

Minutes General Assembly in Istanbul on October 20th 2014

1. Opening by the President and Presidential address

The President Elias Campo gives a very brief overview of the accomplishments of EAHP over the past two years. Various steps have been taken in making EAHP a more professional organization. It is a major breakthrough that we can now embark on collaboration with a PCO who is dedicated to us for at least 3 meetings. The establishing of the Latin-American Association for Hematopathology is a great achievement and deserves our ongoing support.

2. Minutes of general assembly 2012

No comments and they are approved

3. Report by the meeting secretary (Leticia Quinanilla-Fend)

- The Arusha meeting was a major success and it is stressed once more the importance of our support for educational activities in Africa. This educational program may serve as an example to build on for other regions of interest.
- The program for the ECP meeting in London was mostly organized by the EBMSG. The sessions were well-attended and well-received. Especially the joint program with the head&neck group were very productive and we hope to be able to maintain this format for the coming years.
- It is a great success that the Latin American Association for Hematopathology has been officially founded in August 2014 in Ciudad de Mexico in a ceremony associated with a Latin American Tutorial on Hematopathology. Dr Elias Campo, Philippe Gaulard and Leticia Quintanilla participated in the Tutorial and also on behalf of the EAHP in the founding ceremony as observers and signed in the official document. EAHP is looking forward to future collaborations. Also this achievement can be regarded as an example to build on.

4. Report by the Secretary/treasurer (Daphne de Jong)

- A full overview of the transactions and assets for 2013 and 2014 is given and the results are placed in perspective on relation to 2008-2013. The financial position of EAHP is healthy. Various projects were planned and proposed in 2012 and these were indeed completed: The website was launched in April 2013, retrieval of unpaid dues is ongoing and still successful (thank you all for your cooperation), a PCO was contracted and the project on the legal position of EAHP was started (see below).
- It is stress that the "special funds" program should be better accessible once a new online payment system is in place.
- For this meeting, we received 7 scholarship applications from developing-world applicants, of which 6 were granted and a group of 10 young pathologists/residents from Turkey were supported by waivers for registration.

5. EAHP as a professional organization within European legislation (Daphne de Jong)

Following the uncertainties about the legal position of EAHP and consequences thereof as put forward at the GA in 2012, the EXCO has worked on a program to establish EAHP as a professional organization within European legislation to enable registration at a Chamber of Commerce, to be able to draw contracts with third parties, to avoid personal financial liability for EXCO members and to apply for tax registration and tax exemption. Upon legal and notaries advise in Netherlands and Spain, a separate Foundation, the "Europese Stichting voor Hematopathologie", has been established with the single purpose to deal with all legal/financial matters of EAHP as a good temporary solution. The Foundation is governed by Board members of EAHP and within the Constitution; various clauses are made to guarantee full control by the EAHP EXCO and EAHP General Assembly. The GA mostly commented on the importance of complete transparency and requested posting of the Constitution on the www.SH-EAHP.org website. Also, it was stressed that the Foundation should be regarded as a temporary solution awaiting for a final solution with a more clear overview of the legal situation for EAHP. .

6. Digital slide repository (José Cabeçadas)

The Workshop has always been based on glass slides, much to everyone's satisfaction. However, this comes at a cost in terms of logistics, mailing and use of valuable samples. Various options are

possible and were discussed: only power-point+text files, disk with scanned slides+viewer (€80/disk, very large 1Tb!), server-hosting, preferably in Europe (continent), Cloud. The GA expressed its concern on the drive to submit cases for the workshops if not rewarded by the reception of a box. This view was strongly put forward by some, but not supported by most. The issue was put to vote and historically, the EAHP GA decided to end the era of glass slides and move towards a digital system for the Basel meeting 2016.

7. Association with PCO-MCI

It was announced that we have been able to select a PCO to organize the 2-yearly meeting organization, starting with Basel 2016 and running on for at least 3 meetings. This will be a great support for the local organizers and the EXCO members, who can now focus on the scientific content of meetings. This contract that was signed during the present meeting is part of the project "EAHP as a professional organization".

8. Next EAHP meetings

Yaso Natkunam and Stefan Dirnhofer respectively present the SH Workshop planned for October 29-31, 2015 in Long Beach, California on "immunodeficiency and dysregulation" and the next EAHP meeting planned for September 3-8 2016.

John Goodlad presents and proposes Edinburgh as the venue for 2018. The proposal was accepted by the GA.

9. Invitation for proposals

Members are invited to submit proposals for the venue of 2020 to the Meeting Secretary (LQ-F). The Meeting-Secretary can be approached for instructions on the format to present proposals on request. It should be noted, however, that the procedure for the selection of the venue may change for proposals for 2020 in view of the established collaboration with MCI.

10. Proceedings on the update of the WHO Classification

Steven Swerdlow updates the audience on the update of the WHO Classification. Originally, this was planned to be published only on line. However, it has been made possible to provide a full printed version as well now. The original teams per chapter have been retained and have been supplemented with additional advisors on molecular biology, cytogenetics and clinical aspects.

11. Proposal for new EXCO

The Nomination committee proposes Christiane Copie-Bergman, Maurillio Ponzoni, Marja-Liisa Karjalainen and Stefan Dirnhofer as new members of the EXCO to replace Elena Sabatini, German Ott, John Goodlad and José Cabeçadas. Jon van der Walt will replace Attilio Orazzi as representative of EMBWG. German Ott is proposed as new President-elect. The new members were all approved. The retiring EXCO members are warmly thanked for their contributions over the past years and official diplomas are offered.

12. Change of Presidency and Closure of the meeting by New President

As is the tradition, in a rather erratic ceremony, the unchangingly lovely, largely unused and still brightly shiny logo stamp is passed on in the hands of the new President Andy Wotherspoon who thereby takes over the Presidency from Elias Campo. Also following the erratic tradition, the "Lennert medals" are passed from the previous past President Philippe Gaulard to be custodied by the new Past President There is little time for speeches and with warm words of thanks and support to Isinsu and her team. Everyone hurries off.