

Stockholm, January 2009

Minutes

From the Board Meeting of the Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (SSAI) in Copenhagen, Denmark, January 16th, 2009.

Present:

Poul Klint Andersen, Ivar Göthgen, Mogens Hutte, Per Kristian Hyldmo, Sigga Kalman, Per Meinich, Freddy Lippert, Jannicke Mellin-Olsen, Minna Niskanen, Pertti Pere, Helen Seeman-Lodding, Eldar Søreide, Riikka Takala, Palle Toft, Jan Wernerman, Lars Wiklund, Ole Nørregaard, Mogens Huttel, Anders Åneman, Lars Rasmussen (only during point 7)

	Heading	Presenting	Information/Discussion	Follow-up/ decision When, what, how, who
1	Opening, election of chair, approving the agenda	Eldar Søreide	The SSAI Board Meeting was opened by the President and he was also elected as the chairman for the meeting.	
2	Minutes from June 2008	All	The minutes were approved	
3	Report of the 30 th SSAI Congress in Odense 10 th to 13 th of June 2009	Palle Toft	1. Program was presented. Mostly four parallel sessions and a workshop. On Saturday controversial subjects will be discussed mostly concerning the Future of Scandinavian Anaesthesia, Intensive Care, Pain medicine and Emergency Medicine.	1. Programme is found on www.ssai.info

			A session on grading evidence and guidelines was proposed by the educational committee. The program is available on the SSAI09.info. A very promising program.	
3.2		Mogens Huttel	2. The Organising committee in Odense are making a "blue-print" to make it easier for the next congress organiser. They have had input from the Gothenburg congress and have had good use of their account as a checklist. Unfortunately they have not seen the advice put done by Perrti Perri during the Helsingfors Congress.	2. Perti Perris' instructions is missing. If anyone can find them send them to Mogens Huttel for incorporation in the Congress Blueprint
3.3		Mogens Huttel	3. Many main sponsors have been recruited and the exhibition is large in spite of the present difficult financial situation. It is important for the sponsors not to have social activities in the program	
3.4		Poul Klint Andersen	4. Budget for the congress was presented and discussed. Great effort is made on attention to "small" cost. The budget reasonable and deficit/surplus depends on the number of attendants. It is very important to promote the congress in all the Scandinavian countries. Acta foundation is sponsoring young doctors fee.	
3.5		Mogens Huttel	5. How should the board and invited speaker pay at the congress? This has been defined during the meeting in Helsinki. Mogens Huttel will form a group that will discuss the prevailing PM. The PM is enclosed in the mail with the minutes.	5. Mogens will report the discussion on mail or at the latest in Odense
3.6		All	6. Special advice to take to organiser of next congress is to be aware of inviting both male and female as presenters and chairpersons and start to discuss with sponsors at least 2 years in advance.	6. Be brought to the attention of coming congress organiser - officers
3.7		Helena Seeman-Lodding, Freddy Lippert, Eldar Søreide	7. The SSAI congress is made as collaboration between the National societies and SSAI. It is a suggested the country that organises the congress (which will be every 10 th year) will make the joint meeting the major meeting of the year. The National society collaborates with a Department of Anaesthesia and Intensive Care as a local organiser in the host country. Probably most of the work is done by the local organiser.	7. The contract will be kept in the Archive of the SG and in the Congress Booklet that Mogens is palnning to produce.

			This way of organising the congress was successfully tried for the first time in Gothenburg 2007. A contract stating the different roles and responsibilities as well as surplus/deficit share was written between SSAI and the National Society, and between the National Society and the Local organiser. It is understood from the Board that this way will be used in Odense and coming congresses	
4	The position paper on the future of Scandinavian Anaesthesiology	Eldar Söreide	1. A workgroup has meet in Gällöftsa, Sweden in Sept 2008. Small taskforces have been formed to summarize the material and bring the material to greater maturity. Facilitators have been appointed. Very little activity has been seen lately	1 Sigga will send out a reminder to the different taskgroups. Drafts are expected no later than February 2009
4.2			2. Material sent back will be formed to a draft for the paper "The future of Scandinavian Anaesthesiology"	2. In mars a draft will be sent to the members of the workgroup and the board for comments
4.3			3. Eldar presented a draft of the paper in Riga in connection with a joint meeting with UEMS and the Societies of the Baltic countries. It enjoyed great attention and multiple mails afterwards.	
4.4			4. Four pillars in one speciality or four different specialities? Area of competence is accepted in Europe but not supra- or sub-specialities. The concept of areas of competence was a way to handle the very difficult discussion on exams in Europe. It is obvious the we do not have exclusive right to intensive care, pain management or emergency medicine. But Anaesthesiologist have pioneered these fields and there is no reason why they should not continue to be leaders in the field.	4. What should our position be? Please provide comments and arguments
4.5		Anders Åneman	5. A questionnaire will be sent to all members concerning their preferred view of how Scandinavian Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care should develop will be distributed in February. The questionnaire has been developed by Jannicke Mellin-Olsen and Anders Åneman. The program used is called Expert maker and can be used for research.	5. Questionnaire will be distributed in the end of January and answerers are due at the latest in the beginning of Mars
5	Election Committee	Helen Seeman-	Freddy Lippert who was elected treasure in Reykjavik 2005 have declined re-election. Eldar Söreide, also elected in Reykjavik 2005 has accepted to stand for	A proposal for new treasure will be presented

		Lodding	<p>another 2 years.</p> <p>A candidate for Treasure is needed. It is recognised that the treasure will need secretarial help and this will probably amount to about 1000 Euro.</p> <p>It was agreed upon in the Board that the treasure does not have to live in Denmark. It is important to find a person interested in economic and Scandinavian collaboration. It is also important to take in consideration how the 5 countries are represented at the "heavy posts" as president, secretary, treasure, editor-in-chief and director of the Acta Board. Different possibilities were discussed.</p>	<p>on the web-page no later than February 2009</p> <p>The Treasure need secretarial assistant which will be paid for</p>
6	Status report of the Acta Foundation	Ivar Göthgen	<p>The difficult financial situation has hardly at all affected the Acta fond as the money is invested in bonds. The income has decreased both as ordinary (paper) subscribers have declined and as the income from Blackwell is paid in pounds (which have lost value). At the same time editorial expenses have increased. This will most probably lead to diminishing surplus in coming years.</p> <p>The surplus from the Acta found is used to grants supporting different activities as Educational committee, Clinical practice committee, Research committee and the SSAI congress. How do we prepare for a possible decline in money within the society? Could we increase our income? This needs to be discussed.</p>	<p>During 2009 grants amounting to 1.340.000 is planned to SSAI-meetings, Acta promotion and price to be given at the Congress in Odense, to the committees, as research grants and to the home page.</p>
6.2		All	<p>2. Discussion. A summary of what was said.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. we need to clear our priorities when things go tuff b. we need a standardised set of proposition, a professional tool when we priorities c. educational programs must go self-supported d. what to do about the membership fee when income decreases? e. What do our members want? What are the specific elements of dissatisfaction 	<p>2. A further strategic discussion about how to handle a decline in income is needed.</p> <p>Ways to increase income needs to be discussed</p>
7	Status report of the coming Editor in chief in Acta Scandinavica	Lars Rasmussen	<p>The journal is doing well!</p> <p>Online prescriptions have increased with 5%. All articles in Acta (from the start 1958) can now be down loaded. Numbers of articles that have been downloaded have increased 4-fould since the start 2002 to 2007. 900 articles are submitted each year; 1/3 is accepted. Present impact factor is 1.7.</p>	

			<p>Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New editor-in-chief from June 2009 • Editorial office will move to Copenhagen - new editorial assistant - changes in editorial board? • Contract with Wiley Blackwell - increased share of profit for the Acta Foundation, extension to 2013 • Improvement of manuscript handling software • Improved design - illustrations, appetizers • Speed up handling of manuscripts, titles • Home page - new, cooperate with SSAI <p>Miscellaneous: Registration of clinical trials? Should that be prerequisite for publication? Case reports very popular? Should we increase them? A good title on the article is important and to have a good abstract. Editorial support is given to the authors.</p>	
8	Status report and plans for 2009 for the Committees	Per Kristian Hyldmo	<p>Educational Committee</p> <p>Advanced training programs are provided and are increasingly popular.</p> <p>Information on our home-page have been improved</p> <p>Activities since June 2008</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICM 10th Anniversary & Symposium - 300 have passed! • Meeting in the EC November 2008 • Joint meeting with the Chairs of Advanced Training Programs • Collection of information for SSAI.info, on Programs • Supporting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Steering Committee meetings, Advanced Training Programmes ○ Activities outside Scandinavia 	<p>TIMETABLE BUDGET</p> <p>A. A report of how previous money has been used and a proposal for activities with itemised budget 2010 should be sent to the Treasurer (and Secretary General) in late april.</p> <p>B. A proposal for budget and activities should be sent out to the board in good time before the Board meeting in June 2009</p>
8.2		Minna Niskanen	<p>2. Clinical Practice Committee</p> <p>For the Odense congress two symposium is planed,</p>	TIME TABLE BUDGET

			<p><i>A. Patient databases is anaesthetic practice</i>(Thursday 11.6.2009)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Results of the CPC survey, Jon Laake - Finnish database, Minna Niskanen - Danish database, Ann Möller <p><i>B. Clinical practice guidelines</i> Friday 12.6.2009</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sedation outside the operating theatre - Anesthesia for emergency situations (Anders Gaadegard Jensen) - Acute pain management? - Anticoagulation and regional anaesthesia (Seppo Alahuhta, Harald Breivik) <p><i>Activities and plans for 2009</i> CPC has had two meetings in 2008</p> <p><i>Task forces</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The guidelines as an important issue also in the future - Surveys about implementation of the guidelines will be a challenge - Information about CPC and guidelines - links in the homepages of national societies <p><i>CME recertification</i> <i>Quality indicators</i></p> <p><i>New Chair</i> - M. N. is not able to continue as the chair of CPC and Ann Möller is elected by the board as new chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finnish and Swedish Society will nominate a new repr. to CPC <p><i>The next meeting of CPC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - in Odense at 3 pm on Friday 12.6.2009 	<p>A. A report of how previous money has been used and a proposal for activities with itemised budget 2010 should be sent to the Treasurer (and Secretary General) in late april.</p> <p>B. A proposal for budget and activities should be sent out to the board in good time before the Bord meeting in June 2009</p> <p>New representatives Sweden and Finland need new representative in CPC! Should be provided by respective Chairman of the Societies</p>
8.3	Anders Åneman	<p>3. Research Committee</p> <p>A biannual research grant will be given each congress year. Application date was the 15th of December. Mandatory for the grant is that the research involves two centers and two Scandinavian countries. The research project should be presented at the congress. The grants presently amounts to between 100.000 - 300.000. There were only 3 applicant and of formal reasons a reapplication procedure was needed which only attracted 1 applicant.</p>	<p>A biannual research grant will be given</p> <p>Information about the grant needs to be spread</p>	

			We discussed why we had so few applicants. Suggested was that it is difficult to work together with other countries, that the grants is not sufficiently known	
9	Present situation of the 31th SSAI Congress in Bergen	Eldar Söreide	The Congress will be held in Bergen. Congress president is Hans Flaaten. Unfortunately the coming congress president was not able to attend this meeting.	Eldar keeps contact with the congress organiser in Bergen.
10	Status report of the Treasurer	Freddy Lippert	Presented the accounts. Discussed the budget process. We have to put a proposal for a 2 year budget to the general assembly in June. The Swedish representative was not satisfied with the budget process and think the report and discussions could be improved. Suggested was the before the next congress 2011 the 2 year budget should be presented at the January meeting to allow time for discussion in the Board	The 2 year budget will be sent to the board in good time before the June meeting. Will be discussed on mail and on the June meeting.
11	SSAI home page		Was not discussed as Web-editor Anne Berit Guttormsen was not able to attend	
12	Any other business			
12.1	Honorary members	Eldar Söreide and all	The Society has the possibility to appoint Honorary members. This was discussed and the difficulty of such a procedure was aired. SSAI builds on so many persons that has worked so hard to get all this good thing as Acta Foundation, the different committees, the congresses and the journal Acta Scand going.	The rules for Honary members to be discussed full-scale in odense in June.
12.2	SSAI By-laws	Sigga Kalman	Suggestions for change of the by-laws was put forward the last General Assembly in Gothenburg 2007. All suggestions was approved but the suggested omission of the possibility to use proxy votes. A change in by-laws need the approval of two General assemblies.	The suggested changes in the By-laws will be put fore the General Assembly in Ondense 2009. The suggestion for omitting the proxy votes will not be put forward.
13	Coming meetings 2009		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. SSAI officers meets at lunch 8th of June in Odense 2. Acta Foundation meets at 5 pm the 8th of June 3. SSAI Board meets at 8.30 the 9th of June 4. SSAI congress is 10th- 13th June in Odense 5. SSAI:s January meeting 2010 will be held lunch 15th to Saturday 16th 6. SSAI:s board will have a pre congress meeting june?? Sept?? 2010. 	
14	The meeting was closed			

