



Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the general Assembly of International Society for Pediatric and Adolescent Diabetes (ISPAD)

September 5 , 2014

Toronto , Canada

1. Welcome.

The Secretary General, Carine de Beaufort, welcomed the members to the General Assembly. Denis Daneman and Jill Hamilton , the conveners of this 40th ISPAD Scientific Conference, were recognized for their excellent work in the organization of the Conference. The agenda was slightly modified and the proposal discussion advanced for practical reasons.

2. President's Report:

Professor Stephen Greene, ISPAD President expressed his thanks to his co executive and advisory council members as well as to K.I.T. the Society's management group. His report has been published in the annual report 2013-2014.

3. Proposal 'Change Advisory Council' for Membership endorsement

One of the main activities of the past year has been the discussion on how to ensure worldwide representation of ISPAD to respect its mission in all parts of the world. A document has been prepared summarizing changes in the Advisory Council structure and specifying the task of its members. Through these changes the representation should be secured across the world to ensure best need assessment and collaboration in all these regions. The proposed document was discussed in the Executive Committee and endorsed by the Advisory Council. The proposal was submitted to the membership 28 days before the annual meeting.

Motivation for this revision was to create at any time representation on the Advisory Board regions in the world, eliminating the current ad-hoc system of representation based despite the desire to have world-wide representation as expressed in the Constitution and thereby improve the needs assessment in those regions. Furthermore, the Advisory Council is sometimes faced with insufficient information about their tasks.

A vibrant discussion followed, in which the membership expressed different opinions. Some mentioned that this had been proposed already in the past and would be appropriate to ensure worldwide representation of the Society. Many expressed their worry on the realization. Following key comments were mentioned

- The process on how to ensure sufficient number of candidates/regional advisors from the indicated regions and maintain a democratic voting.
- What to do when a region has no person standing for election. This is not yet covered in the document. Although it was mentioned to use regional societies to propose candidates, this was rejected by others suggesting the potential bureaucratic and political risks. The document needs to include this potential situation.
- When including all regions of the world, based on the most appropriate classification (world bank- WHO or other) the possibility to support their own travel costs to the different meetings may prove a major hurdle (this has been addressed in the text).
- The number of 2 healthcare professionals was deemed insufficient and the same percentage as in the current Advisory Council should be maintained.
- A gradual transition process needs to be included

The discussion was closed. Revision of the document should be followed by external consultation on the forum of the website and the final document will be presented through the e-voting system for endorsement.

4. Secretary General's Report:

Carine de Beaufort, Secretary General, presented the annual report of the Society. The contribution of many active ISPAD members and support of the Advisory Council members to a vast number of postgraduate and other training programs has been highly appreciated .

Highlights of this year are the revised Clinical Practice Consensus Guidelines 2014, available on a USB at this conference. The hard work and input of all

editors to get this available to the membership at this conference is highly valued. Further collaboration has been initiated with different scientific and other organizations to harmonize actions to improve outcome.

Work of the newly created Social Media Board , under the chairmanship of Maartje deWit has contributed to better communication and more visibility of ISPAD within the social media . The work of the committee and the webmaster Kate Gajewska is warmly acknowledged . More input from the membership remains important.

Prize winner of the main ISPAD prizes have already been published but the best poster prize has been a shared prize between Dr EM AlShehri (P128) and dr M Nakhla et al (P185), whereas the best oral presentation was awarded to dr V Gagnum et al (O50).

Further details of the report can be found in the *Annual Report 2013-2014*.

5. Treasurer's Report:

Henk Veeze, Treasurer, presented the preliminary annual financial report. The details can be found in the draft *Annual Report*. Due to the early time of this year's annual meeting , the final report is currently under review by the accountants. The final report should be available in November 2014. Despite the economic climate , ISPAD remains a financially healthy society and its sponsors are acknowledged for their continuing support . A new field may be the use of media during and after the annual conference as this year the main sessions have been webcasted and will be available online.

An important change for the next year is the handling of the membership list and thus facilitation of payment of membership dues. Still a large number of members has experienced difficulties to do.

6. Result of the Election of Officers:

This year electronic voting was performed to allow members not attending the Conference to express their opinion.

Past presidents Professors L K Fisher and T Danne served as scrutineers and verified the voting procedure and reported the outcome of the election.

Due to a technical failure the scrutineers declared the e- voting not valid.

The Executive Committee expressed their sincere apologies to the membership, that despite thorough check ups prior to the start up procedure, a small modification during the procedure had led to this major failure.

They have looked into this together with the management group and the website provider , and the necessary corrections will be put in place to ensure that this will not happen again . E-voting will be repeated again asap the system is considered appropriate to start. The candidates standing for election are

Advisory Board members. HJ Bangstad, M Rewers, TJ Barrett, B Aschemeier will remain on the Advisory Board, till the e- voting outcome is known
Their contribution has been highly appreciated . S Waldron (HCP), S Hofer, A Scaramuzza and J Wood, will continue till 2015. From the following candidates 3 physicians and 1 healthcare professional will be elected.

HCP

Beverly Harris
Jean Lawrence
Janine Cusumano

Physicians

Abbas Qadrah
Anju Virmani
Asma Deeb
Craig Jeffries
David Maahs
Eric Richmond
Tatsuhiko Urakami

Only one candidate, H Veeze, stands for election as Treasurer elect (2014-2015) and Treasurer (2015-2017).

After the e-voting the scrutineers , professor Danne and Fisher, will control , and transmit this information to the executive committee.

SA Greene steps down as President and will fulfil the role of Past President, whereas R Hanas (2014-2016) assumes the position of President as of the end of the 2014 Annual Conference.

7. Science schools Healthcare professionals (SSHP) : Past and Future

Science schools are one of the important assets of ISPAD . They should provide

- Training in basic research methodology
- Professional growth as researcher
- Development of individual research projects
- Develop a supportive global research network, not ending after the school!

Over the last year an evaluation of the impact on the participants of the first 10 years of Science School for healthcare professionals (SSHP) , has been done and has been reported at the Annual Conference as a poster. B Aschemeier and H Gilbertson as conveners have presented the summary of this evaluation clearly demonstrating that many participants have become major contributors in different fields of pediatric diabetes. Healthcare professionals from 42 countries have participated in these SSHP.

On some occasions language barriers may have hampered the impact of the school. Organization of continental or national SSHP may be one way forward to solve this problem , although it would not offer the option to develop the global networks. A combination of both types may be considered in the future , depending on financial support.

When funding is ensured, the next international will take place in Brisbane, just before the annual conference. The huge input of conveners over the years , and more especially the conveners of 2014 , is gratefully acknowledged.

8. Science schools Physicians: Past and Future

For the Science Research School for Physicians (SSP) the evaluation of the previous 14 years has started in 2014 and W Mlynarski and his team submitted the questionnaires to all previous participants .

Preliminary outcome suggested a high number of scientific contributions and a clear impact on the career pathway of several participants . A final report should be available for the next ISPAD annual conference.

Convening Science schools is a major task and the 2014 SSP in Boston was a great success , thanks to L Laffel and her team .

For 2015/2016 two offers have received to convene the SSP and when funding is ensured Milan and Rotterdam will be the next locations for the SSP:

is now open for application. Professor L Laffel, who also invited young members to apply, provided a presentation of the program, faculty and facilities for the School.

9. Pediatric Diabetes Report:

Professor M Sperling, Editor, Pediatric Diabetes gave an update on the current status of the Journal of the Society. As of 1 September , 226 manuscripts were submitted to PD with an acceptance rate of 25 %. The invited reviews are well appreciated. The IF remained just above 2. For 2014-2015 the aim is to reach

the 2009 level. Therefore, all members were invited to submit their best papers to the Journal to stimulate a further increase of its impact factor over the next year.

10. Future Annual Scientific Conferences:

ISPAD 2016 – Luis Castano will be the convener of the ISPAD Annual Conference 2016 in Spain, Valencia. The conference will take place from October 27-30, 2016. Further information will be published on the website in due time.

11. Any Other Business:

During any other business one members expressed her compliments on how the society evolved and thanked the Executive Committee for their work .

With respect to the Scientific Conference the high cost of the recognition dinner and the disrespect of some speakers to their time limits, and the lack of action of the chairs , were mentioned as points for improvement for next conferences

12. Invitation to the 41 Annual Conference of ISPAD in 2015 – F Cameron presented a very dynamic and inviting update on the Annual Scientific Conference to be held in Brisbane, Australia in collaboration with APEG.

The theme is Leaping over Barriers!

It will be held at the Brisbane Convention Center from October 7 -10 and all members are invited to join !

Submitted by:


Carine de Beaufort, Secretary General

date December 7 2014


Stephen Greene, President

date 08 December 2014