

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY**  
*of*  
**INBORN ERRORS OF METABOLISM**

**Annual General Meeting**

Chairman: Peter Clayton

Held on Wednesday 31st August 2011 at 12.30 at the SSIEM Meeting in Geneva

The SSIEM Council and seventy-two members attended.

**1 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Professor James Leonard.

**2 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Istanbul)**

Minutes of the previous meeting, held in Istanbul, Turkey on Wednesday 1st September 2010 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 detailed Honorary Treasurer's Report was contained in the Notice of the Annual General Meeting circulated in advance. Although the Treasurer had forecast a small deficit budget for 2010, the Accounts showed a surplus of €34,009. This was due to a surplus of €28,000 from the Istanbul Symposium and an under-spend of €17,000 in the ETAC Budget due to the delay in appointing the management support. This appointment, shared with ERNDIM, has now been made. The Society continues to award 16 travel scholarships and last year 4 support memberships. While acknowledging that the Society's financial position was sound, the Treasurer was concerned for the immediate future and the increased demands on the Society's Reserves to maintain and develop the Society's activities. The Treasurer proposed that the membership subscription be increased by €5.00 to €125.00, with no increase for those less than 35 years of age or for retired members. This proposal was adopted by the membership.

JB briefly outlined the relationship between the Symposium Local Organising Committee, the Professional Conference Organisers (PCO) and the SSIEM and recommended that this should be placed on a much more formal basis. In this respect, he recommended that the Society should

be registered for VAT. He had been advised that this will not affect the charitable status of the Society in the UK. All educational activities would be zero rated and for most of the other expenditure relating to the Symposium, VAT could be reclaimed. The Treasurer's report was adopted.

## **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**

The JIMD Report has been circulated with the Notice of the AGM. Johannes Zschocke (JZ), Editor in Chief, reported that the Impact Factor was now 3.8. The number of articles received and under review had nearly doubled in the past three years. This increased work load had put an increased burden of work on the editorial team; JZ suggested that the Society would need to provide additional support if the Journal was going to continue to attract more original articles and continue to increase the IF.

A total of 82 articles had been accepted for "JIMD Reports" during its first year of publication; 39 were submitted as original articles and 43 as research or case reports. He stated that SSIEM members will be able to purchase "JIMD Reports" in hard copy format at a reduced price from Springer.

Professor Georg Hoffmann had requested to step down as Editor after 15 years on the Editorial Board, due to an increasing workload. Dr Eva Morava from Nijmegen, a communicating editor, had been invited to join the Editorial team following ratification by Council. Following a review of the list of Communicating Editors the following had been invited to join the panel: Professors Jutta Gärtner, François Feillet, Simon Heales and Daniela Karall, and Drs Greg Enns, Stefanie Grünwald, Pascale De Lonlay, Gajja Salomons, Mauricio Scarpa and Nicole Wolf.

JZ stated that the Finnegas and Metab-I columns will be discontinued, the SSIEM column to be revitalized and the SSIEM Annual Report would be printed as a non-online extra. He repeated the request that members forward obituaries to the Editorial team.

The Chairman thanked the Editors, Communicating editors and Dr Verena Peters, the Managing Editor for their contribution in making the Journal such a success and acknowledged the significant contribution of Georg Hoffmann, the retiring Editor.

## **7 ETAC Report**

The Education and Training Advisory Committee (ETAC) Report was tabled by the Honorary Secretary. He stated that ETAC had organised the 3rd SSIEM Academy course on disorders of purine and pyrimidines, mucopolysaccharides and oligosaccharides and peroxisomes in Manchester, UK in October 2010. The course was attended by 37 clinicians and 39 scientists. ETAC has now established its administrative office in Manchester in conjunction with ERNDIM and an administrator, Sara Gardner, has been appointed. Vassili Valayannopoulos attended the North American Metabolic Academy (NAMA) course in Canada in November 2010 as an observer at the invitation of SIMD. Following a site visit, ETAC recommendation to the Confederation of European Specialists of Paediatrics (CESP) that the training centre at Zurich should be accredited for paediatric inherited metabolic medicine training. John Walter had informed Council of his intention to step down as chairman of ETAC after the Academy course in November. Council had nominated Vassili Valayannopoulos as chairman and Andrew Morris as secretary. They will be assisted by Sara Gardner, the ETAC administrative assistant. The Chairman thanked John Walter for his significant contribution in establishing and running ETAC.

Under any other business, it was suggested that the Academy course should be attached to the SSIEM Symposium, as had occurred for the first 1st Academy meeting. JW stated that ETAC had considered this but it would make attendance at the Academy course and the Symposium quite long and would be a significant imposition on the teachers.

## **8 Special Resolution**

Nic Law, Senior Administrator, SSIEM, outlined the need to amend the Memorandum and Articles of the Society to enable the Society to communicate with members by other means than by surface mail, such as electronically. He stated that, if passed, members would still be able to receive correspondence by surface mail if they tick the appropriate box when renewing their annual membership.

The special resolution was carried unanimously by a show of hands and will therefore be adopted.

## **9/10 SSIEM – Adult Metabolic Group and SSIEM – Dietitians’ Group**

Marjorie Dixon reported that the SSIEM – Dietitians’ Group was now well established within the SSIEM structure. It participated in the organisation of the successful meeting held on Tuesday 30th August. A business meeting, chaired by Reinhild Link, was held on Wednesday morning. MD stated that the SSIEM-DG had attracted new members to the Society and its web-page on the SSIEM website was now up and accessible.

The Secretary reported that the SSIEM – Adult Metabolic Group held its first clinical meeting as part of the Symposium on Tuesday 30th August and will hold a business meeting on Thursday 1st September under the chairmanship of Dr Frédéric Sedel, Paris. Its web-page was under construction.

## **11 Website Report**

Nenad Blau had agreed to remain as Webmaster for a further year. NB encouraged members to inform him of up-coming events or of potential changes to the website.

## **12 Future SSIEM Symposia**

The Secretary reported that Council had received just one expression of interest to host the SSIEM Annual Symposium in 2015 from Lyon, France and none for 2016. Dr Christine Vianey-Saban on behalf of the Lyon Group made a presentation at the Council and Corresponding Members Meeting. The bid was accepted and endorsed by the members.

The Society had approved the following venues

- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Birmingham, UK 2012
- ICIEM International Symposium, Barcelona, Spain 2013
- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Innsbruck, Austria, 2014
- SSIEM Annual Symposium, Lyon, France 2015

Council will seek expressions of interest to host the 2016 Annual Symposium during the coming year.

## **13 IOC Report**

The Chairman stated that the preliminary scientific programme for the 2013 ICIEM Symposium to be held in Barcelona, Spain had been circulated to national for comment. He stated that members of the IOC Committee were on the Scientific Committee for the Symposium.

**14 Council Officers/Election of Council Members**

The Chairman announced that Professor Jutta Gaertner had stepped down, having served two consecutive terms on Council; he thanked her for her contribution. As there was one vacancy already on Council, the following were proposed and accepted; Prof Ute Spiekerkoetter, (Düsseldorf, Germany) and Dr Gajja Salomons (Amsterdam, Netherlands). The Chairman stated that Dr Jim Bonham had agreed to stay on as Honorary Treasurer for a further one year. Council was awaiting the confirmation on the decision of his replacement.

**15 Corresponding Members**

The Council and Corresponding Members meeting was held on the previous day - 24 Corresponding Members attended. The members endorsed Lyon as the location for the 2015 SSIEM Symposium. Corresponding members raised concerns regarding the promotion of the Academy Course. Council agreed to request ETAC to review their promotion policy.

**16 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.

**17 Any other Business**

Concern was raised that it was not possible to register for 2 single days of the Symposium. Although this was disputed, it was agreed that more clear instructions relating to registration was required for the 2012 Symposium. The relatively small attendance at the AGM was noted and it was suggested that consideration might be given to moving the time of the meeting.

**18** The meeting adjourned.

Signed:

Date: