

Minutes

SSAI Board meeting Zoom, June 16. 2021

Present:

Klaus Olkkola	(President SSAI; FIN),
Gunnar Bentsen	(Secretary General SSAI; NOR),
Per Nellgård	(Treasurer SSAI; SWE),
Michael Haney	(EiC, chair RC; SWE),
Sören Pischke	(Dir Acta Foundation; NOR),
Joachim Hoffman-Petersen	(president DASAIM; DEN),
Eija Junttila	(president SAY; FIN),
Matti Reinikainen	(representative, vice-president SAY; FIN)
Jon Henrik Laake	(president NAF; NOR),
Kristian Strand	(representative NAF; NOR)
Katrin Thormar	(president Icelandic society; ISL)
Annette Nyberg	(president SFAI; SWE),
Cecilia Escher	(chair EdCom; SWE),
Morten Hylander Møller	(chair CPC; DEN)
Steffen Kløve Albæk Pedersen	(chair NYA; DEN)
Tor Inge Tønnesen	(congress president SSAI2022; NOR),
Lars Rasmussen	(past congress president SSAI2019, DEN),
Mads Astvad	(webmaster; DEN)

Excused:

Mette Hyllested	(representative DASAIM, DEN),
Gunnar Thorarensen	(representative Icelandic society, ISL)
Claes Frostell	(representative SFAI; SWE)

Wednesday 16th, CET 08:30

1. Opening of the meeting

Klaus Olkkola opened the meeting and greeted the participants welcome to the meeting on Zoom.

Joachim is stepping down as president of DASAIM, his successor being Christian Wamberg.

2. Approval of the minutes from the Board meeting on Jan 22. 2021, and approval of the meeting agenda.

The minutes and the agenda were approved.

Matters arising from previous minutes

- Advancing women in academic medicine, SSAI policy – Jon Laake
The Diversity Policy document is submitted for publication. Whether SSAI should have a separate document on advancing women in academic medicine will be put on the winter meeting agenda.
- Continuing professional development and the SSAI – Joachim Hoffman-Petersen
This process has been discontinued.
- Update of SSAI white paper – Jon Laake
This is on this meeting's agenda.
- SSAI position paper on CREM vs EM – Klaus Oikkola
This task will be chaired by the CREM steering committee. More information at winter meeting.

3. Upcoming meetings

Winter Board meeting in Oslo on January 28.-29. 2022 (Officers meeting and AF Board meeting on 27th). Venue: The Hub, Oslo.

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.

4. Preparations for the Extraordinary General Assembly

The articles of the SSAI state that "The General Assembly is held biennially in connection with the congress and has the final authority of The Society". Because of the Covid-19-pandemic the congress of the year 2021 has been postponed until 2022. Therefore, SSAI could not have an ordinary General Assembly in 2021 but an Extraordinary General Assembly is being arranged to agree on issues which cannot be postponed by one year.

The main matter is the proposition to extend the period of the elected members by one year due to force majeure caused by Covid-19-pandemic and resuming normal timing of General Assemblies and election of members to the board in 2022 during the Oslo Congress.

Action: The extraordinary GA will be held as planned after the Oslo Webinar today.

5. Updates from the SSAI committees

Educational committee – Cecilia (presentation uploaded on Basecamp) Theodor Sigurdsson is stepping down. New Icelandic representative needed. EdCom has held 2 meetings, in addition to 2 meetings with the AEPs. Guideline is under revision to be finalized during 2021- transparency being the primary goal.

Secretarial support not yet functioning as hoped. Contact information for the secretariate will be posted on our web page to facilitate contact.

EdCom has focus on visibility and joint AEP activities during the Oslo congress.

The Board learns that the ICM-program recently has waived the prerequisite of completed EDIC 1 before admission to the program. The Board urge the Steering committees to communicate with EdCom in the process prior to such changes.

Clinical practice committee – Morten

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp).

The CPC has a new Icelandic member, Martin Ingi Sigurdsson.

Two guidelines are in preparation; one on atrial fibrillation and one on prehospital management. Two endorsements has been completed, including the Surviving Sepsis Paediatric Guideline.

Nordic Quality Registry work also progressing.

Magic App – a few initiatives are planned.

Matti addressed new Finnish legislation making collaboration on registry data across countries more difficult. This needs further attention and discussion.

Research committee – Michael (presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

The research methods course for 2021 delayed due to the pandemic, but the RC hopes to arrange it ultimo 2021.

Two 2-year post-doc grants have funding from AF, and the proposals are ready.

The Board decided: The grants should be announced ASAP.

The RC plus Klaus will rank the applicants according to grants process document, and the ranking will be presented to Acta Foundation for decision.

Nordic Young Anaesthesiologists – Steffen

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

Now celebrating 2-year anniversary.

Not much happening the last year due to no national activities.

Focus points:

- Imbedding young anaesthesiologists into national bodies.
- Differences in education between countries.
- Making SSAI activities relevant to young anaesthesiologists.
- 2-week exchange program development with a pilot in 2022, suggesting application for AF grant covering travel and accommodation.

6. Update from the Acta Foundation – Søren

(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

2020 profit just under 1mill DKK.

Print subscription for Acta now ended.

DKK 1,2 mill needs to be used for grants by the end of this year.

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

Downloads increasing, mostly guidelines and reviews.

Original research articles constitute the major bulk of the published material.

Accept rate about 22%, but much higher from Nordic countries.

New young editors are needed more than ever.

Plan S issues (open access) needs attention in the coming years.

8. SSAI financial issues/report from the treasurer – Per
(presentation uploaded on Basecamp)

The economy is good. Not much happening last year, but bank issues created problems with payment of member fees.

The treasurer suggest opening a Swedish bank account (to avoid paying 1% negative interest rate in Denmark) and to change investment company to Söderberg & Partners and/or Carnegie. The change in investment company has been repeatedly debated by the Board over the last years.

The Board decided: the Board endorses opening a Swedish Bank account, and relocating investments to Söderberg & Partner and/or Carnegie.

9. Intensive care medicine – Annex V issue – Jon

Jon summed up the story, confusing as it is, including the possible conflict between ESAIC and ESICM, and challenged the Board members to wholeheartedly engage in this issue. A link to an ESICM meeting on June 24th is distributed on Basecamp.

The span of uncertainties expressed through comments could be summed up as: Would including ICM in Annex V be a mere recognition of IC competences and as such be a recognition of the SSAI ICM educational program, or could it be the first step towards separating ICM from anaesthesiology as a separate specialty ?

It is clear to the Board that this is an issue we need to discuss thoroughly.

Action: The Board needs to allocate at least 1-2 hours for this issue during our winter meeting. The National Presidents are asked, prior to the meeting, to discuss this within their national societies, and prepare a presentation for our winter meeting.

10. SSAI congress in Oslo in 2022 – Tor Inge

“Monitoring Life” – 8.-10. June 2022.

www.ssai2022.com continually updated.

Economical break even with 700 participants.

Much focus this spring has been on today’s webinar, but the 2022 program is expected to be finalized before summer.

11. Any other business – Klaus

- Covid-19-pandemic and ICU situation in Sweden – Annette

Several regions in Sweden will not accept sending patients abroad. They would rather see nurses and doctors imported during the pandemic. This however, is difficult in practice. How would Sweden’s neighbours respond to a request to take Swedish patients if needed?

Søren: formally requested, the Oslo-region would be willing to take patients from Sweden. This seems to be possible also in Denmark, maybe also Finland.

- Writing group on SSAI white paper - Jon

No time for this today. Postponed to winter meeting.

Closing of meeting – Klaus

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10

Minutes by Gunnar