Strategic Sessions: 9:00am-1:00pm Tuesday, 5 April 2016

London Mid-Year Meetings

Session 1: Cochrane Governance Reform (9:00am)

The Cochrane Steering Group has announced a proposal for the transition to a new governance structure for Cochrane, including a transition from the Steering Group structure to a new Cochrane Governing Board. Full details of the proposal are available at <http://community.cochrane.org/news/cochrane-consultation-on-governance-reform-deadline-18-march>.

This proposal arises from a review of governance that the Steering Group conducted during 2015. Key aims for the new Board include ensuring that its membership reflects Cochrane as an evolving organization and our environment; supporting the Board's role in making decisions on behalf of Cochrane as a whole; opening the membership to bring in external perspectives and valuable skills; and refreshing our electoral procedures.

This proposal will be the subject of thorough discussion by Cochrane’s leadership groups (including the various Group Executives and the Steering Group) at the Mid-Year Meetings. Their discussions will be informed by feedback gathered during an initial consultation period in February and March, and will lead into a combined Strategic Session.

The Strategic Session will be an opportunity for all participants to come together and discuss the proposed changes, and to participate in an open and practical discussion about how we can ensure that Cochrane’s contributors gain the benefits from an improved governance structure, while ensuring that the framework continues to support our collaborative and diverse community. The Session will be a genuine opportunity to influence the decisions and direction taken.

Those not able to attend the session in person will be able to actively contribute to the discussions via Twitter – keep an eye on #CochraneLondon.

This will not be your only chance to have input into the process. Following the Mid-Year Meetings, formal changes to Cochrane's Articles of Association and internal rules of procedure will be drafted. Wide consultation on the proposed model for change will be conducted during the year to ensure that all Cochrane's contributors understand the changes, and that the detailed procedures needed to implement the new governance structure are discussed.

The new governance proposal and changes to the Articles of Association will be proposed for a formal vote of member Groups at the Annual General Meeting at the Seoul Colloquium in October 2016.

Any questions about the reform proposal or the Strategic Session are welcome – please contact the Co-Chairs or Miranda Cumpston at the Cochrane Central Executive (mcumpston@cochrane.org).

Cindy Farqhuar, Lisa Bero

Co-Chairs, Cochrane Steering Group

Session 2: Knowledge Translation Strategy (11:00 am)

The Cochrane *Strategy to 2020* clearly positions us as an organisation that strives to translate knowledge into improved decisions about health.

Although many Cochrane contributors are already involved in knowledge translation (KT) activities locally and within their own speciality, we are aware that we need a more comprehensive and consistent approach across the organisation, and to consider the role of Cochrane evidence in the context of other available resources in order to maximise the impact of our work.

The Cochrane Knowledge Translation Strategy will define the role of knowledge translation for Cochrane, provide a framework to coordinate these activities across the organisation, and support those who are well-placed to undertake this role.

During the strategic session in London we will be engaging with the Cochrane Community to gain a more complete understanding of the KT work currently undertaken in Cochrane, and we will be giving you the first of several chances to provide input into this strategy development process.

During the meeting, we will present a framework for capturing what is currently happening in Cochrane and invite you to add to this. We will then focus on the future direction of KT in Cochrane, considering what the strategy should look like, and giving you the opportunity to provide input.

All the information collected at the mid-year meeting will be combined with information from stakeholder interviews to inform a consensus meeting of the KT Working Group that will take place in June. We will then write up a KT Strategy in time for the Seoul Colloquium in October where it will be considered by the Cochrane Steering Group.

We will be using the KT Strategy web pages to communicate about this project over the coming months, so do keep an eye on: <http://community.cochrane.org/review-production/dissemination-resources/knowledge-translation-strategy>

We look forward to seeing you in London. If you have any questions about this strategic session or the KT Strategy please contact Chris Champion (cchampion@cochrane.org)

Rachel Churchill, Sally Green, Denise Thomson

Co-Chairs, Knowledge Translation Strategy Working Group

Chris Champion

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