

Minutes General Assembly Basel, September 2016

1. Opening by the President and Presidential address

The President Andy Wotherspoon gives a very brief overview of the accomplishments of EAHP over the past two years. EAHP has had a focus on building an “educational program on site” to support hematopathologists in developing countries by providing a contribution to local meetings. The first has been a workshop in Istanbul in April 2016. This workshop has attracted not only Turkish participants, but also participants from the wider middle-eastern region. In December 2016, a program will be held in China and contacts have been established with various other interested parties.

2. Minutes of general assembly 2014

No comments and they are approved

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

EAHP has supported the African Hematopathology meeting in Dakar (November 2015) and the IAP-Turkish Workshop in Istanbul for €5000 each and with faculty to the Turkish Workshop. Concluding reports have been received by both organizers.

EAHP has committed with its name without financial support to the Edinburgh Tutorial (June 2016), the Spanish National Pathology Meeting (May 2017), ESP/IAP meeting in Cologne (September 2016) and the Latin-American Meeting in Argentina (May 2017) as well as the SH-EAHP Workshop 2017 in Chicago and the EBMWG meeting 2017 in Utrecht.

The contribution for the ESP 2017 meeting in Amsterdam will be based on the program of the Basel meeting.

Over the past year, the educational program has been further explored, based on the principle that the local organizers indicate the format and requirements in a “custom-made” solution.

4. Presentation of the venues for 2018 and 2020

John Goodlad presents Edinburgh as the venue for the IXth EAHP-SH meeting in 2018. All facilities, the congress venue and the various options for social events give full confidence that this will be a most attractive site for the upcoming congress.

proposal for venue 2020 Croatia

Andy Wotherspoon explains the reasons for the proposal of Dubrovnik, Croatia as an option for 2020. The choice is primarily underpinned by the easy accessibility of regional participants from the eastern parts of Europe as well as from the near/middle-east. After an attractive presentation of the site by the local organizer Anna Dotic, the proposal is accepted by voting.

5. Association with MCI

The general assembly is informed on the first experience of the Basel local organizing team and the EXCO members to work with MCI as PCO. MCI is appreciated as a well-organized, fast, responsive and flexible organization. In collaboration with MCI, sponsor income has been increased and more satellite symposia have been offered. Primary and personal contacts by EAHP/EXCO members remain important, but the subsequent handling of details and contracts is further under the responsibility of MCI. MCI will remain our partner for the Edinburgh meeting.

6. Report on website problems (February 2016)

Andy Wotherspoon briefly explains the problems that caused a breakdown of the website earlier in February 2016. The event has revealed various weaknesses in the organization that have been addressed since. Most importantly, Santiago Montes-Moreno has accepted to serve as webmaster for EAHP and will work in close collaboration with Frank Kuo and the Cantrijn company.

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

In February 2015, all bank assets of EAHP have been transferred to a new account in the name of the Europese Stichting voor Haematopathologie (Foundation) after written approval of all EXCO members. In June 2016, a formal accountants control was performed for the

Foundation and a formal report submitted by the accountants office (SENS). No irregularities were noted and the report was signed by the board of the Foundation to be posted on the Foundation website as part of the tax office requirements for tax exemption status.

It was noted that the requirements for accountants controls needed some modifications to save unnecessarily high costs and this was performed in August 2016 at the notary after approval by the Foundation Board and a representative of EAHP (Ott).

An overview of the financial situation over the years (2008-2016) shows a stable financial position with an estimated annual positive result of €12.000-15.000 (including all income and costs of meetings, workshops and educational programs and administration). This leaves financial space for various choices on educational programs and other scientific activities.

We currently have a membership of 512 full members, of whom 322 are fully up-to-date with their dues. The remainder consists of *de facto* ex-members (retired, lost-into-oblivion) and outdated e-mail contact problems. 66 new members were attracted since October 2014 from Europe, Russia, Turkey, Cyprus, Egypt, Jordan, Australia, India, Taiwan, Indonesia, Canada, Brazil).

For the Basel 2016 meeting, 14 applications for travel grants/waivers have been received, of which 8 were granted (from Qatar, India, Jordan, Ukraine, China), while 4 applications were outside the set criteria for granting and 2 applicants retracted their applications.

8. Proposal for new EXCO

John Goodlad, Margerita Guenova, Santiago Montes-Moreno, Dan Arber (on behalf of SH), Falko Fend (on behalf of EBMWG) are proposed as EXCO members to replace Pierre Brousset, Birgitta Sander, Isinsu Kuzu, Marsha Kinney and Jon van der Walt. Birgitta Sander is proposed as secretary-treasurer and Daphne de Jong as new President-elect. The proposals are all approved. The retiring EXCO members are warmly thanked for their contributions over the past years and official diplomas will be offered later at a dinner meeting.

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

As is the tradition, this time the likely still brightly shiny logo stamp is virtually passed on in the hands of the new President German Ott who thereby takes over the Presidency from Andy Wotherspoon. The newly made "Lennert medals" are passed from the previous past President Elias Campo to be custodied by the new Past President.

With with warm words of thanks and support to Stefan and his team, the new president closes this arguably briefest and most unanimous General Assembly of EAHP and everyone hurries off to the networking dinner to take place in the Markthalle. The party is great!