

Minutes of EUNOS Business meeting, June 19, 2009, Lübeck

EUNOS Council members:

Attended:

- Robert McFadzean, President (RMF)
- Klara Landau, General Secretary (minutes) (KL)
- Pinar Aydin, Treasurer (PA)
- Bertil Lindblom, Webmaster (BL)
- Gordon Plant, Chief Editor of Neuroophthalmology (GP)
- Shlomo Dotan, Director of Education Committee (SD)
- Christopher Kennard (CK)
- Detlef Kömpf (DK)
- Susanne Trauzettel-Klosinski (STK)

Apologies:

- Marko Hawlina
- Wolf Lagrèze, Director of Research Committee
- Eberhart Zrenner

Attended:

- Approximately 40-50 attendees of the EUNOS meeting

1. Minutes of Istanbul meeting, 2007:

RMF opens the meeting and welcomes the attendees. The agenda as put on the website previously, is approved. The minutes of the last business meeting are approved with one addition: RMF was given the task to explore the possibility of having a EUNOS meeting every year.

2. Proposed EUNOS constitution:

The attendees had the possibility to study the proposed bylaws on the website and have received a copy with their meeting material. RMF informs about three changes to this version which were suggested in the meeting of the EUNOS Council one day before: a) A council member will serve 4 years instead of 6 years and can be re-elected one more time. b) The EUNOS Council holds yearly meetings. c) The Council can have up to 6 members in large instead of only 4. In addition, due to new developments with the Journal the whole paragraph 13/8 will need a revision.

The attendees approve this constitution.

3. Secretary's report (KL):

After the Istanbul meeting a large list of potential EUNOS members has been put together and all have been contacted by mail. 78 responded favourably, being interested in a membership status with EUNOS. A EUNOS bank account has been established with Credit Suisse in Zurich, Switzerland, to which the President, the Secretary and the Treasurer are the signatories and can log in. EUNOS has been recognized as a non-profit organization by the bank and does not have to pay any taxes. Payment can only be performed if at least 2 of the 3 council members sign. We are now all set to get started as a formal society.

4. Treasurer's report (PA):

Up to this meeting 27 persons have paid the 2009 dues and have therefore become formal members of EUNOS. So far 2'672.49 Euros are in the account. During the meeting the attendees have the possibility to pay their dues in cash. Now that we have some funds a credit card payment option will be sought with the bank (costs: approximately 1'000.- Euro) in order to minimize the fees which are especially high from countries outside the EU. Further expected expenses are: Insurance for future meetings, travel grants for young attendees, awards for best contributions, costs in connection with the website. Potential incomes are membership fees and remaining funds from EUNOS meetings.

5. Education committee report (SD)

The education committee has put together a guideline of a residents' training curriculum in neuro-ophthalmology which has been put on the website before the meeting. Some minor changes have been proposed to this draft. The meeting then approved the curriculum unanimously.

The European Board of Ophthalmology (EBO) is currently collecting information from all subspecialties in Ophthalmology in order to give a recommendation for a training program in Ophthalmology which should be common to residents who take the EBO examination and once successful become Fellows of EBO. So far EUNOS has not been asked to provide such a proposed curriculum to residents who train in neurology. The final version of the curriculum will be put on the website.

6. Proposed Residents' training curriculum (see 5.)

7. Research Collaboration

The research committee director is not present at the meeting. EVI is a suitable network for launching collaborative studies (researchers from at least 3 European countries have to be involved) and is well equipped to support such endeavors. So far no collaborative research has been launched through EVI in the field of neuro-ophthalmology.

8. Website report (BL)

The EUNOS website www.eunosweb.org needs further improvement and more members in the website committee. Funds will have to be allocated as sponsoring of a website is difficult as long as there are only few hits. The attendees have been asked if they are interested in a forum to present cases and discuss their management, similarly as is being done in NANOS. This is not a wish at present. The website should provide useful links to educational material such as NOVEL and such as the front page of Neuroophthalmology. The primary goal of an improved website should be visibility of the Society.

9. Journal report

RMF gives an account of what happened two years ago after Informa purchased Neuro-ophthalmology. The publisher did not take into account suggestions of the Council such as the appointment of only one Editor in Chief (Gordon Plant) and they did not seem to understand the importance of improving the Journal's impact factor. Neuro-ophthalmology is no longer the

official Journal of EUNOS. Chief editor is Gordon Plant, associate editor is Walter Jay from Chicago. RMF informs that the Council has decided to pursue a loose association with the Journal and publish a regular Newsletter about EUNOS activities in the Journal. GP states that Informa is willing to cooperate with EUNOS, including an offer for reduced price for the Journal depending on the number of subscribers. A concrete offer has been prepared. Chris Kennard wishes that the abstracts of the Lübeck meeting be published in the journal. He also proposes that the Secretary KL and the Chief editor GP approach the Journal in order to pursue ways of a cooperation.

10. Election of Council

The current council decided to nominate Chris Kennard for Vice President of EUNOS. The members vote in favour, no opposition is raised.

For an additional Member at large Fion Bremner is a candidate, proposed by Shlomo Dotan. The members vote in favour, no opposition is raised.

11. Forthcoming meetings

The need/wish for an update meeting in between two big EUNOS meetings is being discussed. There is a consensus that there should not be another EUNOS meeting in 2010 in order not to compete with the INOS meeting held in Europe (Lyon) in 2010. The idea arises from the forum that once every two years in between large EUNOS meetings a purely educational meeting should be held especially for young ophthalmologists from former Eastern European countries. This update forum idea is based on educational component of EFNS meetings (Chris Kennard). Such a course could be organized in a less expensive site in Eastern Europe.

The next EUNOS meeting will be held in Barcelona from June 18 till 21, 2011 and organized by Jorge Arruga and his team. A special feature will be panels on controversies in Neuroophthalmology. A presentation will be given at this conference by JA.

There are two potentially interested groups to organize the EUNOS meeting in 2013: Cambridge, UK (suggested by Mike Burdon) and Leiden, Holland (suggested by Robert de Keizer). In order to make a decision in the Council both groups are asked to present their concept for the meeting.

12. Any other business

None. The meeting is adjourned.

Klara Landau, July 3, 2009