

# **Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology Annual Report 2014**

## **The Board of the Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology (NFOG)**

President: Göran Berg, Sweden, was succeeded by Knut Hordnes, Norway, at the General Assembly (GA) of NFOG 2014

Secretary General: Tone Skeie-Jensen, Norway

Treasurer: Thea Lousen, Denmark

National Representatives: Harald Almström (SFOG), Jone Trovik (NGF), Juha Räsänen (SGY), Kresten Rubek Petersen (DSOG) was succeeded by Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann in April, Ragnheiður L. Bjarnadóttir (FÍFK)

Other members of the Board: Reynir T. Geirsson, Iceland (Acta Chief Editor), Thora Steingrimsdóttir, Iceland (Scientific Committee Chairman) was succeeded by Ulrik Schiöler Kesmodel, Denmark, after the Board meeting in April, Tomi Mikkola, Finland (Educational Committee Chairman), Niels Uldbjerg, Denmark (Guideline Committee Chairman), Peter Secher, Denmark (Webmaster), Anne Cathrine Hoffgaard Munk, Denmark (NFYOG), Magnus Westgren, Sweden (President of NFOG 2014), Oskari Heikenheimo, Finland (President of NFOG 2016)

Internal Auditors: Ditte Trolle, Denmark, was succeeded by Johanna Mäenpää, Finland, at the GA, Charlotte Grunewald, Sweden

Deputy Auditor: Kristina Johannessen, Norway, was succeeded by Martin Andresen, Norway, at the GA

External Auditor: Bo Hendriksen, Aaen & Co

## **Board meetings**

The board of NFOG held 3 meetings during 2014. The minutes from the meetings are posted on the website.

## **Economy, budget and accounts**

The economy of NFOG is supervised by treasurer Thea Lousen. The income is derived from membership fees, Acta subscriptions and returns from NFOG assets.

The expenditure is generated by the activity of Acta, and the management costs generated by the Board and the NFOG Committees. 66 % of the budget surplus is transferred to the NFOG Fund, and is thus distributed to the members of NFOG.

The economy of NFOG is well balanced. The financial report and auditors report for the budget period of 2012 and 2013 was presented at the General Assembly of NFOG 2014. The details are presented in the minutes from the GA.

## **NFOG 2014**

The NFOG 2014 was held on June 10th-12th, at the Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre. The precourses were held at the Karolinska Institute on June 9th. There were 881 registered delegates, and a good attendance from the Baltic countries was noted. 113 delegates were from the industry. 12 courses were held at the preconference with 264 participants. There were 357 abstracts submitted. 289 were accepted for poster presentations, and 54 for oral presentations.

The Congress had a negative balance of DKK 1.118.159 (the surplus of SEK 126 004 not taken into account). The venue was expensive, as so was the congress dinner, which was included in the congress fee. It was difficult to get sufficient sponsorship from the industry. The deficit was covered by the NFOG and is presented in the NFOG results.

Scientifically and socially the NFOG Congress was a success.

### **Acta (AOGS)**

Reynir T. Geirsson (RG) was the Chief Editor of Acta. The process of recruiting a new Chief Editor was successful, and Ganesh Acharya, Norway, will take over on Jan 1st 2015. RG will continue as Chief Editor emeritus until July 1st of 2015.

In 2014 the impact factor for Acta rose to 2.005. Acta received 75-90 manuscripts/month, and passed a total of 1000 manuscripts in 2014. The rejection rate was 83%.

The contract with the publisher Wiley was renegotiated in 2014, and is valid for the next 5 years. The main issue for the renegotiation was increasing the royalty to NFOG as a consequence of the reduction of printed issues after Acta went online. The impression is that the change to online publishing has been favourable for Acta.

RG suggested the initiation of Acta poster prizes of DKK 5000, annually to be given out by the National Societies, and this was accepted by the Board.

### **NFOG Fund (support to education and co-operation)**

The sum available to the Fund for 2015 was DKK 684 076. DKK 289 346 was given as grants in March, and 227 354 was awarded in October.

Unclaimed grants will after 2 years go back into the Fund.

As many as 1/3 of the applicants do not submit correct applications, and a great effort is being made by the Scientific Committee to improve this.

### **Website ([www.nfog.org](http://www.nfog.org))**

A report from the recipients of grants from the Fund must be submitted to the website for publication prior to reimbursement. The aim is to increase the awareness of the Fund among the members of NFOG.

A new contribution to the website is the link to the Australian and Japanese journals.

### **Committees**

The Scientific Committee (SC) was chaired by Thora Steingrimsdóttir until the June meeting of the Board, and was then succeeded by Ulrik Schiöler Kesmodel. The main task for the SC was the assessment of the applications to the Fund. Furthermore, the SC collaborated with the local scientific committee before and during the NFOG 2014.

The Educational Committee (EC) was chaired by Tomi Mikkola. No educational course is arranged by the EC in the year of the NFOG Congress, but a course is planned for May 2015.

The Board has initiated a new committee, named the Guidelines Committee, with Niels Ulbjerg, Denmark, as chairman. The intention is to look at the possibility of creating common Nordic guidelines.

Annual reports from the committees are found on the website.

### **NFYOG**

The NFYOG arranged the trainee symposium and dinner at the NFOG 2014 precourse.

A meeting with ENTOG has been held, as NFYOG has an interest in sharing ideas on education with its European counterpart. Further, the NFYOG is collaborating with the Educational Committee to arrange the next educational meeting in May of 2015.

A change has been made in the statutes of NFYOG. The wording of §8 has been changed, now stating: "Changing these statutes requires the agreement from the NFOG Board". In the former version, the paragraph stated that changes had to be approved by the National Societies.

## **EBCOG**

Bergen had applied for the EBCOG Congress in 2018, but because of the collision with the NFOG Congress NGF decided to withdraw its application. Because of the recurring problem of the Congresses being held within 1-2 months in the same year, the Board decided to suggest to the General Assembly to change the years for the NFOG Congress to odd years from 2021. This was accepted by the GA.

Both DSOG and NGF were present at the EBCOG Congress in 2014 with sessions on simulator training and hyperemesis, respectively.

## **FIGO**

Seija Grénman, Finland, and Anette Tønnesen Pedersen, Denmark, are Nordic members of the FIGO Executive Board. The issues of introducing a new voting system and also improving the very low level of female representation among the delegates, have been discussed within the Executive Board.

It has been decided that the voting instructions shall be sent to all FIGO member societies, with separate nomination forms, well ahead of the FIGO General Assembly. The intention is to improve the voting procedure. Further, it has been decided that the names of the candidates shall be revealed, thus revealing the gender of the candidate.

The programme for the congress in Vancouver has been decided, and there will be 2 sessions held by the Nordic countries. Further, an Ingemar Ingemarsson memorial session will be held.

## **General remarks**

The aim of the NFOG Board is to promote the clinical and scientific collaboration between the obstetricians and gynecologists in the Nordic countries, and to work to achieve a high standard of training at all levels in obstetrics and gynecology. Further, the work of NFOG should be aimed at improving the reproductive health of women on a worldwide basis.

The assets of NFOG are used to promote this aim, and the NFOG Fund is an important tool in order to achieve these goals.

The present NFOG Board will make every effort to continue, and expand, the important work of NFOG.

On behalf of the NFOG Board

March 20th, 2015

Knut Hordnes  
President

Tone Skeie-Jensen  
Secretary General