

Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology Annual Report 2007

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

President: Seija Grénman, Finland

Secretary General: Ragnheidur I. Bjarnadottir, Iceland

Treasurer: Martin Stjernquist, Sweden

National representatives: Helle Meinertz (DSOG), Juha Mäkinen followed by Juha Tappanainen in October 2007 (SGY), Osk Ingvarsdottir followed by Arnar Hauksson in April 2007 (FIK), Rolf Kirschner (NFG), Charlotta Grünwald (SFOG).

Other members of the board: Per Olof Janson, Sweden followed by Reynir T. Geirsson, Iceland in June 2007 (Acta), Lars-Åke Mattsson (Chairperson of Scientific Committee), Jens Gudmundsson, Iceland (Chairman of Educational Committee), Susanne Hasselman, Sweden (Chairperson of NFYOG), Peter Secher, Denmark (Webmaster), Thora Steingrimsdottir, Iceland, Congress President of NFOG 2008.

Internal Auditors: Ditte Trolle (Denmark) and Arnar Hauksson (Iceland), followed by Nils-Erik Backas (Finland) in June 2007.

External Auditor: Bo Hendriksen, Aaen & Co

Board meetings

During 2007 the Board of NFOG had 4 meetings, one of which was a telephone meeting in March.

Economy, budget, accounts

The economy of NFOG in 2007 was in good balance under the surveillance of the treasurer Martin Stjernquist.

Acta

Per Olof Janson was the chief editor of Acta until Reynir Geirsson took over as Chief Editor on the 1st of June 2007. From January 1st 2006 the publisher of Acta has been Taylor and Francis. Eva Christina Sterner has continued as the Editorial assistant for the Chief Editor. The impact factor of Acta has been steadily rising reflecting a good scientific profile. More manuscripts were coming in, on average 45 per month, and the rejection rate had increased and was now 57.8 %. Acta has been gradually changing to the electronic submission system. The economy of Acta has been favorable.

Support to education and co-operation

The board of NFOG started the NFOG Visitor Program in 2003 and altogether 24 specialists have visited another Nordic country within this program. In 2007, all 7 specialists who did send in an application received support from the Visitor Program. The visitors were: Helga Salvesen from Norway, Ole Sandström from Denmark, Sven Ahlden from Sweden and Sakari Hietanen, Maarit Vuento, Helena Laasonen and Päivi Härkki from Finland. The feedback on the program has been very positive from all parties. According to the accountings DKK 27 549 was used for the Visitors program in 2007. Some visitors were reimbursed in 2008.

FIGO and Twinning program

Jerker Liljestrand is the honorary treasurer of FIGO and a corresponding member of the Safe Motherhood Committee. He has kept the board informed about the twinning project, which FIGO has organized to 12 developing countries to strengthen their National Societies of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Amongst the countries left for twinning to the Nordic countries are Pakistan and Nigeria. Pakistan has been twinned to Sweden and Charlotta Grünwald, Chairman of SFOG visit

Pakistan in March 2007 with Bo Möller and the President of the Swedish Midwifery Society. Nigeria has been twinned with Denmark and Morten Lebech, Chairman of DSOG visited Nigeria in late 2007 to initiate twinning with the Nigerian Society (SOGON). NGF has offered to assist DSOG in twinning with Nigeria. Three colleagues from twinning countries will be invited to the NFOG Congress in Reykjavik, two from Pakistan and one from Nigeria.

Website (www.nfog.org)

Peter Secher followed Sören Broström as the webmaster in January 2007. Information about NFOG, board meetings, awards, courses, the NFOG thesis registry etc. is accessible on the web site. Daily visits to the registry increased in 2007, averaging 30 visits a day. The current top topics are abstracts from previous NFOG congresses, followed by information regarding the coming NFOG congress, the NFOG board and lastly the Thesis Registry. The number of theses in the Registry has increased in 2007, mainly due to an increase in the number of theses registered from Sweden and also from Norway. The guidelines for the website were updated in 2007.

Committees

Lars-Åke Mattsson was the chairman of the Scientific Committee in 2007. The Scientific Committee participated actively in preparing the program of NFOG 2008 and met with the local organising committee in April 2007. They will choose abstracts for oral and poster presentations, as well as prize winners for the best oral and poster presentations. A special lottery with awards was introduced during 2007 to stimulate submitting information on doctoral thesis. Jens Gudmundsson was the chairman of the Educational Committee in 2007. The Educational Committee prepared a Hot Topics Meeting which was held in Helsinki, October 4-6 2007 with 80 participants

NFYOG

NFYOG has been represented at the NFOG board meeting by Susanne Hasselman in January and June meetings and by Dögg Hauksdóttir in October meeting. NFYOG held a seminar "Is there a future for obstetrics?" in Copenhagen in June 1-2 2007. The support from NFOG to NFYOG in 2007 has been 100 000 DKK.

General

The aim of the present NFOG board is to enhance clinical and scientific collaboration between the Obstetricians and Gynecologists in the Nordic countries. The NFOG Visitor program has been conducted since 2003 and in 2007 the NFOG board made the decision to suggest to GA 2008 to establish a NFOG Visitor Grant. The president of NFOG and the chairman of the scientific committee have written columns and news letters to the bulletins of the National Societies. In addition, news from the National Societies has been added to the agenda of the NFOG board meetings. Developing co-operation in EBCOG (European Board of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists) is considered important, too. Special interest of Nordic countries has been improving specialist training and its evaluation. Reports on both EBCOG's and FIGO's activities have been included in the agenda of each NFOG board meeting.

On behalf of the board of NFOG,

May 24, 2008

Seija Grénman
Chairman
NFOG

Ragnheidur I. Bjarnadóttir
Secretary General
NFOG

