

SSAI Winter meeting 2017 – Oslo

Board Meeting of the Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (SSAI)

Venue: Thon Opera Hotel, Oslo

Dates and time: January 13 – 15, 2017

Present: Sigga Kalman; president (SWE), Per Nellgård; treasurer (SWE), Michael Haney; editor-in-chief (SWE), Gunnar Bentsen (N), Ivar Gunnarson (IS), Jon Henrik Laake; chair CPC (N), Reidar Kvåle; president NAF (N), Conrad Bjorshol; EdCom (N), Svein Fels; president DASAIM (DK), Annette Ulrich (DK), Klaus Olkkola; president SAY (FIN), Alma Möller; past congress president (IS), Mikael Bodelsson; congress president (SWE), Martin Holmer; president SFAI (S), Lasse Raatiniemi (FIN), Lars Rasmussen; next congress president (DK) (Saturday), Sören Pischke; webmaster (N) (Saturday-Sunday), Tom Silfvast; secretary general (FIN). Kari Hreinsson; president Iceland was excused.

Minutes

Friday January 13th

1. Opening of the meeting

Chairman Sigga Kalman opened the meeting at 14:00 and greeted participants welcome. She was elected chair for the meeting.

2. Approval of the agenda.

The agenda was approved.

3. Deciding on dates of upcoming meetings

- Congress Malmö 6th - 8th September 2017.
 - Board meeting 5th of September 08.00 – 16.00.
 - Officers' meeting 4th of September at 4pm.
- Winter meeting in Reykjavik 2018; January 11 – 13.
- Board 7-9.6 2018 and visiting the 35th SSAI Congress venue in Copenhagen

4. Reports from the Committees

Educational committee - Conrad Bjorshol presented as stand-in for chair Annukka

- The CREM program has got a new steering committee and will start a new course in late 2017 or spring 2018.
- The ICU AEP which cancelled its last program start will to continue in 2017.
- EdCom will organize a pregress workshop on debriefing and also a session at the SSAI congress in Malmö
- There will be a joint meeting between the EdCom and the AEP chairs in March
- Budget proposal: joint meeting 70k, Ed Com 20k, AMEE congress 15k = total DKK 105k

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The Board discussed the relationship and communication between the AEPs and the Board. There seems to be a demand for greater transparency of the programs with regards to their finances and the structure of and cooperation between the programs. These issues will be discussed during the joint EdCom-AEP meeting in March.

Clinical Practice Committee – Jon Henrik Laake (*POWERPOINT ON BASECAMP*)

- Anna Oscarsson (SWE) is stepping down and a successor is being looked for. Jon Henrik is also stepping down as chair, and Morten Hylander Moller (DK) is willing to take over.
- There have been three published guidelines in 2016, and another two have been accepted for publication. The latter ones have been developed together with the Canadian society and have been planned to be published in ACTA, CJA and ICM. There is still a copyright and administrative issue to be solved. Several guidelines and guideline updates are being planned.
- The collaboration with the Canadian Critical Care Society and the MAGIC and GRADE working groups continue
- A joint meeting with representatives for the Nordic quality registries in intensive care was held in November. All countries except Finland participated. A follow-up meeting will take place this spring. The objective is to stimulate collaboration.
- The CPC will organize a course in clinical research during the SSAI congress in Malmö
- Budget proposal: DKK 316,5k

Research Committee – Michael Haney

- The research committee has reviewed and rated the three applications which had been submitted. They all fulfill the preset requirements and were rated virtually equally. **The Board decided** to split the grant and give DKK 100.000,- each. The Board discussed about the role and task of the research committee in the future, as well as how and to which extent support research activities. The research committee will discuss these issues and report back at the next Board meeting.
- Budget proposal: DKK 90k for arranging a research course

Election Committee – Alma Möller

By the end of 2016, two countries have suggested candidates for next president of the SSAI: Norway: Sören Pischke and Finland: Klaus Olkkola. Iceland will not submit a candidate, Sweden has not yet answered due to a technical issue, and the Danish candidate withdraw the candidacy. The election committee will come up with its suggestion for new SSAI president before the end of March. The election is made by the General Assembly in Malmö in September 2017.

5. The issue about the relation between the SSAI membership fee and the ACTA subscription fee, and some financial issues of the SSAI

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Currently the membership fee to the SSAI and the subscription fee paid to Wiley do not flow according to the articles. According to the articles, the membership fee to the SSAI includes the subscription fee of ACTA and it is paid by the societies to the SSAI. The present practice, however, is that the societies pay a membership fee of DKK 100,-/member to the SSAI and also a subscription fee of £45/member directly the publisher Wiley.

The officers suggest to the Board that the SSAI returns to the practice outlined in the articles, i.e. the societies pay a membership fee to the SSAI which includes the subscription fee, and the SSAI pays the subscription fees directly to Wiley.

The officers have made calculations on the cash flow of the Foundation and the Journal and suggest the following:

- the Foundation will negotiate with the publisher that the contract be renegotiated so that the subscription fee for the Journal can be paid by the SSAI and not the societies
- the national societies will pay the SSAI a membership fee which is higher than the current fee of DKK 100,- but approximately 50 % smaller than the combined sum the societies currently pay for membership to the SSAI and subscription to Wiley. The Foundation will pay the difference out of the annual surplus it creates from its dividend and income from the Journal. The exact membership fee will be decided by the General assembly when calculations and necessary negotiations have been made during spring.

The Board supported the proposal and gave the necessary officers the mandate to proceed with the preparations.

The Board agreed that the SSAI, as well as the Acta Foundation, now have accumulated sufficient assets to ensure continued financial stability in case of sudden economic turbulence. The annually made profit will be used for activities instead of increasing the assets. Currently, the fixed assets are invested in low-yield but secure financial instruments. It was decided that some 15 -20 % of the fixed assets could be invested in better yielding instruments but without too high a risk. The treasurer will explore available options and obtain external advice and prepare some proposals.

Saturday the 14th of January

6. Report on the 34th SSAI Congress in Malmö/Lund 2017 – Mikael Bodelsson

The congress will be a joint event with SFAI veckan, the annual meeting of SFAI. There will be pre-congress activities on Monday-Tuesday on September 4th-5th. Three full congress days on Sep 6 – 8 will ensue, with four parallel sessions. Registration and abstract submission will open on Jan 16. One main and three other major sponsors have been contracted. The fixed receipts

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accumulate to SEK 2.2M, fixed costs 3.2M. With 660 paying participants the result will be around 450K. Each additional participant will yield around SEK 1.400,- surplus. (POWERPOINT ATTACHED).

7. Report on the 35th SSAI Congress in Copenhagen 2019 – Lars Rasmussen

Lars Rasmussen as the congress president introduced. The congress is scheduled to be held on August 28 – 30, 2019. The location will be the Tivoli congress center and have a strong focus on interactivity. The theme will be decided on later. A local organizing committee has been appointed. (POWERPOINT ATTACHED).

8. Launching the new logo – Sören Pischke

The launch will be at the congress in Malmö, including flags at the entrance and an opening session with presentation of the new visual look. The logo will also appear on congress material, and the SSAI webpage will change to express the new visual identity at the same time. The total cost is DKK 120.000,- . The new look will later also influence the Journal. (POWERPOINT ATTACHED).

9. Financial issues of the SSAI - a proposition to establish a company – Per Nellgård.

Per presented the advantages and the potential disadvantages of establishing a company within the SSAI to manage the financial transactions. There are issues on VAT deduction and tax paying which would be more effectively and transparently handled if there was a company involved. Deloitte will be consulted regarding legal aspects of having a company linked to the SSAI. **The Board decided** that the intention is to proceed along the above outline. Sigga will take the issue to the joint meeting with the Educational committee and the educational program heads in March and present the suggestion of managing the finances of the AEP:s through an SSAI company. The AEP:s will be asked to communicate their views to the Board, and the discussion will continue at the next Board meeting in Malmö.

10. The SSAI position paper – Sigga Kalman

The national societies have discussed the position paper published in 2010 and they all expressed the view that the paper should be updated. The issue has not been discussed in the Icelandic society because there is no national training in the specialty yet.

The Board formed four working groups which after group work presented their views on how to proceed with the work (SEE ATTACHMENTS).

It was decided that the presidents of the national societies and the SSAI president start the process coordinated by Michael. A working group of 7 persons: the president of the SSAI, editor-in-chief and one representative from each national society will be formed by the end of April to carry out the process.

11. The use of Acta Foundation grants for SSAI activities in 2017

The Acta Foundation has decided to allocate support to the SSAI Educational, Research and Clinical Practice committees according to their requests, a total of DKK 501.000,-. The

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webmaster's budget will be DKK 40.000,-, and the SSAI promotion of ACTA functions at the congresses and national meetings will continue to be funded as before.

The Foundation has decided to discontinue its financial start-up allowance to the national societies for organizing future SSAI congresses, but suggests that the SSAI would take over this function. **The SSAI Board decided** that the 2019 congress will be supported by a loan of maximally DKK 300.000,- from the SSAI to the national society. The other congress activities paid for by the Foundation will be reimbursed as before, i.e. the agreed prizes, lectures and the support for young doctors. **The Board also decided** about how to pay costs of SSAI activities in conjunction with SSAI congresses. Previously the congress has paid for the Board expenses during the meeting held at the congress location one year prior to the congress. With the new arrangement the SSAI will cover these expenses.

12. Report from the National societies.

Denmark/Sven: DASAİM is further developing their website. Several activities (guidelines, organizing meetings and congresses). Problems with the political pressure to establish the specialty of emergency medicine and those specialists to take over the work of anaesthesiologists in the ED. Politicians are also requiring physicians to prescribe formulations containing cannabis against the view of the profession. **(POWERPOINT ENCLOSED)**.

Sweden/Martin: There are new national guidelines on specialist training and scientific work. Sedation without anaesthesia personnel is a major discussion, as in Denmark. SFAI-veckan is being reorganized. There is an educational portal on the webpage facilitating continuous learning. **(POWERPOINT ENCLOSED)**.

Iceland/Ivar: A joint national meeting gathering anaesthesiologists, surgeons and also OR and anaesthesia nurses to the same event has been created. A specialist training program in anaesthesiology is being set up on Iceland together with the British Royal College of Anesthetists.

Finland/Klaus: 90% of the national society's 1170 members are also SSAI members. The auditing of specialist training at the central hospitals has been completed in most of the hospital, and the process with the university hospitals is undergoing. There are plans to nationally regulate the specialization slots, how physicians are selected and may enter into specialization programs. **(SEE ATTACHMENT)**

Norway/Reidar: NAF has 1214 members. A national standard for anaesthesia has recently been developed and will be translated into English and published. A new medical specialty Akutt- og mottaksmedisin (AMM) – the Norwegian equivalent to emergency medicine - has been established in 2017, based on political will and not professional initiative. **(SEE ATTACHMENT)**.

13. Report from WFSA and ESA. Collaboration? Jannicke Mellin

Jannicke has been appointed president-elect of the World Federation of Societies of Anaesthesiologists (WFSA). She presented the activities and initiatives of the WFSA and gave an update of the proceedings from the 16th World congress held in Hong Kong in August 2016. **(SEE ATTACHMENT ON BASECAMP.)**

Sunday the 15th of January

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14. Acta Foundation Board report – Tom Silfvast, Klaus Olkkola

The Board was informed about the current status of the Foundation. The current Board members are Sigga Kalman (SWE, chair), Sören Pischke (N), Klaus Olkkola (FIN), Annette Ulrich (DK), Kari Hreinsson (IS), Michael Haney (SWE, editor-in-chief) and Tom Silfvast (secretary general SSAI, FIN). Since the step-down of previous manager Ivar Gothgen, the Foundation Board has struggled to make changes to the administration of the Foundation towards the authorities and to get access to the Foundation's account in Danske Bank to be able to go on with the business. There has been several problems with this process, and access to the account has just recently been given to Klaus while Tom is still waiting. Meanwhile, the SSAI has kindly been paying expenses for the Foundation, to be reimbursed to the SSAI later. The Foundation Board has drafted a code of conduct for the Board and set up a system for handling reimbursements with Visma. **SEE ATTACHMENT).**

15. Report from Editor in Chief for Scandinavian Journal of Anaesthesiology – Michael Haney

The financial situation of the Journal is stable and the Journal's reputation is good, working along strong ethical principles. Institutional subscriptions is the largest income post for the publisher. There are annually 700 – 800 submissions, of which about a quarter are published. The biggest challenge is to recruit a sufficient number of editors representing all necessary fields within our specialty. Michael requested input in the form of e.g., editorials from the SSAI Board members covering all areas of interest, not necessarily related to articles published in the Journal. Michael reminded about the possibility of subscribing to the electronic table of content, accessible through the website.

16. End of meeting

The meeting was closed at 11.30, with warm thanks to Gunnar Bentsen for making excellent meeting arrangements. The Board will meet in September in conjunction with the SSAI congress in Malmö.