

**MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF THE
PACIFIC RIM COLLEGE OF PSYCHIATRISTS
SHILLA HOTEL, SEOUL, KOREA,
13 JANUARY 2001.**

Present:

Dr K.H. Lee (President), Prof. B.S. Singh (President Elect), Dr C. Chung, Dr Y. Nakane, Dr F.G. Lu, Dr S.K. Min, Dr M. Nishizono and Dr E.S. Tan.

1. Apologies

None

Dr Lee in the Chair called the meeting to order and requested that Prof. Singh, as President-Elect, take over the Chair of the meeting. Prof. Singh agreed.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Dr Lu presented the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee in Chicago on 12 May 2000, and it was agreed that this was a true albeit brief report of the meeting.

3. President's Report

The President's report raised the following issues:

- Relocation of the Office of the PRCP from Los Angeles to Melbourne
- Ms Celia Brown's continuing role
- Publicity for the Congress in Melbourne

The Executive Committee agreed that the decision to move the Central Office of the PRCP from Los Angeles to Melbourne should be organised forthwith.

The question posed was whether the non-profit, tax-free status of the PRCP could continue in Melbourne. The President Elect and the Secretary General will explore this question ASAP. There is also the important question of whether the subscriptions collected in Australia are liable to tax.

The Executive Committee agree that the Central Office should stay in Melbourne for at least five years in the first instance.

Regarding Ms Celia Brown, the Executive Committee agreed that a letter of acknowledgement should be sent to her thanking her for over 20 years of service to the PRCP. She should also be given a \$300 bonus payment. Dr Lee and Prof. Singh both agreed to write such a letter.

4. Secretary General's Report

None

5. Other Reports

i. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that \$22,000 are due in subscriptions. Of this \$12,000 has been collected, thus \$ 10,000 is in arrears.

Reminders for payment of these arrears will be sent out by the new Secretariat in Melbourne with the request of 2001 subscriptions in April.

It was agreed that the subscriptions should be paid in US dollars, but banked in Australia. If this is possible the LA banking arrangement can be closed down.

The Executive Committee agreed on the following approximate budget for the coming year 2001:

Secretarial Salary:	US \$15,000
Running a website:	US \$2,000
For the use of computers:	US \$2,000
Stationery and postage:	US \$5,000.
Total:	US \$ 24,000

The Executive Committee agreed in principle that the new Secretary General should have a budget for travel and other expenses, but this should only occur if funds are available in each year. Prof. Singh stated that these figures could only be approximate as the exact cost of running the office would become clearer as time went on.

6. PRCP Congress

i. 11th Congress of PRCP

Dr Lee stated that he had received a letter from Professor Helen Chiu of the Chinese University Hong Kong to host the 11th Congress of the PRCP in Hong Kong. It was agreed that the next newsletter should make clear that the opportunity still exists to bid for the next meeting with the final decision to be made at the full Meeting of the Board in Melbourne

ii. 10th Melbourne Congress

Prof. Singh presented the Proposals for the Melbourne Congress:

Theme: The Voice of Asia-Pacific Psychiatry.

Deadline for papers: 30 March 2001.

Board Meeting: Saturday 6 October 2001.

Dr Saraceno Director of Mental Health, WHO has been invited to attend.

Dr Nakane suggested Prof. Suzuki as the most appropriate person to talk about the WPA meeting in Japan.

7,000 copies of the Brochure for the 10th Congress in Melbourne have been printed and are currently being distributed.

It was agreed that a website should be established for this meeting and should include an application form for membership.

7. **Aims and Roles of the PRCP**

Dr Nishizono proposed that the Executive Committee reconsider the aims and roles of the PRCP as these would have changed since the foundation of the College. He suggested that the PRCP could be divided into 3 regions:

- USA and Canada,
- Oceania, including Australia, NZ, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Philippines, Indonesia,
- East Asia, including Japan, China, Korea, Taiwan and HK.

The needs for service provision, training and research (social and clinical) are different in each region. Each can form its area committee to coordinate activities.

It was suggested that the PRCP Journal and Newsletter could bridge the activities of each of these regions and that in future the Newsletter could be sent via e-mail.

It was agreed that this suggestion should receive serious consideration at the full Meeting of the Board and the AGM in Melbourne

8. **Membership**

Aroon Showanasai will become an Emeritus Member if he pays the \$300 arrears he owes. Dr Tan will write to him regarding this.

Zhai Su Tai owes \$50 (\$10 x 5 years) Dr Tan will write to him also.

Yong Su Kim owes \$50 (\$10 x 5 years) SK Min will write to him.

Dr Chung will e-mail the absent Board Members to get their approval for following actions:

a) **Acceptance for Emeritus Status:**

Suk-Hun Kang, M.D.

Maj. Gen. Aroon Showanasai (Thailand, Founding Fellow) upon the receipt of \$300 back due, Dr. Tan will contact him.

Isa A. Samad, M.D. (USA)

b) **Resignations:**

Shigetoshi Kuroda, M.D. (Japan)

Yasusi Mizuki, M.D. (Japan)

Yoichi Nakazawa, M.D. (Japan)

John W. Wang, M.D. (USA)

c) **Decision to Drop:**

Chan Hee Huh, M.D. (Korea)

Hung Tat Lo, M.D. (Canada)

Zu Xin Wang, M.D. (China)

Takayuki Kinugasa, M.D. (Japan)*

Toshiaki Sakai, M.D. (Japan)*

Yomishi Kasahara, M.D. (Japan)*

Wen Ho Chang, M.D. (Taiwan)

Yong Ku Kim, M.D. (Korea)**

Shu Tao Zhai, M.D. (China)***

Shih-Ku Lin, M.D. (Taiwan)

Su Lin Peng, M.D. (Taiwan)

*Dr. Nishizono, **Dr. Min, and ***Dr. Tan will contact each members, before the final action.

d) Acceptance as Fellow:

Peter Tucker (Australia)

Graham Burrows (Australia)

Pierre Beumont (Australia)

Iraklis Harry Minas (Australia)

Sadanand Rajkumar (Australia)

Barry Nurcombe (Australia)

Philip Morris (Australia)

David John Ames (Australia)

Edmond Chiu (Australia)

Ananth Jambur (USA)

e) Acceptance as Member:

Can Tuncer

A Membership Subcommittee was appointed, consisting of Dr Lee, Dr Chung, Dr Lu, Dr Tan and Dr Nishizono, to examine issues of membership.

Prof. Singh suggested an increase in membership of the PRCP. Strict criteria have been established for acceptance of PRCP membership and fellowship applications. The question was whether to relax these criteria and increase membership. The consensus was that the criteria for membership should be relaxed but the criteria for fellowship should be maintained. These issues will be further examined by the Membership Subcommittee.

It was also agreed that procedures in handling applications were cumbersome and delayed and that there was a need to streamline them. The issue of differentiated fees for different parts of the world was raised. Dr Nakane suggested a tiered structure based on World Bank ranking of the economic development of each country, such as is occurring in the system of registration fees for the WPA meeting.

9. New Business

i. PRCP Journal

Prof. Singh tabled the proposal of a PRCP Journal. The question of whether such a publication is economically feasible was raised. Dr Chung estimated that it may cost \$20,000 a year. The question of advertisement and subscription costs will have to be explored. The Executive Committee gave Prof. Singh approval to explore the feasibility of establishing such a journal.

It was agreed that Dr Chung would continue to produce the next two issues of the Newsletter. Prof. Singh will take over as President in October 2001. After that date the Newsletter will be produced in Melbourne.

ii. History of the PRCP

Dr R Pasnau has agreed to prepare this document. Dr CP Chien will help him in this task. The format of this document must be explored (e.g. a booklet) and the cost of printing and distribution. It was agreed that members of the current board could be of help.

10. Other Business

i. Committee Formation

Dr Chung suggested the formation of:

- A publications committee to progress the issue of a PRCP Journal
- A bigger Executive Committee

ii. Board Membership

Dr Nishizono suggested that the duration of the term of board members should be reviewed. It was suggested that the term should be shortened to allow a faster turnover and the introduction of younger fellows into the Board.

The present Board consists of 11 members, each serving 2 years, but there is no limitation on the number of terms each can serve. This suggestion needs further consideration.

Dr Nishizono and Dr Lee raised the issue of their wish to invite Dr Alan Tasman, past president APA, to be a member of the Board, and the problem they had encountered in trying to organize this.

It was agreed that Dr Tasman will need to apply to become a member, and it was suggested he could then be appointed to the Board on the retirement of a current member. Dr Nishizono will contact him to make the application.

11. Next Meeting

It was decided that the present Executive Committee should meet in May 2001 in New Orleans at the APA meeting. Dr Lu has already booked a room. This will be an important meeting because many transition issues need further discussion.