

# Annual Fellows' Meeting 6 December 2022



The programme will be held online as two separate sessions.

#### 14.30 Annual General Meeting

#### 14.50 Review of the Year

The President will highlight the Academy's key achievements this year and reflect on its role at the heart of UK biomedical and health research

# 15:30 Embedding our new 10-year Strategy

The President and Executive Director will look at how the Academy's new vision and strategy is being implemented

# 15.45 Current impact, future directions

The staff team will spotlight key areas of work where the Academy is innovating to collaborative and inclusive science

- Improving research: from the Cross-sector mobility hub to FLIER 3
- Working globally: from NAM to ISPF and Plan B
- Working inclusively: from SUSTAIN to our new diversity strategy

# 16.30 Break

#### 17:00 The 2022 Jean Shanks Lecture

Mental health and disorder through a pandemic lens - populations, people and prevention

Professor Peter Jones FMedSci Professor of Psychiatry, University of Cambridge

## 18:00 Close

# Academy of Medical Sciences RC000905

President's welcome

1. Minutes

**Resolution 1:** 

Approval of the minutes of the AGM held on 7 December 2021.

2. Honorary Fellows

**Resolution 2:** 

Proposal to elect as Honorary Fellows of the Academy:

Professor Marcello Barcinski

Hilary Newiss

Julia King DBE FRS FREng (Baroness Brown of Cambridge)

- 3. Next Vice President (Non-Clinical)
- 4. Interim Registrar
- 5. Council election 2022
- 6. Fellowship election report
- 7. Deceased Fellows
- 8. Treasurer's report

Resolution 3: Adoption of the audited accounts for 2021-22.

Resolution 4: Appointment of auditors for 2022-23.

Resolution 5: Approval of Fellowship subscription rates 2023-24.

- 9. Any other business
- 10. Review of the Year

Next year's Annual Fellows' Meeting will take place on 5 December 2023.

Held on Thursday 7 December 2021 via Zoom.

#### Present:

Professor Dame Anne Johnson PMedSci, President

Professor Ed Bullmore FMedSci, Treasurer

Professor Paul Stewart FMedSci, Vice President (Clinical)

Professor Dame Jessica Corner FMedSci, Registrar

Professor Michael Malim FRS FMedSci, Vice President (Non-clinical)

Professor Frances Brodsky FMedSci, Interim Vice President (International)

Professor Tom Solomon CBE FMedSci, Vice President (International)-elect

Some 90 Fellows of the Academy

#### In attendance:

Mr Simon Denegri, Executive Director

Dr Susie Candy, Director of Biomedical Grants and Policy

Mr Nick Hillier, Director of Communications

Dr Rachel Quinn, Director of Medical Science Policy

Mr Aled Bath, Director of Finance and Resources

Staff of the Academy

#### 1. President's Welcome

The President welcomed Fellows and guests to the Academy's Annual General Meeting.

#### 2. Minutes

#### **Resolution 1**

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 3 December 2020 were approved. Fellows voted by raising their hand on camera in confirmation of their approval.

#### 3. Honorary Fellows

#### **Resolution 2**

Fellows approved the proposal that the following individuals would be invited to receive Honorary Fellowship of the Academy.

- Dame Kate Bingham
- Dr June Raine
- Dr Soumya Swaminathan

Fellows voted for each Honorary Fellow individually for clarity. It was highlighted that the Academy hoped to personally welcome new Honorary Fellows at a suitable future event.

# 4. Next Honorary Officer - Vice President (International)

Thanks were recorded to Professor Frances Brodsky FMedSci for her service as Interim Vice President International during 2021. Professor Tom Solomon CBE FMedSci, who has

been appointed next Vice President (International) with effect from this AGM, was formally welcomed to the role.

#### 5. Council election

The following retiring Ordinary Council members were warmly thanked for their service and were acknowledged as valued members of Council:

- Professor Dame Anna Dominiczak FRSE FMedSci
- Professor David Lomas FMedSci
- Professor Patrick Maxwell FMedSci

It was noted that eight candidates had competed for four vacancies on Council for 2022. 528 votes had been cast, representing 38.8% of the Fellowship. Voting was conducted online. The election was administered and monitored independently by Civica Election services.

The following Fellows were announced as the new members of Council for 2022:

- Professor Wiebke Arlt
- Professor Sadaf Faroogi
- Professor Sir Andrew Pollard
- Professor Paula Williamson

#### 6. Fellowship election report

#### 2021 Fellowship election

Professor Jessica Corner and Russell Crandon were thanked by the President for their contribution to the Fellowship election. It was noted that 60 Fellows had been elected in April 2021, and in November 2021 the total number of Fellows was 1362

Fellowship statistics were provided by the President with a breakdown of gender, ethnicity and geographic spread and areas for improvement were identified.

#### 2022 Fellowship election

It was reported that there were 52 `lapsed' candidates after the 2021 election with 275 existing eligible candidates entering the 2022 election. 91 new nominations had been received by September 2021.

A total of 366 candidates would be reviewed for the 2022 election. Up to 60 new Fellows will be elected in April 2022.

The Chairs and Members of Sectional Committees were thanked for their contributions to the Fellowship election and the timetable for the 2022/2023 was announced. The President highlighted the number of candidates and number of elected Fellows allocated to each Sectional Committee.

The President recorded with sadness the names of 8 Fellows who had died since the last AGM. Deceased Fellows are recorded on the Academy website.

#### 7. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer presented the audited Annual Report and Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2021.

Following some years of successive growth COVID had caused an overall reduction of income by £2m to just under £15m. While the Academy had continued delivering all its core activity as well as additional effort responding to COVID, some activities had been curtailed, most notably in the hospitality business, which had spent much of the year closed. Despite the impact of COVID, the Academy had managed to conserve its financial position through careful financial management and use of reserves, and some support from the government furlough scheme. A strong financial position was maintained with core funds growing from previous year, a surplus on General Fund and a healthy balance on the Designated funds to cover further strategic development and building repairs.

At just over half-way through the 2021/22 financial year, it was reported that the Academy was experiencing a return to income growth with the hospitality business very busy during the autumn and additional funding received from BEIS. Noted that looking ahead to 2022 the focus would be on improving financial sustainability and building reserves and strengthening the financial position through the new fundraising strategy and investment in resources. Membership of the Finance Committee had been refreshed with the addition of Alan Brown, bringing in more expertise on investment management. It was reported that the Finance Committee had been supporting development of the 10 year plan through a number of special meetings and workshops.

Total income in 20/21 had been just under £15m, down from just over £16.5 million, a decrease of 12% from 19/20. The reduction in income had been mirrored in reduced expenditure on charitable activities and hospitality. Expenditure on charitable activities was £14.6m, down from 2019/20 of just over £16 million, a decrease of 9%.

Average staff numbers over the year had remained fairly static. However during the early part of 2021 the Academy had received confirmation of addition funding from BEIS, which had led to a significant increase in staffing.

It was noted that 91% of the Academy's income was received for specific projects, and therefore counted as restricted income. A summary of sources of income showed that Government funding had accounted for almost 56% of total income, similar to the previous year and that Wellcome had accounted for 26% of income as compared to 20% the previous year. Fellows' subscriptions, 41 Portland Place, Research Councils and other smaller funders of the Academy's grant schemes accounted for the remaining sources of income during the year.

Income from trading activities in the previous period had provided 40% of General Fund income for the year and had been running around this level for several years. COVID

restrictions and the loss of the Academy's previous tenant just before COVID had led to an over 80% reduction in income to the General Fund. It was reported that a new tenant had been acquired since the end of lock-down, and that recovery of the hospitality business continued (due in part because many clients had chosen to delay rather than cancel booked events).

Total expenditure had decreased to just under £15 million from £17 million. A total of £14.6 million (or 98%) of expenditure had been on charitable activities – with the most significant expenditure against strategic objectives shown in the accounts. Under 2% of expenditure had been on generating funds and other income streams, i.e. the costs of the conference business and the Academy's fundraising team. Expenditure by activity had focussed on developing talented researchers and influencing policy and research. Where previously expenditure specific to engaging public and patients had been reported separately, this had now been rolled into `influencing policy and research' to reflect the linkage between projects. Activity such as the Departure Lounge, Planet Divoc-91, Preparing for a challenging winter, Coronovirus, mental health and neuroscience were reported under influencing policy although they all had a major element of public/patient engagement.

Total funds at the end of financial year were £12 million with Restricted and Endowment funds (held for specific purposes set out by donors) accounting for £6.95 million. Designated funds (held to cover the risks associated with 41 Portland Place, depreciation and long-term building costs and the trading company loan) accounted for £3.27 million.

A Designated Development Fund of £0.61 million was held for initiating activities identified by strategic priorities and to support investment in infrastructure. The General Fund was at £1.54 million – within the target range of £1.3m - £1.8m as set out in the Academy's reserves policy.

A breakdown of the underlying assets showed that buildings and contents accounted for just over £5 million of the total £12 million underlying assets of the Academy group. The valuation of 8 Weymouth Mews was unchanged from the previous year – despite the general downturn in commercial property, the tenancy had been renewed and was expected to continue to generate a similar level of income.

Net current assets had totalled £3.4 million including cash held in advance of grant payments. Investments of £3.3 million were held and managed by Sarasin & Partners LLP in their Charity Endowment and Income & Reserves Funds and had performed well in the year. Over the last three years, the Long-Term portfolio had achieved a return of +9.5% per annum after all costs against the benchmark of +8.5% and the current estimate of the ARC Steady Growth Peer Group which is +6.7%. Income generated from investments and deposits had been of £126k.

It was recommended to raise Fellows subscriptions for 2022/23 by 3%, bringing Clinical subscriptions to £378 and Non-Clinical subscriptions to £225 for the next year. Subscriptions would be due on 1 April 2022 and the Treasurer encouraged Fellows to

contact the Finance team to update any changes of bank details for direct debit payments.

#### **Resolution 3**

The audited Report and Financial Statements for the year ending 31 March 2021 were adopted.

#### **Resolution 4**

The re-appointment of auditors PKF Littlejohn for 2021/22 was approved.

#### **Resolution 5**

The Treasurer's recommendation that Fellows' subscription rates for 2022/23 be uplifted by 3% was agreed and the new rates approved.

# 8. Any other business

There were no further items of business.

Dame Anne closed the meeting by acknowledging the Academy's institutional supporters, the Department of Health and Social Care; the Department of Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS); Wellcome and all funding partners on the Academy's grants and careers support schemes and agencies who have supported our policy work as well as FORUM members and generous individual donors and the Academy's Helix Group.

Fellows, whose excellence provides the cornerstone of Academy work, Officers, Council, collaborators, partners and Academy staff were acknowledged and thanked for their part in the Academy's achievements of the year.

#### Professor Marcello Barcinski

Following his medical training, Marcello Barcinski undertook post-medical and postdoctoral training at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York and at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda. He began his research training at the Institute of Biophysics (now Instituto de Biofísica Carlos Chagas Filho) at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro where he eventually became Professor of Biophysics - his research focussing on biophysics and immunology, immunoparasitology and translational medicine with an emphasis on the effects of programmed cell death by apoptosis. Taking advantage of the multidisciplinary approach to science prevailing at the Institute of Biophysics, he created the Laboratory of Immunogenetics which expanded its frontiers into several areas of immunological research and grew to what is now the Immunology Program, producing high quality research and providing training for PhD candidates in Immunology. In 1991, he moved to the Department of Parasitology at the University of São Paulo, with the aim of furthering research in Immunoparasitology. In 1998, he became Commander in Brazil's National Order of Scientific Merit in recognition of his work. This was followed by his appointment, by the Brazilian Ministry of Health, to assist in the reorganisation and expansion of research at the National Cancer Institute in Rio de Janeiro where he created the Division of Experimental Medicine and organised the Graduate Program in Experimental Oncology.

Professor Barcinski is a member of both the Brazilian Academy of Science and the National Academy of Medicine. He has served as Vice-President of the Brazilian Federation of Experimental Biology Societies; President of the Brazilian Society of Immunology and as a member of the Brazilian Commission of Biotechnology (CTNBio). He has also served as permanent or ad hoc member in several national and international policy-defining agencies including the Brazilian National Research Council (CNPq), National Coordination for Higher Education (CAPES) and the World Health Organization (where he served three years as member and then another three years as President of the Tropical Disease Research Steering Committee on Chagas Disease). In 2008 he received the Grand Cross Class of the National Order of Scientific Merit in 2008 awarded to researchers, academics and other knowledge agents who stand out for their work in the field of science and technology. He is now a Visiting Researcher at the Oswaldo Cruz Institute in Rio de Janeiro and remains active in publishing original and review papers in high-quality journals and mentoring graduate students in immunology and parasitology.

#### **Hilary Newiss**

Hilary Newiss is a lawyer and former partner in global law firm (now Dentons) where she specialised in intellectual property law, including patents and data in life sciences. She previously served on advisory panels for the Practical Law company where she was a founding author of the copyright and design sections.

Since retiring from legal practice, she has served on several public boards in the science, innovation, data, health and ethics fields (including the Human Genetics Commission; the National Information Governance Board for Health and Social Care; the Biobank UK

# Biographical information for proposed Honorary Fellows

Ethics and Governance Board; the Advisory Panel on Public Sector Information and the Francis Crick Institute. Other roles have included as Board member for the Accelerated Access Collaborative; Patient Champion on the Accelerated Access Review for the Office of Life Sciences; Deputy Chair of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority Appeals Committee and as a Trustee of the Roslin Foundation. She is current Trustee of the Natural History Museum which she has served since 2015 and a non-executive Director of the Health Innovation Network and the Cell and Gene Therapy Catapult. Between 2014 and 2020 she chaired National Voices, a coalition of health and care charities advocating for person-centred care. She is currently also a Steering Group member for the Intellectual Property Office.

In 2022 she became Chair of the British Science Association.

## Julia King DBE FRS FREng - Baroness Brown of Cambridge

Julia King, Baroness Brown of Cambridge is current Chair of the House of Lords Science and Technology Committee. She is a crossbench member of the Lords and present Chair of the Carbon Trust and the Henry Royce Institute for Advanced Materials. She is a Non-Executive Director of the Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult and a Council member of Innovate UK. Baroness Brown is Vice Chair of the Committee on Climate Change and leads the Adaptation Sub-Committee. She is the UK's Low Carbon Business Ambassador.

Graduating from Cambridge University in Natural Sciences followed by a PhD in fracture mechanics, King's early research in the area of fatigue, linked microstructural characteristics, deformation mode, and crack length, forms the basis of microstructural design for fatigue resistant alloys for aeroengines, contributing to the development of safer and more efficient aircraft. Following various teaching and research positions at Cambridge, she moved to Rolls Royce in 1994 where she held a series of senior positions including Head of Materials, Managing Director of Fan Systems and Engineering Director of the Marine Business. She was appointed Chief Executive of the Institute of Physics in 2002 and served as Principal of the Engineering Faculty at Imperial College between 2004-6, after which served as Vice-Chancellor at Aston University until 2016.

Julia King has held many senior public appointments and works closely with Government on education and technology issues. She was an inaugural member of the Governing Board of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology and a former member of the World Economic Forum Automotive Council. She was a Board member of the Engineering and Technology Board (now Engineering UK) and led a Royal Academy of Engineering Working Party on `Educating Engineers for the 21st Century'. She has advised the Ministry of Defence as Chair of the Defence Science Advisory Council and the Cabinet Office as a member of the National Security Forum. She was a non-executive member of the Technology Strategy Board for five years. Other roles have included as non-executive director of Angel Trains and as a non-executive director of the Green Investment Bank. She has served the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, and on the Board of Universities UK, chairing its Innovation and Growth Policy Network. In 2007 she led the King Review which examined how vehicle and fuel technologies could help to reduce carbon emissions from road transport which led

# Biographical information for proposed Honorary Fellows

to developments ranging from new Vehicle Excise Duty bands for higher emissions vehicles to Government support for the development of the electric vehicle market in the UK. She has published extensively on fatigue and fracture in structural materials and developments in aerospace and marine propulsion technology, with her work recognised through many medals and awards. Current technical contributions lie in developing evidence-based policy to address climate change.

Julia King was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering in 1997 and was appointed CBE for services to materials engineering in 1999. She has been named as an Inspiring Woman Engineer by the Royal Academy of Engineering and was promoted to DBE in 2012 for services to higher education and technology. In 2015 she was appointed to a life peerage as Baroness Brown of Cambridge. She was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 2017.

# Mental health and disorder through a pandemic lens – populations, people and prevention

The Covid-19 pandemic has highlighted the multidimensional challenges of understanding and responding to psychological distress and mental health disorders. While the SARS CoV-2 virus evolved rapidly and the characteristics of Covid-19 changed, varying public health infection-control measures affecting people in different ways within and between populations comprised a set of natural experiments. Almost three years on and supported by research leadership from the Academy and people with lived experience, evidence is accumulating about direct neuropsychiatric sequelae and the widespread indirect effects on populations and individuals associated with lockdown measures with findings that illuminate the concept of mental resilience. Further, the intricate and bidirectional relationships between mental and physical health have been highlighted by the pandemic. While these have always hidden in plain sight, clinical practice and mental health services that are, themselves, changing in the wake of the pandemic need to accommodate a realistically holistic approach.

#### Professor Peter B. Jones FMedSci



Peter B. Jones FMedSci is a Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Cambridge and Honorary Consultant Psychiatrist at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT).

Following clinical training at Westminster Medical School and three years of hospital medicine Peter studied psychiatry at the Maudsley and epidemiology at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. He was a Senior Lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry when he moved to Nottingham in 1995, thence to Cambridge in 2000.

His clinical academic interests have been in schizophrenia and psychotic disorders, developing with others CPFT's CAMEO early intervention

service for young people with first episode psychotic disorders. His research interests focus on the early life determinants of mental illness in adolescence and young adulthood and, increasingly, on randomised trials to guide treatments and study mechanisms. Peter was Director of the NIHR ARC East of England from 2008 until September 2022 and is a trustee for two mental health research charities: MQ and MHRUK.

# The history of the Jean Shanks Lecture

Dr Jean Shanks was for many years the director of one of the UK's most successful independent pathology laboratories. She established the Jean Shanks Foundation, which has been a generous benefactor to medical science. Dr Shanks died in 2000 and her trustees endowed an annual lecture at the Academy in her memory. Awardees are chosen on the basis of their outstanding contributions to medical science.

Previous Jean Shanks Lecture speakers have included:

2021: Professor Dame Sarah Gilbert FMedSci

2020: Professor Irene Higginson FMedSci

2019: Professor Sarah Tabrizi FMedSci and Professor Gillian Bates FRS FMedSci

2018: Professor Janet Rossant FRS

2017: Professor Emmanuelle Charpentier

2016: Professor Uta Frith Hon DBE FRS FBA FMedSci

A full list of previous lecture speakers can be viewed on the Academy website at: <a href="https://acmedsci.ac.uk/about/ourwork/promoting-excellence/shanks">https://acmedsci.ac.uk/about/ourwork/promoting-excellence/shanks</a>.



As the Academy heads into its 25th year, there is much for us to celebrate. Our work over the years – and most recently during the pandemic – has demonstrated what science can achieve, especially when it works hand-in-hand with patients, communities and the public.

It is thanks to our supporters, including our many donors, that we have been able to champion biomedical sciences and make a difference in public health. Please visit our website and read more about the difference we have made through the impact of our work.

Over the coming year, I am looking forward to working with our Fellows, partners, patients and the public in the UK and globally as we focus on areas that will have the greatest positive impact on the research sector to improve health.

One crucial area we have identified is supporting the next generation of researchers and equipping them with the skills to reach their full potential and become future leaders in their field. Being able to respond rapidly to the changing research landscape, support the next generation of researchers and continue to build an open, progressive, and diverse medical research community is crucial to ensuring the health of our society. But we need flexible funds to enable us to do this as we work towards achieving the Academy's new 10-year strategy that we launched earlier this year. The Academy's support for the next generation of researchers includes seven grant schemes and various career development programmes that specifically address pinch points in academic careers.

As you may have seen, we have recently launched our Christmas fundraising campaign in line with Giving Tuesday, a national day where charities reach out to their supporters. A donation today to our winter appeal will give the Academy the flexibility to respond to emerging research needs quickly, and to develop programmes that continue to support our researchers.

Please click <u>here</u> to visit the Academy's website to donate. To amend your existing donation or discuss how you can further help and get involved, please contact Kitty our Fundraising Officer who would be delighted to speak with you: <a href="mailto:katherine.postlethwaite@acmedsci.ac.uk">katherine.postlethwaite@acmedsci.ac.uk</a>

Any gift, large or small, will make a huge difference to the Academy. With your continued support we can help future-proof biomedical research for everyone.

With warmest wishes this winter, Professor Dame Anne Johnson

# We gratefully acknowledge our existing Helix donors

Our Helix Group brings together donors who give £250 or more each year to support us to deliver independent policy advice and provide crucial support for early career researchers.

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