium at The Old Swan Hotel.
