

THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY
of
INBORN ERRORS OF METABOLISM

Annual General Meeting

Chairman: Cornelis Jakobs

Held on Wednesday 1st September 2010 at 12.30 at the SSIEM Meeting in Istanbul

1 Apologies for Absence

The SSIEM Council and eighty members attended

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting (San Diego)

Minutes of the previous meeting held in San Diego, California on Wednesday 31st August 2009 were received and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

3 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising not covered on the Agenda.

4 Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the Society's Reserve was down €55K compared to 2009 but that the year to date financial position was broadly in agreement with expectation. Membership was down approximately 10% compared to 2009 at 851 (cf 942) and speculated that this could be due to the increase in membership fee and to the slightly less aggressive policy of chasing up 'slow' payers. Jim Bonham (JB) had prepared a budget for 2011 based on 1000 members and a slightly improved investment income; the full benefits of the new contract with Springer will not come into effect until 2012. JB anticipated a deficit of €60K, equivalent to the running costs of ETAC and the Travel Scholarships. These activities would again be funded from Reserves. The honorary Treasurer proposed that there would be no change to the current subscription but that the number of Travel Scholarships should be increased from 15 to 20. The proposals were accepted.

5 Honorary Secretary's Report

The Secretary's report which had been circulated with the Notice of the Annual General Meeting was presented and adopted.

6 **JIMD Report**

Johannes Zschocke (JZ), Editor in Chief of the JIMD, reported that the Impact factor of the Journal had increased during the year from 2.7 to 3.6. There had been no change to the Editorial Board. The winner of the Archibald Garrod Award for the best Clinical Studies in Metabolic Medicine, published in the JIMD was Dr Hörster for her paper on *Prediction of outcome in isolated methylmalonic acidurias: combined use of clinical and biochemical parameters* (JIMD 2009; 5: 630-639). JZ outlined details for the introduction of a new “sister” journal to the JIMD, called “JIMD Reports” from the beginning of 2011. This journal will contain all on-line articles. Submissions to JIMD and JIMD Reports will be unchanged through a single online portal, details for which can be found in the JIMD “instructions to authors”. The on-line monthly fully paginated publication would have a distinct ISSN number and would be perceived as a separate journal with a separate Impact Factor. All articles accepted for JIMD Reports will be deposited for immediate access in the open database PubMedCentral; after acceptance of the journal by PubMed an embargo of no more than 12 months may be imposed. The possibility of purchasing a hard copy of a full year for approximately €50.00 was being explored with Springer.

Cornelis Jakobs reported that Council had approved a further 5-year term for the current editorial board and has just completed negotiations and was in the process of signing an improved and more robust 5-year contract with Springer to continue publishing both JIMD and JIMD Reports.

7 **ETAC Report**

John Walter, Chairman of ETAC reminded members that the SSIEM had responsibility for monitoring training in paediatric metabolic medicine within the EU on behalf of the Confederation of European Specialists of Paediatrics (CESP). Applications to accredit training centres for paediatric metabolic medicine should now be made directly to the European Paediatric Association (EAP) rather than to ETAC. ETAC will then be requested to undertake the inspection on behalf of EAP. Accreditation is not mandatory at present; to-date three units have been accredited – Heidelberg, Prague and Innsbruck/Salzburg. Professor James Leonard, from the floor, suggested that ETAC should undertake re-inspections every 5 years in order to ensure standards were being maintained. This suggestion was noted.

There had been no change to the committee structure or personnel during the past year. In 2009, ETAC had organized a two day training course for clinicians and laboratory scientists in Basel, Switzerland thus expanding its role to include laboratory, in addition to clinical medicine, training. The third ETAC course would be held in Manchester, UK in October 2010 – full details were available on the Society’s website. The SSIEM through ETAC had been invited by the SIMD to send a representative to observe the NAMA course in Ontario, Canada (October 17th-23rd).

8/9 **SSIEM – Adult Metabolic Group and SSIEM – Dietitians’ Group**

As outlined in the Secretary’s report, previously circulated, the Secretary stated that Council had agreed to establish two specialist interest subgroups - an adult metabolic group (SSIEM-AMG) lead initially by Dr Frédéric Sedel, Paris and a Dietitians’ Group (SSIEM-DG) lead by Dr Link, Wiesbaden. Both these groups were open to all members of the Society and both have been given the opportunity to develop web pages on the Society’s website. The Secretary stated that it was not Council’s intention to approve disorder related interest groups, but it was felt that both adult metabolic inborn errors of metabolism and dietetics warranted special expertise and consideration. The SSIEM-AMG would hold its initial meeting later during the Symposium. Marjorie Dixon reported that 100 delegates attended a very successful and positive initial meeting of the SSIEM-DG. The working section of the meeting was chaired by Reinhild Link who outlined the purpose of the Group and a proposed constitution. This was followed by four short communications, the session being chaired by Marjorie Dixon

10 Website Report

Nenad Blau stated that there would be changes to the lay-out of the website. Members would receive individual passwords for the Members' Section in the coming weeks. He encouraged members to use the site and to feed-back suggestions in order to enhance its usefulness.

11 Future SSIEM Symposia

The Secretary reported that Council had received five expressions of interest to host the SSIEM Annual Symposium in 2014. Bids were received from Innsbruck (Austria), Naples (Italy), Vancouver (Canada), Athens (Greece) and Kharkov (Ukraine); one additional bid was received to host the Symposium in either 2015 or 2016. After due consideration sponsors from Austria and Italy were invited to make presentations at the Council and Corresponding Members Meeting and the bid from Innsbruck was subsequently accepted. The Secretary reported that the bid from Vancouver raised much debate. No SSIEM Symposium had ever taken place outside Europe and members had previously raised concerns that on occasion there was no annual meeting within greater Europe due to the ICIEM meeting. Council decided that until the future of the IOC's ICIEM meeting had been clarified after the 2017 meeting in South America no decision on holding a meeting outside Europe would be made without consulting the membership. This decision was endorsed by the members

The Society had approved the following venues

- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Geneva, Switzerland 2011
- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Birmingham, UK 2012
- ICIEM International Symposium, Barcelona, Spain 2013
- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Innsbruck, Austria, Switzerland 2014

12 IOC Report

The Chairman again reiterated the concerns previously expressed over the organisation of the ICIEM meeting in San Diego. This particularly related to the lack of communication between the local organising committee and the IOC and the lack of involvement of IOC members on the Scientific Committee. As Chairman of the IOC for the next three years he would be implementing a more robust and transparent structure. IOC members will be part of the Scientific Committee and the Congress president will attend IOC meetings. Cornelis Jakobs and Peter Clayton are the SSIEM representatives on the IOC.

13 Council Officers/Election of Council Members

The Chairman announced that three members of Council will be stepping down, having served two consecutive terms; they were Cornelis Jakobs (the Netherlands), Nenad Blau (Switzerland) and Isabel Tavares de Almeida (Portugal). The Chairman outlined the process by which Council considered individuals for nomination. He stressed the importance of having members on Council who were prepared to contribute and to work hard and who had particular expertise or knowledge. In this regard when considering future membership for Council, he looked for advice from Corresponding members and at such individuals who are or have been corresponding members in the past, or are current representatives of national societies.

The following colleagues were proposed and accepted for Council; Barbara Plecko (Graz, Austria), Christine Vianey-Saban (Lyon, France) and Carlo Dionisi-Vici (Rome, Italy). Nenad Blau will continue to attend Council Meeting as joint President for the Symposium in Geneva in 2011 and to serve as the webmaster for a further year. Peter Clayton had been nominated by Council to serve as the next chairman. This was accepted. The Chairman thanked the outgoing members for their contributions on Council. This was endorsed by Ubaldo Caruso from the floor.

14 Corresponding Members

The Council and Corresponding Members meeting was held on the previous day - 24 Corresponding members attended. The members selected Innsbruck as the location for the 2014 Symposium and endorsed the development of JIMD Reports. In a general discussion on training some Corresponding members again requested that ETAC consider holding training courses outside Europe.

15 Election of Auditors

Baker Tilly UK Audit LLP, Birmingham was proposed for re-election as auditors to the SSIEM by the Chairman and seconded by Johannes Zschocke. This was carried by the members.

16 Any other Business

Professor James Leonard raised concerns regarding the increasing cost of the Symposium, particularly the accommodation. The Chairman acknowledged that this was a particular issue with this Symposium and that Council would continue to be vigilant and make sure that alternative cheaper accommodation was available. Council had agreed to increase the number of Travel Scholarships from 15 to 20.

Cornelis Jakobs thanked the Council members for their support during his six years as chairman and the members of the Society for the confidence which they had entrusted in him. He felt that he could be proud of a very fruitful period during which time a lot had been achieved; he wished Peter Clayton every success in his role as incoming Chairman.

17 The meeting adjourned.

Signed:

Date: