

## Summary of the Minutes

Of the Board Meeting of the Scandinavian Society of Anaesthesiology and Intensive Care Medicine (SSAI) at Shaeffergaarden, Copenhagen, January 20<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup>, 2007.

Present:

Eldar Søreide, President

Eija Nilsson, Secretary General

Freddy Lippert, Treasurer

Helen Seeman-Lodding, Congress President, SSAI2007

Björn Biber, Congress Vice-President, SSAI2007

Sven Erik Gisvold, Editor-in-Chief of Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica

Ivar Hejde Göthgen, Director of Acta Foundation

Hans Kirkegaard, President of the Danish Society

Susan Wammen, elected member of the Danish Society

Riku Aantaa, President of the Finnish Society

Pertti Pere, elected member of the Finnish Society

Sigurbergur Karason, President of the Icelandic Society

Anne Berit Guttormsen, President of the Norwegian Society

Jannicke Mellin-Olsen, elected member of the Norwegian Society

Sigga Kalman, President of the Swedish Society

Lars Wiklund, elected member of the Swedish Society

Doris Ostergaard, Chairman of the Educational Committee

Minna Niskanen, Chairman of the Clinical Practise Committee

Anders Åneman, Chairman of the Research Committee

Palle Toft, next Congress President, SSAI2009

1. In the ***President's report*** Eldar Søreide underlined the importance of active work of the whole Board "between the Minutes" as well as the two currently important matters: the new Research Committee and the next SSAI Congress 2007 in Gothenburg.
2. During ***the status report of the SSAI2007 Congress*** (by Helen Seeman-Lodding and Björn Biber) the following "Ten important points" were discussed:
  - a. ***Finalization of the program***: the Congress format is built of research presentations, education/learning tracks, clinical updates, pro-con debates, interactive mentometer sessions, industrial symposia, workshops, society meetings and other interest group meetings. The research symposium will consist of "break through, new and hot topics and the frontiers of Scandinavian research". Two workshops are already included in the program.
  - b. ***Major development***: 120 colleges (January 2007) had signed for congress lecturers. There will be Scandinavian and international speakers with a "local flavour" and 30% of the speakers are going to be females.
  - c. ***Finances***: 8 main partners, 2 supporting partners and 9 ordinary partners (n= 19) and expected participants 650 and 120 faculty members
  - d. ***SSAI Committee exposure*** is seen as following lectures: "SSAI postgraduate training programmes- something to be proud of", "Scandinavian guidelines on anaphylaxis", "Therapeutic hypothermia after cardiac arrest" and "Prehospital airway management".
  - e. ***Scandinavian vs international focus***
  - f. ***Extended industrial participation***
  - g. ***Abstract deadline is April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007***

- h. All free papers will take part in *the Acta Award Competition* if they are agreed to be submitted to Acta. A fast-track publication will be promised after the acceptance. The jury consists of one member from Acta, one from the Congress and the total Research Committee (= 7 members). Four prizes will be divided: 1.prize: 50 000 Dkr, 2. & 3.prize: 20 000 Dkr and an audience prize (voted by the audience): 10 000 Dkr
  - i. *Opening lecture* will be given by Ronald Miller: “The future of anaesthesia”
  - j. *Advertising, marketing and PR*
- 3. *Future strategies:*
  - a. **The new Research Committee (RC)** will consist of Anders Åneman (Sweden) as the chair, Sigurberger Karason (Iceland), Leena Lindgren (Finland), Palle Toft (Denmark), the Norwegian member(still missing) and the Editor-in-chief of Acta. The preliminary policy document for RC will be rewritten by the Chair and distributed before the end of February to SSAI Board members There will be a possibility for research applications twice a year. A yearly report of the on-going studies will be demanded for official reasons. The possibilities to attract good research applications were discussed and a suggestion of PR-work with the different on-going SSAI courses was put forwards. The research infrastructure (database and www-support) will be available after further negotiations with IT companies.
  - b. **Proposals for changes of SSAI bylaws** were presented by Sigga Kalman and were further discussed. The deadline of the rewritten proposals for the SSAI Board will be at the end of February. A new e-mail approval will be send April the First
- 4. *Appendix: summary of a meeting of the national chairs* by Riku Aantaa (Finland):  
The organisation of the national Nordic anaesthesia societies are pretty the same. About 95 % of the anaesthesiologists belong to their society, except in Sweden. All the societies concentrate on CME, “life long learning”. More collaboration between the countries regarding the academic courses is needed. To increase the awareness of SSAI the exposure by www-information is needed. An “every 3. month” news letter from the Officers/ the President and proceedings from the committees was proposed.
- 5. *Further collaboration with other international anaesthesia societies* was decided by supporting economically Scandinavian speakers for their lectures in less developed countries. The co-ordinator for this activity will be Jannicke Mellin-Olsen. This topic will be discussed at the next Board meeting.
- 6. *Status report of Acta Anaesthesiologica Scandinavica* (by Sven Erik Gisvold):
  - a. Acta will celebrate the 50. anniversary in Gothenburg, at SSAI2007 Congress. An Anniversary issue is going to come out with “something old and something new”(i.e. old article reprinted and commented). The Editor-in-Chief will write about the present situation and Jan Eklund about the pioneers who founded Acta.
  - b. The number of downloading of articles (2005) was 183 000. The current acceptance rate of articles by Acta is about 30%. Acta has presently about 9000 subscribers. A new Editor-in-chief ought to be found during the next 2-3 years.
- 7. *A report of Acta Foundation* (by Ivar Göthgen): an income tax may start from year 2006. Regular subscription fee has not been raised for years. A proposal of a possible raise of SSAI membership fee will be a political decision done by the SSAI Board and will be made at the next Board Meeting. Sven Erik Gisvold and Ivar Göthgen will circulate a possible suggestion of the increase by June, 2007 to the whole SSAI Board.
- 8. *A report of the Treasurer of SSAI* was given by Freddy Lippert.
- 9. *The status report of the Committees*
  - A. *Educational Committee* (by Doris Östergaard) has been running following new programs:

- “Airway management” course in Norway
- “Trauma training” as a “train the trainers” program organized by Arcada, Karolinska, BEST and DIMS with 24 participants for 2 days.
- “Advanced Emergency program”(the chair of the steering group, Peter Berlac) has arranged 2 workshops for program planning in 2006. The course target group will be primarily specialists in anaesthesiology with future jobs with emergency medicine full- or part time, course directors of EM-courses for others, scholars and consultants. The goal of the four courses will be: core knowledge and skills, decision making skills, interpersonal skills, teaching skills, self-directed learning skills, networking skills and organisational skills. Next workshop for the course program will be in March, 2007 and the planning of the program will be finished by then. The new course will be announced fall 2007.

EC will meet March 14-15, 2007 and have an additional joint meeting with Clinical Practise Committee.

**B. Clinical Practice Committee** (by Minna Niskanen): 10 taskforces were started in Bergen 2004 with a planned deadline of Gothenburg Congress, 2007.

1. Eva Ranklev: “Anaphylaxis- diagnosis, management and follow-up” now in Acta
2. Per Kristian Hyldmo:”Prehospital airway management”, will be presented in Gothenburg Congress
- 3.Minna Niskanen: “Therapeutic hypothermia”, will be presented in Gothenburg
4. Girish Hirlekar:”Acute pain management” has had 3 telephone meetings.
5. Hans Hjelmqvist “ Perioperative fluid management”: the group members have been nominated
- 6.Seppo Alahuhta: “Anticoagulation and regional anaesthesia”, works with guidelines
7. Eldar Søreide” Circulation and trauma” Scantem guidelines will be finished in the near future.

**10. The new SSAI homepage** (by Anne Berit Guttormsen and Anders Åneman)

SSAI Board received a letter from Mogens Kim Skadborg, where he expresses his wish to resign from his job as a SSAI webmaster. The Board nominated Anne Berit Guttormsen as a new webmaster with a back up from Anders Åneman. A new look for the web site has been established, and an up-dated input will be needed. The benefit of going into SSAI website ought to be lectures, guidelines, Acta, discussion forum etc. There has been preliminary discussion about IT companies, who would provide a server both for the RC and SSAI homepage. Different solutions has been discussed. A new SSAI homepage will be opened March the first.

**16. Any other business**

The E

lection Committee will start to look for a new candidate for Secretary General for the next General Assembly.

The next SSAI Board Meeting will be on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> 2007 at 9.00 in Gothenburg and the next January SSAI Board meeting (2008) will be held in Schaeffergaarden, Copenhagen

Eldar Søreide  
President

Eija Nilsson  
Secretary General