

Minutes

SSAI Board meeting

The Hub, Oslo / Zoom 28.-29. January 2022

Present physical:

Klaus Olkkola	(President SSAI; FIN),
Gunnar Bentsen	(Secretary General SSAI; NOR),
Michael Haney	(EiC, chair RC; SWE),
Sören Pischke	(Dir Acta Foundation; NOR),
Tor Inge Tønnesen	(congress president SSAI2022; NOR),
Steffen Kløve Albæk Pedersen	(chair NYA; DEN)
Jon Henrik Laake	(president NAF; NOR),

Present zoom:

Per Nellgård	(Treasurer SSAI; SWE),
Christian Wamberg	(president DASAIM; DEN),
Lone Fuhrmann	(representative DASAIM, DEN),
Matti Reinikainen	(president SAY; FIN),
Teijo Saari	(representative, vice-president SAY; FIN)
Kristian Strand	(representative NAF; NOR)
Katrin Thormar	(president Islandic society; ISL)
Claes Frostell	(representative SFAI; SWE)
Cecilia Escher	(chair EdCom; SWE),
Morten Hylander Møller	(chair CPC; DEN)
Janne Liisanantti	(future congress president SSAI 2024; FIN)
Mads Astvad	(webmaster; DEN)

Excused:

Gunnar Thorarensen	(representative Icelandic society, ISL)
Maja Ewert	(president SFAI; SWE),

Friday 28th, CET 09:00

1. Opening of the meeting

Klaus opened the meeting, and greeted the participants welcome. There are several new board members: Lone Fuhrmann, Teijo Saari, Maja Ewert, and Janne Liisanantti. The members presented themselves.

2. Approval of the minutes from the Board meeting on June 16. 2021

The minutes and the agenda were approved.

3. Approval of the meeting agenda.

The agenda was approved.

4. Upcoming meetings

Summer Board meeting in Oslo on June 7. 2022 at 09:00. (AEP-day from noon on the 7th). Søren will find a time for AF Board meeting during the congress.

Winter Board meeting 3.-4. February 2023: Copenhagen, Denmark
Officers meeting and Acta Foundation Board February 2. 2023.

Summer Board meeting 2023: Oulu, Finland

5. Updates from the SSAI committees

Clinical practice committee – Morten

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

SSAI guidelines. Work on two guidelines ongoing. Expected finalized within a year.

SSAI guideline endorsement. Two completed in 2021. Several projects ongoing for 2022.

The MAGICapp was demonstrated. It is a powerful tool getting access directly to all sorts of high-quality guidelines. The licence SSAI pay is EUR 20.000/year. This can be regarded as a contribution to building this powerful tool for dissemination of high quality guidelines and enables SSAI to have our guidelines published. We have work to do informing the community about its existence.

Cecilia pointed out that the gender balance in the CPC is a bit off. It is important that the national societies have this in mind when electing new members.

Educational committee - Cecilia

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

EdCom needs a new member from Iceland.

Cecilia informed about activities during 2021, which included 3 online meetings with the AEPs.

Online lectures on lecturing was delivered, financed by Acta Foundation .

The CREM-program has established a new steering committee, and will shortly be up and running again.

Work on the revised AEP guidelines, secretarial support and collaboration with the congress has been time-consuming topics.

The budget was presented.

6. Financial discrepancies related to POMM educational programme –

Klaus

(summary and presentation uploaded to Basecamp)

Ib Jammer and Andreas Wiklund discovered quite serious economical discrepancies. This is outlined in the summary document uploaded to Basecamp. The main finding was that the program previously did not have

control on whether invoices were paid. This of course needs to be corrected, and transparency established for all AEPs and SSAI itself.

The Board decided: Klaus, Gunnar, Per and Cecilia take responsibility for finding a common platform for economy handling for the AEPs before the next Board meeting. When in place, the Board will then make this solution mandatory for all AEPs within the SSAI umbrella, and this will be embedded in the AEP guidelines.

7. Possible revision of AEP guidelines in relation to financial arrangements and control

Cecilia presented the latest version of the AEP guidelines. There was a discussion especially concerning economic compensation to invited speakers.

The Board decided: the Board endorses the revised AEP guidelines, and suggests they be revised every 2 years.

The guideline is uploaded to Basecamp.

8. Updates from the SSAI committees (continued)

Nordic Young Anaesthesiologists – Steffen
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

Steffen gave an overview of the committee's short history. NYA has actively taken social media into use to share and communicate across the borders. Budget: suggest alternating budgets depending on whether it is a congress year or not, with slightly higher costs during congress years.

Suggestion from NYA:

establishment of the NYA exchange program and SSAI grants.

Eligible candidates must be in active training before last year in training.

Visits of 5-10 working days (not work) to selected departments. Fixed grants of DKK 10.000 (5-10/year).

The Board decided: SSAI will allocate funds for 6 grants of DKK 10.000 to be used during fall 2022 through spring 2023 as a pilot. The pilot will be evaluated in the Board meeting Summer 2023, with the ambition of making the NYA exchange program permanent with 5-10 grants per year.

9. Updates from the SSAI committees (cont.)

Research committee – Michael
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

Finnish representative has changed, a Swedish member still lacking.
2021 Research Methods courses has been cancelled due to the pandemic.

Next course planned for fall 2022.

2 post-doc scholarships (for 2 years) established:
Terhi Lohela (F), Helsinki and Jonathan Grip (M), Stockholm

The RC plans to look into the possibility to set up a yearly gathering for young researchers.

The RC budget for 2022 was presented.

Challenges for anaesthetic research were discussed.

10. Update from the Acta Foundation – Søren
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

Since many of the board members are new, Søren gave an overview of the history and structure of the Acta Foundation, followed by the 2021 report (good revenue on investments) and 2022 budget.

11. Election of member to the Acta Foundation Board – Klaus/Søren
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

National representatives:
Christian Wamberg DEN – new
Klaus Olkkola FIN
Katrín Thomar ICE
Jon Henrik Laake NOR - new
Maja Ewert SWE - new

Director: Søren Pischke – 2 more years
Ex officio members: EIC Michael Haney, and SSAI Sec Gen Gunnar Bentsen

12. Update from the Journal – Michael
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

The status is good. No major changes over the last year, so continuously also difficult to recruit new editors, two new last term.
The review process is becoming shorter, approx. 50 % of manuscripts accepted for external review get accepted.
Worries as to the development of Nordic research and also uncertainty as to what happens with PlanS.
Recurring problem with difficult procedure for getting access to Journal based on national society membership. Søren is trying to find a solution together with Wiley.

13. Report from the treasurer – Per
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

Per presented the 2022 budget and the 2021 report.

Economy good. No increase in member fee.

14. Status of the position paper – Jon Henrik

Jon Henrik presented the background for the paper, the writing group, and the status of the process.

The main focus so far is on clinical epidemiology as a tool in perioperative medicine and critical care. There is uncertainty within the Board whether this paper should represent our all-inclusive view on the direction forward, “a mission statement”, or just highlighting one or a few important topics. The writing group continues their work.

15. SSAI congress in Oslo in 2022 – Tor Inge

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

“Monitoring Life” – 8.-10. June 2022.

www.ssai2022.com continually updated.

The registration fees have not been increased since Copenhagen. Reduced fees for trainees, AEP candidates etc.

SSAI need ALL national societies to forward information about the congress they will receive from the congress committee shortly, to all members. This proved very efficient for the webinar participation in June 2021.

The Board decided: to endorse the recommendation from the congress committee to plan for a full physical congress.

The Board members physically present today were taken for a tour of the congress area at the Hub.

Closing of the meeting for the day

Saturday 29th at 09:00

16. The SSAI congress in Oulu in 2024 – Janne

“TOMORROW IS NOW” 18.-20. (or 17.-19.) June 2024

Venue: Oulu City Theatre & Raddison Blu, plan to be confirmed Feb 2022

Theatre: 527 (possible up to 700) seats + several 100-150 seats.

Exhibition area: 1200 persons

Raddison: up to 900 guests dinner

Also plans for some activity at new hospital and test lab.

Themes: future (2044), what will anaesthesiology, ICM, technology, education etc look like.

17. Update from the webmaster - Mads

The website, especially front page, needs update. External help is needed. Newest version of Wordpress must be implemented. Further we want new functionality – possibility to log in etc for the AEPs

Plug-ins can be:

Buddyboss (have lifetime licence for this) – log in, chat, zoom integration etc (developer input needed).

Learndash – plug-in for quiz etc. (licence EUR 150/y)

Memberpress – plug-in for member handling

The Board decided: Søren will team up with Mads with the goal to transform the web page into what is needed to serve as a hub for the AEPs. Per are in contact with some possible useful people in Gothenburg. Mads and Søren are cleared to spend up to DKK 200.000 to hire external help.

18. Failure with the Danish medical association – Klaus/Cecilia

The experience with DMA was shocking. After only helps with one course, DMA suddenly stated they cannot handle money transactions abroad, which was a clear and important part of the agreement.

We can use the content of the agreement with DMA going forward finding a new partner.

19. Updates from the National Societies

Sweden – Claes

Focus on education, research, work-environment, and the lack of ICU-beds. (The numbers of ICU-beds in different countries differ widely in number and in how they are defined, which makes arguing to increase capacity difficult. So rather than focus on the number of beds/100.000, it may be better to focus on the consequences of exceeding the current capacity.)

Difficult to find candidates to nominate to all sorts of committees etc. Interpreted as a post covid effect. Much rebuilding is needed.

Norway – Jon Henrik

Intensive care capacity a hot topic also in Norway. Capacity standstill for years (can be due to how hospitals are financed, a system where the hospital loses money on ICU-patients). Some work ongoing to establish what actual ICU capacity we have. The process is complicated by mix-in of intermediate bed capacity. Other involvement: how to prioritize patients when capacity exceeded, how to distribute vaccines.

Corona commission: pointed to low preparedness for crises in the health care system.

The Medical association in Norway has had lower visibility than the nurse's association during the pandemic.

Ongoing tension linked to the emergency medicine specialty.

Organization of air ambulance: public ownership vs. outsourced to private operators (current situation).

Denmark – Christian

ICU-capacity focus for the coming year.

Health system stretched, but not over-stretched.

Post Covid fatigue as in other countries, a lot of ICU-nurses have left their jobs.

New pediatric hospital: who should lead the PICU?

Finland – Matti

Less burdened by Covid than Sweden. (For what it is worth: 5.5 adult cat.3 ICU-beds/100.000). The society has been heard quite well by the authorities during the pandemic.

Restructuring of social and health care services are in progress. Unknown how this plays out.

The society have had some web-events, but most activity has been cancelled in 2021.

The society celebrates its 70-year anniversary this year.

Iceland

no report

- Operational collaboration between SSAI and national societies
Difficulties regarding the SSAI not having direct access to all members but has to go via the national societies.
This might be solved with improved functionality of the SSAI web page having a log in function, but this would take a lot to maintain.

20. Any other business – Klaus

- Anything else ?
Michael – better connectivity between the national societies would be beneficial.

Closing of meeting – Klaus

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00

Minutes by Gunnar