CHIROPRACTIC ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Saturday, 25 February 2023**

**08:00**

## Virtual

**M I N U T E S**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| DR MICHAEL PRITCHARD | PRESIDENT - ADVERTISING; ENDORSEMENTS |
| DR DANELLA LUBBE | VICE-PRESIDENT - SOCIAL MEDIA |
| DR BRIDGET BROMFIELD | SECRETARY GENERAL |
| DR CLEO PRINCE | WORLD SPINE DAY AND BACK CARE PROGRAMMES |
| DR JUSTIN ADAMS | STUDENT LIAISON AND SUSA |
| DR KESERI PADAYACHY | RESEARCH |
| DR ROWAN WHITE | MEDICAL AID AND PHISC |
| Dr KENDRAH DA SILVA | IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT |

**GUEST ATTENDEES:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Guest** | **Topic discussion - attended** |
| Dr Lisa Dickerson – Gauteng Branch Chair | Congress 2023 LOC Chair |
| Dr Christopher Yelverton | AHPCSA Chairperson |

# 1. WELCOME

* Dr Michael Pritchard welcomed and thanked all council members for their ongoing contribution.

***Quote*:** *“A winner is a dreamer who never gives up” – Nelson Mandela.*

# 2. APOLOGIES

* None

# 3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Board of Ethics defines "conflict of interest" as a situation in which personal and/or financial considerations have the potential to influence or compromise professional judgment in clinical service, research, consultation, instruction, administration, or any other professional activity.

* **None were declared.**

# 4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING

* The minutes of 18 November 2022 were tabled and accepted as accurate minutes.

**Minutes were proposed for acceptance by Dr Danella Lubbe and seconded by Dr Keseri Padayachy.**

# 5. MATTERS ARISING

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|  | Matter Arising | Feedback | Action Required | Council Member |
| 5.1 | Clinical Pathways | No feedback from Dr Lebogang Khesa regarding the Clinical Pathways. | In Process | Dr Kendrah da Silva |
| 5.2 | Paraphernalia Donation | With the passing of Dr Glynn Till, follow-up regarding the collection of the historical artefacts will be done at a later stage. | In Process | Dr Kendrah da Silva |
| 5.3 | East Coast Radio | CASA received an email from East Coast Radio. Dr Bridget Bromfield to provide feedback at the next council meeting. | In Process | Dr Bridget Bromfield |
| 5.4 | AA Rates | The AA rates per kilometre for the 2022-2023 tax year is R4.18 | Completed | Dr Bridget Bromfield |
| 5.5 | Extender Benefits | Dr Kendrah da Silva to arrange a meeting with Dr Rowan White (who is taking over the medical aid portfolio) and Kirsten Hornsfield-Blair to hand over. | In Process | Dr Kendrah da Silva / Dr Rowan White |

**Matters Arising were proposed for acceptance by Dr Justin Adams and seconded by Dr Cleo Prince.**

# 6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

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|  |  | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Endorsements** | | | |
| **6.1** | 6.1.1  6.1.2  6.1.3  6.1.4  6.1.5  6.1.6  6.1.7  6.1.8  6.1.9 | Ergotherapy renewed and signed a two year contract with CASA.  The Angel Shack endorsement contract with CASA was renewed.  Remaining endorsement contracts will be negotiated and renewed by July/August.  If any council members feel there might be a specific product worth investigating, to please raise this with him.  The endorsement requirements and vetting criteria were discussed.  The situation with Cloud Nine appears to have been resolved. CASA will keep an eye out but will try to avoid any further costs.  The contract with BackTPack was cancelled. Dr Michael Pritchard added that BackTPack should have removed the CASA brand from their advertising. Dr Danella Lubbe responded that CASA’s logo is still on the Woolworths website.  Dr Michael Pritchard has been in contact with Waltons regarding the possible endorsement of a schoolbag. Dr Michael Pritchard is awaiting the details for the schoolbag department from Waltons.  Dr Michael Pritchard is looking at doing another site visit to one of the endorsed companies to see their manufacturing plant, possibly one of the seating companies. | * Dr Michael Pritchard to follow-up with BackTPack. * Dr Michael Pritchard to follow up with Waltons. |
| **Matsogo a Sechaba (MAS)** | | | |
| **6.2** | 6.2.1  6.2.2  6.2.3  6.2.4  6.2.5  6.2.6  6.2.7 | Mr. Maluta Tshivhase (DoH) agreed to visit the University of Johannesburg’s Campus Clinic on 27 March 2023. Dr Michael Pritchard discussed the upcoming meeting.  CASA delegation to attend the visit: Dr Michael Pritchard, Dr Kendrah da Silva, Dr Lebogang Khesa, Dr Fatima Ismail, Dr Christopher Yelverton, Dr Glen Paton.  CASA will be sponsoring the refreshments.  Dr Michael Pritchard discussed the DoH visit to Durban University of Technology with Dr Desiree Varatharajullu and will follow-up after the pilot at the University of Johannesburg.  Dr Michael Pritchard advised, being able to practice in state hospitals would be a massive breakthrough in taking the chiropractic profession to underserved communities.  Dr Michael Pritchard discussed that CASA would eventually need to decide whether to continue with the Allied Health Professions Council (AHPCSA) or to slowly move across to the Health Professions council (HPCSA).  CASA will always have members’ best interest at heart and making the pathway for future generations to be part of mainstream healthcare without losing the chiropractic identity is important. |  |

**President’s Report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Kendrah da Silva and seconded by Dr Danella Lubbe.**

# 7. SECRETARY-GENERAL

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **2023 Membership numbers** | | | |
| **7.1** | 7.1.1  7.1.2  7.1.3  7.1.4  7.1.5  7.1.6 | Dr Bridget Bromfield shared the latest 2023 membership numbers with council and advised that CASA is doing extremely well for 2023.  Dr Bridget Bromfield added that she believes the membership numbers are up due to the membership renewal campaign emails, SMSs and Social Media posts.  Student numbers are also up for 2023 with 137 Students (DUT 42; UJ 95).  At the end of last year the total membership registrations for 2022 was 801, currently there are already 629 registrations for 2023.  Dr Rowan White asked for a breakdown of AHPCSA registered chiropractors vs. CASA members. Dr Bridget Bromfield responded that she would get the information and forward it to Dr Rowan White.  Dr Michael Pritchard requested for Dr Bridget Bromfield to find out the number of Osteopaths registered in South Africa. Dr Bridget Bromfield responded that there are only 3 Osteopaths registered as CASA members. However, she would find out how many registered Osteopaths there are in South Africa and forward the information to Dr Michael Pritchard. | * Dr Bridget Bromfield to forward info to Dr Rowan White. * Dr Bridget Bromfield to forward info to Dr Michael Pritchard. |
| **New Grad Handbook** | | | |
| **7.2** | 7.2.1  7.2.2  7.2.3  7.2.4 | Dr Bridget Bromfield advised that with the survey they realised that the biggest increase in number are the Student and Recent Graduate members. Therefore, a student/recent graduate drive was created with webinars content catering for students/recent graduates.  The 1st Edition of the New Grad Handbook has been wildly popular. CASA had input from DUT and UJ students and recent graduates.  Dr Bridget Bromfield presented the New Graduate Handbook to council. Dr Bridget Bromfield thanked Dr Keseri Padayachy for her assistance at DUT and Dr Danella Lubbe for her creative penmanship.  At the previous council meeting Dr Bridget Bromfield requested a welcome Video (30-second elevator pitch) for new members from Dr Cleo Prince and Dr Justin Adams. Dr Cleo Prince advised that they will be finalising and forwarding the video to Dr Bridget Bromfield the following week. | * Dr Cleo Prince to forward video to Dr Bridget Bromfield. |
| **CASA Survey** | | | |
| **7.3** | 7.3.1  7.3.2  7.3.3  7.3.4  7.3.5 | Dr Bridget Bromfield discussed the CASA Survey feedback:   * 239 Responses with a 4.33 out of 5 rating for how well CASA has met member’s expectations. * Winning a Hi-Tech voucher was a very good incentive for participation. * The voucher was won by student member, Talita Strydom.   CASA is always battling to find volunteers to join subcommittees, but the survey revealed an overwhelming response from people wanting to participate.  The most valuable member benefits are:   * Free CPD opportunities. * MPI with reduced group scheme rates.   Members want CASA to reinforce the image of chiropractic to the public and represent their interests politically.  Most important to members - Access to information and advice provided to members. |  |
| **ACF MISSION TRIP** | | | |
| **7.4** | 7.4.1  7.4.2  7.4.3  7.4.4  7.4.5  7.4.6  7.5.7 | Dr Bridget Bromfield shared that the ACF is currently working on a 8-day mission trip to Uganda, from 1 to 9 July 2023.  The experience will include:   * Treating the underserved in Jinja (at a babies then geriatric home); * Adjusting at Kupendwa Home for pregnant girls and children; * Going to the Mabira Forest community groups and Budondo rural clinic; * Visiting the Rhino Sanctuary and Murchison Falls National Park (Adjusting Wildlife rangers and school children combined with a River Cruise +/or evening safari).   The cost is US $1200 per person (R22 100). The mission trip is not to raise any money for the ACF - there is no profit being made on this trip. The group size is max 5.  Dr Bridget Bromfield will be sending this out to members within the following week.  Dr Kendrah da Silva discussed the upcoming ACF AGM in Rwanda, 9 – 11 June 2023 and advised that it is imperative for CASA to be well represented at this event.  Dr Kendrah da Silva presented a motion for CASA to pay for Dr Michael Pritchard and Dr Bridget Bromfield to attend the ACF AGM.  The motion was seconded by Dr Rowan White, council discussed the proposal, and the motion was passed with all council members in agreement. |  |

**Secretary-General’s report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Cleo Prince and seconded by** **Dr Danella Lubbe.**

# PORTFOLIO REPORTS:

## 8. Dr Danella Lubbe

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Social media** | | | |
| **8.** | 8.1  8.2  8.3  8.4  8.5  8.6  8.7  8.8  8.9  8.10  8.11  8.12  8.13  8.14  8.15  8.16  8.17  8.18  8.19  8.20  8.21  8.22  8.23  8.24  8.25  8.26  8.27  8.28 | **Closed Group Stats 22 November 2022 – February 2023:**   * Membership – There are 486 members on the closed Facebook page. * Growth 2.97% vs November 2022.   **Growth on CASA part:**   * Up from 472 to 486 members * New grads/students have been joining and making use of the page.   **Membership clean-up:**   * Facebook/Instagram clean up to commence 1 April in line with the membership drive. * Bulk email to members to ensure they re-join/ join the Social Media groups if they have been removed due to status of membership at time of clean-up. * Membership competitions on the platform ? * They have been warned in March that the page is exclusive to paid up CASA members.   **Post info and engagement:**   * 87 Posts down by 4% * 70 Comments. * 849 Reactions.   Not much change across the board for the level of engagement between the 2 quarters.  **Top Closed Group posts and interactions:**   1. Member of the month – Dr Christopher Yelverton  * Post engagement = 89 * People Reached = 359 * Reactions = 41 * Comments = 2  1. Biggest post to date – Memorial post on the passing of Dr Glynn Till:  * Post engagement = 214 * People Reached = 408 * Photo views = 129 * Comments = 24   **Bottom Closed Group post and how to change it:**   1. The endorsee’s posts remain the bottom posts on both the closed and open groups.  * Post engagement = 18 * Comments = 0 * Reactions = 3 * Photo views = 6 * Links clicked = 9   Dr Danella Lubbe asked for councils’ input on how to increase engagement.  Dr Rowan White advised that running competitions seems to be a great way to improve post engagement.  Dr Danella Lubbe responded that she would explore the option of running competitions, endorsed companies sponsoring prizes and posting competition winners.  **Moving progress for 2023:**   * Congress hype * WSD hype * Webinar adverts/ events regional and national * DCP program * Membership benefit of the month – F4CP documents (brochures and presentations) * Membership portal use to get the full membership experience (video tours/tuts etc.) * Getting more members on the CG (Insta and FB)   **Open Group:**  **Overall impressions – 28 days:**  Discovery:   * Post Reach – 10 339 * Post Engagement – 1818 * New page likes – 7 * New page followers – 16   Interactions:   * Reactions – 442 * Comments – 19 * Shares – 80 * Photo views – 522 * Link clicks – 171   Other:   * Hide all posts – 1 * Unfollows – 0   **Top posts 28 Days - Who can benefit from chiropractic care? Babies and children who suffer from spinal problems as they grow.**   * Impressions = 8877 * Reach = 5691 * Post engagement = 187 * Reactions = 17 * Comments = 2 * Shares = 15 * Clicks = 68   **CASA has a new and improved website for all to enjoy. Our Find a Chiropractor function is still there.**   * Impressions = 11960 * Reach = 8710 * Engagement = 215 * 3-second video views = 4780 * 1-minute video views – 0 * Average minutes viewed = 0:06 * Reactions = 16 * Comments = 2 * Shares = 3 * Clicks = 16 * Other clicks = 37   **Bottom posts:**  With the ever-changing medical malpractice environment, CASA always strives to provide our…   * Impressions = 205 * Reach = 186 * Engagement = 10   **2023 for the Open Group platform:**  Help with the smaller subgroups in the portfolio (new and fresher ideas). Starting with one or two groups and will build from there. They have been contacted directly via email and asked to assist.  Dr Danella Lubbe presented a demo video of the “Advocate for CASA” idea to council. The idea is to advocate chiropractic both from a patient and practitioner point of view.  Council liked the “Advocate for CASA” video idea. However, Dr Bridget Bromfield requested that Dr Danella Lubbe run the idea by Dr Christopher Yelverton first.  **Still to achieve in the year but in progress:**   * YouTube uploads * More CASA made infographics – have been well received so far. * Pushing website and FAC Function   **CASA Cares:**  Regional:   * DUT: Dr Danella Lubbe is dealing with Dr Venketsamy. * UJ: Dr Danella Lubbe will be in contact with Dr Fatima Ismail. * Dr Danella Lubbe will also be running a Social Media campaign on the Closed Group with regards to fiscal and physical donations to each region as they arise.   National:  Assist with financial aid for new graduates in need or someone who has fallen on really hard times that has been in practice for a time.  Council discussed additional options on how to assists students/recent graduates with additional funds.  Dr Michael Pritchard to contact the different banks regarding a possible product to assist people identified as “in need”, possibly with a loan at a preferential rates/reduced interest rate.  Dr Kendrah da Silva asked if CASA received any information regarding the appointment of Dr Christopher Yelverton as Professor and Dr Fatima Ismail who has taken over from Dr Yelverton as HOD at UJ.  Dr Danella Lubbe will do an official social media post on the closed group regarding the appointments. Dr Danella Lubbe to forward the post to Dr Bridget Bromfield to distribute the information to members via email as well. | * Dr Danella Lubbe to investigate. * Dr Danella Lubbe to present idea to Dr Christopher Yelverton. * Dr Michael Pritchard to investigate. * Dr Danella Lubbe to forward info to Dr Bridget Bromfield. |

**Dr Danella Lubbe’s report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Kendrah da Silva and seconded by Dr Michael Pritchard.**

## 9. Dr Cleo Prince

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **World Spine Day (WSD) 2022** | | | |
| **9.1** | 9.1.1  9.1.2  9.1.3  9.1.4  9.1.5  9.1.6 | Dr Cleo Prince shared that after the member survey, they had a great response of members wanting to get involved with World Spine Day. Dr Cleo Prince created a WhatsApp group for the 14 participants wanting to assist.  There are currently 7 members from Gauteng and 7 from KZN. However, there is no representation in any of the other regions. Therefore, Dr Cleo Prince will be contacting the regional chairs from the other regions to post on the branch groups and request representation in as many regions as possible.  The radio and Television campaigns to run similar to 2022, hopefully with a few additional radio/television stations getting involved.  Dr Cleo Prince is waiting for the WSD theme to be announced. Once the theme is announced she will contact the radio/television stations to forward an introduction to the 2023 WSD theme.  Dr Cleo Prince discussed a few potential ideas for World Spine Day 2023 with council.  Dr Cleo Prince added that they will be starting as soon as the theme is announced to get an early start and get everything in place. | * Dr Cleo Prince to contact regional chairs. |
| **Back Care programmes** | | | |
| **9.2** | 9.2.1  9.2.2  9.2.3  9.2.4  9.2.5  9.2.6  9.2.7 | Dr Cleo Prince has been in constant contact with Kirsten Hornsfield-Blair to follow-up on the requested stats from Discovery with regards to how much money Discovery has saved by implementing the Spine Care Programme.  Dr Cleo Prince added that perhaps Discovery is waiting for the end of February (Financial year-end) to finalise the stats. Hopefully the stats will then be available later in March/April.  Dr Cleo Prince followed up with Polmed but again, they want the South African figures to support.  Dr Cleo Prince has been looking at different articles to add to the proposal, so the proposal is getting updated so that when the stats are available, it can be added, and the proposal can be forwarded to the medical schemes.  Dr Bridget Bromfield advised due to an error on Discovery’s side, chiropractic was not advertised in the Discovery Wealth Fund brochure. Dr Bridget Bromfield has brough this up with Discovery and requested an amendment.  Dr Bridget Bromfield advised that due to a huge oversight on GEMS’ part, CASA was not invited to the GEMS Healthcare Summit.  Dr Kendrah da Silva requested that Dr Rowan White contacts GEMS regarding the Healthcare Summit and CASA not being invited. Dr Cleo Prince will forward the details to Dr Rowan White. | * Dr Rowan White to contact GEMS. * Dr Cleo Prince to forward details to Dr Rowan White. |
| **Sofi Health and Wellness Network** | | | |
| **9.3** | 9.3.1  9.3.2  9.3.3  9.3.4  9.3.5  9.3.6  9.3.7  9.3.8  9.3.9  9.3.10  9.3.11 | Sofi Health and Wellness approached CASA to have chiropractors join the network.  The Sofi Health and Wellness Network team are creating a network of accredited/registered practitioners teamed up with patients via the network.  The patients on the network are patients with medical aids but who maybe can’t afford all the treatments if their medical aids are depleted or where they need continued care. By joining this network it provides patients with access to a database of medical practitioners where they book directly with the practitioner.  Joining fees for consumers (individuals) are R25.00 per month and for employees, where the company registers for their employees to be on the network is R30.00 per employee/per month.  There is no joining fee for practitioners. However, practitioners are required to bill patients on this network at a preferential rate. In other words, less than what the practitioner would normally charge to assist these patients by having their medical aid go further. Practitioners are then exposed to a wider range of patients by being a part of this network.  The idea is to get CASA on board and that only if the practitioner is a CASA member can be a part of this network.  This links to the Back Care Programmes where CASA can add to the medical aid proposals that we are participating in another network serving patients.  Council discussed possible prerequisites for members to be a part of the network and decided not to put too many prerequisites in place so that even recent graduate members can be a part of this network.  Dr Justin Adams asked if there are any legalities regarding preferential rates. Dr Kendrah da Silva responded that practitioners are not allowed to advertise discounted rates. However, they can advertise that they are a part of the Sofi Health and Wellness Network.  Dr Cleo Prince will contact the Sofi Health and Wellness team regarding the below queries raised by council.   * Would the preferential rates be incorporated with EDI to reflect the rates? * How would practitioners know if a member is part of the network? * If a patient is on the Discovery KeyCare option, for example, where there are no chiropractic benefits and they advertise that chiropractors are a part of the network, how would this be monitored? * Do the preferential rates apply only when the patient has run out of funds on their medical aid?   Dr Cleo Prince will also forward the Sofi Health and Wellness Network proposal to council to peruse and then arrange a meeting with the Sofi Health and Wellness Network team to discuss. | * Dr Cleo Prince to contact the Sofi Health and Wellness Network team. * Dr Cleo Prince forward proposal to council. |

**Dr Cleo Prince’s report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Danella Lubbe and seconded by Dr Kendrah da Silva.**

## 10. Dr Justin Adams

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Students / SUSA** | | | |
| **10.** | 10.1  10.2  10.3  10.4  10.5  10.6  10.7  10.8  10.9  10.10  10.11  10.12  10.13  10.14  10.15  10.16  10.17  10.18  10.19  10.20 | Dr Justin Adams recently visited DUT to speak to the 1st year students.  CASA student membership benefits were discussed: how to join, the different bursaries and support CASA offers student members. Only 2 of the students actually knew who CASA were, however, the students were very receptive and amazed at all that CASA does and offers students.  Dr Justin Adams discussed the downsides to the DUT visit:   * CASA wasn’t invited to speak to the students by DUT. Dr Justin Adams had to push to get a meeting with the students. * The meeting was very unprofessional - there were no staff members present to meet visitors. * No staff/lecturers attended the meeting. * The meeting was run by a 5th year student. * Speakers were not introduced to the students and had to introduce themselves. * The campus itself looked dirty and run down.   Council discussion of the situation followed.  Dr Bridget Bromfield proposed arranging a meeting for Dr Michael Pritchard, Dr Danella Lubbe and herself to physically meet with the important role players at DUT to discuss the issues in person.  Dr Danella Lubbe described how well received the skills session was at the last KZN branch meeting.  This got everybody involved and the students really enjoyed it.  Council discussed some of the issues at the university clinics and the training they receive with regards to adjustments and techniques.  Dr Rowan White proposed that CASA look at possibly subsidising some of the more senior chiropractors to offer adjustment/technique practical training classes at DUT.  Dr Justin Adams thinks it is an excellent idea to do some sort of symposium at both UJ and DUT to promote CASA and get more students to registrations with CASA.  Council discussion followed with Dr Michael Pritchard advising that he is happy with CASA spending money on an initiative like this to support students and ultimately the profession.  Dr Justin Adams will draft a list of proposals on areas where CASA can possibly assist with the “disconnect” between CASA and DUT.  Council discussed the issues raised by senior students at DUT regarding the DUT Clinic and clinician appointments.  Amongst the issues raised was that the DUT clinic does not open every day and is sometimes closed for weeks at a time. Students are required to pay a clinic fee of R12 500 every semester to make use of the clinic. However, with the clinic being closed so much they are struggling to make their hours but are still required to pay the full clinic fee.  Dr Cleo Prince responded that the reason for the clinic being closed at certain times is that the full time academic staff supervising students in clinic must also lecture and cannot compromise on their lecturing times.  Dr Justin Adams discussed the recent appointments of the student council at DUT and advised that this was done very abruptly. Students were not told what the positions entail only that they need to put forward nominations.  Dr Desiree Varatharajullu wants the student council at DUT to be run by the department. Dr Desiree Varatharajullu received one nomination for each of the positions and they were appointed.  Council discussed the delayed clinician appointments at DUT. Dr Cleo Prince added that the reason it is taking so long for DUT to appoint clinician is that they must wait for the 2023 departmental finances to be approved and allocated.  Dr Bridget Bromfield proposed that Dr Justin Adams and Dr Michael Pritchard fly to KZN on 10 March 2023 to meet with DUT and discuss all these issues with Dr Desiree Varatharajullu and the department. There should be a timeline in which the issues raised be addressed.  Dr Bridget Bromfield suggested creating a list of senior chiropractors willing to help out at DUT. Dr Bridget Bromfield will find out regarding CPD point for those willing to assist.  Dr Bridget Bromfield to arrange the meeting with DUT and forward the meeting agenda to all attending. | * Dr Bridget Bromfield to draft list of concerns. * Dr Bridget Bromfield to arrange meeting and forward agenda. |

**Dr Justin Adams’ report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Rowan White and seconded by Dr Michael Pritchard.**

## 11. Dr Keseri Padayachy

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Research Portfolio** | | | |
| **11.** | 11.1  11.2  11.3  11.4  11.5  11.6  11.7  11.8  11.9  11.10  11.11 | Dr Keseri Padayachy discussed the research portfolio and advised that as there was not much guidance, she has based it on the same principles as the WFC.  **Mission statement:**   * Is to aid in creating South African data for chiropractic related conditions thus contributing to evidence-based research.   **Research meetings:**   * University of Johannesburg (UJ): 26/01/2023 : Dr Fatima Ismail (HOD) * Durban University of Technology (DUT): 20/02/2023 : Dr Desiree Varatharajullu (HOD), Dr Laura O’Connor , Dr Aadil Docrat and Dr Cleo Prince.   **Suggestions/Recommendations/Concerns raised by both, DUT and UJ:**   * Both UJ and DUT are keen to be part of collaborative multi-site research, especially clinical trials. * CASA to provide guidance of research areas that are needed in terms of medical aid requirements. * The biggest concern is funding to run statistically viable research. * Staff would like open lines of communication to pertinent profession issues (which could result in research publications for staff). * Attaining participants can be the biggest limitation to research, perhaps research adverts can be sent to practitioners to put up at their practices.   **Plan of action:**   * Meeting with Dr Kendrah da Silva to discuss relevant research areas that are of concern to medical aids. * Provide feedback to UJ and DUT.   Dr Keseri Padayachy discussed having the research topics allocated to the 3rd year students to follow the topic through, as there will not be enough time for the higher year students to complete the research.  To get funding from the National Research Fund (NRF), CASA should collaborate with both UJ and DUT in the application.  Dr Keseri Padayachy also met with WFC’s Kathy Paulman, who is busy with a collaborative math analysis study. Sidney Rubenstein is writing the proposal on lower back pain in developing countries. Sidney Rubenstein advised that if CASA comes on board, they will push the funding they get through to CASA, to continue the research. This is still in the pipeline and will be discussed further when more details are available.  Council discussed getting members involved by having students complete their research in members’ practices. Students will then be able to see patients, under the supervision of the practitioner. Perhaps looking at CPD points to motivate members to get involved.  Dr Kendrah da Silva added that the association should consider starting a research fund, which could form part of the membership dues.  Dr Bridget Bromfield added with so many students emigrating after graduation, her proposal for a research study would be ‘Who is practicing, where, since they have graduated and if they have immigrated, reasons why?’ |  |

**Dr Keseri Padayachy’s report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Danella Lubbe and seconded by Dr Cleo Prince.**

## 12. Dr Rowan White

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
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| **12.** | 12.1  12.2  12.3  12.4  12.5  12.6  12.7  12.8  12.9  12.10 | Dr Rowan White advised that Dr Kendrah da Silva is still busy walking him through the portfolio. There were a couple of questions raised at the regional branch meeting regarding medical aid reimbursements. Dr Rowan White had a look at various medical schemes’ reimbursement for consultations and follow up consultations.  Consultations:  Highest: Medscheme = R798.00  Lowest: Fedhealth = R730.00  Follow up consultations:  Highest: Bestmed = R557.00  Lowest: ProfMed = R531.70  Generally, the spine care programme queries are forwarded directly to Dr Cleo Prince. However, Dr Rowan White should be included in on these enquiries.  Previously, CASA has met with Bestmed regarding the preferred providers initiative. However, this was placed on hold during the pandemic.  Dr Kendrah da Silva requested a meeting be scheduled for herself, Dr Rowant White, Dr Bridget Bromfield and Dr Cleo Prince to meet and discuss preferred provider opportunities before liaising with Bestmed.  Dr Bridget Bromfield advised that there was an enquiry regarding the Fedhealth rate not increasing for 2023, she requested a response from Dr Rowan White to forward to the member.  Dr Kendrah da Silva to forward the contact details for Fedhealth to Dr Rowan White.  Council discussed PHISC and the need for CASA to attend these meetings. For the past two years there has been nothing related to musculoskeletal issues. Therefore, the only benefit is that it is a good forum for networking and staying in the loop.  Dr Bridget Bromfield will review the PHISC meeting agendas prior to the meeting, and should there be anything relevant to chiropractic, she and Dr Rowan White will discuss attending the meeting. | * Dr Cleo Prince to include Dr Rowan White. * Dr Rowan White to arrange meeting. * Dr Rowan White to respond to Dr Bridget Bromfield’s email. * Dr Kendrah da Silva to forward details to Dr Rowan White. |

**Dr Rowan White’s report was proposed for acceptance by Dr Michael Pritchard and seconded by Dr Danella Lubbe.**

## 13. Regional Zoom Feedback

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Regional Zoom Feedback** | | | |
| **13.** | 13.1  13.2  13.3  13.4  13.5  13.6  13.7  13.8 | Dr Michael Pritchard reiterated the importance of the regional zoom meetings and added that it is nice to see the branches being so proactive.  The first Gauteng branch meeting must still be held.  Dr Bhavina Dhanji is assisting Dr Lisa Dickerson with welcoming and liaising with the new graduates within the Gauteng region.  Dr Kendrah da Silva and Dr Lisa Dickerson discussed splitting the Gauteng branch meeting into two separate meetings for Pretoria and Johannesburg. Hopefully this will be finalised soon.  Dr Danella Lubbe discussed the importance of delegating and that distinct roles must be established within branch committees, so that it doesn’t all land on the branch chair’s shoulders. Dr Danella Lubbe suggested having a meeting for the branch chairs to discuss how they each manages their branches.  Council discussed the importance of having a succession plan and identifying potential young members who have the right attitude and are willing to assist. These members must be mentored.  Dr Rowan White asked if there are any incentive, like CPD points, for members assisting with these roles?  Dr Bridget Bromfield advised that the branch chairs are awarded additional CPD points, however, she will get back to council regarding the total points awarded to branch chairs. |  |

## 14. CASA App

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **CASA App.** | | | |
| **14.** | 14.1  14.2  14.3 | The CASA App has been launched with a few hiccups that are in the process of being ironed out. Dr Bridget Bromfield has been in constant communication with the developer.  Dr Bridget Bromfield has discussed getting the App onto the Playstore. This will be done with the second development phase.  The new App does not have much change from a user perspective but from a back-end perspective, it is a big help in decreasing the administrative load. |  |

## 15. CASA Podcasts

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **CASA Podcast** | | | |
| **15.** | 15.1  15.2  15.3  15.4  15.5  15.6 | Dr Justin Adams and Dr Rowan White have been working on the CASA podcasts and have decided on the topic for the first podcast.  The podcasts will be done every 3 months to ensure quality information and sufficient time for creating the podcasts.  Some topics may have a part 1 and part 2, depending on the amount of information and how well they are received.  Guest speakers will also be invited for certain topics to share their professional opinions/experience.  Dr Rowan White advised that the 1st topic will be “Post Pandemic”, discussing the way human behavior has changed since the pandemic.  Dr Justin Adams and Dr Rowan White are also open to topic suggestions from members and council. |  |

## 16. Congress 2023

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **Congress 2023** | | | |
| **16.** | 16.1  16.2  16.3  16.4  16.5  16.6  16.7  16.8  16.9 | Dr Lisa Dickerson joined the meeting to discuss the 2023 congress, 7 – 10 September 2023.  She advised that sourcing a venue has been stalling the progress. Currently congress venue hire is extremely high.  Dr Lisa Dickerson discussed the quotes received thus far:   1. Montecasino = R773 750.00 2. Radisson Blu – O.R. Tambo = R 676 970.00 3. Maslow – Sandton = R 596 089.00 4. Emperors Palace = R 653 605.00 5. Southern Sun O.R. Tambo = R519 289.00   Dr Bridget Bromfield added that with all the loadshedding, hotels have to pay for generators to run. Conferencing fees will be higher to accommodate for this.  Dr Michael Pritchard advised that exhibitors income should fund some of the conference costs. Virtual exhibitors are becoming the preferred option as delegates automatically look at the screen, where delegated can choose to bypass physical exhibitors.  Dr Michael Pritchard advised contacting a conference coordinator to assist with sourcing a venue and negotiating the conference fees.  Dr Lisa Dickerson will contact Dr Tayla Wagner’s mother who is an events coordinator for pharmaceutical companies. She will discuss her possibly assisting with the congress venue sourcing/negotiations.  Dr Lisa Dickerson has been in contact with a few presenters. There will be 1 international speaker from the UK and the rest will be local.  Dr Michael Pritchard added that congress fees should be kept as low as possible for members. However, non-members do not have the benefit of the reduced fee so that should be substantially higher than the member fee. | * Dr Lisa Dickerson to investigate. |

## 17. General

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|  | **Topic** | **Discussion** | **Action Required** |
| **General** | | | |
| **WFC Congress** | | | |
| **17.1** | 17.1.1  17.1.2  17.1.3 | Dr Kendrah da Silva discussed the upcoming WFC Congress in Gold Coast, Australia from 9 – 14 October 2023.  Dr Kendrah da Silva proposed that Dr Michael Pritchard, Dr Bridget Bromfield and if CASA can afford it, Dr Danella Lubbe attend the congress.  Dr Michael Pritchard responded that the WFC congress will be discussed in due course. |  |
| **Regulations Relating to Disciplinary Inquiries** | | | |
| **17.2** | 17.2.1  17.2.1  17.2.3  17.2.4  17.2.5  17.2.6  17.2.7  17.2.8  17.2.9  17.2.10  17.2.11  17.2.12  17.2.13  17.2.14  17.2.15  17.2.16  17.2.17  17.2.18  17.2.19  17.2.20  17.2.21  17.2.22  17.2.23  17.2.24  17.2.25  17.2.26  17.2.27  17.2.29  17.2.30 | Dr Belinda Glen brought to CASA’s attention that the Homeopathy Society wants chiropractors to support the motion that the AHPCSA cannot allow a legislative change to force anybody who has a case against them to foot the legal fees whether they are guilty or not.  Council discussion surrounding the AHPCSA legislative amendments followed.  Council believes some of the wording is ambiguous and should perhaps be followed by a paragraph/clause providing more details.  Dr Bridget Bromfield advised that it is important for Council to respond to member enquiries/concerns in a way that makes them feel heard.  Dr Rowan White advised that council should thank the membership for bringing this to CASA’s attention. To advise members that the document has been passed through the correct channels and Dr Christopher Yelverton was brought in to discuss.  Dr Rowan White added that members must be informed that if there are any queries brought to CASA, that Council do take those enquiries seriously and will investigate these issues thoroughly before passing any judgement or comment.  Dr Bridget Bromfield asked Dr Rowan White to draft the wording and forward it to her to add to communication to members.  Dr Christopher Yelverton joined the meeting to discuss the Legislation amendments.  Dr Christopher Yelverton advised that there is a particular legislative process to go through and that it is important for practitioners to understand what this is.  The PBCO (Professional Board for Chiropractic and Osteopathy) creates documents which then go to Council. The Council then looks at these documents. Thereafter, the documents is submitted to the Department of Health. The documents do not go for public comment before then, so they are not sent to associations for commenting.  When the documents do go out to the public, it is sent to the minister, they might look at it and decide that they are not willing to put it out for public comment. The document will then go back to the AHPCSA with points to consider. If they are happy that it goes out for public comment, when it is Gazetted and goes out for public comment, the AHPCSA is not notified, so they are also not aware of it.  When it goes out for public comment, that is the opportunity for associations and individuals to submit their comments. These comments then go back to Council to review and consider, and incorporate any changes where needed. Thereafter, the document goes back to the Minister of Health and the department Gazette it as a Regulation.  This process does not get circumvented at any point and the documents cannot be circulated to associations before it is Gazetted.  The two points raised by Dr Belinda Glen were:   1. Why CASA didn’t inform the membership of the document. 2. Why CASA has nothing to say.   Dr Christopher Yelverton responded that some of the things might not have been applicable to CASA.  Dr Bridget Bromfield raised “Point 43 (c) refers: The Council may determine the amount by which annual fees payable by practitioners and students may be increased annually, provided that the annual fees may not be increased by more than 20 % of the current annual fees and must publish the amount of the current fee together with the amount of the increased fee by notice in the Gazette.”  Dr Christopher Yelverton elucidated that the intention is to keep it from ever going higher than 20%. Regulation is promulgated because the Council is looking at it from the perspective of what if there is a sudden need for extra expenditure, this ensures that it is capped at a certain point.  Council believe the wording should be amended to explain that should additional funds be required it will be handled differently.  Dr Christopher Yelverton advised that CASA can submit comments on the document. However, individuals need to remember that it is not just the association’s responsibility to comment, if an individual is unhappy, they are also responsible to comment.  Dr Christopher Yelverton discussed the issue with the point talking to the disciplinary hearing where the AHPCSA will get the costs back from the practitioner. The hearings cost a lot of money. Last year the AHPCSA spent over R800 000 on lawyer fees.  With regards to a practitioner being found not guilty still being required to pay costs, Dr Bridget Bromfield responded that there should be a subclause explaining if you are found not guilty this would not happen.  Dr Christopher Yelverton added that there is a second rider which says that should a person be found guilty, they can submit why they should not be liable for the costs. However, CASA should submit a comment on the document if they believe that it should clearly state that if a member is found not guilty, that no costs will be applied.  Dr Michael Pritchard asked if a person’s MPI will cover these costs.  Dr Christopher Yelverton discussed that MPI will only cover a person’s legal representation.  Dr Kendrah da Silva added that for disciplinary hearings, the legal expenses/aspects are covered by MPI but not the fine/consequence.  Dr Christopher Yelverton advised that the new document is actually better because it stipulates what the sanctions are to help create a sanction uniformity. The previous part of the Regulation didn’t stipulate how fines should work. It mentioned fines, but it didn’t elaborate, so these documents are actually a ‘clean-up’.  The new disciplinary code was written in 2000 and although it was better, in terms of the disciplinary process it doesn’t align to the current legislation with regards to procedure of the Administrative Justice Act.  After discussion is was decided that CASA should approach Dr Bradley Beira to draft a comment response document, so members can see a formal, weighted response. CASA should also encourage members, where they have an issue, to comment individually. The more comments the better.  It was confirmed that Dr Kendrah da Silva cannot be involved with this response as she is on the PBCO.  Dr Christopher Yelverton discussed the number of registered practitioners, with chiropractic being the only profession showing growth over the past 10 years. | * Dr Rowan White to forward wording to Dr Bridget Bromfield.      * Dr Michael Pritchard to contact Dr Bradley Beira, for him to draft an official comment document to submit. |
| **Cupping** | | | |
| **17.3** | 17.3.1  17.3.2  17.3.3  17.3.4 | Dr Christopher Yelverton discussed an enquiry received from Dr Danella Lubbe with regards to wet cupping vs. dry cupping and the link towards the Unani Tibb and how it has a religious perspective.  This was discussed at the AHPCSA Council about two years ago because there were some DUT students doing cupping courses and then advertising those services online.  Unani Tibb is very protective over cupping, they feel that it is their domain, especially wet cupping, which to some degree is also used in Chinese medicine. The feeling was that other practitioners can’t do cupping.  Cupping is not part of the Chiropractic scope of practice, so in the event of a mishap, the practitioner will not be covered by their MPI. |  |

## 18. Closure:

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| **Closure** | | | |
| **18.** |  | MEETING CLOSED AT 16:15 |  |