



## Minutes

**Date:** Friday, 24 March 2017  
**Time:** 12 pm  
**Venue:** Teleconferencing

**Present:** Greg Anderson, Joe Yip, Richard Carroll, Kathy Mountjoy, Chris McMahon, Stella Milsom (arrived late)

**Apologies:** Stephen Bunn, Ryan Paul, Michael Pankhurst, Susanna O'Sullivan

**Approve Minutes of previous meeting:** Accepted and approved with minor correction of Kathy arrived late to the meeting

**Matters arising from Minutes dated 10 Feb 2017:**

### **Incoming Correspondence:**

1. **03 March 2017** *Dr Eulalia Coutinho, Post-doc Fellow, CNE Otago*  
Application for NZSE International Travel Award to facilitate her research presentation entitled "Chemogenetic Activation of Arcuate Neuropeptide Y Neurons Alters Luteinising Hormone Secretion in Mice" at Kisspeptin and ENDO 2017 in Orlando, USA  
(See appended)

The decision to partially fund (general consensus of up to \$500) Dr Eulalia Coutinho to facilitate her travel cost to the conference was recorded in the minutes dated 28 Nov 2016. She was then informed of the outcome that it is unlikely that we would grant the full amount given that the requirement for application calls for paid membership of more than 2 years, but we may well be able to give some assistance.

Unfortunately, due to an error in email address, Kathy was not informed regarding the date of the meeting on 28 Nov hence she was not present for the discussion. In the current meeting, Kathy stated her concern that we must abide to all the requirements of this travel award, one of which is to provide to only members that had paid membership for more than 2 years standing as stated on our society's website:

*"Preference will be given to paid members of more than 2 years standing who have not recently received NZSE financial support and for whom other support is not readily available."* <http://nzse.science.org.nz/international-travel-awards>

Kathy also emphasized the importance of having such requirement whereby it provides a benefit of becoming a long standing member. The committee agreed with Kathy's

concerns, however, Chris pointed out that we had not acted against the rule by providing partial funding to new member. As stated above, “preference” rather than “restriction” will given to paid members of more than 2 years standing. Given the lack of long-term member/s applying for this funding over the pass years (~1/year), we are financially available to provide partial assistance to new members to attract more new members.

Out of the six exec present at this meeting, four favored the idea to remain flexible in providing the funding to all members based on the funding availability rather than having a restriction to only long standing members. It was agreed that this decision should not set a precedent, but should be carefully considered if the situation arises again, and especially if it starts to become a trend. Furthermore, we should monitor whether recently-joined members who obtained this funding stay on to become long-term paid members or simply drop off after receiving the travel funding (as is typically the case with the student travel award).

2. **14 March 2017** *Christine Gill, Executive Director of Osteoporosis New Zealand*  
Announcement of the launch of Guidance on the Diagnosis and Management of Osteoporosis in New Zealand (*See appended*)
3. **15 March 2017** *Katie Greenaway, Account Executive of HainesAttract*  
Requested for possibility to advertise on NZSE website a job vacancy for Specialist Physician – Endocrinology on behalf of their client, Hawke’s Bay District Health Board. Closing date: Monday, 10 April 2017. Link: <http://www.hawkesbay.health.nz/jobscareers/clinical-vacancies/>

#### **Outgoing Correspondence:**

1. **02 March 2017** *Greg Anderson to Warrick Inder, President of Endocrine Society of Australia (ESA)*. Support letter to support ESA bid to host the International Congress of Endocrinology 2022. Greg also updated Warrick regarding the Australian invited speakers, Prof Ken Ho (Prince Alexandra Hospital/ University of Queensland) and Dr Daniel Blackmore (University of Queensland) to the upcoming MedSci meeting in Queenstown as part of our strategy to promote interactions between NZ and Australian endocrinologists.
  2. **14 March 2017** *Joe Yip to Dr Eulalia Coutinho (Re: International Travel Award)*  
Informed that the application for the travel funding has been accepted and partially approved. As agreed in previous meeting, NZSE will be awarded with partial amount of NZ\$500 given Dr Coutinho is a paid member of less than 2 years.
- 14 March 2017** *Joe Yip to Katie Greenaway (Re: Job advertisement)*  
Informed that NZSE will advertise without any charges and it is now live on the NZSE website.

#### **Items:**

1. 2017 Nancy Sirett award nominations:
  - Both clinical and basic scientist members are eligible for nomination.
  - Ryan and Kathy nominated Dr Chris McMahon.

- Another possible nominee is Prof Mark Vicker. However, he will be chairing the symposium during the meeting and he is not currently an active NZSE member. We will suggest to Mark that he re-join the society, to be nominated in future meetings. Kathy pointed out that if Mark is interested in re-joining, he will be required to pay membership fees backdated from the previous expiry (2011) of his membership. There was a discussion as to whether or not we should request him to pay those backdated membership fees.
  - At this stage, Chris will be put forward as a nominee and we will wait for a few more weeks for more nominations.
2. NZSE president-elect:
    - Ryan agreed in principle to take on the president-elect role. Ideally, he would like to have secretary and treasurer in the same centre that he is based in during the term of his presidency in future.
  3. NZSE asked to sponsor 2017 Reproductive Biology Satellite which could be linked with a speaker of particular relevance to the society (an amount of approximately NZ\$1000):
    - The exec decided not to sponsor the satellite due to lack of good reason to do so and lack of funding that has been put aside for sponsorships.
  4. Report from Joey, a senior trainee who attended the Community Mental Health Educational Day back in 6th of Nov 2016:
    - The expectation of the event was to educate the community. There was no feedback/ response propagated to NZSE after his talk. Overall, the amount work involved to attend the event was not worth the effort in this case, as the event was of low organisational quality.
    - We would like to extend our gratitude to Joey for making the effort to participate in the event. (**Action required:** Stella to send Joey an email of appreciation on behalf of the society).
  5. Professor David Stewart (1934-2016), former life member of NZSE:
    - It was noted that Professor David Stewart, our first honorary life member, died late last year.
    - **Action required:** Greg will be sending an email of condolence to his family on behalf of NZSE and acknowledge to the society of his passing.
  6. Life membership award:
    - Professor Ian Reid from University of Auckland was suggested by exec to receive the award. This was highly supported by Stella and Kathy. (**Action required:** Discuss in at a later meeting).
  7. Membership expiry/renewal:
    - It has been a ongoing concern of the lack of members renewing their expired memberships every year. In the current automated renewal reminder setting, expired members are reminded on monthly basis during the first 6 months. In the following year, they will be again reminded for

the first 6 months of the year before their membership ceases. It is however unknown whether expired members remain to be able to log into their membership account during the 18 months of expiry before their membership ceases, or how many reminders they get (**Action required:** check these things out).

- Since automated emails are easy to ignore, it was suggested that the NZSE president should personally email expired members after 18 months with an invitation to re-join the society.
- More captivating benefit of being a member should be explored, i.e further reducing the MedSci registration fees, to retain members as well as attracting more new members.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

#### Account balances:

Business account: 18,905.85

Term deposit 1: 40,000.00

Term deposit 2: 12,318.90

Term deposit 3: 21,371.64

#### Transactions since last meeting:

Outgoing: Eulalia Coutinho. Travel award \$500.00

Incoming: None

### **New Member applications: None**

**Full members:** Current: 38 paid, 51 “expired” (Previous meeting: 51 paid, 36 “expired”)

**Student members:** Current: 1 paid, 39 “expired” (Previous meeting: 13 paid, 28 “expired”)

**Life Members:** 5

Note: the expected drop in number of paid members is due to new year renewal.

### **Other Business:**

- Increasing the amount of award for the MediRay Best Student Speaker Award: This matter was deferred to next meeting due to timeout. (**Action required**)

**Meeting closed: 1pm** (N.B. the meeting went overtime and teleconference was cut off. An email of apologies was sent out by Greg to all the exec)

**Next Meeting:** 09 May 2017

## Appendix

### NZSE International Travel Award application:

1. Name: Eulalia Coutinho
2. Postal and email address: Lindo Ferguson Building, 270 Great King Street, Dunedin 9016.  
[eulalia.coutinho@otago.ac.nz](mailto:eulalia.coutinho@otago.ac.nz)
3. Occupation and employer: Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Otago.
4. Title and authors of abstract to be presented:  
Chemogenetic Activation of Arcuate Neuropeptide Y Neurons Alters Luteinising Hormone Secretion in Mice.  
Eulalia A. Coutinho, Elodie Desroziere, Mel Prescott, Rebecca E. Campbell.
5. Applicants NZSE membership subscription payment status: Paid for 2017.
6. Purpose of grant: To travel to Orlando to present a poster at Kisspeptin 2017 and ENDO 2017.
7. Previous awards from NZSE: None.
8. Financial details: (a) total amount sought – NZD 5226.71  
(b) breakdown of costs  
Registration Fee: NZD 640  
Travel Costs: NZD 2569.91  
Sustenance: NZD 1400  
Insurance Costs: NZD 16.80
9. Other financial support applied for/ obtained: Travel award from Kisspeptin 2017 (applied for), Department of Physiology Travel Support (applied for).
10. Contact details of one referee: Dr. Rebecca Campbell ([rebecca.campbell@otago.ac.nz](mailto:rebecca.campbell@otago.ac.nz))
11. I agree to provide a brief report on the conference to the NZSE secretary within a month after returning from the conference.

**From:** Christine Gill <christine.gill@osteoporosis.org.nz>

**Date:** Tuesday, 14 March 2017 at 11:21 AM

**To:** Greg Anderson <greg.anderson@otago.ac.nz>

**Subject:** Launch of Guidance on the Diagnosis and Management of Osteoporosis in New Zealand.

Dear Greg

I am delighted to inform you that today Osteoporosis New Zealand (ONZ) has published the *Guidance on the Diagnosis and Management of Osteoporosis in New Zealand*.

The guidance is presented as an algorithm which distils current evidence for sequential steps in the diagnosis and management process. This user-friendly and highly practical tool provides support to clinicians throughout the health system to deliver evidence-based practice for their patients who are at high risk of sustaining fragility fractures.

The launch of this guidance today is a major milestone in improving bone health of the nation. ONZ is delighted at the level of endorsement for the guidance, with fourteen organisations giving their support. We now look forward to this guidance being used so that optimal care is delivered to the patients and our vision of better bones and fewer fractures can become a reality for all New Zealanders."

*Guidance on the Diagnosis and Management of Osteoporosis in New Zealand* is available online at:

<http://osteoporosis.org.nz/resources/health-professionals/clinical-guidance/>

On behalf of ONZ I wish to thank the expert panel that gave their time to complete this vital project and to the Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC) for their support.

There is a lot of positive progress being made in our field right now in NZ. The NZ\$30.5 million investment over the next 4 years by the NZ Crown Entity, the Accident Compensation Corporation, in combination with investment from our 20 District Health Boards should lead to universal access to FLS in NZ within the next year. In parallel, the NZ arm of the ANZ Hip Fracture Registry is busy engaging hospitals across the country to participate in the Registry.

This whole of systems approach will provide an illustration of what can be achieved when all stakeholders in a country work together in the best interests of the people.

Thanks for your participation and endorsement

Regards, Chris