
Executive Officer

Mrs Susan Chandler
01223 358 428
susan@bap.org.uk

Assistant to the Executive Officer

Mrs Lynne Harmer
01223 358 421
lynne@bap.org.uk

Online Resources and Communications Developer

Miss Sarah Channing-Wright
01223 358 396
sarah@bap.org.uk

BAP ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Monday 24 July 2017

**Hall D, Harrogate Convention Centre, King's Road, Harrogate HG1 5LA
Chaired by Professor Mitul Mehta, Meetings Secretary**

Professor Mitul Mehta welcomed BAP Members to the 2017 Annual General Meeting. He encouraged those present to ask questions and reminded them to sign the attendance register. He also reminded attendees that motions for approval cannot be proposed or seconded by current members of Council.

1. Presidential Address

Professor Jo Neill thanked Members for supporting the BAP and Council by attending the AGM. She began with a review of activities held over the past year.

The 2017 Summer Meeting held in Brighton was considered a great conference by attendees, even more so thanks to the hot and sunny weather enjoyed while we were there. The symposia and posters were well attended and the social occasions were enormous fun as usual.

On a downward note, the meeting suffered a significant financial loss. BAP is not the only Society to have had this occur over the past year or so, and is most likely due to the reduction in industry involvement in the event and also holding it in a big convention centre. Council is very aware of this ongoing situation, including the fact that BAP is rather generous in its provision to our speakers and younger attendees. Some changes will be made for future meetings. Professor Tunbridge, BAP's Honorary Treasurer, will provide more details of the financial loss from Brighton in her Report. Professor Neill thanked her for all her hard work and careful overseeing of the BAP finances.

Sadly Harrogate is not quite as sunny as Brighton, but the current meeting has another great programme. Over 300 people are at the event, and over 160 posters are being presented. Professor Neill thanked all the speakers and the session organisers for their contributions - lots of people have travelled a long way to be at the meeting, which is a real commitment to BAP. Professor Neill thanked Professor Sir Robin Murray for his very thought-provoking Guest Lecture.

This year, we have launched BAP's latest venture, the Applied Clinical Science Stream – aimed at clinicians who have an interest in the cutting-edge science related to their prescribing. This was the brainchild of the BAP Director of Education, Professor Hamish McAllister-Williams, and thanks are due to him and to everyone who has taken part in the new initiative. The ACSS will be held again at the 2018 meeting at Imperial College. A very exciting programme for that meeting has been finalised by Council and will be communicated to Members at the earliest opportunity.

The 2019 Summer Meeting will be held in Manchester for the first time and Professor Neill encouraged Members to submit symposia proposals for consideration.

Professor Neill was delighted to announce the winners of the annual BAP Prizes. The winners will receive their awards at the Gala dinner on Tuesday evening.

The Lifetime Achievement Award will be presented to Bill Deakin from Manchester. A citation summarising some of his many, many achievements is on the website and was featured in the June Newsletter.

The BAP Psychopharmacology Awards reward excellence in nonclinical and clinical psychopharmacology. This year they will be awarded to Annamaria Cattaneo, Tony Vernon and James Stone. They will all make short oral presentations during the current meeting.

The Robert Kerwin International Conference Bursaries are awarded to Laith Alexander and Vincent Valton to enable them to attend international conferences. They will provide Newsletter reports for BAP in due course.

The Hannah Steinburg Bursary Award goes to Joanna Oladipo from Manchester, on the basis of the abstract she submitted for the current Meeting.

The Public Communications Prizes, to reward excellence in science communication to the public, will be awarded to Anna McLaughlin and Stephen Lawrie and examples of their contributions are on the BAP website.

Professor Neill strongly encouraged all BAP members to apply for the Prizes and Awards.

Poster Prizes and Undergraduate Awards will also be presented at the Gala Dinner.

Dr Paula Moran and the BAP Council revised the criteria for the In Vivo Awards in 2016, giving more significant financial support (£5,000) to those undergoing research to enable a more meaningful researcher-focused award, to provide robust and intensive training in *in vivo* techniques. In November, we were delighted to make awards to Marie-Christine Pardon from Nottingham and Nisha Singh from London.

Professor Neill thanked everyone who worked so hard at reviewing the applications for the prizes and awards, especially the Poster reviewers, who are under a lot of time pressure at the Summer Meeting.

Turning to other activities over the past year, a number of events are within the education portfolio, to which BAP is absolutely committed. Professor Neill thanked the BAP Director of Education, Professor Hamish McAllister-Williams, for all his efforts and enthusiasm on behalf of BAP.

The Clinical Certificate course is now in its 21st year and remains incredibly successful and almost always over-subscribed. In the last twelve months, over 60 people have achieved the Part 1 Certificate (attendance at three modules) and four have gone on to produce written work, achieving Part 2. They are Yuen Cheng Looi (supervised by Peter Haddad), Aneeba Anwar (supervised by Phil Cowen), Hesham Elnazer (supervised by David Baldwin) and Martha Finnegan (supervised by Nicol Ferrier).

The latest (4th) edition of the BAP Fundamentals book, edited by Hamish McAllister-Williams and Ian Anderson, continues to be extremely popular and in September it beat over 650 other titles to be awarded the British Medical Association Medical Book Award of the Year in the psychiatry section, which is a fantastic achievement.

The Residential Preclinical Certificate course will take place again in March in Cambridge. It was very well received the last time it ran in 2016 and putting it together is a huge commitment. Professor Neill extended a huge thank you to the team that does this, especially Paula Moran, who is brilliantly supported by Lynne Harmer in the BAP Office.

Professor David Nutt will report in some detail on the Journal of Psychopharmacology in his Editor's Report. Professor Neill thanked him for all his very hard work on behalf of the Journal over the past year. Following on from his BAP Lifetime Achievement Award last year, in December David was awarded the degree of Doctor of Laws *honoris causa* by the University of Bath, and that was featured in our March Newsletter. David was, of course, nominated for his psychopharmacology research, but also to recognise his commitment to using scientific evidence to direct policy decisions and his enthusiasm for communicating science to the public.

Professor David Taylor continues as Editor of our linked journal, Therapeutic Advances in Psychopharmacology, so a big thank you to him for all his hard work and efforts.

BAP interacts with a number of other learned societies, including NICE and the Royal Society of Biology and Professor Neill thanked the BAP Secretaries for External Affairs, Paula Moran and Jeremy Hall, for helping to coordinate these interactions.

BAP Members contributed to the consultation document from the QAA, which proposed the change in the benchmarking in the definition of psychology. We are also very pleased that in December BAP produced a statement on anti-depressants and suicide for a Health Select Committee Enquiry into suicide prevention. BAP's Carmine Pariente attended and provided expert input to this Committee, which was all reported on the website.

Our work with other societies and organisations continues apace and Members will remember the discussion at the 2016 AGM about expanding these interactions. Professor Neill thanked the team who put together the BAP sessions at the Cheltenham Science Festival in June. BAP hosted sessions entitled “Big Data and Mental Health” and “Drugs and the Brain”, which included Lionel Shriver, author of the book, ‘We need to talk about Kevin’. Both BAP events were extremely well-attended and write-ups are on the website. While these events do cost the BAP money, Council agrees that is one of the best ways of getting unbiased information out to the general public and it is a very important part of our commitment to education. BAP also held a session at the British Neuroscience Association meeting in Birmingham in April based on the Neuroinflammation Symposium (Members may remember a similar session during the Brighton Summer Meeting). That was an extremely well attended and successful event. Last month we took a very similar session to Hiroshima, for the International Behavioural Neuroscience meeting. That was also a very well attended and lively session and IBNS were very pleased to have BAP at their event.

BAP continues to have collaborative relationships with a number of other societies to advertise our events. With David Baldwin as the new Chair of the Royal College of Psychiatrists’ Psychopharmacology Committee, Professor Neill was sure that our links with the Royal College will become more beneficial to the BAP than ever.

We have presented signed copies of our History of the BAP book to Presidents of other societies including IBNS, BNA, EPA – and Professor Neill will take copies to the forthcoming ECNP and ACNP meetings.

Professor Neill thanked Sarah Channing-Wright for her commitment, dedication and continued hard work on expanding the BAP website. We are including more articles for the public and lots of items are being provided by BAP Members. Professor Neill encouraged everyone to submit items and thanked Ciara McCabe and Sarah for all their efforts to keep these sections so up-to-date and vibrant. Particular thanks were given to Peter Haddad for his important and continuing support in this area.

A group of Council Officers attended a meeting at the Privy Council in November to discuss BAP’s application for a Royal Charter. Our initial discussions were well received. That will be moving forward and Members will be kept up-to-date with progress via the Newsletter. Dr Maxine Patel will report on activities of the Membership Taskforce over the last twelve months and Professor Neill thanked the Council members who have given up so much time and effort to address these challenges.

The BAP Consensus Guidelines Portfolio continues to go from strength to strength and has been expanded over the past twelve months. The updated Dementia Guidelines were published in January and it has already been downloaded over 2300 times. Grateful thanks were extended to all those, particularly John O’Brien, who took part in the updated Guidelines and the hugely successful launch meeting.

A meeting was held in October to discuss the assessment, treatment and research for Autism Spectrum Disorder. This was led by Oliver Howes and will be published later this year.

The BAP Consensus Guidance on the use of Psychotropic Medication Pre-conception, in Pregnancy and Post-partum was published in April and has been downloaded over 950 times so far. Thanks are again due to Hamish McAllister-Williams for co-ordinating this huge project. The importance of getting this document just right cannot be underestimated. BAP will be holding a meeting in October to introduce the Guidelines and thanks are extended to everyone involved in producing those Guidelines.

In May, Professor Thomas Barnes led a meeting to update the BAP Schizophrenia Guidelines and Professor Neill thanked Thomas and the Consensus Group for all their hard work on the project.

Last month, on possibly the hottest day of the year, we held our first Joint Consensus Meeting. BAP has joined with NAPICU (National Association of Psychiatric Intensive Care in Low Secure Units) to produce Evidence-based Guidelines for the Clinical Management of Acute Disturbance, De-escalation and Rapid Tranquilisation. This was led by Maxine Patel for BAP and Dr Faisal Sethi for NAPICU and the document will be published in both groups’ Journals in 2018. This is the first time BAP has embarked on joint guidelines.

BAP has produced a position statement covering Off-label Prescribing of Psychotropic Medication to Children and Adolescents. It has been on the website since November and has been downloaded over 600 times so far. Thanks are due to Professor Chris Hollis and his colleagues for producing that important document.

In October this year, Dr Sue Wilson will lead a group to update the BAP Insomnia Guidelines and we are very grateful she has taken on this task.

Professor Neill reconfirmed to Members that Council policy is that pharmaceutical companies do not financially support or send attendees to these guideline meetings. All the costs are covered entirely by BAP.

BAP Council has had a number of discussions over the past year about the importance of transparency and Professor Neill thanked the BAP office staff for their diligence in encouraging individuals who take part in our meetings to complete the Conflict of Interest form on the website. The CoI details can now be seen clearly on the website meeting programmes. Professor Neill thanked the Governance Panel for all their interest and involvement in BAP activities over the year and it has been an pleasure having one of them to attend each of the Council Meetings. On the basis of one of their suggestions, BAP Council will be producing a risk register in the future.

Maxine Patel will update the AGM on various changes to the Officers and Council but Professor Neill took the opportunity to thank those who are leaving Council this year, particularly Paula Moran, who has undertaken not one but two terms as our Secretary for Non-Clinical External Affairs. Paula has worked tirelessly for the Preclinical Certificate among many other things. BAP is very lucky that she is going to continue her role in the Preclinical Certificate with Lynne Harmer. Thanks are also due to Maxine Patel herself, who has proved to be an extremely diligent General Secretary, keeping Council on their toes when it comes to the rules and regulations of the Association.

Professor Neill thanked the Past President, Paul Harrison, the President-Elect, Allan Young, and all of Council for their support over the past year. It has made her job so much easier. Finally, her very special thanks go to Susan Chandler, Lynne Harmer and Sarah Channing-Wright for all their tireless commitment and hard work for BAP over the past year.

2. Motions for approval:

2.1 That the *Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting* be adopted as a correct record.

The motion was proposed by Professor Brian Leonard, seconded by Professor David Nutt and unanimously approved by those present.

2.2 *That the Editor's Report be received*

Professor Nutt reported on an interesting and successful year for Journal of Psychopharmacology. Progress has been made by allocating 2-3 reviewers to each article, with decision time around 50 days and publication down to 28 days once a decision is made. 50% of articles are accepted for publication. The excellent news is that the Impact Factor (IF) has increased to 4.1, purely on the quality of published articles. Another impressive number is 5,500, which is the number of citations to JoP articles over the past year and illustrates the impact of the Journal. The Immediacy Index shows that at least every paper receives a citation within the same year it is published.

For the first time ever, JoP is in the top quartile of all the four areas where it is compared: psychiatry, clinical neurology, neuroscience and pharmacology and pharmacy, which is a great achievement.

Sage has collated the top 20 journals that people who publish in JoP cite and, not surprisingly, they cite the Journal of Psychopharmacology, Psychopharmacology, Neuro-psychopharmacology, Biological Psychiatry etc. However a new metric shows which journals cite JoP papers and the Journal which cites us the most is Plos One. This shows that the JoP reaches a number of areas in addition to those where we might first imagine psychopharmacologists reading and writing.

One of the reasons for the increase in the JoP IF is the citation of our reviews. For instance, over years 2014-2015 original articles were cited on average 3.81 times, whereas reviews were cited 5.85 times. The BAP Consensus Guidelines also have a powerful influence on citations, quite often because they fill a previously unmet need.

Special Issues encourage readers to read more than one article in an issue, giving more opportunities for citations; for instance citations for individual articles in the Schizophrenia Special Issue reached 7.5.

Psychedelic research is something that people are interested in because there has been so little of it over the years and JoP has published some of the top recent papers.

JoP receives submissions from all over the world, with those from UK slightly more than USA.

One reason for the good financial health of the Journal is that while traditional reprints are no longer purchased, paid downloads are increasing every year. One of the most impressive statistics is that JoP received 171K online visits during the first 6 months of 2017. There were 10K downloads of two JoP papers during 2016.

One metric being used more each year is Altmetric, which provides article level metrics that show discussion and sharing of research via major social media sites, newspapers, government policy documents and other sources.

The paper from Stephen Ross, Anthony Bossis et al “Rapid and sustained symptom reduction following psilocybin treatment for anxiety and depression in patients with life-threatening cancer: a randomized controlled trial” (Vol. 30, No. 12, December 2016) is in the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric during 2016. Professor Nutt is pleased that Sage puts a lot of time and effort into social media and this work is clearly bearing fruit.

BAP Guidelines make a significant contribution to JoP and Professor Nutt thanked all those who work on producing and updating those articles.

An interesting special issue is currently in process. Edited by Colin Dourish and Peter Clifton, the issue relates to eating disorders and obesity and Professor Nutt has no doubt that it will be extremely well-read and well-cited.

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of JoP, some original papers were published with commentaries from today's researchers. Professor Nutt found it an entertaining and interesting exercise and hoped it was enjoyed by Members as a celebration of JoP's achievements.

Special themed issues have been published regularly and the next two will be “Psychedelics, Psychostimulants and Psychoactive Substances” and “Depression”.

Professor Nutt drew attention to a free app for iphones and androids called the “Neuroscience-based Nomenclature”. This has been developed and led by ECNP, ACNP, CINP, AsCNP and IUPHARM. It is an attempt to rationalise and harmonise terminologies in the field, to get away from historic anomalies, such as tricyclics and NASAS (and even anti-psychotics and anti-depressants) and try to put pharmacology as the key element in describing drugs. Many journals, including JoP, have signed up to being NbN compatible. There is a glossary for authors and around 40% of all JoP authors are either sending in papers that are NbN compliant, or changing them to make them so. This is a truly remarkable resource, an encyclopaedia of psychopharmacologies, freely available. It currently contains 130 drugs and Professor Nutt thanked two key people involved in its development: Professor Guy Goodwin and Dr Sue Wilson.

The Journal Citation Prize goes each year to the paper that had the most citations and Professor Nutt was pleased to announce that this year was awarded to Paul D Morrison (Corresponding Author) for the paper “Cannabidiol inhibits THC-elicited paranoid symptoms and hippocampal-dependent memory impairment” (Englund A, Morrison PD, et al), JoP Volume: 27 (1) Pages: 19-27 Published: January 2013.

The motion was proposed by Professor Naomi Fineberg, seconded by Dr Sue Wilson, and unanimously approved by those present.

2.3 *That the Trustees/Directors Annual Report and audited accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 2016 be received and adopted*

Professor Tunbridge explained that she would start by reporting on the 2016 accounts in general (https://www.bap.org.uk/pdfs/2016_Accounts.pdf) and will then discuss the Summer Meeting, highlighting the things Council has done so far to address the issue of the deficit, and what is planned over the next few months.

In terms of our major sources of income, the Journal of Psychopharmacology continues to be a great source of income for us and Professor Tunbridge is relieved that, despite the decline in reprints, the income is holding up well.

In the past, Meetings have always been included in the sources of income for the BAP. This was not the case in 2016, due entirely to a deficit of £110K incurred as a result of holding the Summer Meeting in Brighton. Almost all of the other Meetings throughout the past year, with the exception of the Consensus Guidelines Meeting, which always incur a deficit because we don't accept sponsorship for those, continued to operate at a surplus. Without wishing to be pessimistic, Professor Tunbridge believes that this situation will continue. The main driver of this is the reduction in income from Satellite Symposia and Professor Tunbridge gave credit to Susan Chandler and her team that we have managed to sustain income from this source for as long as we have. We must accept now that the world has changed and we are not going to be getting Satellites in the numbers that we have in the past. Clearly, because of the scale of the 2016 deficit, it is something Council needs to address now and by using a number of means.

In direct response to the situation, Professor Tunbridge put a motion to Council, discussed at the Council meeting during this conference, to start to tackle some of the costs associated with the Summer Meeting. Speaker invitations for the 2018 will be sent out very soon, so a decision on speaker expenses had to be made immediately. As a result of Council discussions, we have decided to bring our support for speakers more in line with what is offered by other societies. In future, instead of funding speaker accommodation for the entire duration of the

Meeting, we will be limiting it to one night, either before or on the day that the speaker presents. Travel expenses will also be capped. Speakers will continue to be given free registration for the entire Meeting so we hope that they will stay for the whole event, but they will in future have to fund the additional nights' accommodation from their own expenses.

In addition, Council discussed at some length whether we should continue to fund our speakers' attendance at the Conference Dinner. It was very strongly felt that this is something we should continue to do as it is an important way of thanking our speakers.

One thing Council has decided to do to defray that cost is that the Council Meeting (which starts at 09:00 on the Sunday of the Summer Meeting) has always been preceded by a dinner for Council the night before. That will no longer be the case. Hopefully, this should also have some additional savings, in that since we are no longer asking Council to come the night before the Meeting, for example, next year when it's in London, a number of the Council Members probably won't require accommodation on the Saturday night because they will just come in for the Council Meeting on Sunday morning. Of course going forward this will depend on the location of the Meeting.

Those are the decisions made so far by Council at the Meeting. In addition, we have put together a Working Group, who will report proposals to the November Council Meeting, focussed on other ways in which we might further reduce our costs associated with the Summer Meeting. These will be as wide-ranging as possible and Professor Tunbridge welcomed any suggestions as to how we may do this. The current meeting will also incur a substantial deficit and it is unlikely that BAP will hold future events at dedicated conference centres, instead returning to University venues.

Another source of income for BAP is the Online CPD Resource, co-ordinated by Hamish McAllister-Williams, and Professor Tunbridge thanked him for his continued efforts in this regard. In the last few years we incurred expenses associated with making the CPD compliant with HTML5 and available via apps, as well as developing the content. There has been a reduction in the surplus, which is largely related to an increase in the costs of development, but this is important work in order for the CPD to be sustainable for the future.

BAP membership income remains stable.

In terms of the expenditure during 2016, Professor Tunbridge reminded Members that the expenditure associated for Council Meetings fluctuates depending on who is on Council and where they are coming from, but these expenses have remained relatively stable and she reminded Members that Council members don't receive any payment for the work that they do on behalf of the BAP.

As we know, BAP office staff members are critical to the smooth-running of the Association, so this is not an expense that we can or should be tampering with in any way. Professor Tunbridge reiterated her thanks to Susan, Lynne and Sarah, particularly for the last couple of months, helping Council to work out how we might immediately save money associated with the Summer Meeting while preparing for their biggest event of the year.

Educational activities are a vital, key part of the BAP remit and provide another income stream for the Association.

Professor Tunbridge was pleased that, while fewer are awarded, the In Vivo Training Awards are now more substantial. She was extremely impressed by the standard of the recent applications and it is important that BAP is funding people to train in cutting-edge *in vivo* techniques.

In addition, Professor Tunbridge agrees that science festivals are a key way of getting the BAP message out to the general public. BAP sessions are always very well-attended and generate a huge number of audience questions for the presenters.

Bringing her report to a close, Professor Tunbridge reminded Members that 2016 is the first time in a long time that there has been a deficit in the annual accounts. As explained, this is primarily due to the Summer Meeting and Professor Tunbridge believes that Council is dealing with this situation as best it can.

The BAP investments have held up very well indeed, given the current uncertainty of the financial climate.

Finally, Professor Tunbridge reminded Members that Council has been working to build up financial reserves to 2.5 times our annual expenditure. Although the expenditure fluctuates, the reserves figure is around £1.5million, which has almost been reached. Professor Tunbridge believes that, while a deficit in the general accounts occurred in 2016, overall the BAP remains in a healthy financial state. She took questions from the audience.

In response to a request for more details about the loss incurred by the Brighton meeting, Professor Tunbridge explained that attendance at summer meetings has been dropping for a number of years. It increased in 2014 (for

the 40th anniversary meeting in Cambridge) and, having used Harrogate as the venue for the previous few years, Council tried to ascertain whether the drop in numbers was due to Harrogate-fatigue. Council decided upon Bristol for 2015 (a University venue, a financial surplus was achieved but attendance was not high) and Brighton for 2016, in the hope that being closer to London, it would generate a higher attendance. However, despite the easier access and usual high quality programme, it did not result in a substantial increase in attendees. This, coupled with the much higher costs involved in holding an event at a purpose-built conference venue, and the drop in sponsorship, resulted in the deficit of £106K. A deficit of around £75K is forecast for the current meeting.

In response to a question about the investment portfolio in relation to Brexit, Professor Tunbridge reminded Members that the investments underwent a thorough review by the previous BAP Treasurer. At that time the investments were being managed by a fund manager, at a high cost to BAP. They were restructured to track the markets and shift accordingly when necessary. This has resulted in a substantial reduction in the bank charges. Council is mindful of Brexit but until more details are provided it is difficult to put plans in place.

Professor Tunbridge confirmed that the royalties from Journal of Psychopharmacology are paid in £sterling. When the contract for the Journal was re-negotiated Sage guaranteed a royalty income of £100K p.a. for BAP for a period of at least two years and Sage will have to give a years' notice if that level of income will not continue.

In response to a question about holding the annual Summer Meeting in a hotel, Professor Tunbridge replied that the BAP Council spends a lot of time considering and discussing alternative venues, and investigating new venues is also extremely costly in terms of the Office staff's time. This is one of the reasons why the current meeting is back in Harrogate, having held the last 3 meetings in two brand new venues (Bristol and Brighton) and Cambridge, which has not been used for a great number of years.

The Summer Meetings now attract around 300-350 attendees, which is a little big for a hotel because we require not only a plenary room but also 3-4 other lecture theatres plus other breakout rooms, and a large area for posters and catering. Council has decided that University venues will be used for the foreseeable future, with Imperial College in 2018 and Manchester University in 2018.

The motion was proposed by Professor Charles Marsden, seconded by Professor Brian Leonard, and unanimously approved by those present.

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

Dr Maxine Patel began by reporting on the changes to BAP Council.

Both she (General Secretary) and Dr Paula Moran (Secretary for Non-Clinical External Affairs) are departing from Council at the end of this AGM. Dr James Stone is also leaving as an elected Ordinary Member of Council. Drs Sarah Bailey and Peter Talbot are changing their roles from being Ordinary Members: Sarah will become the new Secretary for Nonclinical External Affairs and Peter will become the new Honorary General Secretary.

There were only two nominations for the two vacant Ordinary Council Member places this year, compared to eight nominations in 2016. As a result, both Dr Michael Browning and Dr Tom Freeman were elected, unopposed, to Council.

All these terms are for four years. Council posts falling vacant in 2018 will be President Elect and two ordinary Members of Council.

Turning to BAP membership, unfortunately Dr Patel had to report another year of successive decline in the total number of Members. In 2016 she reported a total of 766 and it now stands at 711, a net loss of -55. The number of new Members is on an upward trend, which is good news and close to the highest ever number of new applications (in 2014) of 166. This is the result of a concerted effort, not just by Council but also various Members to encourage people to join BAP.

The number of Members not renewing or otherwise lost to our Membership list is 202 this year, which has increased from last year. This is why, despite attracting new Members, we have a net loss overall. Early Career Members are stable (the newest category). Training Membership is also stable. Retired Members, already a small category, had a net loss of -8 over the past year. The net loss of non-clinical Full Members is -5, industry net loss of Full Members is -8, but the largest loss is of clinical Full Members, -37.

We now ask new Members how did they find out about BAP and over the past year 40% of new Members reported that it was another BAP Member who encouraged them to join.

The membership split remains stable with two-thirds being Full Members. 10% of Members are in the new Early Career category. Training Members account for 11% and Honorary and Retired Members combined is 12%.

Dr Patel reported that the scientific split has remained stable for several years at two-thirds clinical, one-third non-clinical. Counting the losses versus new Members joining, in both of those it was roughly two-thirds clinical, one-third non-clinical, so it is a stable split that Dr Patel expects to continue.

Following the 2016 AGM, when Dr Patel began to report with some concern that membership numbers were dropping, Council took suggestions from the membership, both at the AGM and in emails that followed in subsequent weeks. We formed a Membership Taskforce, a subset of Council and this was led and chaired by Professor Neill. We had two key aims: to improve retention of existing Members and to increase numbers of new Members. Initial energy was put into things that could be achieved quickly, to start to reverse the trajectories. Professor Neill has already mentioned the Applied Clinical Science Stream, the idea being to attract more psychopharmacologically-interested clinicians to the Summer Meeting. Dr Patel thought the sessions in the current meeting have been excellent and she encouraged all those who thought the same to go away and tell their colleagues to attend next year. Another initiative that we could bring fairly quickly to fruition was the Buddy Scheme, with a senior Member of BAP helping with Training Members, in terms of what they get out of the Summer Meeting. This is something that other Societies do and we hope that it will be beneficial for BAP Members. Council does want to further enhance interaction with trainees and Professor Jeremy Hall will be discussing this further at the Trainees' Workshop at this meeting.

Council has also decided that we will in future hold a launch meeting for new and updated Guideline documents whenever possible. These one-day launch meetings have proved to be very popular so far, attracting 100+ attendees and bringing in a net financial surplus. Recent topics have included Anxiety Disorders, Metabolic Guidelines for Antipsychotics, and Dementia.

Council has also been talking about further developing the educational portfolio, perhaps to re-introduce a Fundamentals Course that sits at a more basic level to the masterclasses.

Dr Patel reported that Council has already delivered on the Early Career membership tier, which was first reported at the 2016 AGM. It has been running officially since March 2017 and there are already 74 Members in this category. Reviewing the whole membership list took a huge amount of work, and Dr Patel expressed her thanks to Mrs Lynne Harmer for all her assistance with that review. Dr Patel reminded the AGM that the Early Career tier is to support early career scientists with a limited income, such as post-docs but also clinicians in training, including psychologists and medics and also those on junior fellowships, who may already have a PhD. It also supports those below the level of Lecturer in University posts, such as research assistants or associates. Members can be in this category for a maximum of six years or whichever comes earliest, whether you achieve lecturer status, complete your clinical training or the six years itself. Fees are pegged as 50% of Full membership fees, be that for membership or for attending the Summer Meeting.

The real problem that Council is still facing is how to retain existing Members and Dr Patel has calculated that the proportion lost, year on year, in the last few years has been rising. In the past year, we lost 25% of our total membership and that is a cause for concern. Dr Patel encouraged Members to contact the BAP Office or the new General Secretary, Dr Talbot, with any ideas they may have.

Moving onto other activities under her remit, Dr Patel reported that the educational portfolio remains very successful and is led by our Director of Education, Professor Hamish McAllister-Williams. The Masterclasses remain fully booked, Clinical Certificate modules are also incredibly popular and in fact the Child and Adolescent Module is so popular it has to be held twice a year. Dr Patel thanked all the organisers and speakers for their work and enthusiasm on behalf of BAP.

The Online CPD Resource continues and is under review for further development and progress. The Residential Preclinical Course will be held in Cambridge in March 2018.

Dr Patel thanked Professor McAllister-Williams for the role he has taken in continually delivering such a successful part of the BAP activities.

BAP continues to collaborate with the Royal College of Psychiatrists and this is mainly through the Chair of the Psychopharmacology Committee. That role has now passed from Professor Allan Young to Professor David Baldwin, whom we welcome back as a non-voting attendee of Council. The Psychopharmacology Committee also supports two Poster Prizes at the annual Summer Meeting.

Professor Neill has previously mentioned the Royal Charter and we had a very productive meeting with the Clerk of the Privy Council in London in November. The next step will be to submit a letter of intent on behalf of BAP. As Dr

Patel mentioned in her report last year, the Charter would have a key benefit of external validation of our Association, in that we are maintaining the quality of a Chartered Association. This does not affect our charitable status, which will continue.

In terms of promotional activities, Miss Sarah Channing-Wright continues to take the BAP stand to other Meetings, including the Royal College Congress, to promote the BAP. Sarah also keeps the website working well and deals with our social media outlets.

Finally, Dr Patel particularly thanked Lynne and Sarah and, by no means least, Susan, for their humour, patience and support given to her throughout her three years as General Secretary.

The motion was proposed by Professor Thomas Barnes, seconded by Professor Nicol Ferrier, and unanimously approved by those present.

2.4.1 Motion for changes to the Memorandum and Objects

Dr Patel explained that the motion, which she proposes, Professor Jo Neill seconds, and has been endorsed by Council, deals with the clauses that need changing in the Memorandum and Objects, following the creation of the Early Career tier of membership. Members have been previously notified of the motion, which is as follows:

That the words “a class of Early Career Member” be inserted in clause 3(1) and the words “Early Career,” be inserted in clause 9(2) and also in clause 16(1), and the words “Full and Honorary” be deleted from clause 26.

The motion was unanimously approved by those present.

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

Professor Richard Green, Chairman of the Governance Panel, briefly summarized the 2016-2017 Panel Report (www.bap.org.uk/pdfs/BAP_Governance_Panel_Report_2016-2017.pdf). He reported that Professor Clare Stanford has now retired and been replaced by Professor Eileen Joyce for a 3-year term. Professor Thomas Barnes has also retired, to be replaced by Professor Philip Cowen.

The role of the Governance Panel is detailed on the BAP website but the primary role is to ensure that Council decisions are made with due process and according to the Rules and Regulations of the BAP. To that end, the Panel members receive all the appropriate documentation from the Council Meetings and a member of the Panel has also attended each of the three Council Meetings, as an observer.

The Panel agree that all the Meetings were very well chaired and conducted, all Council members get the chance to give input and decisions are made appropriately. In particular, the Panel looked at decisions regarding prizes, awards and bursaries and felt that all decisions were made with total probity. The remit of the Panel is not to question decisions made by the Council, providing they meet the Rules and Regulations. Professor Green made a few, general comments.

The Panel feels that Council is right to try and increase the low percentage of Members voting in elections. It would be nice to see greater democracy from the Members in making the decisions.

The Panel is pleased that a risk register will be established. This will not only help Council members to stay focussed on some problems that might occur, but will be useful to new Councillors and Officers, to make them think about potential problems.

The Panel agrees there is a problem in declining membership and this is clearly being addressed with ways to make membership more attractive. The Panel believes the decision to move Summer Meetings to academic centres, rather than commercial sites, to protect the BAP finances, is a very sensible one. Educational initiatives are a vital part of the BAP and congratulations are due to everyone who is involved in those activities. Similarly, the Journal activities and books like the Fundamentals of Clinical Psychopharmacology are a credit to the authors, Officers and to the BAP in general.

The Panel is mildly concerned at the difficulty of attracting preclinical Members, but this imbalance between the preclinical and clinical membership has been a cause for concern in the BAP for over 40 years now, as any of you that have read the excellent history book on the BAP will have noticed. Members should remember BAP remains the only Association where preclinical and clinical psycho-pharmacologists can meet and interact so well, so any concern is very mild.

There is also a slight concern about BAP finances but Professor Green believes that most societies in the UK would be happy to be in the sort of position BAP is in, especially with the money held in reserves and how well it is being handled.

Professor Green concluded that the BAP is run in accordance with its Rules and Regulations. He thinks the work done by Council members is quite excellent, as is the extremely hard work of all the Cambridge office staff. It has been a pleasure at Council Meetings to see the positive interaction between the Cambridge office and the Officers of the BAP.

The motion was proposed by Professor Hugh Marston, seconded by Professor Bill Deakin, and unanimously approved by those present.

3. General Discussion

Professor Gavin Reynolds commented on the lack of pharmaceutical industry attendance at the current meeting. He is of the opinion that the interactions between BAP and industry are extremely important, relating to the drugs being investigated and used by many BAP members. He asked for reassurance that BAP Council is being proactive in their interactions with industry and trying to find novel ways to bring them on board. For instance, in the past there have been special sessions at the summer meeting, organised by Council but supported by industry, which helped bring in some income.

Professor Neill agreed with Professor Reynolds. She reminded Members that Council does have an industry co-optee, which results in regular interaction. Lots of Council members have industry connections and do what they can, however it is inevitable that as industry moves out of psychiatry that there will be a reduction in interaction and support.

In response to a question about overall meetings income being quite stable in 2016 despite the reduction in industry support for the summer meeting, Professor Tunbridge explained that income also comes from various smaller sources, including Masterclasses, Certificate Modules and the Guideline Launch meetings. While these amounts don't bring in individual amounts as high as industry income, they all help to keep the income relatively stable and are one reason why Council will continue to develop the education portfolio. In addition, the Pre-Clinical Course, which has previously run at a loss, made a small surplus in 2016.

As previously reported, there are ways that summer meeting expenses can be reduced and Council will be considering all possible options in this regard. However, Professor Tunbridge reiterated that the BAP is in a relatively healthy position, with good financial reserves. Professor Tunbridge also commented that the summer meeting has in fact suffered a deficit many times in the past. The 40th anniversary meeting held in Cambridge in 2014 (well-attended) and the 2015 meeting held in Bristol (cheap meeting facilities) helped those two meetings result in a surplus.

Professor Mehta thanked those who made presentations at the 2017 Annual General Meeting, and particularly thanked Members for attending and contributing to the event. He declared the meeting closed.

These Minutes were generated from the recorded proceedings. A motion will be put to the 2018 AGM (Imperial College, London on Monday 23 July) for approval that these Minutes be adopted as a correct record.