

RA International Committee meeting
RA/BRS meeting Birmingham

Date: 8 June 2011 (Wednesday)

Time: 1330-1430

Venue: Executive Room 3, Level 5, ICC

Present: John Feehally, Paul Harden, Peter Mathieson, Mignon McCulloch, Neil Turner, Albert Ong (chair).

Apologies: Terry Cook, John Eastwood, Magdi Yaqoob, Steve Sacks.

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

- Meguid El Nahas and Robert Unwin have asked to retire from the committee. The committee wished to express their appreciation for all their contributions over the years.
- Meguid was congratulated on being awarded the 2011 Roscoe Robinson prize for contributions to nephrology education.

2. Matters arising

- The RA executive has agreed to sponsor a new fellowship jointly with the ISN from 2011. This will be administered by KRUK and ISN. An update in e-news has been placed.
- The category of 'Overseas membership' has been approved for nephrologists from middle to low income countries. Membership fees have been set at trainee rates. John Eastwood reported that this was well received by West African nephrologists.
- Mignon reported that the BAPN felt unable to fund a separate joint fellowship with the ISN at present. It was decided that paediatric trainees could be eligible for the 3 current UK-ISN fellowships.

3. ISN update – Sister Centre and Fellowship programmes

- Paul reported that there are now 13 active UK centres (1 Level A, 5 Level B, 7 Level C). This is a notable achievement for the UK representing around 30% of all ISN centres (21 C, 11B and 5A).
- There was some prioritization for selecting new centre pairs using Trios and also on geographical proximity.
- At present, there are 6 ISN fellows training in the UK.

4. AFRAN (African Association of Nephrology) meeting

- The 2011 meeting held in Dakar had been a success and had been attended by John Eastwood and Jo Adu.
- Mignon reported that there will be an attempt to make the next African Paediatric meeting back to back with the next AFRAN meeting in Accra in Feb 2013 or to hold a combined meeting day. The cut off age for paediatric-adult transition in Africa is 13yr. Support could be forthcoming from the ISN, IPNA and RA.

5. ISN membership

- John Feehally reported that only 250 RA members were also ISN members. He would like to encourage greater participation from RA members.
- Suggestions were to feature more stories or use newsfeed from ISN onto the RA website and to hold an annual ISN COMGAN at the annual RA meeting.

6. AOB

- **Global Kidney Alliance:** This was a new initiative by Meguid to offer a web based and on site educational resources for nephrologists in the developing world. It is not an ISN sponsored activity. The committee agreed with the decision made to link the GKA site to the international committee RA site.
- **New members:** It was recommended that a trainee should be encouraged to join the committee. Two other nephrologists with active overseas interests were suggested as potential new members whom Albert will approach.

7. Next meetings:

WebEx call around November 2011

Renal Association 2012, Gateshead