

# Board meeting of the SSAI

## Minutes

**Date** June 15 – 16, 2018

**Location** Copenhagen, Radisson Collection Hotel, Hammerichsgade 1

**Present:** Klaus Olkkola (president SSAI; FIN), Martin Holmer (president SFAI), Sören Pischke (web editor, NOR), Mette Hyllested (DASAIM representative), Morten Hylander Møller (chair CPC; DK), Joachim Hoffman-Petersen (president, DASAIM), Lill Blomqvist (SFAI representative), Siri Tau Ursin (president, NAF), Guro Grindheim (deputy chair EdCom; NOR), Gunnar Bentsen (NAF representative), Tor Inge Tønnesen (congress president SSAI2021; NOR), Per Nellgård (treasurer SSAI; SWE), Merja Vakkala (president Finnish society), Michael Haney (editor-in-chief, chair RC; SWE), Lars Rasmussen (congress president SSAI2019, DK), Tom Silfvast (secretary SSAI, FIN).  
**Excused:** Eija Junntila (FIN), Kari Hreinsson (president Icelandic society)

### 1. Opening of the meeting

President Klaus Olkkola opened the meeting and greeted the participants welcome to Copenhagen.

### 2. Approval of minutes of previous and agenda for present meeting

The minutes and agenda were approved.

### 3. Upcoming meetings.

The next board meeting was rescheduled to be held in Gothenburg on February 1 – 2, 2019.

### 4. Updates from the SSAI committees

#### Research Committee

Michael reported. The first annual research course was held in Copenhagen April 2018. It was very successful and fully booked within hours from being announced. The board discussed how to proceed with arranging further courses, eg. rotating course sites between the Nordic capitals, announcing new courses, increasing number of participants or courses. The RC will work on these issues and informed that the next course will be held next spring. Cooperation between the RC and the AEPs was seen to be important.

#### Clinical Practice Committee

Morten reported. Main initiatives are working on clinical practice guidelines (based on GRADE), Nordic quality registries and international collaboration. Please refer to powerpoint.

#### Educational Committee

Guro reported. She reported on the survey the EdCom had made to the educational program chairs (see attachment). There is a strong request for secretarial support to the programs. A three-day course in anesthetic emergencies is being planned, but it needs financial support. The EdCom is planning a survey to all participants in all AEPs.

A problem with the selection of one participant to the CREM program has resulted in lengthy e-mail discussions and a complaint about the process. Nanna Kruse, the chair of the CREM steering committee,

was invited to the meeting and explained the situation. The board had a thorough discussion, and based on the presented data decided to fully support the decision made by the steering committee. Klaus will write the applicant and his superior a letter to inform of this decision. Because the tone of the previous e-mail communications from the applicant to the steering committee has been disrespectful, Klaus will also point out that the SSAI and its members follow the published SSAI rules of conduct in all its activities.

### **5. Update from the Acta Foundation**

Sören reported. The Foundation Board has decided to use the full amount of eligible grants, DKK 4M during the next five years, for SSAI related activities. The layout for allocating the money for 2018 (DKK 820k) and 2019 (DKK 865k) was presented. See attachment.

### **6. Update from the Journal.**

Michael reported. The Publisher's report for 2017 was positive. The latest IF was 2.438 and there is an influx of a large number of manuscript submissions. There were 3 new editorial board members in 2017 and 5 more so far 2018.

### **7. SSAI administrative issues.**

Klaus presented two suggestions for changes of the SSAI articles. A system of president-elect and past-president could be introduced, and the number of national representatives in the Board could be reduced from two to one person, appointed by the respective society. The Board discussed these initiatives and concluded that the current system with two national representatives is a good approach and should be continued. It was decided that the officers will prepare a suggestion to the next Board meeting for how to implement a succession system for the position as SSAI president. Klaus also informed the Board that the general secretary and the treasurer come to full term on their positions in 2019, and the election committee will prepare a suggestion for new candidates.

The meeting was adjourned for a visit to the Tivoli Congress Center where the next congress will take place.

### **8. Upcoming SSAI congress in Copenhagen in August 2019**

Lars informed about the current status of the preparations. The meeting facility, which the Board just visited, was found to suit very well for the congress. There will be pre-congress meetings and industry workshops, as well as a Board meeting preceding the congress. Some 1000 – 1200 participants are expected, the break-even number is 800. There will be 5 parallel sessions and the regularly recurring keynote and other lectures. It was decided that the participation fee policy described in the SSAI congress whitebook will be followed.

### **9. SSAI financial issues**

Per presented the financial situation. The membership fee has now been reduced to DKK 275,- and it will be collected from the national societies during the spring instead of late autumn. The need to arrange the financial issues related to the AEPs as well as providing secretarial assistance was uniformly recognised. A working group formed by Sören, Guro or another EdCom representative, Per and Joachim will work out a plan how to meet these needs and make a suggestion, aiming at a new service within a year.

## 10. The SSAI congress in Oslo in 2021

Sten Inge told about the arrangements. The date is suggested to be June 16 – 18, 2021. The organizing committee will be formed this autumn. The congress site will be the Clarion Hotel The Hub, which will be opened during spring 2019. Kongress & Kultur will be the PCO, the Norwegian Society has been working with them since 2007.

## 11. Webmaster and ScanFOAM.

Sören informed about the webpage activity, collaboration with ScanFOAM and that his present position as SSAI webmaster will be succeeded by Mads Astvad. Mads is an Odense based paediatric anesthesiologist interested in on-line education and teaching. FOAM is an acronym for Free Open Access Meducation. Mads gave an overview of how information is disseminated (podcasts, blogs), eg. the recording of the SSAI 2017 congress.

*Meeting adjourned.*

## Saturday, June 16, 2018

### 12. Updates from the National Societies

Norway/Siri: There are new national regulations on specialization, not requiring set criteria for what a specialist should know and how to show it. This creates concerns that the level of competence and knowledge no longer can be objectively assessed. Controversy on guidelines... Problems recruiting doctors for pain medicine.. Sustainability and the specialty...

Finland/Merja: The health care reform transferring the responsibility for organizing social and health care from the 300 municipalities to 18 new regions (landskap) is in its final phase. It is still uncertain whether the reform will be accepted by the parliament because of political disagreement. The system how to recruit doctors for specialist training is being renewed, there will be an open selection procedure twice a year where applicants' work experience, research activity and motivation are assessed.

Denmark/Joachim: The capital area and the region of Sjælland are implementing a new patient charting system (Epic) which has been a major challenge and is considered to be a flaw by the doctors. The SSAI resolution on banning HES has created some negative comments from the anaesthesia community. There is still a problem with the Danish patient safety authority and its actions to consider doctors liable of misconduct in some controversial cases.

Sweden/Martin: National program areas are being defined, and currently our specialty is included in the "emergency" area, which is dominated by emergency physicians. SFAI is working to get an own position for anaesthesia and intensive care medicine.

### 13. Global sepsis alliance

An invitation to join the Global sepsis alliance has reached SFAI, and the question was raised should the SSAI instead of individual national societies join. Nobody else in the Board had information about this alliance. The Board noted that there are several other sepsis campaigns and initiatives and decided that for the time being this invitation does not lead to further actions from the SSAI.

#### **14. The SSAI position paper**

Klaus referred to the SSAI position paper published in 2010 and the Board discussions in Reykjavik last January. The question whether the paper should be revised is still unanswered, and there has been a change of president for the SSAI. The Board agreed that an update of the paper would be important, and discussed how the process should be carried out. It was agreed that at least perioperative management and critical emergency medicine are areas which should be brought to attention. It was decided that Klaus will approach the national societies and ask them to appoint one representative each to form a writing group. Klaus will chair the group, who also will be in contact with the AEP:s.

#### **15. Joint meeting with representatives for the Scandinavian young anaesthesiologists**

The young anaesthesiologists were represented by Camilla Christin Bråthen (Norway), Anni Herlevi (Finland), Steffen Klöve Pedersen (DK) and Sigrid Asker (Sweden). They presented the activities in their respective countries. All but the Norwegian young anaesthesiologists have a national section or association and all are to some extent represented in the boards of their national societies. A Nordic society for young anaesthesiologists is going to be formed in the near future. The Board found it important to have close cooperation with their association and discussed ways of how to turn it into practice. The upcoming SSAI congress in Copenhagen next summer will play a central role in this context.

#### **16. Closing of meeting.**

Klaus expressed his warm thanks to Lars for very successful meeting arrangements and closed the meeting.