



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

of the South African Society for Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (SASBCP)

held at the WITS Club, Johannesburg, South Africa

on **Tues 1st September 2015** at 17h30

1. Welcome

Prof Tiaan Brink welcomed all members to the AGM and particularly new members such as the Young Pharmacologists who were attending for the first time.

2. Apologies and circulation of attendance register

Present: W van Eeden, T Burger, E Kok, D Oliver, S Sabiu, M Moller, B Harvey, L Brand, S Steyn, M Hamman, J Schoeman, P van Zyl, O Ashafa, D Matlebjane, H Parkar, K Lepule, K Sheva, C Pillay, D Steyn, J Rangasamy, P Ayande, L Mathibe, N Katende-Kyenda, A Walabo, W du Plooy, L Harme, D Richardt, D Cromarty, T Onasanya, D Ameh, M Muhammad, M Bashar, A Abulfathi, F Balogun, A van Eyk, B Rosenkranz, V Steenkamp, W Cordier, A Marais, R van Zyl, J McCartney.

Apologies: R Lekhooa, C Kahler-Venter, I Truter, S Moch, J Bodenstein

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM (CTICC, Cape Town, South Africa on 14th July 2014 at 19:00).

Prof Brink introduced the new Board of Directors, which was constituted following nominations at the 2014 AGM. Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Prof R van Zyl and seconded by Prof V Steenkamp.

4. Personalia

Prof Brink congratulated the following members on their achievements:-

- Ms Rose Lekhooa on her PhD degree in pharmacology.
- Ms Shirra Moch who was awarded the prestigious WITS Vice Chancellors Teaching Award.

5. Matters arising from the previous minutes

- Prof Brink explained that many of the matters arising from the previous minutes had been included as items on the agenda. No additional matters were added.

6. Confirmation of the agenda (*additional items for §12*)

- Prof Brink asked for additional items which were then added to item 12.

7. Reports and Statistics

7.1. President's Report and acceptance

The President's Report was emailed to members and is available on the website. The President highlighted a few points in the report: membership has increased and the Society needs to work hard at keeping new members active and interested; the newly elected Board of Directors attended a Strategic Planning session in Oct 2014 to set objectives to be met over the next 3 years; the enormous success of WCP2014 and the outstanding work done by the organising committee and in particular, a special acknowledgement of the contributions by Prof B Rosenkranz and Prof D Oliver who continued working with the post-conference administrative functions and finalisation of the financial matters; IUPHAR elections of South African members; the awards and sponsors of awards, with a special thank you to Prof Rosenkranz for his involvement in ensuring financial sponsorship for the awards; the advisory role and involvement of representatives from the Young Pharmacologists.

Acceptance of the President's report was proposed by Prof B Rosenkranz and seconded by Prof W du Plooy.

7.2. Treasurer's Report and acceptance

Dr A Marais presented the Treasurers report, which had been emailed to members and is available on the website. SASBCP has a sound financial standing. Of the 206 members, there are 187 active and 100 paid up members. Dr Marais reminded members that as SASBCP is a section 21 company, members have to be paid up in order to be recognised as active members. He therefore appealed to all members to ensure 2015 subscription payments are paid by the end of the year. Prof Rosenkranz proposed that the Board consider appointing a different auditor in light of the problems experienced. Prof D Cromarty supported this proposal and the need for change. After discussion, the Board of Directors was tasked by the members to get three quotes from companies excluding the current auditor, for due consideration. Prof Brink requested that the Board be given until the end of the year to finalise this matter. Dr Marais reminded members that 1st Sept is the start of the new financial year, so this change would only come into effect next year. Acceptance of the Treasurer's report was proposed by Prof B Rosenkranz and seconded by Prof D Cromarty.

7.3. SASBCP membership

7.3.1. *Status* - discussed under item 7.2 above and in the Treasurer's Report (pg 3)

7.3.2. *Membership removal due to non-payments* - discussed under item 7.2 and in the Treasurer's report (pg 3).

7.3.3. *Honorary membership* - Prof Brink asked members to nominate possible candidates for honorary membership. The criterion for nomination should be that the candidate is a SASBCP member who has made a considerable contribution to the Society, specifically in meeting the objectives of the Society. The Board of Directors will review the nominations received and then email the members for final approval of the nominations. The nomination should take the format of a short motivation and the candidate's CV and should be emailed to office@sapharmacol.co.za by 1st October 2015.

8. Congresses held

8.1. WCP2014

Prof Brink referred to item 3.1 in the President's Report.

8.2. WITS 2015

Prof Brink thanked the conference convenor Prof R van Zyl and the organising committee for

the excellent academic programme, high standard of presentations and the overall success of this conference.

9. Upcoming congresses

9.1. *SASBCP congress 2016 and 6th ACP* - hosted by Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University (SMU). This congress will also celebrate SASBCP's 50th anniversary

- Prof Wim du Plooy as the conference convenor for the 2016 conference reminded members that this conference would be one to look forward to, as it will be an international conference, as well as the 50th anniversary of SASBCP. Members are requested to send memorabilia or photos of previous SASBCP conferences, Board of Directors, award winners, etc to the organising committee. He identified that the convenors want to expand the clinical pharmacology component, and that the programme will cater for all interests. Please let the conference convenor know of contacts in Africa who can be approached to participate, in order to increase attendance numbers. The date and venue will be announced shortly via the SASBCP website and email.

9.2. *SASBCP congress 2017* - to be determined

10. SASBCP Activities

10.1. *WCP2014* - Prof Oliver briefly provided feedback on WCP2014 (item 3.1 in President's Report)

10.2. *PharfA* - Prof Oliver highlighted activities (item 3.2 in the President's Report)

10.3. *Young Pharmacologists* - Mr W Cordier welcomed the Young Pharmacologists present at the AGM, and commented on the large number of postgrad students present at the AGM. He encouraged them all to get involved in the Society's activities and acknowledged the enormous contribution made by the Young Pharmacologists at WCP2014.

10.4. *Competitions and Awards* - refer to item 3.5 in President's Report

10.5. *Strategy and structure* - refer to item 2.3 in President's Report

11. Website

The website is currently undergoing some changes and updates. The report from Mr Bennie Kahler-Venter is available on the website.

12. Additional items

12.1 *Journal* - Prof Brink mentioned that the Board of Directors were investigating the possibility of a free-access online journal for the Society and that members would be informed of progress made. Any persons interested to get involved or drive the process is welcome to contact the Society office.

12.2 *Congress announcement* - International Symposium on Methods 2015. Prof Walubo asked members to watch for the communication about this symposium which be held in Pretoria from 23 to 25 November 2015. The symposium focus is "Methods for studying Drug Metabolism and Transport" and "African traditional medicines". The website is <http://www.methods2015.org/>.

13. Closing

Prof Brink thanked all members present and closed the meeting at 18h20.

Mrs Jane McCartney
(Secretary-General of the SASBCP)
EXCO 2014, 2015

