

NFOG Board Meeting Minutes 2/2014

Place: Radisson Blu Waterfront Hotel, Stockholm
Time: Tuesday, June 10th, 2014, 12.00-13.30
Present: Göran Berg (President), Thea Lousen (Treasurer), Tone Skeie-Jensen (Secretary General), Juha Räsänen (SGY), Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann (DSOG), Harald Almström (SFOG), Jone Trovik (NGF), Ragnheiður L. Bjarnadóttir (FÍFK), Thora Steingrimsdóttir (Scientific Committee Chairman), Tomi Mikkola (Educational Committee Chairman), Peter Secher (Webmaster), Anne Cathrine Hoffgaard Munk (NFYOG), Magnus Westgren (President NFOG 2014).

- 1. Opening of the meeting** Göran Berg (GB) opened the meeting.
- 2. Approval of the agenda** The agenda was approved with minor adjustments.
- 3. Approval of the Minutes from the Board meeting 1/14** The minutes were approved.
- 4. NFOG 2014** Magnus Westgren (MW) informed the Board that everything was going according to plan. All of the speakers were present, and only one moderator needed to be replaced. The exhibitors were fully signed up, and there was a good chance that the congress would break even economically. There were a little more than 1000 participants. The organizing firm did, however, not seem quite up to the task, and the two last weeks had been stressful. Members from LOC in Helsinki were advised by MW to carefully consider what could be delegated to the firm, and what should be taken care of by LOC. It was commented by the Board that the system with the App's seemed to work fine, but that some pc stations should have been available for those without smart phones. MW will write a final report from the Congress, to be ready in August.
- 5. General Assembly** Tone Skeie-Jensen (TSJ) went through the last minute practical aspects of the GA. Peter Secher accepted to be in charge of changing the presentations between speakers.
- 6. Economy, budget and accounts** The Lousen (TL) presented the results for 2012 and 2013. The result for 2012 was DKK 576.474 and for 2013 DKK 1.040.267. The NFOG Congress in 2012 had a deficit of DKK 124.721. The result for Acta was below what was budgeted for, but some posts were above. The editorial assistant was given a full time position in 2013, increasing the expenses. The expenses for both the EC and NFYOG were below budget in 2012 due to lack of activity. Both groups were above budget in 2013, due to their joint effort to arrange the Educational course that year. The AOGS History issue, written by PO Jansson, gave a deficit of DKK 92.814, due to extra secretarial help needed. The NFOG common research initiative was in the budget for the first time in 2013. It was not used, as the Board did not find suitable projects to support. The income from Acta was above the budget in 2013 due to increased royalties from the transfer to online subscription. This was an extraordinarily large amount, and cannot be expected to recur. Of the results for 2012 and 2013, 66% is directly transferred to the NFOG Fund. TL suggested for the Board that the GA should be asked to accept that the rest of the

surplus should also be transferred to the NFOG Fund. **This was accepted by the Board.** It was further discussed by the Board if the fortune should be kept at its present level, or if it should be decreased. **There was agreement within the Board** that the fortune should be kept at its present level. NFOG has the financial responsibility of the NFOG Congresses, and any deficit must be covered by the organization. Further, TL pointed out that quite a substantial part of the fortune is tied up within the Fund, and cannot be used to cover other expenses. TL then presented the budgets for 2015 and 2016, based on the results from 2012 and 2013. The sum budgeted for the Chief Editor of Acta is increased in 2015 due to the change of editor and the expected overlap of the two editors. The sum is also increased in 2016, as the salary of the new Chief Editor may be above the current sum. Further, the expenses for Assistant editors are increased, as the number of Ass Editors is expected to increase by two. **It was decided by the Board** that a new post named AOGS development should be presented at the GA. The sum suggested is DKK 100.000 annually, and will give the Chief Editor more flexibility. A post of DKK 100.000 annually, for the newly appointed Guidelines Committee, will also be suggested.

The budgets for 2015 and 2016 will give a negative result, and subsequently less will be transferred to the Fund. TL pointed out that in previous years the results have been above the budget, and this may well be the case also for the next period.

7. ACTA GB informed the Board that there were 3 applicants for the position as Chief Editor, and that two were considered very good candidates. The third candidate, though well merited, lacked editorial experience. On behalf of the Board, GB, TL, TSJ and KH were going to interview the candidates, and inform the new Board of their opinion at the next Board meeting.

Göran Berg
President NFOG

Tone Skeie-Jensen
Secretary General



Time: Thursday June 12th, 2014, 14.00-15.30

Place: Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre

Present: Knut Hordnes (President), Thea Lousen (Treasurer), Tone Skeie-Jensen (Secretary General), Juha Räsänen (SGY), Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann (DSOG), Harald Almström (SFOG), Jone Trovik (NGF), Ragnheiður L. Bjarnadóttir (FÍFK), Thora Steingrimsdóttir (Former Scientific Committee Chairman), Ulrik Schiöler Kesmodel (New Scientific Committee Chairman), Tomi Mikkola (Educational Committee Chairman), Peter Secher (Webmaster), Anne Cathrine Hoffgaard Munk (NFYOG), Magnus Westgren (President NFOG 2014), Oskari Heikinheimo (President NFOG 2016).

1. Constitution of the new Board Knut Hordnes (KH) presented the members that had been elected by the GA to the NFOG Board. KH was elected President, Thea Lousen (TL) was re-elected as treasurer, and Tone Skeie-Jensen (TSJ) was re-elected as Secretary General.

2. Preliminary Assessment of NFOG 2014 MW concluded that the speakers had all turned up, and that the lectures were well received. Further that the oral presentations were of good quality. The poster sessions did, however, not function well. There was little interaction with the audience, and many did not keep to their time limits. The presentations were late in the day, and there was some disturbance as the attendees were not all paying attention. The abstracts were not sorted, and were difficult to find. Again, it was pointed out that those who did not have a smart phone should have been given the option of a stationary pc. It was suggested that the abstract book should be put on the NFOG website. A better balance between obstetrics and gynaecology in the programme was asked for. The social arrangement functioned well, but there was some discussion of whether fixed seating at the banquet had been a success.

Approximately 1050 had attended the congress, which was the best attendance since Hesinki in 2004. A questionnaire will be sent to all the participants to get their assessment of the Congress.

MW mentioned that more attention should have been given to the exhibits.

The trainees were satisfied with the reasonable congress fee, which included the banquet.

The national committees complained that there were no rooms available at a reasonable price, and that they had to hold their meetings outside of the congress area.

MW mentioned the closing lecture by Shershah Syed, describing the very difficult situation for women in Pakistan. Dr. Syed made an appeal to the NFOG to send a letter to the President of Pakistan raising concern for the situation of women in Pakistan. MW suggested that the Board should follow his request and send such a letter, and **this was accepted by the Board**. A similar letter should also be sent to the Minister of health.

The Board concluded that the overall impression of the Congress was very good, and thanked MW and LOC for all their work.

A report from the NFOG Congress will be written by MW.

3. ACTA KH informed the Board of the interviews that had been conducted with two of the applicants to the position as Chief Editor, both considered as highly suitable for the position. After thorough consideration, it was decided that the post will be offered to Ganesh Acharya. KH and TL will conduct the negotiations on behalf of the Board.

KH used the opportunity to thank Reynir Geirsson for all the work he has put into ACTA as Chief Editor.

3. NFOG 2016 Oskari Heikinheimo (OH) informed the Board of how the planning is progressing. The Congress will be held from Sunday June 12th to Wednesday June 15th. OH was happy to inform that no VAT has to be paid, which will lower the cost considerably. LOC is planning the practical aspect of the Congress, and the locations and the firm that will organize the Congress have been chosen. Together with the SC of NFOG, the Scientific LOC will start planning the programme. Suggestions to topics for the programme are welcomed. The importance of inviting the speakers at an early stage was stressed. OH will discuss with MW different aspects with regards to the economy and marketing. Information via the National webpages and Bulletins will be of great importance in getting participants, as is advertising in the Baltic States. The fee for the Baltic States was at the present congress held at the same rate as for the trainees.

OH will give a more detailed account at the next board meeting

4. Other business TSJ asked if there were any comments to the GA, and no such were given.

The EC will post information about the Educational Course to be held on May 7th-8th 2015, in Copenhagen, on the website.

5. Coming Board meeting The next Board meeting will be held on November 7th-8th at Soria Moria in Oslo. The meeting starts at 11 AM, and finishes at 12 AM on Saturday.

Knut Hordnes
President NFOG

Tone Skeie-Jensen
Secretary General