

Annual Report of the Senate of The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa for the period 1st June 2006 to 31st May 2007

The second Annual Report of the Seventeenth Senate gives an account of the business of Senate during the financial year 1st June 2006 to 31st May 2007. The report will customarily be presented in two sections - the financial statements and matters pertaining to the appreciation of the state of affairs of the CMSA, its business and profit and loss will be published separately and the rest of the activities appear hereunder.

The annual reports received from Presidents and/or Secretaries of constituent Colleges, giving an account of their activities during the same period, are published separately.

IN MEMORIAM

Notification was sadly received of the death of the following members during the past year and the President and Senate extend condolences to their families.

Honorary Fellows

DEWHURST, Christopher John
HOFFENBERG, Raymond (Bill)
PEEL, John
VILJOEN, Marais

Fellow *ad eundem*

BREYTENBACH, Hermanus Steyn

Founders

ABEL, Solomon
MEYER, Jan Abraham
RABINOWITZ, Leslie

Associate Founders

ARNDT, Theodore Carl Heinrich
BEDFORD, Michael Charles
BERNSTEIN, Henry
DAVIS, Meldrum John Finnamore
EPSTEIN, Edward
EVANS, William Benjamin David Iorwerth
GORDON GRANT, Michael Cameron
HEYDENRYCH, Desmond Johan
RETIEF, Degenes Jacobus
SALKINDER, Joe
WATSON, Ian France

Fellows

CONRADIE, Ryno Verster
 CRAUSE, Leon
 DE KOCK, Machiel Adriaan
 ELLIS, Peter
 GOUWELLOOS, Johannes Simon
 HUMAN, Randolph Russell
 KHAI, Cope Khan
 MacFARLANE, Campbell
 PASCOE, Francis Danby
 POTGIETER, Louis
 SEOPELA, Semakaleng Simon
 SKINNER, Donald Pape
 SNOWDOWNE, Robert Blackstock
 VAN HEERDEN, Willem Martens

Member

NEL, Jan Jacobus Petrus

Diplomate

JELLIMAN, Erika Susan

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR THE CMSA

President

Prof Zephne van der Spuy of Cape Town became the second woman to serve The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa in its highest office when she was elected as its President in October 2006 and officially resumed this office at the Senate meeting in Durban on 10 May 2007. Prof van der Spuy will remain in office until May 2010.

Vice Presidents

Prof Anil Madaree (Durban) who was elected as the Senior Vice President and Prof Gboyega Ogunbanjo (Pretoria), elected as the second Vice President, also resumed office on 10 May 2007 and will serve in that capacity until May 2010.

Honorary Registrars

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Senate regretfully received the resignation of Prof Bongani Mayosi as Honorary Registrar due to the additional responsibilities that came with his appointment to the post of Professor and Head of the Department of Medicine, University of Cape Town.

Prof Usuf Chikte (Stellenbosch) was appointed to replace him for the remainder of the current triennium of Senate ending in October 2008.

Education Committee

With the election of Prof Anil Madaree to the Vice Presidency of the CMSA, the office of Honorary Registrar in Durban became vacant. Prof Bilkish Cassim was duly elected as Honorary Registrar of the Education Committee and will also be serving in that office until the end of the current triennium in October 2008.

NEW OFFICERS ELECTED FOR CONSTITUENT COLLEGES

College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

In terms of the Articles of Association and By-laws, the President CMSA does not represent any of the constituent Colleges. Should the President of a constituent College therefore be elected as President of the CMSA, he/she has to relinquish that office with immediate effect.

Prof Jay Bagratee, Professor of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, University of KwaZulu-Natal, was therefore duly elected to succeed Prof Zephne van der Spuy as President of the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists when she vacated that office upon her election to the CMSA Presidency. He will remain in office for the remainder of the current term of office of Council ending in October 2008

College of Radiologists

Prof Alan Scher resigned as President of the College of Radiologists and as their representative on Senate, due to his increased commitments abroad. Dr Duncan Royston simultaneously resigned as Secretary because he found it increasingly difficult to attend their College meetings.

The following were duly elected to replace Prof Scher and Dr Royston:

President	:	Dr Ashwin Hurribunce
Secretary	:	Prof Savvas Andronikou
Senate representative	:	Prof Steve Beningfield

They will also remain in office until the elections in October 2008.

CMSA PENSION FUND

The current fund has been terminated and members have been transferred to a defined contribution umbrella fund. Existing members were given an immediate benefit enhancement of 12.5%, payable out of the surplus, but the remaining 2.5% was retained as a margin and credited to the existing members as an ongoing additional contribution that would give them an enhancement targeted at retirement.

MODIFIED CMSA WEBSITE

<http://www.collegemedsa.ac.za>

The new CMSA website is now up and running . The site is more user friendly and allows the three offices to publish important documentation directly. This will also facilitate the publication of examination time tables, results, etc.

CONSTITUTIONS

Articles of Association and By-laws of the CMSA

The CMSA Constitution has been reprinted and distributed and has been published on the website.

Constitutions of Constituent Colleges

The constituent College Constitutions have been updated by their respective Councils and are also available on the website.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

At its meeting in May 2007, Senate defined the following “Top Ten” benefits for members of The Colleges of Medicine of South Africa:

Qualifications – the Core Business of the CMSA

- As examining body, the CMSA provided a national qualification and determined the quality and standards of specialties.
- CMSA qualifications were internationally respected.
- The CMSA accredited Fellows to practice their specialties locally and globally.
- Formal links existed with sister Colleges and Academies.
- The international recognition and maintenance of standards.
- Regulation of training and registration.
- International reciprocity.
- External moderating at examinations.

Transactions

Receipt of the Journal biannually.

Newsletter

Publication of the monthly newsletter on the web page, also conveying to interested persons the challenges and successes of the CMSA.

CMSA Website and E-mail Access

- A resourceful and user-friendly website.
- On the educational front, providing authoritative, independent and excellent commentaries on topical medical matters.
- Availability to all members of the CMSA with internet access and to the public.
- E-mail access to members using links.

- Access to on-line journals.
- An international page on available courses and congresses worldwide.
- CPD programmes would be incorporated on the website.
- Publication of Clinical Practice Guidelines.
- Advocacy role for Patients and Doctors.

Education and Training

- Research methodology courses.
- Training of University Educators.
- Regular clinical updates.
- Visiting CMSA lecturers.
- Medico-legal issues and quality CME activities.
- Exploring the possibility of becoming a training body and applying for training courses.

A voice in influencing health policy

Raising health matters with Government.

Registrars joining the CMSA as “Affiliates”

- Question still being addressed as to whether their membership should be free or whether a nominal fee should be charged as recommended by SARA.
- Whether medical students should join the CMSA.
- The rights of Affiliates will entail participation in deliberations at CMSA Senate and standing committee meetings and the receipt of Transactions.

The Hire of CMSA facilities for functions

Credit Card Discounts to CMSA Members for various Financial Transactions of Educational Value

Online library access : MELISA

LIONEL B GOLDSCHMIDT LIBRARY

Books authored by CMSA members continues to form the core section in the library. Among other donations received during the year, special mention must be made of Dr OAA Bock's generous donation of books, mainly on the history of medicine, which greatly enhances the quality of our collection. A bust of the late Dr Arthur Landau, past President of the CMSA, was also gratefully received and placed in the library. The current book stock is now recorded on Libwin, a Library computer program, while recent donations still need to be processed

EXAMINATION RELATED MATTERS

Successful Candidates

The names of candidates who pass the biannual CMSA examinations appear in each issue of Transactions. The results are also published on the web page : <http://www.collegemedsa.ac.za>

National Equivalence Examination

This matter is now handled by a sub-committee of the Medical and Dental Professions Board of the HPCSA.

Conversion of MFGP(SA)/MCFP(SA) to FCFP(SA) First FCFP(SA) Examination

A considerable number of holders of the MFGP(SA) or MCFP(SA) applied for conversion of their Membership qualification to a Fellowship (the FCFP(SA)). This meant that some had to reinstate their membership and pay all arrear subscriptions in order to qualify for the conversion and had to return their original certificates. The names of these new Fellows appear elsewhere in these Transactions.

The first FCFP(SA) examination according to the new regulations can only be offered with effect from September/October 2010, when the first set of family medicine registrars complete their minimum mandatory training period before sitting for the examination. This means that the last MCFP(SA) examination will be offered in March/May 2010.

Name of Certificate Examinations

It was considered appropriate to change the name of the 'Certificate' examination to 'Sub-specialty Certificate' with immediate effect.

Change of Examination Format

FCS Orth(SA) Intermediate

The College of Orthopaedic Surgeons will be running a combined intermediate examination. Candidates will write the first paper of the FCS(SA) Intermediate, but the second paper will be the FC Orth(SA) Intermediate paper which will only be on Orthopaedics.

Cert Nephrology(SA)

It was agreed that the oral component of this examination would be replaced with an OSCE.

Formation of a Committee for Critical Care

Senate agreed that a committee for Critical Care be formed, that will be responsible for nominating panels of examiners for the Cert Critical Care(SA) examination and for updating the regulations. The following constituent Colleges will be represented on this

committee: Surgeons, Anaesthetists, Paediatricians, Physicians, Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Neurosurgeons, Emergency Medicine and Cardiothoracic Surgeons.

Medals

Institution of a GlaxoKlineSmith Medal

A new medal has been accepted, to be known as the GlaxoKlineSmith Medal. The medal will be awarded to the best candidate in the FCA(SA) Part I Physiology examination.

Medal Recipients

The recipients of medals during the period under review were:

Bloemfontein : 19 October 2006

Anette Swanepoel

(Novartis Medal : FC Neurol(SA))

Durban : 10 May 2007

Rishendran Naidoo

(Liberio Fatti Medal : FC Cardio(SA) Final)

Karl Frielingsdorf

(J M Edelstein Medal : FC Orth(SA) Final)

Johan Grobbelaar

(S A Society of Otorhinolaryngology Medal : FCORL(SA) Final)

Judy Nicole Rothberg

(Leslie Rabinowitz Medal : FC Paed(SA) Part I)

(Robert McDonald Medal : FC Paed(SA) Part II)

Hendrik Sebastian Temmingh

(Novartis Medal : FC Psych(SA) Part II)

Shalendra Kumar Misser

(Josse Kaye Medal : FC Rad Diag(SA) Part II)

Sumayyah Ebrahim

(Frederic Luvuno Medal : FCS(SA) Primary)

Colin Iain McGuire

(Trubshaw Medal : FCS(SA) Primary)

Lesley Marcia Maude Nunn

(Brebner Award : FCS(SA) Intermediate)

Fellowship by Peer Review

The following were successfully considered for Fellowship by peer review since the last report:

College of Anaesthetists

LEVIN, Andrew Ian

College of Emergency Medicine

BRITZ, H C

VAN LOGGERENBERG, C J

College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists

POPIS, M

College of Pathologists

JANSE VAN RENSBURG, M N

College of Psychiatrists

BETANCOURT, O A

JORDAAN, G

College of Public Health Medicine

(Division of Occupational Medicine)

BLIGNAUT, C

CARSTENS, S E

SMITH, F C A

Accreditation of Hospital Training Posts

The following hospitals were accredited during the year under review:

H Dip Int Med(SA)

Eerste River Hospital

H Dip Orth(SA)

Letaba Hospital

DCH(SA)

Stanger Hospital

Dip Opth(SA)

Good Shepherd Hospital

Madadeni Hospital

Dip HIV Man(SA)

Lower Umfolozi District War Memorial Hospital

Hottentots-Holland Hospital

Dip Obst(SA)

Mokopane Hospital

Dip PEC(SA)

ARWYP Medical Centre

Highveld Medi-Clinic
 Mamelodi Hospital
 Tambo Memorial Hospital
 Welkom Medi-Clinic

Examination Results

In future when the final pass lists are sent to the Deans of the Faculties of Health Sciences, a final mark sheet will be included for each of the examinations for which they had candidates. The final mark sheet will not include candidate's names, only their examination number. Heads of Departments can then obtain the results for their candidates only, from the Dean. The final mark sheet will show the mark obtained for each question in each paper, but an attached Excel spreadsheet will indicate the marks obtained by candidates in each question.

Workshops in 2007 on "Training of Examiners"

It was pointed out at the strategic planning meeting of the CMSA in August 2006 that most doctors entered into their careers as being trained clinicians and were then expected to be teachers and examiners. Very few received formal training in either examination assessment or medical education techniques. It was felt that the CMSA could contribute significantly to the education and assessment processes in South Africa by setting up workshops for training of examiners in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg. This was supported by Senate and arrangements have been initiated to get this off the ground together with the relevant parties.

Cert Nephrology(SA): replacement of the oral with an OSCE

The Cert Nephrology(SA) oral examination has been replaced with an OSCE.

Establishment of Clinical Pharmacology as a Specialty

The fully supported proposal has been submitted to the HPCSA for approval.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

Phyllis Knocker/Bradlow Award : 2006

The name of the award winner has not been released and details, also about the relevant research project, will consequently appear in the next report.

K M Browse Research Scholarship : 2006/2007

Dr Marc Combrinck was the recipient of the Browse Scholarship for his proposed study: *"To test whether (i) serum reductive capacity and (ii) systemic inflammatory markers are related to the severity of Parkinson's disease in a cross-sectional, observational study"*.

Maurice Weinbren Award in Radiology : 2006

Not awarded.

R W S Cheetham Award : 2006

The Cheetham award was given to Dr M Y K Moosa for his published article entitled *A review of multi-spousal relationships – psychosocial effects and therapy*”.

M S Bell Scholarship : 2006

The Bell Scholarship was awarded to the following best registrar representations at the South African Society of Psychiatrists Congress:

Dr Urvashi Vasant (University of KwaZulu-Natal); and
Dr Fatima Seedat (University of Pretoria).

EDUCATIONAL MATTERS

News Bulletins

CMSA Bulletin

The College news bulletin has been further developed. Members are invited to visit this page for information about congresses, workshops, educational matters, etc. Any news items will be welcomed.

Newsletters of the College of Psychiatrists and the College of Public Health Medicine

These Colleges are to be congratulated on their initiative to keep their members informed via this medium.

Workshop on the Use of Logbooks held in Durban on Friday 11 May 2007

The workshop was a highly successful exercise attended by CMSA Senators and members of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Prof Leana Uys, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Health Sciences, also attended the workshop and participated in the discussions. The speakers, Dr Walter Kloeck, Prof Gerhard Lindeque, Prof Sandie Thomson and Dr Ashwin Hurribunce, gave excellent presentations, addressing all four questions posed, namely:

- Should there be a Log Book?
- Should the Log Book/Portfolio have a gate keeping function to the examination?
- Should the Log Book/Portfolio have a formative assessment role?
- Portfolios as a Quality Control Tool.

These have been encapsulated in a summary with recommendations which would be sent to all the constituent Colleges. A general discussion took place on the summary and various suggestions were made which would be considered.

Details of the presentations appear in the CMSA News Bulletin on the website : <http://www.collegemedsa.ac.za>.

Information Booklet

A CMSA information booklet will soon be available at the various Faculties of Health Sciences for graduating students.

The Health Professions Council of South Africa

Registrars' Contract

The draft contract prepared by Prof John Robbs in his capacity as Chairman of the CMSA Education Committee is still with the HPCSA.

CMSA Representative

In terms of CMSA policy that representatives on external bodies should be members of the Senate, Prof John Robbs (Chairman of the Education Committee) is now the representative of the CMSA on the Subcommittee for Postgraduate Training and Education (Medical) of the Medical and Dental Professions Board of the HPCSA.

Continuing Professional Development: CPD

The new HPCSA system for the processing of CPD applications has been instituted. No problems have been experienced.

Educational Development Programme : Transkei and East London

Only one educational visit was undertaken during the past year, i.e. from 17 – 20 August 2006, when Profs M McCulloch and A Ndong presented a programme on "*Updates in Paediatric Nephrology and Paediatric Neurology*".

A full programme has been planned for the second half of 2007

Professorships and Lectureships

Arthur Landau Lectureship

Lecturer

Professor Stephen Hough delivered his lecture “*A Rational Approach to the Treatment of Osteoporosis: is it Possible?*” in Johannesburg, Durban, Cape Town and Bloemfontein during the latter half of 2006.

Funding by the College of Physicians

It is recorded with sincere appreciation that the College of Physicians has agreed to subsidise lectures in the four main centres on an ongoing basis in order to allow the funds in the lectureship account to accumulate.

Francois P Fouché Lectureship

Professor Anton Schepers, the FP Fouché Lecturer for 2006, delivered his lecture, entitled “*In Search of the Truth*” at the SAOA Congress held in Durban on 6 September 2006.

JC Coetzee Lectureship and the K M Seedat Memorial Lectureship

As there wasn't a Family Practitioners Congress held in South Africa during the past year, the next JC Coetzee and KM Seedat lecturers will be appointed during 2008.

Margaret Orford Memorial Lectureship

If funds permit, the next lecturer will be appointed for 2008.

The JN Jacobson and WLS Jacobson Lectureship

Although two lecturers were appointed for 2006, Dr CA Hurribunce and Professor A Andronikou, Prof Andronikou withdrew from his appointment. Dr Hurribunce will deliver his lectures during the latter half of 2007.

Peter Gordon-Smith Lectureship

As reported earlier, the purpose of this lectureship will be to uphold the theme of the golden jubilee year, viz. the enhancement and promotion of academic healthcare in Africa. The Education Committee is currently preparing the guidelines for consideration by Senate.

Sir Arthur Sims Commonwealth Professorship

Professor Guy Maddern, FRACS gave a talk on “*Changes to surgical training in Australia and New Zealand*” on 26 January 2007 in the Steve Biko Lecture Theatre, Nelson R Mandela School of Medicine. He also participated in various departmental meetings at Ngwelazana, IALCH and Medical School. His lecture on 27 January 2007 entitled “*Who should undergo metastatic colorectal liver resection*” was video-linked to other centres throughout the country.

Robert McDonald Rural Paediatric Fund

During October 2006, funds were awarded to the Department of Paediatrics, Pietermaritzburg Metropolitan Hospitals Complex to bring Sr Jane Booth from Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital to Pietermaritzburg to assist with the establishment of a home based tracheotomy programme.

J C COETZEE PROJECTS (OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY)

The JC Coetzee fund is supported by the JC Coetzee Trust which is a body external to the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and is administered by the CMSA. Dr JC Coetzee was a rural general practitioner who later specialised in Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Throughout his career he remained sensitive to the needs of rural practitioners and was particularly concerned about the provision of continuing medical education in areas which did not have easy access to local teaching facilities.

He provided funds in his Will for the provision of educational activities in Obstetrics and Gynaecology for rural practitioners both in South Africa and beyond our borders.

The projects which are funded through the JC Coetzee Trust are broadly divided into three groups. When the original bequest was made, there was considerable debate how to utilise this maximally and this programme was devised through the College for the JC Coetzee Trust. The aim of the Trust Fund is to provide educational input, support in rural areas and also to provide input into sub-Saharan Africa. In the past permission has been given to run CME courses in metropolitan areas, provided they are aimed at primary care physicians.

Essentially this programme concentrates on three main areas of input.

J C Coetzee Refresher Courses

These courses are aimed at obstetrician/gynaecologists, family practitioners, midwives and other healthcare workers who are involved in Women's Health. These courses are usually organised in an area which does not have a Faculty of Health Sciences, although family practitioner refresher courses have been organised within academic centres. This particular programme enjoys the most input from the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists (COG(CMSA)) and from Departments of Obstetrics and Gynaecology in South Africa.

Several visits have been undertaken and funded through this programme during the period under review. The plans for 2007 are already well advanced. Requests for funding have been reviewed and submitted by a number of the Universities and these activities will continue in 2007.

University of Pretoria

Very successful courses were run during the past year and were well attended. The programmes were presented by Professor Peter McDonald, Prof Greta Dreyer, Dr Hendrik Lombaard and Dr Leon Snyman in the following centres.

Polokwane : 8 June 2006

Topics addressed:

HIV Update	(Prof McDonald)
Diabetes in Pregnancy	(Dr Lombaard)
Ectopic Pregnancy	(Dr Snyman)
Vaginal Infections	(Prof McDonald)
PET Management	(Dr Lombaard)
Caesarean Section on Request	(Prof McDonald)
HRT	(Dr Snyman)
Fetal Monitoring	(Dr Lombaard)
Cervical Screening	(Dr Snyman)

The feedback from this course was extremely good and requests have been made for the course to be repeated.

Rustenburg : 21 September 2006

Topics addressed:

Management of the pregnant HIV Infected patient	(Prof McDonald)
Cervical Smears	(Dr Snyman)
HPV Testing and Vaccines	(Prof Dreyer)
Ante Partum Haemorrhage	(Prof MacDonald)
PID and Bartholin's Abscesses and Cysts	(Prof Dreyer)
Diagnosis and Management of Unruptured Ectopic Pregnancies	(Dr Snyman)
Female Sexual Dysfunction	(Dr Snyman)
Caesarean Section in S A	(Prof MacDonald)

University of Stellenbosch

Zithulele : 25 to 30 June 2006

Prof Gerhard Theron, who undertook this visit, reported that he did several ward rounds, gave lectures to the nursing staff on antenatal care, the first and second stages of labour and the correct use of the partogram and had several informal discussions with doctors. An external cephalic version discussion was arranged, with demonstration on a patient.

An educational day was arranged for all nurses working in primary health care facilities in the Umtata and Nqanduli districts held at the Vidgesville Primary Health Care Centre, which was very well attended. Lectures included all the topics discussed at Zithulele.

University of Cape Town

Monthly visits to Port Elizabeth and East London have continued. The norm has been for each of these visits to be undertaken by one or two specialists from the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology of the University of Cape Town. Specialised clinical services such as advanced ultrasound scanning or oncological surgery are also provided depending on the skills and the pre-arrangements with the visiting lecturer.

The visitors arrive in Port Elizabeth on a Wednesday afternoon, participate in academic activities in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at Dora Nginza Hospital. These include ward rounds and case presentations. The evening is spent at a CME presentation for senior staff from the hospital and private practitioners.

On the Thursday morning a teaching labour ward round takes place followed by clinical teaching and case presentations. There is an opportunity for registrar staff to gain personal tuition.

On Thursday afternoon the lecturers travel to East London and undertake clinical ward rounds and case discussions followed by lectures to junior staff in the Postgraduate Centre at Frere Hospital. In the evening a meeting is organised with local specialists and senior members of the hospital staff. This usually takes the form of a lecture and discussion session.

On the Friday morning the visitors visit the Cecilia Makiwane Hospital where they attend a perinatal mortality meeting and participate in teaching ward rounds in both Obstetrics and Gynaecology. They usually return to Cape Town early on Friday afternoon.

The opinions of the staff at the centres in both Port Elizabeth and East London are canvassed every year and the visits for the coming year and the frequency of the visits are determined according to this feedback.

The latest feedback included a request that the visits should continue in 2007 and that the clinical expertise was particularly valued.

The visiting lecturers and their lecture topics are documented.

24 – 26 May 2006

Dr C Stewart : The depressed pregnant patient
Dr G Miles : Surgery pelvic organ prolapse: current evidence

7 – 9 June 2006

Dr G Draper : Evidence to aid the use of injectable contraception
: The investigation and management of SGA fetus

26 – 28 July 2006

Prof S Fawcus : 11 Stories of postpartum haemorrhage
: Morbidity adherent placenta
Dr M Matjila : Recurrent pregnancy

23 – 25 August 2006

Prof L Denny : HPV vaccines
Dr S Dyer : Endometriosis update

27 – 29 September 2006

Prof J Anthony : Confidential enquiries into maternal mortality 2002 – 2004
Dr T T Matebese : Puberty

18 – 20 October 2006

Dr G Petro : Water birthing
 Dr M Moss : Instrumental Vaginal Delivery
 : Contraception in the Older Woman

22 – 24 November 2006

Dr M Besser : PMPCT revisited
 : Infertility and HIV care

21 – 23 February 2007

Prof Z M v d Spuy : Reproductive health during the menopause transition
 : Non-reproductive consequences of polycystic ovary syndrome

28 – 30 March 2007

Dr O Olarogun : Laparoscopic Management of Endometriosis
 Dr N Sigcu : Antenatal Screening

The JC Coetzee Medical Development Programme to Sub-Saharan Africa

This programme affords the COG(CMSA) the opportunity of either providing lecturers or examiners to Faculties elsewhere in Africa or allows us to bring colleagues to South Africa for training courses. The programme may include developing specific skills in a facility elsewhere in Africa or running an educational course in a Faculty in Africa. It also allows us to identify colleagues in Africa who require special training and supporting them during their stay in South Africa.

The JC Coetzee Lectureship

This biennial lectureship is delivered at a congress organised by the College of Family Practitioners. The lecturer has to be from the discipline of Obstetrics and Gynaecology but the choice of lecturer is left to the organisers of the congress. Prof Franco Guidozi was the last J C Coetzee lecturer at the National Congress of Family Medicine in 2005.

THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE AND FORMATION OF A FEDERATION OF AFRICAN COLLEGES OF MEDICINE

This initiative was mooted generally to address some of the Millenium Development Goals in the area of Health and the challenges in sub-Saharan Africa identified by President Lizo Mazwai when he took up the office of President. The final impetus came from the Golden Jubilee Celebrations in 2005, which served as a spring board for the concept.

The objectives of the initiative are to forge stronger academic links and share in matters of common interest pertaining to Academic Medicine in Africa. Some of these areas will include:

1. Human Resource Development for Health.
2. Academic activities such as conferencing and examinations.
3. Challenges in service delivery in the light of the brain drain from Africa.
4. The impact of socio-economic conditions on disease patterns and how to collectively and strategically meet these challenges.

Prof Lizo Mazwai, in his capacity as President, attended a meeting of the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) in Blantyre, Malawi in November 2006 (facilitated by the RCS (Edin)). The meeting afforded him the opportunity to meet with colleagues and introduce the idea.

It became evident that, though the idea of a Federation was desirable, certain logistics would make the start difficult due to some of the challenges of Africa, e.g. geographical spread, communication and language and transnational and international political dynamics. The issues of governance, secretariat and headquarters, for example, could stall the formation of the Federation if a top-down approach was followed. The impression was that the Federation should develop in an evolutionary, bottom-up approach.

Prof Mazwai's recommendation to Senate, therefore, was that the initial approach should be an informal "Association of Colleges" one, on the basis of collaboration in various fields such as education and training. Examples already existed of Pan African Associations, e.g. Surgeons (PAAS) and Paediatric Surgeons (PAAPS).

It was agreed in principle that members of the African Colleges would be invited to examine, or observe, at examinations of the CMSA. The suggestion was that the constituent Colleges could consider inviting perhaps one examiner per year and this is being pursued. A strategy is being developed on how to proceed and procure the required funding.

It was also agreed that interaction between the constituent Colleges of the CMSA and the African Colleges would be encouraged. A good example cited was the interaction of the College of Surgeons (CMSA) with representatives of the Ghanaian College of Physicians and Surgeons. Their interest was mainly for examiners to participate in their College examinations. This has now been extended with a further visit being planned for November 2007 which would include, amongst others, the College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and College of Paediatricians.

An invitation will be extended to the President of COSECSA, Prof Krikor Ertzingatsian, to attend the CMSA activities in Johannesburg in October 2007 as they are keenly interested in learning about the CMSA's statutes, rules and regulations on how to run examinations, admission ceremonies, etc.

ASSOCIATION OF MEMBERS

KwaZulu-Natal

The medico-legal ethics lectures continue to be popular. Scenarios from the April 2006 meeting, with comments from medical specialists and a legal expert, were published in the August 2006 CMSA News Bulletin.

Meetings were held as follows:

13 September 2006

"Whistleblowing – impaired or unethical behaviour of colleagues"

8 November 2006

“Super-session (patient pinching)”

28 February 2007

“The role of journalism in the responsible reporting of health issues”

12 April 2007

HIV-AIDS issues.

Functions for Committee Members and Candidates

A cocktail party for successful candidates in the March-May 2006 examinations was held on 2 June 2006 which was well attended and appreciated by all concerned.

On 3 November 2006 a final end of year combined function was held for all committee members and successful candidates in the August-October 2006 examinations.

Western Cape

The first function was held at the College office in Rondebosch on 21 November 2006 and was attended by almost 180 members and their partners. Prof Solly Benatar gave a thought provoking and challenging talk on *“What is Happening to Professionalism in Medicine in South Africa”*, after which Prof Zephne van der Spuy welcomed candidates who were successful in the 2006 examinations. The evening was concluded with cocktails.

It was agreed that this would be the norm for the future and Dr André Venter has been invited to give the next talk, on HIV/AIDS related matters at a function on 20 November 2007.

CMSA PROPERTIES

Grant-in-Aid in Respect of Rates : 17 Milner Road, Rondebosch

The Cape Town City Council has again approved the CMSA’s application for a grant-in-aid in lieu of rates. R46 124 was granted for the 2006/2007 financial year.

Development of Durban Property : 12 Glastonbury Place, Congella

During the past year the Colleges of Medicine Foundation (CMF) and the CMSA jointly agreed to make bridging finance available for the purchase of two properties adjacent to the existing College building (Nos 14 and 16 Glastonbury Place). An architectural plan was presented to the Board of Trustees of the CMF and to the CMSA Senate in May 2007.

At the Trustees meeting in May, Prof Y K Seedat gave first option to the CMSA for the purchase of his premises (No 10 Glastonbury Place) with the promise that the proceeds of the sale would be used for a research scholarship to be administered by the CMSA. Prof Seedat’s offer was accepted with sincere appreciation.

A more definite proposal, incorporating all four sites (10 – 16 Glastonbury Place) will be presented to Senate for consideration in October 2007.

TAX IMPLICATIONS OF THE CHANGE OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE OF SOUTH AFRICA (CMSA) AND THE COLLEGES OF MEDICINE FOUNDATION (CMF)

The Tax Executive of Edward Nathan Sonnenbergs, Mr Mansoor Parker, was asked to guide the CMSA Senate and members of the Board of Trustees of the CMF on certain matters where uncertainties existed. These are recorded hereunder in “question” and “answer” format:

Q Would Transfer Duty become payable if the CMF property was transferred to the CMSA or would the tax exemptions granted to the CMSA apply?

A Should the CMF property be transferred to the CMSA, transfer duty would not be payable *provided that the property was acquired by the CMSA for the purpose of carrying on one or more of its approved public benefit activities.*

Q What would the position be in respect of Capital Gains Tax?

A *If the transfer of the CMF property was made as a donation which resulted in liability for CGT, the Foundation would be exempt from the payment of such CGT as the recipient (CMSA) was an approved public benefit organisation. Thus, if as mentioned above, the transfer of the Foundation's property was a donation or transferred at less than market value, donations tax would not be payable.*

Q Would the fact that the CMSA would be renting out this property affect its tax exemption status?

A *The rental of property was regarded as a trade for income tax purposes and accordingly the CMSA would be obliged to pay income tax upon the rental receipts unless the receipts could be brought within any one of the exemptions contained in items (aa), (bb), (cc) and (dd) of section 10(1)(cN). The rental income received by the CMSA would be fully taxable at a rate of 29%.*

Q If there were any reservations about this point, what would the position be as far as Transfer Duty and Capital Gains Tax were concerned, if the property was transferred to the CMF to administer?

A *Since the Foundation was not exempt from the payment of tax, if the property were to be transferred to it to administer, transfer duty would be levied on the value of the property and would be payable by the Foundation. Therefore the transfer of the property to the Foundation would have to be at market value so as to avoid any prejudice on the side of the CMSA.*

The CMSA would not be liable for the payment of capital gains tax as public benefit organisations were also exempt from CGT on the disposal of an asset provided that the public benefit organisation did not use the asset in carrying on any business undertaking or trading activity or substantially the whole of the asset was directed at a purpose other than carrying on a business undertaking or trading activity. If the CMSA rented out the property prior to transferring same to the Foundation, the CMSA would be considered to have conducted a business

undertaking and would be liable for the payment of CGT on the subsequent transfer of the CMF property to the Foundation.

LINKS WITH OTHER PROFESSIONAL BODIES

Health Professions Council of South Africa

Prof Thanyani Mariba, Chairman of the Medical and Dental Professions Board, continues to make himself available to attend CMSA Senate meetings. This greatly facilitates discussion on important matters of mutual interest.

As recorded before, the CMSA enjoys representation on the Subcommittee for Postgraduate Training and Education (Medical) of the Medical and Dental Professions Board of the HPCSA. Prof John Robbs has just been elected to represent the CMSA on the Board.

Department of National Health

Interactions between the CMSA and the Department of National Health, particularly through the good offices of Dr Percy Mahlati, Deputy Director General Human Resource Planning, Development and Management, have been continuing.

At the strategic planning meeting of the CMSA in August 2006 in Cape Town, attended by Dr Mahlati, the issue of current and future relationships between the CMSA and the Department of National Health was further debated. The sentiment expressed as a resolution was that the CMSA should have a more formal and structured relationship with the Department of Health. To achieve this goal, a CMSA steering committee was formed with the President tasked to write to the Director General, Mr Thamsanqa Mseleku, to open dialogue that would see realisation of this objective. Proposals were submitted by the CMSA for consideration at a meeting that took place in the office of the Director General on 4 October 2006, attended by members of the CMSA steering committee, Mr Mseleku and Dr Mahlati.

The College's mission to be acknowledged as an authoritative body of medical and dental professionals who could be a resource to Government, is becoming a reality. An example of this is the request by Dr Percy Mahlati that the CMSA and its Specialist Groups participate in a workshop scheduled to take place on 3 August 2007, when critical aspects of the implementation of the HRH Planning Framework will receive attention.

Department of National Education

A formal and structured relationship is now also sought with the Department of National Education, similar to the relationship that exists with the Department of National Health and a letter has, therefore, been addressed to the Director General, Mr Duncan Hindle, informing him that the CMSA would welcome the opportunity, as a stakeholder, to comment on legislation and policy matters and participate at National Department of Education fora. Mr Hindle has also been invited to attend CMSA Senate meetings, or to nominate a designated representative to attend on his behalf.

RELATIONS WITH SISTER COLLEGES AND ACADEMIES

Contact with Sister Colleges and Academies remain of extreme importance and every effort is made by the CMSA to attend their conferences and meetings. Intercollegiate relationships were fostered at the following meetings where the CMSA was represented:

40th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine : 24 to 27 August 2006, Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre, Petaling Jaya, Selangor

Representative : Prof Lizo Mazwai (President)

The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada : Annual Conference to be held in Ottawa from 28 – 30 September 2006

Representative : Prof Lizo Mazwai (President)

Academy of Medicine, Hong Kong hosting the IACAP Meeting and an International Congress in collaboration with the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (the closure of their Quincentenary Celebrations) : 10 – 13 October 2006

Representative : Prof Lizo Mazwai (President)

International Liaison Committee of Presidents (ILCP) of the English Speaking Colleges of Pathologists to be hosted by the College of American Pathologists in October 2006

Representative : Prof Simon Nayler (President C PATH)

Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland : Charter Day Dinner held on 17 February 2007

Representative : Prof Lizo Mazwai (President)

Recognition

Sponsorship of the overseas visits by the Colleges of Medicine Foundation is customarily acknowledged.

THE CMSA ACTING AS HOST TO OVERSEAS COLLEGES AND ACADEMIES

Joint Conference of the Royal College of Physicians and the College of Physicians (CMSA) : 22 – 24 February 2007

The President of the College of Physicians, Prof Ken Huddle, hosted this joint meeting at the Vineyard Hotel. The arrangements were ably convened by Prof Janet Seggie and delegates commented on the very high standard of the academic programme.

It was an honour for the President of the CMSA, Prof Lizo Mazwai, to admit Prof Ian Gilmore, President of the Royal College, to Honorary Fellowship of the College of Physicians of South Africa at a special conferral ceremony at the Congress Dinner held at Kirstenbosch.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Senate wishes to place on record its gratitude of the immeasurable contributions of honorary officers, examiners, trustees, councillors of constituent Colleges and committee members who continue to serve the CMSA on an ongoing basis despite numerous other commitments.

A word of thanks also to members of the CMSA and others who actively participated in the vast number of activities that took place during this past year, and particularly to those who contributed to the success of the projects referred to in this report.

Finally, it is always an immense pleasure for Senate to acknowledge the loyal and dedicated service of the full-time staff of our College who render a vital service far beyond the normal call of duty.

Bernise Bothma
CEO