

## **Minutes from the 10<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the UEMS, Section for Infectious Diseases, September 9-10, 2005, Dubrovnik, Croatia.**

### **Present:**

Hannes Pichler	Austria
Adriana Vince	Croatia
Tatjana Jeren	Croatia
Finn T. Black	Denmark
Christian Perronne	France
Winfried V. Kern	Germany
Gábor Ternák	Hungary
Haakon Sjursen	Norway
Henrique Lecour	Portugal
Dan Duiculesu	Romania
Franc Strle	Slovenia
Ingrid Nilsson-Ehle	Sweden
Nur Benzonana	Turkey
Mike McKendrick	UK
Barbara Bannister	UK
Robert Read	Observer, ESCMID
Peter Schoch	Observer, ESCMID

**1. Welcome, apologies and approval of minutes and agenda.** President Mike KcKendrick, and our hosts Tatjana Jeren and Adriana Vince welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Mary Horgan, Helen Giamarellou, George Petrikkos, Colm Bergin, Jiri Benes, Mario Mondelli, Daniel Christmann, Rainer Weber, Magnus Gottfredsson. The minutes of the last meeting in Strasbourg, September 2004, were approved. The agenda for the current meeting was approved.

### **2. President's report.**

- **Member/observer status fees, terms of offices, statutes.** At the last year's meeting it was proposed to revise the statutes for both Section and EBID. Changes in the statutes, however, had not been discussed, and there are new UEMS documents that propose new operating rules (documents 687 & 688). It was decided that changes in the statutes should be guided by these proposals, and a draft would be needed as a discussion document for the next meeting. The terms of office within the Section would probably be 4 years and twice renewable (as recommended in this document) except for the President, and there was consensus on that point. It was recommended to include a paragraph on the term of office specifically for members who have retired from active professional life. EBID would consist of a Chairperson and three elected members from the Section, and the Section's President and Secretary/Treasurer ex officio. The EBID Chairperson and members-at-large should serve on a 3-year once renewable term. Draft new statutes will be circulated in due time before the next meeting.
- **Report on UEMS general policy developments and the May meeting between UEMS Sections/boards and the UEMS Executive, Brussels.** There were several important topics: first, the directive on professional recognition and mobility based on recognition of a given specialty in at least 10/25 member states (40% rule) was adopted. Other topics were the Working time directive, a useful document on quality assessment (D.0349) and representation on the Junior Doctor Permanent Working Group. The President

summarized the essentials of the May meeting in Brussels where Mary Horgan represented the Section. It was agreed that members would pass any volunteer trainees for the JDPWD to the Secretary.

- **Discussion about collaboration with clinical microbiology.** Unfortunately, the planned discussion with Dr. Smyth (Ireland), who until recently has been representing the subsection microbiology in the UEMS Medical Biopathology Section, to discuss areas of common ground between the disciplines which could be developed did not take place as intended. UEMS-ID officials had not been invited to the meeting of medical microbiology. A new effort will be undertaken after the new representative has been appointed. Peter Schoch promised to inform the President about relevant news in that respect.
- **Training charter update / report from EBID.** Mike McKendrick briefly reported the changes made in the curriculum after the last year's meeting. He reported that EBID sees the need to have the curriculum development and updating explicitly on the agenda of the annual meeting. It was felt important to express more clearly the limitation of rigid time periods of training to achieve the required knowledge and skills. Instead of defining in detail time periods, there should be more room for defining the content of the training in terms of outcomes such as competency. It needs to be stressed that the times to achieve the required knowledge and skills may vary and may depend on other aspects (e.g. previous graduate training contents; specialty versus subspecialty). This will also help to better address the quite different organization, contents and periods of common trunk training that are relevant to further specialist training in ID. In order to inform delegates about options to translate the curriculum into a programme of evaluable knowledge, skills and attitudes, a link will be provided to the relevant JCHMT documents that might serve as a template (<http://www.jchmt.org.uk/infect/index.asp>) but there will also need to be robust systems of assessment.

The last survey on the countries' training was about 5 years ago and it was felt it should be repeated with some more detail for example whether tropical medicine is included. Members/observers will receive a new questionnaire and asked to answer all questions carefully so that a reliable overview on the current situation can be obtained. Members/delegates are encouraged to read a review on postgraduate training in ID by Fiona J Cooke et al (*Lancet Infect Dis* 2005; 5:440-9) and check critically if the situation in their country is correctly reported.

3. **Members/observer status/developments.** There were no news from a number of countries, and no recent contact to delegates of some countries. Winfried Kern was asked to try to get into contact with relevant persons from Estonia and Lithuania. Barbara Bannister offered to inquire about the situation in Malta, and Dan Duiculesu will inquire about the status in Moldova. Refreshing contacts with the delegates who were not attending this meeting was also asked to be done by the Secretary.
4. **Country-specific reports about recent developments.** The attending delegates reported about the situation in their countries. Of note was the report from Austria where there were problems in the adoption of the proposed UEMS-ID curriculum due to incompatibilities with the usual Internal Medicine + subspecialty curricula. Another important observation of concern was the deletion of ID undergraduate training at one of

the most important Hungarian Medical Faculties. In France, attempts to prolong the subspecialty training period from 1 to 2 years were not successful.

- 5. Financial report.** The Secretary/Treasurer summarized the financial situation. He reported that the current balance (as of 01.09.2005) was €+9.815,64 (compared with € +9116,05 as of 01/09/2004). An overview of all incoming and outgoing payments was shown. The financial report will be sent to Finn T. Black who was previously elected to serve as accountant. It was expected to have expenses of another ~1.000 € for the current meeting and ~2.000 € for travelling.

Membership fee payments since 2001 were shown in a table, and it was clear that a few countries were delayed in their annual payments despite having been sent formal invoices. Outstanding fees for 2 years or more were noted for the following countries: Czech Republic, Cyprus, Poland, Slovakia, Spain. No bills had been sent to Latvia and Luxembourg. In a discussion of the latter point it was felt this should be corrected. In line with the decision taken during the 2004 annual meeting in Strasbourg, it was emphasized that all members/observers should be asked to pay the fee. Countries having not paid the annual fees for more than 2 years despite reminders will be informed that they will be deleted from the mailing list. A discussion followed about the potential to reduce the annual member fee. It was proposed to inquire about recent UEMS central office proposals regarding special regulations for new and/or small countries, and to rediscuss the issue during the next Section meeting.

- 6. Report from EBAID.** Finn T Black briefly summarized the accreditation process as currently organized. There were 2 applications. There are certain conflicting views of EBAID and UEMS on the EACCME business. These need to be addressed. There will be revised position paper on the matter which will clearly express the view of the section. Mary Horgan was asked to confer with Finn Black. It was felt very important to remain involved in accreditation procedures, and Ingrid Nilsson-Ehle thanked Finn T. Black for his efforts.

Peter Schoch, Managing Director of ESCMID explained the position of ESCMID in the accreditation process. A body parallel to EBAID, EBACM (CM=clinical microbiology) was created recently; further details can be found on the ESCMID website (directly accessible via <http://www.ebaid.org> and <http://www.ebacm.org>). The present planning is to involve EBACM or EBAID every other year for ECCMID accreditation. According to Peter Schoch, no other plans so far have been discussed.

- 7. Introduction of Prof. Robert Read, UK, as the new ESCMID executive member representing ID professional affairs.** The president welcomed Robert Read, the successor of Ragnar Norrby, who took over the post as ID professional affairs officer in the ESCMID. A valuable role of ESCMID was seen as providing efficient channels of communication through ESCMID News (in print and online, in the latter format soon to be mailed to ~15.000 people) and CMI (*Clinical Microbiology and Infection*, the official journal of ESCMID)
- 8. Website affairs.** Haakon Sjurson reported. The website (<http://www.uemsinfect.org>) is now well maintained. Many documents are available. There were discussions on which personal data (phone, e-mail, etc.) should be protected, and all members/observers were asked to individually confirm this in written form. There were many proposals to include

various links. But eventually, a decision was taken to presently just include links to EBAID, ESCMID and nominating national associations.

- 9. *Next annual meeting.*** It was discussed that the next annual meeting should be at a place that is easily accessible by flight from most countries. After some discussion, Vienna was chosen as venue for the 2006 annual meeting. Hannes Pichler was very kindly agreeable to help organize that meeting. The date was fixed to be September 8-9, 2006, format as usual.

A proposal was made to hold the 2007 annual meeting in Copenhagen/Lund (a dual city meeting). Based on the many time constraints for delegates and their unavailability at the traditional 2-day September meeting, it was decided to hold if possible a second short meeting per year (1-2 hours) during a European congress. In 2006, this short meeting will take place in Nice, during ECCMID, April 1-4, likely on the first afternoon (Saturday, April 1, 2006). Exact time and location will be communicated after further discussion with the congress secretariat (meeting room availability).

- 10. *Any other business.*** Members/delegates were reminded that there should be two delegates from each country of whom at least one should be able to attend one of the two annual meetings of the Section. Members/delegates were encouraged to nominate a second delegate if not yet done. No other matters were discussed, and President Mike McKendrick thanked all participants for coming and our hosts for their valuable support and superb organization.

Sheffield and Freiburg  
06. February 2006

Mike McKendrick  
President  
UEMS ID Section

Winfried V. Kern  
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