General Assembly
17 October 2017
ACC Liverpool (UK)
Hall 2E - 15.00-16.00

Present: Society President S Olsson, and about 80 members of the Society and delegates ISoP 2017.

Agenda

- Approval of the Agenda & GA minutes (Agra 2016)
- Tribute to Prof Giampaolo Velo
- ISoP constitution (Updates of the Statutes, adoption of the By-laws)
- Financial position and Membership fees 2018
- Highlights since Agra
- Prospects for year ahead
- 18th ISoP Annual Meeting
- AOB

President Sten Olsson opened the General Assembly by welcoming members and requesting approval of the agenda, as well as approval of the Agra GA minutes which were accepted by the General Assembly (the Agra GA minutes have been posted on the ISoP website).

I/ Tribute to Professor Giampaolo Velo (1943-2017)

Professor Ralph Edwards paid tribute to Professor Giampaolo Velo who passed away on 17th August in Verona (Italy).

Professor Velo was president of ISoP (2003-2006). He was professor of Pharmacology in Verona, director of the institute of pharmacology of the universities of Verona and Padova, of the regional pharmacovigilance centre of the Veneto Region. For many years, he organised meetings in beautiful Erice (Sicily) for the Fondazione Ettore Majorana, resulting in communications such as the Erice Declaration on communication in Pharmacovigilance.

The President, Board members and the Assembly observed one minute of silence to honour and remember Professor Velo.

Please read obituaries by Professor Nicholas Moore on the ISoP website and by Dr. Jeff Aronson for the British Pharmacological Society.
II/ ISoP Constitution and Statutes

The President summarized the matters arising from the Extraordinary General Assembly held on the 25th of May in Bangkok. Because the quorum required for approval of statutes had not been reached at the meeting in Bangkok, the amendment of Art 8.3 and Art 15.1 of the Statutes had to be re-submitted at the next General Assembly. Accordingly, the ISoP statutes revised as of the 8th of July 2016 were submitted to the General Assembly held today (17 October 2017) and unanimously approved in a vote. Those two amendments required by the Registre du Commerce of Geneva in order to conform to the Swiss Law, consisted in the following:

Article 8.3: A special general assembly must be convened by the President if at least one fifth of the members wish it.

Article 15.1: Statutes can be changed only on the proposition of the Executive Committee, or as a result of a petition of at least one fifth of the members having paid their fees

Adoption of the by-laws

The President explained that the by-laws revised to adapt to the new governance structure of the Society had to be endorsed by the General Assembly. The proposed by-laws had been circulated by e-mail to all members two months before. After the President had invited for questions, the new by-law was adopted by the General Assembly.

III/ Financial report

Jean-Christophe Delumeau presented an overview of the current Society’s finances prepared by the accountants in Geneva with the balance on 30th September 2017 and which stood at a reduced deficit of EUR 6,000.

The treasurer Jean-Christophe Delumeau described the general financial situation which showed incomes from successful training courses and positive financial impact when Annual Meetings take place in a High Income country.

Despite current assets in bank account increased from EUR.148’298 to EUR.153’160 (as of September 30th), there is net deficit of EUR.6’257. Treasurer explained that for the upcoming 12 months, the goal will be to reach a positive balance of EUR.7000 in order to compensate the deficit.

He also reported back that the Executive Committee was exploring ways of payment to facilitate memberships in some countries as China or in Africa, and proposed a new structure of membership for Low/Medium Income countries:
Jean-Christophe Delumeau presented the 2018 budget and asked if there were any questions from the General Assembly.

The accounts were accepted by the General Assembly.

The Executive Committee suggests Society’s membership fees to be kept unchanged for 2018. Consequently membership fees as of January 2018 will continue to be 215 EUR (with Drug Safety online) and 95 EUR (with Drug Safety online) for members from emerging countries, students and retired individuals. The proposal was approved by the General Assembly.

**IV/ Highlights from Agra**

**New ISoP Governance and organisation**

The new Governance structure of ISoP includes the following Board and Executive Committee members (elected in 2016).

**Executive Committee**
Sten Olsson, President
Ian CK Wong, Vice President
Mira Harrison-Woolrych, Secretary General
Jean-Christophe Delumeau, Treasurer

**Advisory Board**
Hilda Ampadu, Brian Edwards, Deirdre McCarthy, Jan Petracek, Phil Tregunno, Marco Tuccori

*Ian CK Wong was not present at ISoP 2017 and at the GA but sent his apologies.*

**The new ISoP management**
Organized monthly EC teleconferences and 2 Advisory Board meetings per year.

President S Olsson thanked Sophie Spence particularly for her work regarding the training courses and membership administration. He also confirmed Geoffrey Bowring’s contribution from UMC for some specific tasks.

The President then outlined some of the activities that had occurred during the year:

**Partnerships**

**WHO:**
ISoP is member of WHO Coalition of Interested Partners (CIP) Task Force for regulatory systems strengthening

**Springer Nature:**
Three-year agreement with the journal Drug Safety (Subscription rates for Drug Safety fixed)
Webinars on good publication practice offered by Editor-in-Chief Nitin Joshi (1st on 27 September 2017 with 45 participants)

**Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC):**
3-year agreement with successful training collaboration in Latin America and China 2017

**European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance, ENCePP** with a new ISoP representative (Hervé Le Louet)

**Training programme**

Mid-year training course in Bangkok (May 2017)
Chapters training (Middle East and Latin America)

One member mentioned also the development of a web-based PV Curriculum tool, initiative from the previous Education Training Programme & Executive Committee of ISoP.

**Chapters**

Official launch and welcome to the new chapters from:
- Indonesia (President: Dr. Jarir At Thobari)
- South Asia (President: Prof Gurumurthy Parthasarathi)

**Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

Official launch and welcome to the new SIGs:
- Herbal and traditional medicines (Coordinator: Prof. Joanne Barnes)
- Medication Errors (Coordinators: Brian Edwards and Ian Wong)
• PV Professional Qualification Framework (Co-ordinator Jan Petracek)

Social media

Twitter: @ISoPonline and LinkedIn (ISoP Group)

V/ Prospects for year ahead

Conferences and courses

• WHO Coalition of Interested Partners meeting, Kampala, Uganda 9 – 10 November 2017
• ISoP Seminar, Boston, USA, 4 – 5 December 2017 "Intelligent Automation in PV"
• ISoP LatAm/Mexico chapters symposium, Mexico City, 5 - 6 December 2017
• Euro-Asian Pharmacoepidemiology Congress, Shiraz, Iran, 3 - 5 January 2018
• ISoP-UMC training course in Shenyang, P.R China 11 – 12 January, 2018 "Pharmacovigilance training: From surveillance to inspections"
• Course for Indian PyPI programme, New Delhi, 30-31 January 2018
• ISoP Mid-year training course, Canberra, Australia, 15 -16 March 2018
• 2 joint ISoP- UMC training courses, 1 in Latin America
• Potentially Eurasian training course in Minsk, Belarus
• Potentially session at ICPE in Prague, August, 2018

President S Olsson concluded his report, looking forward to seeing all members and other colleagues at the next ISoP Annual Meeting in Geneva, 11 – 14 November, 2018.

The meeting closed at 16.00

Signature: Date:

Sten Olsson, President
Mira Harrison-Woolrych, Secretary-General