



**MEETING MINUTES
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2020
Time: 1300 – 1330 PST
Location: Zoom
Chair: Anne Crocker– President IAFMHS

1. Welcome and introductions

2. President's Report

- Anne Crocker welcomed members at the first virtual AGM. Anne Crocker started the meeting thanking frontline workers for working through this pandemic and for advocating for patients/clients. She also thanked the educators and professors who are having to adapt to new ways of teaching and the students for their resilience. Anne Crocker also extended gratitude to individuals with lived experiences in hospitals and institutions who are having to be patient with the changes in service provision.
- Anne Crocker updated that the Association has compiled a COVID-19 Forensic Mental Health Compendium on COVID-19 related policies and procedures and research in forensic services.
- Anne Crocker also noted Sandy Simpson, Mary Davoren, and Harry Kennedy have been hosting weekly webinars on COVID-19 that is available on the CAMH website. Anne Crocker invited members to tell us interesting events that they are hosting so the Association can help promote it.

- Anne Crocker noted we had to cancel the conference this year. She reported we had a good conference last year with some profits that will help sustain the Association.
- Anne Crocker updated that a subcommittee has been struck to explore various options for the 2021 conference as it does not seem an in-person conference in June 2021 is possible right now.
- Anne Crocker updated that Sarah Coupland is taking over from Alicia Nijdam-Jones as Newsletter Editor, and Michael Daffern is taking over from Tonia Nicholls as Journal Editor-in-Chief.

3. Treasurer's Report

- Robert Lark updated the Association's finances is stable. He reported although our income is reduced, we have sufficient savings to sustain the Association.
- Tamara De Beuf asked if there is enough buffer if there is no conference next year as well. Robert Lark responded that our finances are stable and the funds for the student awards are secured as well.

4. Journal Report

- Tonia Nicholls updated that journal is stable. The submission rates have not been affected by the pandemic and we are currently two issues ahead, which allows the journal to focus on the highest quality submissions received.
- Tonia Nicholls did a comparison to Nature and found our timeline is comparable in terms of submission and review turnaround time. This is notable given that editors often give extensive feedback and go through multiple reviews with the authors as some of them are from non-academic or non-English speaking background.
- Tonia Nicholls thanked the various associate editors and welcomed the incoming associate editors, Brian McKenna and James Livingstone.

- Tonia Nicholls updated the impact factor has held steady, and there have been a few special issues in the past year.
- Michael Daffern updated he will be meeting with the associate editors and the editorial board.
- Anne Crocker asked if there are any special issues forthcoming. Tonia Nicholls reported there is nothing planned for now, but Michael Daffern is open to receiving suggestions and proposals.
- Peter Braun suggested having special issues on long-term forensic patients, so that might be a consideration.

5. Student Board Report

- Maria Aparcero-Suero updated that the Student Board has stayed active despite the lack of conference this year. The Student Board continues to be involved with the newsletter through the spotlight column to highlight diverse issue and will continue to be active on social media.

6. Standing Committee

- Diversity and Inclusion Subcommittee: Anne Crocker called for members to join the diversity and inclusion subcommittee. The formal call will send out email. This committee will be co-chair with Student Board President. Brian McKenna volunteer to sit on the committee with Sarah Schaaf.
- Conference Subcommittee: Barry Rosenfeld updated that given a June 2021 in-person conference is unlikely at this time, the committee will be exploring various options including a virtual conference. Updates will be provided to the membership via email.
- Social Media and Communications Subcommittee: Anne Crocker called for members who might be interested to help work on the

website and brainstorm ways to improve communications to membership throughout the year.

- Awards Subcommittee: Anne Crocker updated that Tessa Maguire received the Christopher Webster Early Career Award, and Corine de Ruiter received the Rüdiger Müller-Isberner. She is the first female recipient for RMI award.
- Derek Eaves Grants – Maria Aparcero-Suero updated that the Derek Eaves award will be transitioned to the general board to avoid conflict of interest. This would allow Student Board members to apply for the awards as well.

7. Special Interest Group (SIG) Reports

- Service Development, Organization, Strategy & Delivery: Lindsay Thomson updated that she will be emailing the SIG members after the AGM to discuss the weekly webinars and how the SIG could support the webinars and to publish from that.
- Mental Health Courts and Diversion Programs: Evan Lowder updated that the SIG contributed to the newsletter and connected with members through that.
- Forensic Mental Health Nurses: Helen Walker updated that Tessa Maguire will take over from Karen Wright as Chair. Helen Walker updated that they had 18 attendees at the 2019 meeting, which was their biggest turnout. One endeavor going forward is to encourage nurses who attends the conference to join the SIG as members. The nursing SIG has also been contributing to the newsletter in the past few years.
- Long-term Forensic Psychiatric Care: Peter Braun updated there has been interesting research looking at transitioning longterm forensic

care patients into regular care patients. Peter Braun updated he will be retiring and will need to find a new chair for the SIG.

- Emerging Forensic Systems: Adeaboyega Ogunwale updated that although they have not been able to do much this past year, he noted the travel grants have been helpful for encourage attendance and representation from less developed nations. However, he noted the membership fees remains too expensive for individuals from less developed nations and asked if the fees could be reduced and advertised as such on the website. Adeaboyega Ogunwale will try to get some colleagues to contribute to the newsletter. Adeaboyega Ogunwale also noted some colleagues might be able to help with reviewing journal submissions but might need some mentorship. This could be mutually beneficial to the authors and reviewers and help build capacity. Michael Daffern thanked Adeaboyega Ogunwale for the offer and will get in touch to discuss this further.
- RISC-team – Stephanie Penney was not available to provide an update.
- Offenders with Intellectual Disabilities: Kim Ellen Biesmans was not available to provide an update.
- Anne Crocker suggested having a virtual meeting for the SIGs.

8. BOD Updates

- Anne Crocker updated Brian McKenna and Brianne Layden has joined the Board of Directors as Members-at-Large.

9. Next Meeting; TBD