# EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE

**Final report**

**25th General Assembly ESPMH**

**Zurich, Switzerland, 19 August 2011, 16.30-17.30 hrs**

**Attendants (45):**

Aiko Sawada (Japan), Ana Borovechi (Croatia), Andrew Edgar (UK), Annette Rid (Switzerland), Anthony Mark Cutter (UK), Antonio Barbosa (), Augusto J. Henriques (Portugal), Bert Gordijn (Ireland), Bjørn Hofmann (Norway), David Badcott (UK), David Hunter (UK), Eleni Kalokairinou (Cyprus), Eugenijus Gefenas (Lithuania), Fabrizio Turoldo (Italy), Francesca Bosisio (Switzerland), Frida Simonstein (Israel), Friedrich Heubel (Germany), Fuat Oduncu (Germany), Gardar Arnason (Finland), Gerrit Kimsma (Netherlands), Jacques Tamin (UK), Jan Payne (Czech Republic), Jeffrey Barker (USA), Jiri Simek (Czech Republic), Joào Calinas-Correia (UK), Kristin Zeiler (Sweden), Kyoichi Ozaki (Japan), Lisa Morberg-Jamterud (Sweden), Luciana Caenazzo (Italy), Margaret Battin (USA), Matti Häyry (Finland), Michael Barilan (Israel), Nathan Emmerich (UK), Niall Scott (UK), Peter Kakuk (Hungary), Petra Gelhaus (Germany), Renzo Pegoraro (Italy), Robert Barnet (USA), Roberto Andorno (Switzerland), Rolf Ahlzen (Sweden), Søren Holm (UK), Stephan Sahm (Germany), Stephen Tyreman (UK), Tuija Takala (Finland), William Stempsey (USA)

1. **Draft report of the 24th General Assembly of the ESPMH Zagreb, Croatia, Friday, 20 August 2010**

The report is approved with one correction: “Zurich (Germany)” on page 1 should be “Zurich (Switzerland)”.

1. **Report of the ESPMH Board over 2010**
2. **The secretary: membership; activities**

During the last year the ESPMH membership has decreased with 214 members from 482 to 268. Most of the time of the secretariat was spent in preparing this year’s conference in Zurich. Several mailings were sent to the members. Moreover, together with Frida Simonstein, first preparations have been made for the 2012 conference in Nazareth (Israel). The Nazareth call for abstracts was launched earlier this year. There have also been talks with Bernice Elger to organise the 2013 conference in Basel (Switzerland); this proposal is on the current agenda. The venue of the ESPMH 2014 conference is still undecided. Thus ESPMH members are invited to submit proposals to host the 2014 conference. A lot of work has been done on the new ESPMH website, which is now up and running. All updated relevant material relating to upcoming annual conferences can be found there. It also has an event list as well as a job list.

1. **The treasurer: final account for 2010**

The treasurer distributes the final account for 2010. After a critical review of the payment of fees by the membership, more than 200 members have been cancelled. 2010 was not a good year, mainly because only a fraction of the members paid their fees (resulting in €5,404.79 – see below). However, €15,741.00 was paid to Springer to cover the expenses for the journal. This situation is unsustainable. Therefore, the ESPMH board has now decided to apply a strict policy with regard to cancelling membership. Members who, after a reminder email, do not pay their membership fee will be cancelled. In addition, they will not receive the journal any more.

**Year Account ESPMH 2010**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Overview** | **accounts 2010** |  |  |  |  |
| **INCOME** |  |  | **EXPENSES** |  |  |
| Membership |  |  | Bank costs |  |  |
| Conf acc | 400 |  | Conf acc | 123.03 |  |
| Postal Giro | 180 |  | Gen acc | 100.62 |  |
| General acc | 4824.79 |  | Post Giro | 27 |  |
|  | 5404.79 | 5404.79 |  | 250.62 | 250.62 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Conference |  |  | Ogone |  | 476.53 |
| Conf acc | 9978 |  | Cardcie’s |  | 655.53 |
| Post acc | 950 |  | Ch of comm |  | 26.14 |
| General acc | 17760 |  | Board costs |  | 1710 |
|  | 28688 | 28688 | Springer |  | 15741 |
| Interest |  | 525.87 | Zagreb |  | 15137.53 |
|  |  | 34618.66 | Tubingen |  | 1400 |
|  |  |  | Treasury |  | 1500 |
|  |  |  | Secret Dublin |  | 15585.04 |
|  |  |  | Refunds/prize |  | 930 |
|  |  |  | ESPMH site |  | 1503.17 |
| **Neg saldo** |  | **20297.51** |  |  |  |
| **Totals** |  | **54916.17** |  |  | **54916.17** |

1. **Report of the Financial Review Committee over 2010**

David Badcott and Bjørn Hofmann have assessed the account 2010 and state everything is in order. The Financial Account over 2010 is approved by the GA. David Badcott compliments the treasurer over his fine work.

1. **Election of Financial Review Committee over 2011**

Both David Badcott and Bjørn Hofmann would like to continue as members of the Financial Review Committee. David Badcott and Bjørn Hofmann are re-elected as members.

1. **Society’s fee**

The Board proposes that for the time being the fee remains 60 Euros. There is some discussion about the fees. Some members are in favour of a two tier fee structure distinguishing between people from affluent and less affluent countries or between professionals and students. A proposal to this effect is being prepared by Eugenijus Gefenas. It will be discussed in the Board meeting and the General Assembly next year.

1. **Preliminary budget 2012**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Budget 2012** |  |  |  |
| **INCOME** |  | **EXPENSES** |  |
| Membership fees 250x60 | 15000 | Bank costs | 400 |
| Conference fees 100x350 | 35000 | Card comp | 1000 |
| Interest | 1000 | Ch of comm. | 30 |
|  |  | Printing | 2500 |
|  |  | Secretariat | 8000 |
|  |  | Prices | 1500 |
|  |  | Conference | 20000 |
|  |  | Journal | 7000 |
|  |  | Treasury | 2500 |
|  |  |  | 47930 |
|  |  | **Pos saldo** | **8070** |
| **Totals** | **51000** |  | **51000** |

The budget proposal is approved by the General Assembly.

1. **Election Members of the ESPMH Board**

In an earlier letter to the ESPMH members from 14 December 2010 they were invited to nominate candidates for positions in the Board of the ESPMH. The three-year term of office of two board members will finish by the end of this year (Gerrit Kimsma, Treasurer and Eugenijus Gefenas, regular board member). This means that their positions will be open for election during the General Assembly in Zurich. Subsequent to the invitation to propose candidates for these two positions, the Board has received no response. Luckily, however, both Gerrit Kimsma and Eugenijus Gefenas have indicated that they are willing to serve yet another term. Thus, the Board’s election proposal is as follows:

Treasurer of the ESPMH: Gerrit Kimsma

Regular Board Member: Eugenijus Gefenas

According to the by-laws concerning the election procedure, a candidate can be elected without ballots if there is only one candidate for a position and the General Assembly unanimously agrees. The General Assembly does indeed unanimously agree. Thus both Kimsma and Eugenijus Gefenas have been elected to serve yet another term.

1. **Number of board members with respect to the next elections**

According to the Statutes, the number of positions in the Board has to be settled by the GA. There is no proposal to change the current number of seats. That means that we continue to have 9 board positions. The GA approves that the ESPMH continues to have 9 board members.

1. **Future conferences**

* 2012 ESPMH conference in Nazareth: Frida Simonstein gives a presentation about the upcoming conference in Nazareth.
* 2013 ESPMH conference in Basel: Bernice Elger presents her proposal to host the 2013 conference in Basel. Her proposal is accepted.

Further plans: A host for the 2014 meeting has still to be found. The secretary invites interesting proposals.

1. **Journal *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy***

“Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy” is doing fine. Not only has the journal been accepted by the ISI, a highly respected abstracting and indexing service of Thompson Reuters. It has also recently received its first impact factor of 0.726 (2010). Both the acceptance by the ISI and the new impact factor have given the journal a boost. As a result the manuscript flow is very good. The secretary thanks all the members of the ESPMH on behalf of the editorial team for their great work as authors and reviewers. The success of the journal is a sign of the viability of the ESPMH. With a view on trying to get more contributions from Eastern and Southern Europe, the current editorial team has been enlarged with two new associate editors: Stefano Simplici from Rome as well as Ana Borovechi from Zagreb.

1. **A.O.B.**

It would be good to have instructions for chairs at the next conference.