

The Association for Clinical Biochemistry and Laboratory Medicine



FEDERATION OF CLINICAL SCIENTISTS

NOTICE OF AN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty-Second Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Clinical Scientists will take place at 13:00 hours on **Friday 3rd May 2019**, at Boisdale 2, SEC, Glasgow.

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To receive and, as the members see fit, to approve the Minutes of the twenty-first Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Clinical Scientists held on 8th June 2018 at Manchester Metropolitan University.
3. To consider matters arising from those minutes.
4. To receive the Chairman's report.
5. To receive the National Negotiator's report.
6. To receive the Secretary's report.
7. To receive the Treasurer's report.
8. To consider any other competent business.

Note to Agenda Item 8

Members wishing to raise issues under Item 8 are requested to give advanced notice to the FCS Secretary (email: secretary.fcs@acb.org.uk) by 26th April 2019.

L Garrison
Secretary

THE ASSOCIATION FOR CLINICAL BIOCHEMISTRY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE FEDERATION OF CLINICAL SCIENTISTS

Minutes of the Twenty-First Annual General Meeting of the Federation of Clinical Scientists, held at Lecture Theatre G78 of the Brooks Building, Manchester Metropolitan University, on Friday, 8th June 2018.

The Chairman of the FCS, Dr A P Taylor, called the meeting to order at 13:22h.

Present: Andrew Taylor, Chairman
Emma Lewis, Secretary
Geoff Lester, National Negotiator & NHS Staff Council representative
Mike Bosomworth, Treasurer

and 38 other FCS members

21.1 Apologies for absence

Received from Dr I M Godber, Dr W J Marshall, Mrs S C Barnes and Dr M P Cornes.

21.2 Minutes of the twentieth FCS AGM held at held on 5th May 2017 at the Royal Armouries in Leeds

These were received and APPROVED. The acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr P Newland, seconded by Dr G McCreanor and carried *nemine contradicente*.

21.3 To consider matters arising

There were none.

21.4 Chairman's report by Andrew Taylor (APT)

The Federation addressed a number of important issues during 2017. As mentioned in the report of the previous year, revision of the Agenda for Change pay structure was under consideration but at that time there had been little progress towards any proposals. Work has now been carried out, involving the NHS Trade Unions and the Department of Health, resulting in proposed changes to pay bands coupled to increased levels of pay. Members will have seen the details of the proposals, and the helpful explanation of how these will affect individuals, in the Briefing provided by our National Negotiator. The FCS, through consultation via Regional Representatives and a dedicated email address, has agreed to accept the proposal.

Your representatives experienced a busy year assisting members with a variety of cases some of which were quite complicated and I would like to acknowledge the effort and, in some situations, the ingenuity, afforded by my colleagues in resolving these difficult matters.

Reorganisation within Public Health England was mentioned last year and this continues, with support to members working in a number of laboratories. Alongside this is the consolidation of the genetics service with a reduction in the number of Centres. While details are not yet finalised, some members

have already been affected and have required our help. Together with the Association, we are following developments in the NHS Improvement requirement for consolidation of laboratory services in England and how these plans may affect members. Similar initiatives may follow in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Our trainee members have been active during the last year, promoting the benefits of membership of the Association and the Federation at suitable events and with a printed leaflet.

Finally, I wish to record the considerable contributions of my fellow officers and members of the Federation Executive throughout my term of office as your chairman. I continue to be impressed by their knowledge and dedication to the well-being of the membership.

21.5 National Negotiator's report by Geoff Lester (GHL)

NHS Pay Award

Details of the NHS England pay offer have been published in ACB News; these include a cost of living increase alongside restructuring of Agenda for Change pay bands. Any members facing issues are advised to challenge this through the employment tribunal system. Pay band overlap has been removed in line with the notion of equal pay for work of equal value. The Department of Health initially resisted due to lack of modelling resource required, however this appears to have been the Secretary of State for Health response to the winter crisis. Details are available on the ACB website relating to when the money should be seen in pay packets and how it will be backdated. Medical consultant and junior contracts are under separate negotiations.

Pensions Contributions

Trade unions are in the process of advising the Secretary of State on pensions contribution structure to apply from 2019. In response to the AfC band 8a "poison chalice" the FCS have argued that "cliff-edges" should be smoothed out. The FCS will continue to argue based on the mandate from FCS Members provided via the Regional Representatives. There is a requirement for the pensions yield to increase to 9.8% as the current delivery has been 9.5%. The FCS is arguing for the minimum impact on take home pay.

Succession Planning

GHL noted that he plans to continue attending the NHS Pensions Board to represent the FCS. Michael Cornes will be shadowing GHL at the Staff Council.

21.6 Secretary's report by Emma Lewis (EJL)

Members' cases

FCS representatives have again this year provided advice to members on a range of subjects, some just short pieces of advice whilst others have required more input. There have been several cases ongoing throughout the year with some carrying on over months or years. Some of these cases have required specialist input from our industrial relations officers at The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP).

Training days

We have continued with our slightly different model of training having one day of face-to-face training on the subject of organisational change in

November and then a series of shorter telephone conference style training sessions. This has allowed more representatives to attend training and allowed a variety of subjects to be covered.

Committees

There have been a few changes to FCS committee. We still have several regional representative vacancies and have recruiting new trainee members to the national committee. Andrew Taylor, who has been an active member of both the executive and national committees for many years as well as regional representative for the southern region is standing down and we wish him well in his retirement.

Wider working

During the year the Federation has responded to a number of consultations that could impact on members. Whilst some of these invited individual union responses, others required a joint Union response of which we have been part. We along with Unite and Unison have been involved with NHS Improvement around pathology reorganisation.

Thanks

We would like to thank Jess Belmonte and Elaine Sparkes from the CSP for providing our industrial relations service, working with us on some of our cases and providing our training. We would also like to extend our thanks to the office staff at Tooley Street for all their help and support during the year

21.7 Treasurer's report by Mike Bosomworth (MB)

As noted at the previous AGM, the ACB auditors have stated that the ACB is not required to keep separate accounts for the Federation.

The ACB Council has deemed to propose raising the Federation membership fee for 2018 from the current 2017 fee of £97.50 to a new fee of £100.25. No objections were raised.

21.8 Any other business

Prof Ian Young noted thanks to APT for his five years of service as Chairman of the FCS, in addition to his wider work for the FCS and ACB.

The meeting closed at 13:39h.