

The 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland established pursuant to the Pharmacy Act 2007 was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 in the Swift Room in the Gresham Hotel, O'Connell Street, Dublin 1.

Council Members present: Ms. N. Harvey, President, Mr. Paul Fahey, Vice-President, Mr. S. Boyle, Mr. J. Collins, Ms. M. Doherty, Dr. P. Gallagher, Mr. E. Hanly, Dr. J. Hillery, Mr. A. Horan, Ms. M. Ní Longáin, Prof. J. Nunn, Mr D. O'Loughlin, Asst. Comm. N. O'Sullivan.

PSI staff in attendance: Dr. A. McLoughlin (Registrar), Ms. J. Aylward, Mr. J. Bryan, Ms. L. Horgan, Ms. L. Kielty, Ms. C. Nestor, Ms. K. O'Flaherty.

### **1. Apologies**

Dr. A. Frankish, Ms. C. Hallahan, Mr. S. Hurley, Ms. I. Kelleher, Ms. D. Larkin, Dr. B. Leddy, Ms. K. Mulvenna, Ms. R. Purcell

The President introduced Mr. John C. O'Connor and Mr. Peter Benson, Solicitors, who were in attendance at the meeting in their capacity as advisers to the Inspection and Enforcement Committee and the PSI. Mr. Jim McCullough B.L. was in attendance as an independent Legal Assessor to the Council in their deliberations during the Private part of the Agenda.

### **2. Draft Minutes of Council meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> May 2009 (Appendix A: sent 1<sup>st</sup> July 2009)**

The draft minutes of Meeting Number 11, 26<sup>th</sup> May 2009, were approved. The Minutes were proposed and seconded:

1. Ms. M. Ní Longáin 2. Dr. P. Gallagher

### **3. Recommendation on the award of the design, development, delivery and management of the interim in-service practical training programme for the pre-registration training year (Verbal Update: Registrar and Prof. J. Nunn)**

Dr. P. Gallagher left the room at this point, due to a conflict of interest. The Registrar outlined the background to this issue and reported that the Professional Development and Learning Committee had that morning unanimously endorsed the recommendation presented to them on the award of the design, development, delivery and management of the interim in-service practical training programme for the pre-registration training year. The President invited Prof. J. Nunn to address Council on this matter.

Prof. Nunn indicated that this interim plan was designed to address the shortage of placements for pre-registration students. Council was informed that a call for proposals had issued from the PSI on 10<sup>th</sup> June to four institutions, following meetings between the PSI and the Minister for Health and Children, Minister for Education and Science, senior officials of the Department of Health and Children, and the Higher Education Authority, in addition to formal communication and discussion with representatives of the fourth year pharmacy students. Council was also informed that independent legal advice was obtained on behalf of the Professional Development & Learning Committee which confirmed that the call for proposals process was in line with the legal principles and the

legislation that framed the call. Ms. L. Horgan reported that three proposals were subsequently received, and these were forwarded to an independent assessor, Mr. Philip Green. Mr. Green's recommendations were received on 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Council noted that the independent assessor had confirmed that he was satisfied with the probity and integrity of the process established by the PSI to assess the proposals.

The Registrar reported that the results had been anonymised in the interest of fairness, and to ensure confidentiality. The scores awarded to each higher education institution (HEI) by the independent assessor were announced to Council on an anonymised basis by Ms. Horgan.

The Registrar indicated that he had received an indication from the Heads of the Schools of Pharmacy that the programme, while designed, delivered and managed by one school, could be recognised by all three Schools and that it was probable that each would then be in a position to award a Master of Pharmacy degree to their own graduates. The Registrar informed Council that he had been advised by the heads of school that discussions had commenced to deal with the issue of the award of the Masters degree.

The Registrar thanked the Schools and all concerned for their support and commitment in the process. He confirmed that Council will be presented in September with a formal proposal prepared by the legal advisers for the necessary delegations to be made by Council that will be required to implement the new programme and which will be on the basis of a memorandum of understanding between the PSI and the HEI that submitted the selected proposal.

Council unanimously approved the recommendation of the independent assessor as endorsed by the Professional Development & Learning Committee. The Registrar noted that Council's decision will allow the HEI selected to design and develop the new interim programme over the Summer months in advance of a 1 October 2009 commencement.

#### **4. FIP 2013**

The President confirmed that the Registrar had received formal notification that Annual FIP World Congress will be held in Dublin in 2013, coinciding with the Irish Presidency of the EU. The President thanked the Registrar in particular for his work on this matter. The President also thanked former Presidents Dr. B. Leddy and Mr. B. Hayes, along with Mr. P. Fahey and Ms. K. O'Flaherty for their hard work in achieving this result. The Registrar thanked Mr. Seamus Feely, Secretary General of the IPU, Ms. Liz Hctor, President of the IPU, Ms. Elaine Conyard, President of the HPAI, Ms. Anne Nolan, Chief Executive of the IPHA. He also thanked the Taoiseach, the Minister for Health and Children, and relevant members of government and opposition spokespersons. In addition, the Registrar thanked Mr. Michael Scanlan, Secretary General of the Department of Health and Children, Mr. Dermot McCarthy, Secretary General of the Department of the Taoiseach, and the Heads of the three Schools of Pharmacy.

The Registrar reported that the formal FIP document confirming the arrangement is expected to be signed within the next few days.

The President indicated that the next meeting was scheduled for 29<sup>th</sup> September, but that there may be a need for an extra meeting in mid-September.

The meeting adjourned at 1.15pm.