MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS’ MEETING
22nd EUROSON 2010 —COPENHAGEN, DENMARK
SATURDAY 21 August 2010 —14.00 – 17.00

Present: Christian Nolsøe President EFSUMB Denmark CN
Norbert Gritzmann Past President & Delegate Austrian Society FP
Fabio Piscaglia President Elect Italy CFD
Christoph F Dietrich Honorary Secretary Germany IS
Ioan Sporea and Delegate Romanian Society Romania FP
Boris Brkljacic Delegate Croatian Society Croatia BB
Eugenio Cerezo Delegate Spanish Society Spain EC
Michael Bachmann Nielsen Delegate Danish Society Denmark MBN
Dieter Nürnberg Delegate German Society Germany DN
P Zoumpoulis Delegate Greek Society Greece PZ
Diana Gaitini Delegate Israeli Society Israel DG
Giulio di Candio Delegate Italian Society Italy GdC
Algirdas Tamosiunas Delegate Lithuanian Society Lithuania AT
Odd Helge Gilja Delegate Norwegian Society/ Chairman Education Committee Norway OHG
Jan Tuma Delegate Swiss Society Switzerland JT
Chris de Korte Delegate Dutch Society The Netherlands CdK
Ismail Mihmanli Delegate Turkish Society Turkey IM
Kevin Martin Delegate British Society United Kingdom KM
Mrs Lynne Rudd General Secretary United Kingdom LR
Andreas Schuler General Secretary Germany AS
Fatih Kartarci Turkey FK
Filis Panagiolis Greece PF
Christoph Risokia Germany CR

In attendance
Observers:

Apologies were received from:
Gyorgy Harmat, Hungarian Society
Wieslaw Jakubowski, Polish Society
Jose Manuel Pontes, Portuguese Society
Josef Benacka, Slovak Society

1. Welcome by the President (Christian Nolsøe)

The President (CN) welcomed the delegates and representatives of the Member Societies of EFSUMB to the 2010 Board of Directors meeting (BoD)

2. Approval and Signature of Minutes of the previous meeting
The minutes of the Board of Directors’ Meeting held in Edinburgh, UK on 5 December 2009 were amended to show that Giulio di Candio was present as the Italian Society Delegate and then agreed as accurate and signed by the President.

3 President’s Report

CN reported the variable timings of the Congresses were affected by National Society Meeting considerations but happily EUROSON 2011 would take place in almost one year’s time. This he felt would be a significant joint meeting of WFUMB, EFSUMB and Dreiländertreffen in Vienna. From the original 13 societies EFSUMB now has 30 National Societies and 21,524 members largely augmented by the amalgamation of the French Societies into the FFU. All new members were welcomed into the world’s largest ultrasound society. The more members, CN felt, the stronger the voice in the European and international world of medical imaging. More Societies were urged to consider a bulk subscription to the UiM/EJU. The financial position of EFSUMB is strong and allows us to promote the Educational Portal on the web for anyone who has access to the internet. The Committees were thanked for their hard work, the CEUS Schools supported by BRACCO and CFD for the web based European Course Book (ECB).

Bylaw 1 was presented to the Board for approval. It was agreed to add in paragraph 9 “All presentation material to be in English”. Bylaw 1 and Status of Congress Expenses were unanimously voted as accepted by the Board.

Bylaw 7 was presented to the Board and also unanimously voted as accepted.

4. Honorary Secretary’s Report

CFD was sorry that despite numerous efforts to contact Slovenia and Macedonia about the non payment of membership fees for 2009 and 2010, that the Constitution automatically terminated their membership. Any future application would of course be favourably received. However Belorussia fulfilled EFSUMB criteria and the Board of Directors unanimously accepted the Belorussia application for membership of EFSUMB.

PZ asked if Albania and Cyprus would be considered and was assured that EFSUMB would warmly welcome them.

PZ to approach Albania and Cyprus Society to contact EFSUMB

DN felt that a lot of practitioners were not part of an interdisciplinary national organisation and that EFSUMB might consider another form of membership for them, perhaps without voting privileges.

EC pointed out that in Spain for example legal restrictions prevented certain Societies amalgamating and PZ stated a similar situation existed in Greece until 2009 when as Greek President he was able to make changes.

CFD gave an update on the ECB with more than 7 chapters ready on the web.

On the Case of Month CFD pointed out that when the Case was not published the number of website hits fell by half. National Societies were urged to produce Cases and to assist this format will be posted on the website.

Spain, Greece, Hungary and Israel volunteered cases Case of Month template format on website

CFD introduced the Scientific Corner which will be implemented on the web.

BB raised the problem of bulk subscription when issues were available in a department and not all members wanted to pay the extra cost. MBN invited Societies to contact him and he would negotiate with Thieme. BB also offered to contact the Slovenian Society with whom he is in contact.

JT wished for an Eastern European journal rate but MBN said the best Thieme could offer would be a partial subscription rate.

4. Honorary Treasurer’s Report
The presented 2009 set of accounts had been signed by the President and the Treasurer and submitted and accepted by the Charity Commissioners. The 2009 budget was presented showing the actual expenditure. The 2011 budget was presented with IS pointing out that the losses associated with the ECB would be recouped in 2012 and was encouraged that the EUROSON Congress losses would be less than anticipated.

5. ECMUS Committee Report

The Board was presented with the written report of Gail ter Haar, ECMUS Committee Chairman. The Safety Session at EUROSON 2010 was recommended to Delegates to attend and ask questions.

6. EPSC Committee Report

OHG’s Committee has approved 56 EUROSON schools since 1992 with a record of 8 Schools last year. The CEUS courses are on the website along with the Minimum Training Appendix 14.

7. Publications Committee Report

Michael Bachmann Nielsen reported that the EFSUMB newsletters have exceeded their allocated number of pages. That the website has continued to flourish and to further integrate the work of the Publication and Education Committees has invited OHG to meetings.

Discussion on an EFSUMB Certificate of Competency was raised by EC. JT recommended the OGUM, DEGUM and SGUM standardised courses format for other countries. FZ wanted EFSUMB guidelines for teachers. DN said that there is a German Certificate for teachers which could be appropriate for EFSUMB teachers and courses. This was proposed for future discussion for a working group to look at common credentials in the EU. CdK recommended the European Course in Echocardiography which has such a scheme. AG recommended contacting UEMS to check the legal status. DN will provide an overview of the German system to provide the criteria for a European education system. The Eastern European countries felt the need for support in this regard which EUROSON Schools are currently providing.

8. EJU Report

MBN was pleased that Ultraschall was stable and that 60% of EFSUMB members had a bulk subscription to the EJU. He repeated that requests for partial Society subscriptions be directed to him for consideration. IS felt the journal needed more European editors. MBN reminded delegates that more English papers would demand more English speaking editors. Currently there are more English papers than German and more than half of the papers submitted were in English. More members taking bulk subscription might necessitate another editor. CFD reminded delegates that more case reports had a negative impact on the impact factor but that EFSUMB guidelines and recommendations increased the impact factor. EJU policy is to limit case reports to 2 each issue. FP felt a quick turnaround of manuscripts would be beneficial and encouraged sending good manuscripts to the EJU for which the rejection rate is 60 – 70%. MBN advised that CME articles and bilingual reports were popular.


KM reported that there were 851 participants, 70% from the UK. There were 32 scientific sessions, 3 lunchtime symposia, 6 half day workshops, 8 named lectures, 176 invited speakers/chairs (of which 60% were from the UK), 126 poster presentations and 38 accepted oral papers. Positive feedback had been received from the participants.
10. EUROSON 2010 Copenhagen, Denmark

MBN advised that there were 800 participants (the same as 2003) expected with a high number of one day registrations with greater numbers from Northern and Baltic countries. There was smaller industrial support but more than 20 exhibitors, 3 lunch symposia, an interesting scientific programme, 20 young presenters under 35 enjoying free admission and 8 young investigators.

11. WFUMB EUROSON ULTRASCHALL 2011, Vienna, Austria

NG presented the latest report on the joint meetings to take place August 2011 in the Austria Centre, Vienna. Two levels have been rented. August is not the best time but the city subsidises congresses at this time. Nearly all the EFSUMB scientific proposals have been accepted and Chairmen of the sub committees responsible for the programme have been appointed. In October a three day meeting will take place to finalise the arrangements. A good social programme has been produced.

The Board were invited to present their nominations for the EUROSON lecture. DN expressed the wish that the speaker would be one from a foreign country for WFUMB 2011 and that the Dreiländer Lecture would be introduced with a lecture from Gebhard Mathis. The Board unanimously selected Ioan Sporea of Romania as the EUROSON Lecturer.

Dreiländer Lecture to be added to Appendix of Bylaw 1

12. EUROSON 2013 Bids

DG advised the Board that Israel would defer their bid and present it in Vienna for 2014.

PZ presented the Greek Society bid. Their national congress had been very successful with 1200 participants and Greece wanted to reinforce their connections with European societies.

AS presented the German bid to host the Congress in Stuttgart at the International Convention Centre, with flight connections within 3 hours for Europeans. The dates proposed are 9 – 12 October to coincide with the Dreiländertreffen with an anticipated attendance of more than 2000. Concern was expressed at the distance of the hotels from the Congress Centre. FP hoped that the Congress would favour the participation of young scientists and participants from Eastern Countries.

The majority of the votes were in favour of the German bid.

13. Any other business

There was no other business.

14. Date and place of next meeting

TBA 26-29 August 2011, Austria Centre, Vienna, Austria