

Minutes of the SOHRC Board Meeting, Monday 8th October, 2.00-4.00pm, St Andrew’s House

Present: Margie Taylor, John Gibson, Jeremy Bagg, David Felix, Jan Clarkson, Peter Mossey, Lorna MacPherson, Alison Wright, Deirdre Kelliher

Apologies: Mark Hector, Angus Walls

1. MT welcomed the group to the meeting.
2. Public Health and Health Services Research Group

LM described the Group research day which included a morning session on oral cancer in relation to oral health and a discussion on whether oral cancer should be added to the Group’s remit. The Group went on to discuss the feasibility of Dental practices screening for other diseases. A research grant application considering how dentistry could contribute to general health and the subsequent benefit for the patient and society may follow.

The afternoon session concentrated initially on Child oral health and a collaborative project application to CSO is now in the pipeline. The Group also talked about progress with the ISCoPe project. There is a stakeholder meeting organised for the end of October which will include participants from the Care Homes involved in the project.

JC reported that the NIHR would make a decision on the collaborative Dental Caries application during October and that a result would be available very soon. She also mentioned the role of herself and David Conway in encouraging research involving clinicians and referred to the SDPBRN Postgraduate Training Day in June.

1. Craniofacial Research Group

PM reported that the NIH application in conjunction with the University of Maryland was submitted to another NIH committee and a result is due on 2nd Nov.

The group hopes to engage a new student from Qatar who will be registered at the University of Dundee but will also work with Ashraf Ayoub at the University of Glasgow.

Work on the Zika virus project is continuing. It is hoped that a new method for measuring microcephaly will stem from this work which will assist with assessing prognosis.

Felicity Mehendale, a member of the Group and a former cleft surgeon has become a clinical academic member of staff at University of Edinburgh. The Group is keen that Scotland should have a platform for cleft studies

1. Education Research Group

The Group needs a new Research lead now that Vince Bissel has left the University of Glasgow and is no longer a members of the Education Research Group. JB suggested that someone from Aberdeen might like to consider taking on this role. JG will discuss with George Cherakura and Malcolm Stewart and report back at the next Board meeting

**Action JG**

a) Meeting of MMI leads

The Group has not yet moved forward with a collaborative project because of data sharing issues.

1. Administrator’s report

DK provided a report detailing the meetings which she had organised for SOHRC since the last Board meeting in April.

1. REF 2021

No decisions have yet been taken with regard to a joint submission to the REF from the Dental and Nursing Schools in Glasgow and Dundee. Each University is currently assessing papers from the other institution. Further meetings will take place during October.

1. SOHRC conference/3 Minute theses presentation competition

Angus Walls may be able to accommodate the next SOHRC conference at the University of Edinburgh. There are 18 students who could potentially present. Given that young people would be presenting a Scottish Government Minister might be interested in attending the event. Mondays or Tuesdays are the best days for availability of ministers. Once the date for the conference has been set, the Board should draft a letter of invitation.

**Action All**

The Board needs to decide on the conference theme and invite a keynote speaker. Craig Russell might be a suitable speaker on craniofacial surgery. Harry Burns or Richard Watt could be invited to present on Public Health.

**Action All**

1. NRS Conference Poster submission

The conference poster abstract has been accepted. Once the poster has been designed, DK will send the draft to the Board for comment.

**Action DK**

A volunteer to present the poster at the conference is needed.

**Action All**

9**.** AOCB

The Medical Education Research Conference will take place 9-10 May 2019.

JB recognised MT’s contribution to the success of SOHRC through her leadership of the SOHRC Board and thanked her on behalf of the other Board members.

PM is going to investigate with Ben Lamb as to whether a consortium of Scottish Dental Schools could be accepted for WHO status.

**Action PM**

10. Date of next meeting

29th April 2019 2-4.00 at St Andrew’s House – DK will let Sheila Greer know.

**Action DK**