



the columns

the college

Annual elections – Honorary Officers

Notice to Fellows and Members

Fellows and Members of the College are reminded of their rights in connection with the forthcoming elections for the offices of Dean, Registrar, Treasurer, Editor and Librarian.

All Honorary Officers are eligible for re-election with the exception of Professor Cornelius Katona, who is in his fifth year of office as Dean, and Professor Greg Wilkinson, who is in his tenth year of office as Editor.

The nominating meeting of the Council will be held on 24 January and the last date for receiving nominations will therefore be 21 February. Nomination forms are available from Andrea Woolf. The relevant Bye-laws and Regulations are printed below:

Extracts from the Bye-laws

Section XII – the other Honorary Officers

- (1) The Council shall, in accordance with the Regulations, make its nominations for the offices of Dean, Registrar, Treasurer, Editor and Librarian at the first meeting after the name of the President for the next ensuing College year has become known. Written nominations for the above Honorary Offices, accompanied in each case by the nominee's written consent to stand for election, may also be lodged with the Registrar at such time as may be prescribed by the Regulations, provided that each such nomination is supported in writing by not less than 12 Members of the College who are not members of the Council.
- (2) The Dean, Registrar, Treasurer, Editor and Librarian shall be elected from among the Fellows, by the Members of the College, in each case in accordance with the procedure prescribed by the Regulations.

Section XIII – the Dean

- (1) The Dean shall be the principal academic officer of the College.

- (2) Subject to the Regulations and the directions of the Council and of the Court of Electors, the Dean shall have the management of all matters relating to examinations held and prizes or other awards given by the College. The Dean shall further have the management of such other matters, whether of an academic or educational nature, or in the field of research, as may be entrusted to the Dean by the Regulations or by the Council or by the Court of Electors.
- (3) The Dean shall hold office as such for a term of not more than 5 consecutive College years.

Section XVI – the Editor

- (1) The Editor shall (subject to the directions of the Publications Management Board Committee) have the management of the *Journal* and be responsible for its day-to-day conduct. The Editor shall be Chairman of the Publications Management Board Committee.
- (2) The Editor shall not hold office as such for a term of more than 10 consecutive College years.

Extracts from the Regulations

Section XII – Election of the other Honorary Officers

- (1) The method of electing the Honorary Officers other than the President, the Vice-Presidents, Sub-Deans and Deputy Registrars shall be the same as that for electing the President*, save that nominations from Members of the College who are not members of the Council shall be lodged with the Registrar between the first day of June in any calendar year and the date which is 4 clear weeks after the meeting of the Council which is the first held after the name of the President for the next ensuing College year has become known.
*That is, written nominations, accompanied in each case by the nominee's written consent to stand for election, may be lodged with the Registrar, provided that each such nomination is supported in writing by not less

than 12 Members of the College who are not members of the Council. An election by ballot shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations.

An update on the College's anti-stigma campaign website

<http://www.changingminds.co.uk>

The College Anti-Stigma Campaign website (<http://www.changingminds.co.uk>) came of age with the launch of a 4 week long display of 2000 advertisements on London Underground trains, starting 4th July 2002. Figure 1 reveals the immediate impact on the website hit rate, with a five or six-fold increase. During the rest of the month, the rate fell away slightly and settled thereafter at about double the original level – useful information for any would-be advertisers! In August, the advert also commanded attention on the wide screen at the Notting Hill Carnival. Financial support, such as that generously provided on this occasion by Mr Stelios Haji-Ioannou, Chairman of *Easy-Group*, is needed again and is still being sought for similar displays elsewhere in the UK. Thus, the present modest hit-rate is still hardly indicative of widespread public awareness of the site. An A4 version of the advertisement is available to members who would like to promote it locally (contact Liz Cowan, the Campaign Administrator, Royal College of Psychiatrists, 17 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PG; tel: 020 7235 2351; e-mail: lcowan@rcpsych.ac.uk).

The website is intended to be the principal legacy of the campaign. It can provide the main engine that continues to drive our message home after the campaign itself has ended in October 2003. It is intended to both inform and empower those who read it and much of the information on it is of an enduring nature. Meanwhile, we are continuing to develop it.

The site contains our declaration of intent, signed by about 3000 members of the College, and also publicly endorsed by