

# General assembly at the 2017 NoSCoS meeting May 11th, 2017 at 16.20

Crusellhallen, Konsert & Kongress center, Linköping, Sweden

## Agenda

1. Minutes from the 2015 meeting in Trondheim
2. Presidents report
3. Proposals
4. Elections
5. Candidates for renewal of Council
6. Any other business – Venue 2021

### **Re. Minutes from the 2015 meeting in Trondheim**

Wolfram Antepohl distributed paper copies of the minutes.

No comments to the minutes.

### **Re. Presidents report**

Fin Biering-Sørensen went through the changes made and implemented to NoSCoS constitution, including:

#### DEFINITION AND OBJECT OF THE SOCIETY

- 1 The name of the society is NORDIC SPINAL CORD SOCIETY (NoSCoS), formerly known as NORDIC MEDICAL SOCIETY of PARAPLEGIA, NMSOP. The new name is appropriate as an umbrella term for the participating countries, i.e. Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.
- 2 NoSCoS is an affiliated society to the INTERNATIONAL SPINAL CORD SOCIETY (ISCoS).
- 3 NoSCoS is an association of individuals in the Nordic countries with special interest in the diseases and injuries of the spinal cord.
- 4 The objective of the Society shall be to advance education and promote research into the spinal cord lesion and for this purpose to bring together individuals in different fields who have a common interest in spinal cord lesions so that they may be aided in their joint endeavor to prevent, cure or alleviate these conditions.

#### MEMBERSHIP

- 5 Individuals who are actively involved in the management and/or rehabilitation and/or research of persons with spinal cord lesions, shall be eligible for election to membership of the Society.
- 6 Each Ordinary Member shall pay an annual membership fee of such an amount as agreed by the General Meeting. The membership fee shall be payable in advance. The membership fee shall be determined at the General Meeting. None payment of the membership fee within twelve months after it is due shall be considered equivalent to resignation.

### **Re. Proposals**

Wolfram Antepohl (together with Berit Brurok, Randi Steensgaard and Johanna Wangdell) presented a draft for a joint Nordic program for SCI professional education to be established under the NoSCoS umbrella. The idea is to establish a course for professionals on an advanced level, containing both intra- and interprofessional elements. The course could start with a 3-5 day on-site module, followed by a term of web- and team-based learning. To start with, each Nordic SCI-center might send one team. Cost should be kept as low as possible, to facilitate participation. The concept was also presented during a workshop earlier at this conference and several delegates were interested in joining the group working on the project. The general assembly supported this proposal.

Anna-Carin Lagerström suggested to create a working group on Nutrition under the NoSCoS umbrella. The general assembly supported this proposal.

After some discussion it was decided to call these new initiatives Special Interest Groups

### **Re. Elections**

Fin Biering-Sørensen showed what is in the constitution regarding this point:

The Officers and the Council Members are elected for four years.

The Officers are eligible for re-election for a further period of two years.

*The Executive Committee shall consist of three Members:*

The President, the Secretary and Treasurer alike, and one other member. The president of NoSCoS or another member of the NoSCoS council will have a seat in the ISCoS council, if such one is allocated. The officials shall be elected from the Members at the General Meeting.

A representative of the Coming Meeting Organizing Committee may be invited to attend the Executive Committee Meetings, if not already represented in the Committee by election.

The present Executive Committee:

President: Fin Biering-Sørensen, M.D., Denmark (elected 2015)

Secretary & treasurer: Ellen E. Schaanning, M.D., Norway (elected 2007)

Member Aki Vainionpaa, M.D., Finland (elected 2015)

Chair of local executive committee: Wolfram Antepohl, M.D., Sweden (elected 2015)

NEW COMMITTEE:

**President: Wolfram Antepohl, M.D., Sweden (elected 2017)**

**Secretary & treasurer: Annette Halvorsen, M.D., Norway (elected 2017)**

**Member Aki Vainionpaa, M.D., Finland (elected 2015)**

**Chair of local executive committee: Fin Biering-Sørensen, M.D., Denmark (elected 2017)**

*Advisory Council:*

There shall be an Advisory Council consisting of the Officers of the Society and seven elected members, so that the Advisory Council consists of ten Members.

There shall be at least one member from each of the five Nordic countries.

As far as possible the following should be represented in the Council: physician, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, nurse, social worker, psychologist, and consumer.

The present Advisory Council:

Claes Hultling, M.D., Sweden (elected 2015)

Lena Lindbo, R.N., Sweden (elected 2015)

Sarlotta Suominen, PT, Finland (elected 2015)

Tori Lunde, RN, Norway (elected 2009)

Dorte Hoffmann, PT, Denmark (elected 2013)

Jette Bing, M.D., Denmark (elected 2011)

Pall Ingvarsson, M.D. Iceland (elected 2015)

Sigrudur Loftsdottir, OT, Iceland (elected 2005)

NEW COUNCIL:

**Claes Hultling, M.D., Sweden (elected 2015)**

**Lena Lindbo, R.N., Sweden (elected 2015)**

**Sarlotta Suominen, PT, Finland (elected 2015)**

**Naja Bøje Casupej, Psychologist, Denmark (elected 2017)**

**Dorte Hoffmann, PT, Denmark (elected 2013)**

**Linda Sørensen, OT, Norway (elected 2017)**

**Pall Ingvarsson, M.D. Iceland (elected 2015)**

**Anne Beate Melheim, consumer, Norway (elected 2017)**

There was expressed concern regarding the few representatives present from Finland, and hopefully it will be possible to improve this situation in the future years.

**Re. Any other business**

Venue 2021: Stockholm/Spinalis volunteered by Claes Hultling

There was raised concern on the Registration fee – although it was lower than for the meetig in Trondheim we shall try to have it even lower to facilitate more participants.

Wolfram Antepohl explained further about the economic challenges and the surplus from this year was suggested to be used for the educational initiative suggested.

In addition Páll Ingvarsson explained regarding challenges with the bank account the society actually has in Göteborg, and hope to get access to soon.

11.05.2017 Linköping Fin Biering-Sørensen / Wolfram Antepohl