

Teleconference 9th Dec 2009 at 0800

Present: Patrick Chinnery, Heather Angus-Leppan, Rustam Al-Shahi Salman, Huw Morris, Martin Rossor & Beth Mallam

9/7 The previous minutes were accepted as a true record.

9/8 Update on the fellowships scheme.

PC described progress with the fellowships scheme, which has secured ~£0.5M for the first round in Spring 2010. PC will discuss the schedule of events with Karen Reeves next week, and receive final approval from the President before advertising the scheme in January 2010, working towards an interview date in July 2010. CRAC will convene the interview panel. HAL suggested co-opting a generic lay member to the panel, possibly identified through the Neurological Alliance.

9/9 BNSU.

RASS updated CRAC on the list of adopted studies, highlighting those that will be removed from the list and those that will continue to run. CRAC approved the study on Lambert Eaton myasthenic syndrome which will be added to the list. CRAC discussed ways of increasing compliance with the BNSU system, which has a <60% response rate. Any change to the system will incur additional costs, but there was general agreement that this should be a high priority for CRAC, and should be discussed at council.

RASS agreed to draft a short report summarizing the current state of the BNSU, with action points aimed at increasing compliance/effectiveness.

HM suggested the importance of including secretaries e-mails in the notification system.

RASS highlighted the importance of an up-to-date members database, which HAL will consider.

The BNSU will be publicized at the ABN meeting in Bournemouth at the academic fair. Ideally a plenary platform presentation should engage the whole membership.

9/10 CLRN - engaging with industry studies PC discussed the role of CRAC in engaging the ordinary membership of the ABN in recruiting for portfolio studies, especially those with an industry sponsor. MR agreed, and PC will invite Clive Hawkins to join CRAC, as national lead for the nervous system disorders CLRNs.

9/11 Bournemouth academic careers fair.

BM has contacted academic departments this week, inviting them to join the academic fair in Bournemouth. Two responses have been returned to date.

9/12 RCP Workshop, November 9

PFC attended on behalf of the ABN. A draft report will be circulated when available.

9/12 Next meeting.

At the ABN spring meeting in Bournemouth - details will be circulated neared the time.