

(Final report)

29TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY ESPMH
GHENT, BELGIUM, FRIDAY 21 AUGUST, 2015
16.45 – 17.45 HRS

VENUE
TAGASTE
ACADEMIESTRAAT 1, 9000 GHENT
ROOM: AUGUSTUS

Attendants (38):

Rolf Ahlzen (Sweden), Roberto Andorno (Switzerland), Gardar Arnason (Germany), David Badcott (UK), Lazare Benaroyo (Switzerland), Ana Borovecki (Croatia), Luciana Caenazzo (Italy), Sylvester C Chima (South Afrika), Ignaas Devisch (Belgium), Hans-Jörg Ehni (Germany), Heike Felzmann (Ireland), Marie Gaille (France), Petra Gelhaus (Sweden), Eugenijus Gefenas (Lithuania), Bert Gordijn (Ireland), Darryl Gunson (UK), Lisa Guntram (Sweden), Soren Holm (UK), Saadit Sarah Houry (Israel), Gerrit Kimsma (Netherlands), Mairi Levitt (UK), Erik Malmqvist (Sweden), Johan Melse (Netherlands), Heidi Mertes (Belgium), Ivars Neiders (Latvia), Fuat Oduncu (Germany), Renzo Pegoraro (Italy), Christoph Rehmann-Sutter (Germany), Joanna Rozynska (Poland), Stephan Sahn (Germany), Aiko Sawada (Japan), Frida Simonstein (Israel), Ulrike Skorsetz (Germany), William Stempsey (USA), Jacques Tamin (UK), Wayne Shandera (USA), Peter Sykora (Slovak Republic Slovakia) Jacques Tamin (UK), Stephen Tyreman (UK), Jos Welie (USA), Urban Wiesing (Germany), Yesim Isil Ulman (Turkey), Hub Zwart (Netherlands)

1. Draft report of the 28th General Assembly of the ESPMH in Debrecen, Hungary, Friday 29 August 2014 (16.30-17.30 hrs)

The report is approved without any correction.

2. Report of the ESPMH Board over 2014

a. The secretary: membership, activities

During the last year the ESPMH membership has increased by 3 from 319 members from 45 countries to 322 members from 47 countries. The secretary spent most of his time on preparing this year's conference in Ghent. Several mailings were sent to the members. The 2016 call for abstracts (on "Ethics and social determinants of health") has been finalized with Yesim Ulman. The proposal to host the 2016 conference in Istanbul had already been accepted by the General Assembly in Debrecen. There have been preparatory talks with Vojin Rakic (Director of the Center for the Study of Bioethics (CSB), University of Belgrade), about a possible 2017 conference in Belgrade (Serbia). Now there is a proposal at hand to host the 2017 ESPMH conference in Belgrade. This proposal is to be voted on at the General Assembly in Ghent (see below).

b. The treasurer: Final account for 2014

THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR PHILOSOPHY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH CARE

The ESPMH treasurer, Gerrit Kimsma, reports about problems getting members to pay the annual fees. Nevertheless, the ESPMH is in a healthy financial state. There is enough cash in the bank.

Year account ESPMH 2014

Overview accounts 2014			
INCOME		EXPENSES	
General acc	36,096.34	Gen acc	132.65
Conf acc	22,670.00	Conf acc	89.48
Sav. acc: inter	419.01	Ogone	502.34
		Cred card comp	1,286.98
		Secretariat	16,138.86
		Treasury	3,000.00
		Springer journal	10,820.48
		Debrecen conf	20,130.00
		Gift Zalefski/ESPMH site	1,500.00
		Refunds	2,662.50
		Saldo	1,259.14
Totals	59,185.35		59,185.35

3. Report of the Financial Review Committee over 2014

David Badcott and Maartje Schermer have assessed the ESPMH accounts over the year 2014. According to their report in the General Assembly everything is in good order.

4. Election of Financial Review Committee over 2014

David Badcott resigns as member of the Financial Review Committee. Hub Zwart is elected new member of the committee. He will review next year's financial report together with Maartje Schermer who has declared to be willing to continue as members of the Financial Review Committee. The Board thanks David for his work in the committee.

5. Membership fee

The Board proposes that the annual membership fee remains €60 for individuals and €250 for Institutions. This is approved by the General Assembly.

6. Preliminary budget 2016

Budget 2016			
INCOME		EXPENSES	
Membership fees (200 x 60)	12,000	Bank costs	300
Conference fees (100 x 450)	45,000	Card comp	1,500
Interest	500	Collection Org	700
		Board costs	1,500
		Secretariat	8,000
		Treasury	4,000
		Conference	25,000
		Journal	12,000
		ESPMH site	1,200
		Saldo	3,300
Totals	57,500		57,500

The budget proposal is approved by the General Assembly.

7. Election Members of the ESPMH Board

The three-year term of office of two Board Members will finish by the end of this year (Fuat Oduncu and Bert Gordijn). This means that these two board positions will be elected on during the General Assembly in Ghent. In an earlier email (dated 7 May 2015) the secretary invited the members to nominate candidates for these two positions in the Board of the ESPMH. Subsequent to the invitation to propose candidates, the secretary has not received any nominations. However, both Fuat Oduncu and Bert Gordijn are willing to serve yet another term in their respective positions of General Board Member and Secretary of the society. Thus the Board's election proposal is as follows:

General Board Member: Fuat Oduncu

Secretary: Bert Gordijn

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 members at the General Assembly unanimously agree. As it happens the members present at the General Assembly do unanimously agree. Therefore, the result of the elections of the normal board members is as follows:

Secretary: Bert Gordijn

Regular Board Member: Fuat Oduncu

8. Number of board members with respect to the next election

According to the Statutes, the number of positions in the Board has to be settled by the General Assembly. However, there is no proposal to change the current number of seats and the General Assembly approves the current number of board positions. Consequently, the society continues to have 9 board positions.

9. Future conferences

- In a video message Vojin Rakic presents his proposal to host the 2017 ESPMH conference in Belgrade (Serbia). The proposal is approved by the General Assembly. This means that the 2017 ESPMH conference is going to take place in Belgrade.
- As regards the 2018 and 2019 ESPMH conferences, the secretary has contacted Per Nortvedt and Bjorn Hofman, both from Oslo (Sweden), Stephan Sahn from Frankfurt (Germany), Joanna Rozynska from Warsaw (Poland) and Soren Holm from Aarhus (Denmark). All of those have offered to submit a proposal to host either the 2018 or the 2019 conference.

10. Journal *Medicine, Health Care and Philosophy* (MHEP)

Christopher Wilby, Senior Publishing Assistant from Springer says a few words about the journal. MHEP is doing well. The manuscript flow is good. He also presents a few metrics. The Impact Factor in 2014 is 0.700. There were around 70,000 downloads. Days from submission to first decision: 46. Days from acceptance to online first publication: 12

11. Statement of collaboration:

The statement of collaboration of the Board of the ESPMH and the Board of the EACME (from October 2014) is accepted by the members of the General Assembly. The board of the ESPMH will come up with a proposal on how collaboration might be moved forward.

12. A.O.B.

No further remarks.