



British Association for Psychopharmacology

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2014 Annual General Meeting

Monday 21 July, West Road Concert Hall, Cambridge
Chaired by Professor Marcus Munafo, BAP Meetings Secretary

1. Presidential Address

Professor Barbara Sahakian thanked Members for attending the 2014 AGM. Before reporting on BAP business, she paid tribute to Ian Reid, who died recently after a short illness. Many friends and colleagues were shocked at his untimely death. Ian worked extremely hard on behalf of BAP over many years. In addition to serving on Council for 4 years, he was integral to the BAP MRCPsych revision course for psychiatrists-in-training, which ran twice each year. Ian took over from Ian Anderson as the organiser of the course and continued to develop the programme whenever necessary. He also co-edited the BAP Book “Fundamentals of Clinical Psychopharmacology”, again with Ian Anderson. The latest edition of the book, currently in production, will be dedicated to Ian Reid.

Turning to BAP business, Professor Sahakian reported that the 2013 summer meeting generated very good feedback from attendees. She is delighted to welcome everyone back to Cambridge this year; as many older members will remember, a great many successful summer meetings were held in Cambridge in the past. It is wonderful to be back here for the 40th anniversary event. There are over 500 registered for the meeting and a huge amount has been packed into the programme including, for the first time, a workshop for trainees, organised by Oliver Howes. This took place at breakfast-time today and Professor Sahakian was very grateful to everyone who participated.

As usual, there is a very exciting conference programme with a lively mix of cutting-edge symposia, oral sessions and posters. 250 posters are exhibited, which necessitated splitting them into two separate days. There is always a great buzz around BAP poster sessions and this year is no different. Professor Sahakian thanked all the symposium speakers who made the trip to Cambridge to take part in the conference, especially those from overseas. Thanks, too, to David Nutt for his very well-received Guest Lecture. This is a very special year for BAP so it was particularly nice to have David, who contributes so much to the Association, present the Lecture to a packed auditorium.

Professor Sahakian thanked Allan Young and Bill Honer for organising the thought-provoking and interesting Mental Health Session this afternoon.

Most of the younger BAP members attending this meeting are here because they have been awarded a BAP bursary. BAP continues to be committed to supporting young scientists in this way. This year we were extremely grateful to receive donations from the Gatsby Foundation, the Wellcome Trust and the Medical Research Council towards the bursary fund.

Professor Sahakian is grateful to the companies supporting the conference by hosting satellite symposia and BAP Special Sessions and exhibition stands. It continues to be a difficult time for industry and their support towards the summer meeting is greatly appreciated.

BAP education events are thriving under the leadership of our Director of Education, Hamish McAllister-Williams. They are also a good source of revenue for BAP. We are lucky to have a committed and loyal group of presenters and Professor Sahakian expressed thanks for their hard work on behalf of the BAP.

Council is very grateful to Paula Moran and Hugh Marston and their team for developing the previous modular Preclinical Certificate Course into a residential meeting in Cambridge, which launched very successfully in February. Professor Sahakian attended part of the course and there was a great buzz amongst the attendees. A lot of time and effort was spent in putting together a very relevant programme and, judging from the feedback, they succeeded in doing that.

Peter Haddad, the General Secretary, will report more on education later.

In February this year BAP held a meeting in London covering Anxiety Disorders and Benzodiazepines, in light of the revised BAP guidelines. Thanks are due to David Baldwin, Allan Young and Naomi Fineberg for putting the programme together. It was very successful, over-subscribed (as so many BAP meetings are), and it may be run again at a future date.

This year, being the 40th anniversary of the BAP, Council felt it a good time to reflect on “What are we?” This included the possibility of changing our name and there were many suggestions for change. Members were consulted at every step of the way and the topic took up a lot of Council meeting time. We were delighted to receive so many comments from Members, and the majority view was that the name should not be changed. However, we will undertake some re-branding over the next year to modernise the logo, website, etc.

Professor Sahakian updated those present on the BAP guideline statements:
Updated Anxiety Guidelines were published earlier this year. Thanks were extended to David Baldwin for undertaking that huge task;
Updated ADHD Guidelines were also published earlier this year. Thanks were extended to Blanca Bolea and David Nutt for their work on the project;
Antidepressant Guidelines are out for review and will be published by the end of 2014.
Bipolar Guidelines – Guy Goodwin will lead a group to update these guidelines in 2015
Council has agreed to formulate a statement rather than a guideline on Autistic Spectrum Disorders, which we hope will take place in the next year.

Professor Sahakian went on to announce the winners of the 2014 Prizes and Awards:

The 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Phil Cowen at the gala dinner, and a citation summarizing some of his many achievements may be found in the conference programme.

88 Part 1 Clinical Certificates have been awarded in the past year to those attending 3 or more modules of the Certificate Course.

The winners of the BAP Psychopharmacology Awards, to reward excellence in clinical and non-clinical science, are Michael Bloomfield (London), Oliver Howes (London), Ulrich Ettinger

(Bonn) and Oliver Robinson (London). All winners will make short oral presentations during this conference.

The fourth annual Hannah Steinberg BAP Conference Bursary was awarded to Mark Horowitz (London)

The Cambridge Cognition Prizes, for the development of novel approaches in psychopharmacology have been awarded to Natalia Lawrence (Exeter) and Andrew Jones (Liverpool).

Last year BAP launched a new prize: The BAP Public Communication Prizes, which will be awarded annually to reward excellence in both clinical and non-clinical science communication to the public in the area of psychopharmacology. The 2014 winners are Emma Robinson (Bristol) and Mark Horowitz (London).

Incidentally, Suzi Gage, who won last year's prize, is leading a team of bloggers at this meeting. Professor Sahakian thanked Suzi for her hard work and was also delighted that Ed Sykes, of the Science Media Centre, is attending the meeting this year.

The Robert Kerwin International Conference Bursaries were set up in memory of Rob's support of young scientists. This year they have been awarded to Anneka Tomlinson from Manchester and Abbie Pringle from Oxford.

Decisions on the poster prize and undergraduate award winners will be made during the conference and presentations made at the gala dinner at Girton College.

Professor Sahakian thanked the Governance Panel (Clare Stanford, Thomas Barnes and Richard Green) for their interest and involvement in the BAP activities. Their annual report is available on the website and the Chair, Clare Stanford, will present the key points later at this meeting.

Something close to Professor Sahakian's heart is communicating science to the public. BAP continues its participation at various science festivals, including Cambridge and Cheltenham. Council greatly appreciates the involvement of BAP members in these sessions, which are very important to ensure that the public is informed correctly about psychopharmacology.

Mitul Mehta has been working hard, supported by Sarah Channing-Wright, to commission articles for the public information section of the website. There are now a substantial number of interesting pieces on the page and Professor Sahakian encouraged members to submit their own articles for inclusion.

BAP's increasing engagement with outside bodies in both clinical and non-clinical areas has meant a lot of work for the External Affairs Secretaries, Paula Moran and Oliver Howes. Professor Sahakian thanked them for their assistance in this regard, particularly because they often have a very small window of opportunity to respond to consultations.

BAP Council yesterday agreed to undertake a review of the policy document dealing with our relationship with industry and other bodies, which is on the BAP website. Paul Harrison will take on this task and bring to Council for approval.

Professor Sahakian reported that BAP is involved in the Concordad on Openness in Animal Research and Paula Moran is taking the lead with that. Sarah Bailey is taking a lead in the RPS/BPS Transparency in Drug Discovery.

This year there are a number of changes on the BAP Council and Peter Haddad will detail those in his final Secretary's report.

Professor Sahakian paid tribute to Peter, who leaves Council this year. He has been tremendously busy during his term of Office - as well as helping to develop stronger links with the Royal College by putting together superb BAP symposia for their congresses, he speaks regularly at both the Schizophrenia Certificate meeting and the Masterclasses, he contributes to the Online Resource, he strongly promotes BAP at every opportunity, and has still, somehow, found time to advise on membership and other queries from the BAP Office, helps to review prize applications and supervise Certificate candidates. The amount of work he has undertaken for the Association has been enormous. In fact Susan Chandler can't remember Peter ever saying 'no' to a request from the Office staff, and they have found him a joy to work with over the past few years.

Professor Sahakian was sad that this will be her last address as President of BAP. She had been asked to write an article for the Newsletter about how she has felt during her time as President and this will go into the next Newsletter. This will deal with her perspective on things; however this AGM is a good opportunity for her to thank the other Council members for all the work they have done on behalf of BAP while she has been in post. Professor Sahakian has enjoyed her term enormously, especially at the recent Past-Presidents' dinner where she reflected on all the major, outstanding minds who have headed the Association. She is very proud indeed to have held the position.

Professor Sahakian thanked the BAP staff. Susan Chandler, Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright have all helped her greatly enjoy her time as President.

2. Motions for approval:

2.1 That the ***Minutes*** of the 2013 Annual General Meeting be adopted as a correct record

The motion to adopt the 2013 AGM minutes as a correct record was proposed by Professor Naomi Fineberg, seconded by Dr Mohammed Shoaib and approved by those present

2.2 ***That the Editor's Report be received***

Professor David Nutt reported on the progress of Journal of Psychopharmacology (JOP) over the past year. The online submission process is running smoothly, with an average of 87 days between submission and final decision (and an average of 59 days between submission and first decision). Only the top 40% of submissions are accepted, using a strict peer-reviewing policy involving three or more reviewers after initial screening. Almost all accepted papers are original research reports. Letters and case reports are directed to the affiliated Journal, Therapeutic Advances in Psychopharmacology, edited by Professor David Taylor.

258 submissions in the past year included 37 reviews, perspectives and commentaries, 178 original papers and 28 short reports. Approximately 40% of submissions are from United Kingdom and United States. Submissions from EU has decreased recently, but more papers are being received from other countries such as India, China, Brazil, Taiwan, Korea, Iran and Turkey.

The 5-year rolling impact factor is 3.441 (it has not yet been determined for 2014).

The most highly-cited paper (published in 2012), with 30 citations so far, is “*Minocycline benefits negative symptoms in early schizophrenia: a randomised double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trial in patients on standard treatment*” by Chaudhry IB.; Hallak J; Husain N; et al.

There have been concerns over the past few years as to whether JOP will retain its value to the BAP due to the changing face of publishing, open access etc. However, we are hoping that JOP will sustain, thanks partly to the downloading of articles. There were 226,756 downloads (including 186,992 paid downloads) of JOP articles in 2013 (an increase of 12% from 2012), and 2,594 institutions now have access to JOP through sales to library consortia.

Professor Nutt was also delighted to report that 236,900 reprints of JOP articles were sold during 2013, helping to make a substantial contribution to the BAP finances.

There is a pro-active media strategy in place, with press-releases on interesting papers (such as the recent Ketamine paper from Oxford which generated a lot of publicity).

An Author Satisfaction survey was conducted in 2013, with the following results:

88 authors responded to the Journal Author Survey

50+% respondents had published in the journal before

90+% of the articles were unsolicited

70% of cases, the journal was an author's first choice

Why JOP?

Subject specialty and the internationality of the journal; Impact Factor; Timeliness - from submission to first decision (good-excellent); Value of the peer review comments (good-excellent); Communication from the Editor (excellent); Time to acceptance (good)

Authors overall satisfaction with the editorial office was between 76 and 100%.

JOP tries to maintain a healthy clinical/pre-clinical balance of published content. Back in 2009 only 20% of papers were non-clinical; however in 2012 that figure had risen to almost 50%; however the majority of submissions remain clinical.

A supplement on Asenapine, sponsored by Lundbeck, was published in April 2013.

The following Special Issues were published in 2013:

December 2013: Serotonin in Anxiety and Depression

Claudia Maria Padovan (Editor) - Based on the papers presented during the Symposium to celebrate the 21st anniversary of Deakin and Graeff's theory on the role of serotonin in the neurobiology of anxiety and depression

August 2013: Noradrenaline

David J Nutt; R Hamish McAllister-Williams (Editors) – This was originally proposed as a supplement, sponsored by Eli Lilly.

A Special Issue on Schizophrenia: Translating risk factor to diagnosis and treatment
Judith Pratt (Editor), will be published in January 2014.

The following Themed Issues have been published this year:

Anxiety, Panic and Stress (May 2014) with revised anxiety guidelines from the British Association for Psychopharmacology

Schizophrenia and Antipsychotics (April 2014)
Depression and Antidepressants (February 2014)
ADHD (January 2014) with revised (second) consensus statement from the British Association for Psychopharmacology

The recipient of the 2014 Journal Citation Prize, awarded by Sage, is Angel Montejo (Univ Hospital of Salamanca, Spain): "Better sexual acceptability of agomelatine (25 and 50 mg) compared with paroxetine (20 mg) in healthy male volunteers. An 8-week, placebo-controlled study using the PRSEXDQ-SALSEX scale" by Montejo AL; Prieto N; Terleira A; et al. JOP Volume: 24 (1) Pages: 111-120 Published: JAN 2010. Cited 34 times.

Professor Eugene Paykel congratulated Professor Nutt on his splendid Editorship of the Journal. He asked whether the BAP Council has considered moving the distribution to Members to online access only. Professor Nutt replied that this has been discussed at length by Council and with Sage. A paper copy of the Journal is required for most institutions, who prefer to have their Journals 'on the shelf', which means that, paradoxically, it would cost BAP more to not send the paper copy to Members than it does to send it.

The motion to accept the Editor's Report was proposed by Professor Val Curran, seconded by Dr David Coghill and approved by those present.

2.3 *That the Trustees/Directors Annual Report and audited accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2013 be received*

Professor Catherine Harmer began her last report by thanking BAP members for electing her as Treasurer. She has enjoyed serving the Association and thanked Susan Chandler, Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright for their support and assistance during her term.

The financial climate over the past 5 years has been decidedly rocky; however Professor Harmer believes that BAP has weathered the storm well.

She began by summarising the major sources of income in 2013: the Journal of Psychopharmacology continues to be the source of most income, generating a surplus of £72,800 (2012: £80,635); BAP meetings generated a surplus of £49,376 (2012: £17,872). The Clinical education events continue to produce a healthy surplus; however the 2013 summer meeting resulted in a deficit of £31K. The larger surplus is also the result of no consensus meetings being held during 2013. Consensus meetings are now run at a direct loss because Council does not accept industry funding for the events.

The Online CPD Resource has proved to be a great success for BAP since 2011 and generated a surplus of £49,506 last year (£55,331 income / £5,825 expenditure). However, development costs will soon rise as we invest in developing the Resource for iPad access.

Income from membership subscriptions has remained stable at £57,266.

Major areas of expenditure in 2013 included £11,414 to support Council meetings (3 each year) and expenses for Council members attending other events on behalf of BAP. Professor Harmer reminded those present that Council members do not receive any payment for anything they undertake on behalf of the Association.

The BAP Office in Cambridge cost £139,702, which includes staff, computer systems, insurance, repairs, cleaning, council tax, amenities, telephone/stationery costs.

Bank charges have reduced considerably, totalling £6,505 in 2013 compared to almost £20K in 2012. This is largely due to the Office moving to internet banking and because the BAP investment portfolio has been re-structured to a lower fee vehicle.

In addition to the provision of bursaries towards the summer meeting, BAP supported the following initiatives in 2013: In-vivo training fund: £3,000; Robert Kerwin Bursaries: £1,735; Hannah Steinberg Bursary: £300; Pre-clinical Bursaries: £261; Science festivals in Cambridge and Cheltenham: £10,367.

The total income during 2013 was £627K (£615K in 2012), expenditure was £577K (£609K in 2012), resulting in a surplus of £49K (£6K in 2012).

The net assets of the Association, including the Office building and investments, stands at £1.490million.

The current cash reserves, excluding the value of the Office in Cambridge, total £1,144,257, which is in line with the BAP Council's reserves policy of maintaining 2.5 x annual expenditure in easily-accessible funds in case of financial difficulty. With the current level of expenditure, this means we aim to hold £1.4million in reserve.

In summary, Professor Harmer believes the BAP has had a solid financial year, but it is also true that margins are relatively tight and changes – such as whether a consensus meeting is held – can have a big impact on whether we attain a surplus or deficit.

Finally, Professor Harmer introduced Dr Liz Tunbridge as the new BAP Honorary Treasurer.

Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams thanked Professor Harmer for her excellent work over the past few years. He questioned the net cash reserves which have increased by £94K, whereas the net surplus was £49K. Professor Harmer explained that the 'missing' £50K is the book value held within the investments themselves, which is not considered part of the income stream.

Dr Shoaib queried the price of the BAP Office. Professor Harmer replied that in the accounts it is priced at £346K which was the purchase price, and BAP is able to apply depreciation costs, which is typical for this type of accounting.

Professor Val Curran thanked Professor Harmer on behalf of the BAP members for leaving the BAP finances in such a healthy condition, and congratulated her particularly on the greatly-reduced bank charges.

Professor Sahakian responded that the value of the Office in central Cambridge is increasing all the time which is excellent for the Association, and she echoed congratulations to Professor Harmer. BAP has been very lucky to have her as our Treasurer over the past 5 years.

The motion to accept the Honorary Treasurer's Report was proposed by Dr Anne Jackson, seconded by Professor Charles Marsden and approved by those present.

2.4 *That the Honorary General Secretary's Report be received*

Dr Haddad began by reporting on BAP membership.

Up to, and including, 2009, membership remained steady at around 1050. However, after 2009 came three successive years when membership fell. Council believes this reflected the economic recession. In 2012 membership reached 801, the lowest level for a decade. However even prior to this, Council had adopted a number of initiatives to tackle the issue, including more assertive advertising and promotion of the BAP. It is still early days but the fall was halted and over the past couple of years has increased and currently stands at 831. Dr Haddad emphasised that this is a very respectable figure and makes BAP one of the largest psychopharmacology associations in the world.

The number of new membership applications in the past year has been the highest ever. This may be partly due to the 40th anniversary but this cannot be the full explanation because there has been a three-year trend of increasing applications.

16% of the BAP members are Training Members. This category is vital to attract young members with limited income and Council remains committed to this sector of the membership. However, over several years it became apparent that the criteria were ambiguous and there have been several revisions to make them simpler. The two criteria are: (a) a relatively modest income and (b) registration for a full-time research degree. In exceptional circumstances the Honorary General Secretary can grant Training Membership to those who do not meet those criteria.

At this time, Clinical Members total 514 and Non-clinical Members total 204. There are approximately 40 Industry Members. This balance has remained stable over many years.

Turning to Council matters, Dr Haddad reported that Professor Nicol Ferrier ends his term as past-President, so leaves Council. He has devoted a huge amount of time and effort to BAP during his 6-year Presidential term. It has been a challenging period at times, but Professor Ferrier has steered the BAP well and Council is delighted that he will remain involved in activities such as the Clinical Certificate, the Masterclasses, Online CPD Resource and will take a lead role in the revision of the Bipolar Guidelines alongside Professor Guy Goodwin. Professor Ferrier has been particularly supportive of the BAP Office staff and they had asked Dr Haddad to pass on special thanks to him for that.

Professor Catherine Harmer has served the BAP superbly as Treasurer over the past 5 years. It has been a difficult period in terms of the financial climate – and remains so to some extent – and Professor Harmer has worked hard to keep BAP finances, and particularly our investments, secure.

Dr Paula Moran ends her term as the Secretary for Non-clinical External Affairs this year. However there were no nominations for the post. The Nominations Sub-Committee, recognising the great work Dr Moran has done over the past 3 years, asked her to remain in post for a second term and Dr Haddad is delighted to report that she has agreed.

One elected Council member, Professor Steve Bazire, ends his term. It has been extremely helpful to have one of the country's most experienced pharmacists on Council and Professor Bazire has made very useful contributions to Council meetings.

There are two elected Council posts available each year. Members may remember that last year, due to changes around the Officer positions a 12-month vacancy arose. Professor Jo Neill filled that as a casual vacancy in the lead-up to this anniversary meeting. Dr Haddad was delighted to announce on behalf of Council that Professor Neill has been elected unopposed to the post of President-elect. In addition, Dr Liz Tunbridge has been elected unopposed to the post of Treasurer, and Dr Maxine Patel has been elected unopposed to the post of General Secretary.

An election was held for the two vacant Council seats and Dr Haddad was delighted to receive nominations from 6 very strong candidates. It is a great testament to BAP that so many people in the membership want to work with Council. The turn-out in the election was the best ever in the history of BAP elections, with 55% of those eligible to vote doing so, compared to 23% and 21% in the past two elections. As a result, Professor Carmine Pariante and Professor Ed Bullmore will join Council for a 4-year term.

This still left two vacant Council seats, due to Drs Tunbridge and Patel moving into Officer posts. One of the seats is only vacant for 12 months; the other is vacant for 2 years. After great deliberation Council felt it appropriate to consider another casual vacancy, in this case Dr Ciara McCabe, on the basis of her non-clinical expertise and the fact that she came third in the election.

Dr Haddad went on to report on educational activities. The Clinical Certificate remains extremely popular, with many modules over-subscribed. In fact the Child and Adolescent module, held in March this year, was fully booked almost 12 months ahead. In light of the demand, it is being held again in November and is already almost full.

The Substance Misuse module has been reviewed in light of the recent changes in addiction services and will be re-launched in December this year.

The other Certificate modules are reviewed and revised as necessary. Dr Haddad wanted to thank Professor Shôn Lewis in particular for leading the Schizophrenia module for many years, and thanked Dr Peter Talbot for taking over the management of that module.

The BAP Masterclasses continue to run twice each year and are always over-subscribed.

Dr Haddad thanked all the many presenters who remain so committed and enthusiastic about speaking at the BAP educational events. The Association is indeed fortunate to have such a dedicated team of experts who give up their time to teach for us.

Turning to the Pre-Clinical Certificate, this underwent a major review and was re-launched in February as a 4-day residential course in Cambridge. It proved a great success and Dr Haddad thanked all the speakers and organisers, especially Dr Paula Moran, Professor Hugh Marston, Dr Mitul Mehta and Dr Liz Tunbridge. Thanks were also extended to Lynne Harmer for her superb administration of the event.

The Online CPD Resource has been one of the greatest successes of BAP in the past 5 years. That success is a testament to the presenters, but also to Dr Hamish McAllister-Williams, the BAP Director of Education, and Sarah Channing-Wright and Lynne Harmer in the BAP Office. These three people spend a huge amount of time making sure the Resource is an extremely high-quality, educational product. Dr Haddad was delighted to report that after a lot of collaboration and discussion, two formal arrangements have been made in the past year: one with the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych), whereby subscribers to their online resource

can subscribe to the BAP Resource for a reduced rate; and with the College of Mental Health Pharmacy (CMHP), whereby their members may subscribe at the same rate as BAP Members.

Turning to collaboration with RCPsych, this has improved considerably over the past couple of years. Council has an excellent working relationship with the Psychopharmacology Special Committee, and the Chair (currently Professor Allan Young) sits on the BAP Council as an ex-officio member. BAP continues to work with the Special Committee to submit a number of symposia each year to the RCPsych congress. These sessions are the most successful of the congress, with standing-room only.

Sarah Channing-Wright regularly takes the BAP stand to key RCPsych meetings and this has proved very successful in generating new membership applications and registrations for educational events. Sarah also sends flyers promoting BAP to other groups and organisations. Dr Haddad reported in 2013 that Sarah's post had expanded from part- to full-time and this has proved to be a very positive move, allowing her to update the website more regularly, and take on promotion on social media platforms more often.

Dr Haddad ended his report by thanking all the BAP Council members for their hard work over the past year. On a personal level, it had been an immense pleasure for Dr Haddad to work with such a vibrant and interesting group of people. Finally, Dr Haddad thanked the BAP Office staff for their commitment, enthusiasm and support during his term as General Secretary.

Professor Elemer Szabadi asked why the number of members had dropped so much in 2010. Dr Haddad replied that a number of national societies saw the same event as a result of the recession.

The motion to accept the Honorary General Secretary's Report was proposed by Professor Judith Pratt, seconded by Professor Steve Bazire and approved by those present

2.5 *That the Governance Panel's Report be received*

Dr Clare Stanford, current Chair, summarised the key findings, comprising the Executive Summary of the full 2013-2014 report, which is available on the website.

The Panel has been provided with the relevant documents, including agenda papers, financial accounts and Minutes of the Council Meetings for the session July 2013 – March 2014. In addition, one member of the Panel has attended each Council meeting since November 2013

The Panel members agree that the Terms of reference for the Governance Panel are still appropriate (posted in full on the website) and that their role is to ensure that Council:

- Acts effectively to achieve the Objects of the Association
- Follows due process when making decisions
- Provides members with value-for money for their subscription
- Promotes the professional interests of psychopharmacologists
- Promotes public engagement in the field

The Panel members are satisfied that the BAP Council has fulfilled its obligations in respect of the Objects of the Association. They conclude that the financial status of the Association is currently secure and that the conduct of the BAP conforms to high standards of Governance. They acknowledge that this success depends on an effective and close collaboration between Council and staff at the Secretariat.

The Governance Panel commend:

- The restriction on Council members raising, or supporting, motions at the AGM
- The procedure adopted to canvass members' views on rebranding
- The change in management of the Association's financial reserve
- The extensive and effective educational activities of the Association, which offer a substantial source of income
- The increased stringency of the criteria for Training members
- The success of the Journal of Psychopharmacology and the decision to require three peer reviews before deciding the fate of manuscripts
- The Association's energetic commitment to external liaison and public engagement in science
- The efforts to increase the profile of the Association: e.g., inclusion of the BAP logos on member-speakers' title slides
- The Association's efforts to promote psychopharmacology by way of responses to national consultations and collaboration with other influential bodies
- The professionalism and commitment of the Secretariat
- The decision to recruit a full-time member of staff (Sarah Channing-Wright), who is responsible for media-related activities (particularly education and communication)

The Panel makes the following recommendations, although Council has no obligation to accept them:

- To deflect any possible hostile criticism from outside BAP, Council should carry out a regular, formal review to confirm their confidence in the Association's policies dealing with Declarations of Interest of members of Council and member-speakers, including income from satellite symposia and industrial sponsors. Codes of Practice could be posted on a dedicated section of the BAP website
- Strengthening the criteria for qualification for a bursary
- Exploring whether there are ways of increasing members' participation in elections and nominations for prizes
- To consider carefully the suitability of future locations for the summer meeting to ensure that there will be no constraint on the number of delegates who can attend. Dr Stanford noted that although the current conference is a wonderful occasion, many people are disappointed that they are unable to attend the gala dinner due to the available space. The Panel urges Council not to make decisions that constrain member support for the summer meeting.

Finally, Dr Stanford reminded those present that the full Governance Panel report is available on the BAP website.

Professor Munafo invited questions from the floor. Professor Sahakian stated that being restricted for a gala dinner is one thing, but there has been a huge number of registrations for the current meeting and fewer registrations for larger venues like Harrogate. There are also 250 posters exhibited at this conference. She believes there is full participation in the conference even though not everyone can attend the gala dinner.

The motion to accept the Governance Panel's Report was proposed by Professor Val Curran, seconded by Dr Jared Young and approved by those present.

3. Discussion

Professor Munafo welcomed discussion from those present.

Professor David Baldwin has noticed that even though ECNP exists, there are a number of countries within Europe that do not have their own psychopharmacology association. BAP has always been fortunate in attracting a cohort from The Netherlands and he wonders whether the BAP summer meeting could be more directly advertised to our continental European colleagues, to encourage more to attend. Professor Munafo agreed and with the meeting moving to various locations in future years, accessibility and transport links will be considered.

4. Professor Barbara Sahakian passed the **BAP Presidential Medal** to Professor Paul Harrison, who begins his term as BAP President from this meeting.

Professor Munafo thanked Members for making the effort to attend and contribute to the 2014 Annual General Meeting. He thanked his fellow Council members and encouraged all those present to attend the satellite symposia taking place at Robinson College.