British Paediatric Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the British Paediatric Association was held on Wednesday, 16 April, 1986 at the University of York. The President, Professor J O Forfar, took the chair.

1 OBITUARY
The meeting stood in memory of the Members who had died since the last meeting: Dr Joan Angus (previously a member of the BPA); Sir John Brotherston (Honorary Member); Dr W E Crosbie (Honorary Member); Dr L A Hawkins; Dr Elizabeth Hervey; Dr H R Jolly (Honorary Member); Dr R Kessel; Dr R C Lightwood (Honorary Member and Past President); Dr E d’H Lobo; Professor R McIntosh (Honorary Member); Dr D M Morgan; Professor C Salazar de Sousa (Honorary Member); Dr J Thomson, (previously a member of the BPA); Dr Shelagh Tyrrell; Mr D J Waterston (Honorary Member).

2 MINUTES OF THE 1985 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The minutes of the meeting held on 18 April 1985, which had been circulated to members in March in the Annual Report, were accepted and signed as a correct record.

3 ELECTIONS
The meeting ratified Council’s election of: Dr W J Appleyard to serve as Honorary Treasurer 1986–88 and Professor R D H Boyd to serve as Chairman-Elect of the Academic Board 1986–87 and Chairman of the Academic Board 1987–90.

4 ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS
Dr Pamela Davies, Dr Dorothy Egan, Dr H McC Giles, Sir Raymond Hoffenberg, Lady Limerick, Professor R G Mitchell, Sir David Innes Williams, Dr Olive Scott and Professor I J Carré had been nominated as Honorary Members, together with one hundred and five Ordinary Members, seventeen Overseas Members and forty eight Associate Members. The meeting approved the nominations and the new members were duly elected.

5 PRESIDENT’S REPORT
The President’s Report had been circulated to members in March in the Annual Report and was approved by the Annual General Meeting.

The President thanked the Officers of the Association, the members of Committees and Working Parties and the members of the secretariat for their valuable contributions to the affairs of the BPA.

6 TREASURER’S REPORT
The Treasurer presented the Accounts for the period 1 January to 31 December 1985. These had been circulated to members with the Annual Report and had subsequently been audited. Expenditure had increased owing to the growing activities of the Association, the need for more staff and the move to the new and larger premises in St Andrews Place. The high level of interest rates during the year had yielded a substantial return which was not likely to be maintained; the Association’s investments policy was under review. Donations from research trusts, funds and from industry funded a number of secretariat posts and were a valuable contribution to the work of the BPA. The Association was grateful to the editors of the Archives of Disease in Childhood, Professor S R Meadow and Dr H B Valman.

The level of sales of the journal had been maintained and the Association’s share of the profits on sales during 1985 was substantial. Although income from this source would be lower in future following changes in the marketing of the journal, the high levels of receipts from the Archives over recent years had enabled the Association to build up its reserves.

Following its Appeal the Royal College of Physicians of London would make over to the BPA £15,000 a year for four years to help towards the running costs of the new offices. £50,000 had been spent on furniture and equipment.

The Honorary Treasurer thanked Mr Michael Ray, the Association’s financial adviser, and the secretariat, for their work in preparing the accounts.

The Honorary Treasurer’s verbal report and the circulated Accounts for 1985 were approved.

7 MEMBERS’ SUBSCRIPTIONS
The meeting agreed that the annual subscription rate for Ordinary Members should be increased to a point between £90 and £97 from 1 January 1987,
with increases pro rata for the other rates. In due course Council would ratify the definite subscription.

8 RULES OF THE ASSOCIATION
The meeting considered amendments to the Rules of the Association which had been circulated to members in March in the Annual Report. Proposed amendments to:
(a) Rule 6 Executive Committee; and
(b) Rule 8 (e) General Meetings were accepted.

9 REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD
The Report of the Academic Board which had been circulated to members in March in the Annual Report was received. The President expressed the Association's gratitude to the Academic Board for its valuable contribution to the work of the BPA.

10 REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES, PAEDIATRIC SPECIALTY GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES 1985–86
The meeting received reports which had been circulated in the Annual Report to members in March. All those who had served were thanked for their valuable contribution to the work of the Association.

Dr W A M Cutting reported that the British Paediatric Tropical Child Health Group had been reconstituted under the title of the British Paediatric International Child Health Group. The group, to be convened by Dr M C K Chan would extend the functions of the former group to include some of those of the Third World Forum.

11 ANNUAL MEETINGS 1991–94
The meeting noted that the 1985 AGM had agreed that the 1990 Annual Meeting would take place at the University of Warwick from 3 to 7 April.

The Chairman of the Academic Board reported that a meeting of the conveners of the paediatric specialty groups and members of the Academic Board and Executive Committee had been held at the University of Warwick on 1 October 1985. The exhibition area and facilities for parallel sessions would allow greater flexibility than those at the University of York and the meeting had recommended that future meetings be held there. The AGM agreed that the Annual Meetings in 1991–94 should take place at the University of Warwick.