**Report on winter meeting in December 2015**

When CCMAA met for a 2-hour evening meeting at Imperial College, London, hosted by Tim Heymann. Speakers were Fiona Fox from the Science Media Centre, who made a plea for our help to get the media to report on science and medicine more accurately. She gave examples of how by calling upon a panel of experts the science media centre had managed to get more critical and responsible reporting of a number of potentially sensational issues. If you would be interested in finding out more about volunteering to be available to make critical comments about some of the latest scientific or medical claims in your areas of expertise, then you can contact the science media centre [http://www.sciencemediacentre.org/ or fiona@sciencemediacentre.org] – and remember every quote that gets used in the press can count as part of your public engagement profile!

Fiona was followed by our own Mike Knapton who talked about his recent experiences discussing with some of the politicians involved, the Access to Palliative Care Bill (2015).  He described the Parliamentary process and his understanding of how the process works.  The ethical and practical issues that end-of-life care raises were then considered – topical subjects with new guidance from NICE being subjected to severe criticism, with the demise of the Liverpool Care Pathway, and with the Joffe, and more recently Faulkner, Assisted Suicide Bills proposing the introduction of medically assisted suicide, however, when pressed to declare where he stood on the issue of medically assisted suicide he was undecided.

The meeting ended with some more taxing, but enjoyable, medical negligence case studies from Tom Boyd.  After the meeting e enjoyed dinner at a local restaurant.