



European Association for Haematopathology

Minutes General Assembly, 21th Meeting of the EAHP

Florence, Italy, September 20th, 2022, 17:15 – 18:00 CET

1. Opening by the President and Presidential address

President Leticia Quintanilla-Fend gave a brief overview of the accomplishment of EAHP in the past 1.5 years, since the virtual 2021 meeting. Even during the pandemic, during which we were not able to meet in person, EAHP continued its mission.

During this period also 2 classifications on lymphoid and myeloid malignancies have been published (2022 International Consensus Classification and 5th WHO classification). During the educational session of this meeting time has been dedicated to present both classifications and discuss the different approaches.

2. In Memoriam

A moment of silence was taken for the well-respected EAHP members that recently passed away. Nina Hurwitz was one of the founding members of the European Bone Marrow Working Group and Kirstin Henry, who founded the British Lymphoma Group and was also a co-founder of the European Association for Haematopathology. The obituaries were posted on the EAHP website.

3. Minutes of the General Assembly 2021

The minutes of the GA 2021 were made available on the EAHP-SH homepage (<https://www.european-association-for-haematopathology.org/news-events/events-meeting-archive/>). No comments/questions have been communicated and the minutes were approved by the General Assembly.

4. Report of the Scientific Secretary

John Goodlad gave an overview of the past meetings of EAHP, SH and meetings under the auspices of EAHP. Among previous meetings were the virtual EAHP-SH meeting from April 24-29th 2021, that was attended by 803 delegates. 492 workshop cases were received (325 for the lymphoma workshop, and 167 for the bone marrow workshop), and 109 abstracts (97 LYS, 12 BMS) were submitted. EAHP actively contributed to the virtual 33rd European Congress of



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Pathology in August 2021, by organizing a long course on 'lymph node cytological pathology' , a symposium on 'Grey zones in lymphoma diagnosis' , a short course on 'overlaps, borderlines and mimics in myeloid neoplasms' and a slide seminar on 'Morphological and biological mismatches"

EAHP also contributed to the 34th European Congress of Pathology in September 2022 in Basel by organizing a symposium on 'Molecular pathogenesis of T-cell lymphoma' , a short course on 'the shifting sands of small B-cell lymphoma' , a slide seminar by the EBMWG on 'Myeloid and lymphoid neoplasm with tyrosin kinase fusion genes" and a video microscopy session entitled 'Cutaneous lymphoproliferative disorders: the good the bad and the unexpected.'

EAHP also launched in September 2021 a new educational activity for both members and non-members in the form of 2-monthly virtual webinars, including a topic lecture by an expert in the field, and 2 case studies presented by early career haematopathologists. Topics that were covered to date included: cutaneous lymphoma, follicular lymphoma, nodular lymphocyte predominant Hodgkin lymphoma, Myeloid/lymphoid neoplasms with eosinophilia and mastocytosis, reactive lymphoproliferations. The next webinar on 'myelodysplasia and mimics was scheduled for October 2022.

The upcoming SH-EAHP meetings will be in Dubrovnik 2024 (local organizer Snjezana Dotlic).

5. Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

Birgitta Sander reported on the healthy financial status of the EAHP foundation, which was confirmed by yearly accountant control, performed by a registered accountant in the Netherlands (Mrs H.M. Borst, Quality Company Support). This was done based on all submitted files and bank accounts of the ESVH Foundation. The report is posted on the Foundation website ([https:// stichtinghaematopathologie.nl/](https://stichtinghaematopathologie.nl/))

The yearly net result for 2020 was negative (-13838.24EUR) due to the fact the scheduled Dubrovnik meeting could not take place. On the other hand, also costs were lower during 2020 and 2021, as there were less travel costs as the EXCO meetings were done virtually and no travel grants were given in 2020. For the Florence meeting 18 applications for travel grants were received, of which 16 were granted. The secretarial cost is related to increased communication with members, the installation of the new homepage and the introduction of the webinar series.

In 2021, there was a positive result of 36732 EUR, mainly related to the virtual 2021 congress. For 2022 we predict a positive result due to the revenue of the Florence meeting.

EAHP membership administration has been further professionalized and by September 1st



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2022, EAHP counted 674 members. 66 new members have joined EAHP during April 2021-August 2022, from countries all over the world. The membership fee remains unchanged at 75 EUR/year.

The contract with our professional congress organizer MCI was initially in place for 3 meetings (Basel 2016, Edinburgh 2018, Dubrovnik 2020). Due to the pandemic Dubrovnik 2020 was put forward to 2024, and the decision was made to continue with MCI for both the Florence 2022 and Dubrovnik 2024 meetings.

Since 2018 our membership administration and EAHP website has been managed by Quality Company Support (QCS), based in the Netherlands (contact person Mr. Danny Douwes). Our bills, membership applications, membership payments and membership registry are handled by QCS. The foundation ESVH and the website are also handled by QCS.

The homepage of EAHP has been renewed and is accessible through <https://www.european-association-for-haematopathology.org/>, with a separate section for YoungEAHP. It is the intention to put educational material on the website, available for EAHP members.

6. Update of the Constitution and Bylaws

President Leticia Quintanilla-Fend explained the necessary updates that were suggested on the constitution and bylaws of EAHP, that were not updated since the 10th EAHP meeting in London in May 2000. In order to formally register EAHP as a legal body the Constitution and Bylaws had to be updated, reflecting the current practice of EAHP.

The proposals for the updated Constitution and Bylaws were communicated to all members by email in a timely fashion (August 12th 2022) and were made available on the EAHP-SH website. All members were invited to formulate comments or suggestions and 1 comment was received. The comment was discussed at the GA and the consensus version that was approved by the GA will be made available on the website.

President Leticia Quintanilla-Fend expressed the hope that the new IARC leadership will reinstate the collaboration between IARC and the EAHP and SH societies. A proposal to put a transparent mechanism in place on how EAHP and SH will designate a defined group of EAHP/SH representatives for future classifications, was emailed to all members on August 22nd 2022. Five comments were received that were discussed at the GA. The comments were addressed in an addendum to the proposal and both were approved by



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the GA.

7. Proposal to formally register EAHP as an Association

Birgitta Sander explained the rationale behind and the procedure to formally register EAHP as a non-profit Association, to which to members will pay their membership fee. The ESVH (Europese Stichting voor Haematopathologie) Foundation, that was established in 2014, (ESVH) as a legal-financial tool for EAHP in the Netherlands, will remain.

The GA approved and mandated the EXCO to proceed with this registration process.

8. Projects and activities of EAHP during 2021-2022

The pandemic forced EAHP to make a digital transition for the 2021 virtual meeting. This also encouraged the EAHP to start a series of webinar, available for members and non-members. So far 5 webinars were organized on different topics, allowing both junior and senior haematopathologists to share knowledge with the community. (see 4. Report of the Scientific Secretary).

Young EAHP was established to ensure the future of EAHP. Early career professionals (under 40 years of age) with a varied background ranging from residents and scientists through general pathologists, to specialists in haematopathology and researchers can apply for membership. The purpose is to create a multidisciplinary community with a shared interest in haematological malignancies and a network to support career progression. In a separate page on the EAHP homepage resources, traineeships and career opportunities can be posted. Applications for membership is done via the form on the website.

9. Election of new EXCO members (Leticia Quintanilla-Fend)

New EXCO members were proposed in the GA agenda sent out 2022-08-19. The members had the opportunity to send comments by email to the Secretary-Treasurer, but no comments were received.

Laurence de Leval, Alexandra Traverse-Glehen, Patricia Groenen (as molecular biologist) and Alexander Tzankov (on behalf of the EBMWG) were proposed as new EXCO members.

Maurilio Ponzoni was proposed as president-elect. The present EXCO officer Thomas Tousseyn was proposed as Secretary-Treasurer-elect. To increase the interaction with Young EAHP it was proposed that a Young EAHP representative will be added to the EXCO. Livia Raso-Barnett was proposed by the Young EAHP as their representative.

All proposals were approved by the GA.



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The retiring EXCO members (past-president Daphne De Jong, Luc Xerri, Alberto Zamo, Ming Du, Hans Michael Kvasnicka,) were warmly thanked for their contribution of the past years and official diplomas will be offered at the EXCO dinner meeting. The opportunity was also taken to thank in person the EXCO members that retired after the virtual 2021: past-president German Ott, Marguerita Guenova, Santiago Montes-Moreno, and SH-past president Dan Arber and EBMWG representative Umberto Gianelli).

The proposal to introduce Honorary EAHP-SH Memberships was discussed and accepted.

10. Handing over of the Presidency

The presidency was passed on from Leticia Quintanilla-Fend to Stefan Dirnhofer. Leticia was warmly thanked for her contribution and efforts. The new president expressed his vision and hopes for the successful future of our community.

11. Presentation of the venue for 2024 (Snjezana Dotlic)

Snjezana Dotlic presented the venue for the XXII EAHP-SH Congress from September 21-26, 2024 in Dubrovnik. All facilities, the congress venue and the various options for social events were already considered a convenient site for the 2020 EAHP meeting that was unfortunately postponed due to COVID19. The topic for the meeting will be communicated in February 2023.

12. Proposal for 2026 – Berlin

Ioannis Anagnostopoulos proposed Berlin as the venue for 2026 and this proposal was accepted by the GA.

13. Presentation of the 2023 SH workshop (Francisco Vega, MD Anderson, Houston)

Francisco Vega (MD Anderson, Houston) presented the 2023 SH/EAHP workshop that will take place from November 9 to 11, 2023 in Houston, Texas. The latest advances in the diagnosis and classification of T- and NK-cell lymphomas will be discussed. Case submission opens November 1st, 2022.

14. Closure of the General Assembly

With warm words of thanks to Lorenzo Leoncini and the organizing team of this XXIst EAHP-SH meeting, the new president Stefan Dirnhofer closed the General Assembly of EAHP, and a Networking Dinner at the Chiostro di Santa Maria Novella followed.



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Birgitta Sander

Birgitta Sander
Secretary-Treasurer

Leticia Quintanilla-Fend
Leticia Quintanilla-Fend
Past- President

Stefan Dirnhofer

Stefan Dirnhofer
President

Thomas Tousseyn

Thomas Tousseyn
Secretary-Treasurer elect