

IPSO Business Meeting: Minutes

Wednesday 25 September 2013

17.00-18.00

Theatre 1

Hong Kong Convention & Business Centre

Hong Kong

Present: 31 IPSO members

Chair: Dan Aronson (Past president)

Apologies: Giovanni Cecchetto (President)
Jörg Fuchs (Treasurer)

1. Welcome from the Chair: Dan Aronson explained our President's unexpected absence due to the typhoon alert earlier in the week, and welcomed those members who had been able to attend despite adversity. He explained that Giovanni intended to attend the IPSO dinner, and so would be able to address the membership there.
2. The minutes from the 2012 IPSO Business Meeting, held in London on 6 October 2012 were accepted, and signed off.
3. Report on behalf of the President: Dan Aronson addressed two matters: transparency of the IPSO Executive Board; IPSO masterclasses. Regarding transparency, the Past-President recognised on behalf of the Board communication received from members over the nomination and election of officers, and observed that all positions for appointment in 2013 had been announced according to our statutes in the IPSO newsletter, encouraging active members to make a nomination. He emphasised that the Board would like to encourage members to make nominations in future, so that we can have enough candidates to require open and transparent elections at the AGM. He asked any members who remain concerned about the process to speak to members of the Board, who will be happy to discuss/recommend changes to ensure that IPSO is a fully democratic organisation. Dan informed members about the positive feedback that we have received from the IPSO Masterclasses, and also that in place of payment for their time the IPSO members who comprise the Faculty have agreed that 50% of any profits accruing from the provision on masterclasses should be given to IPSO, and this is a significant factor in the recommendation of the Executive Board to provide an IPSO scholarship (discussed later) to help junior surgeons attend future congresses.
4. Report on behalf of the Treasurer: the annual financial report was presented by the IPSO Secretary, who showed the balance sheet for the IPSO bank account which had been prepared by the Treasurer, and also a separate report that had been prepared subsequently, to include all IPSO's financial assets, including the membership income which is currently held in a separate account by our secretariat, Kenes International, and the income due from the Masterclasses, mentioned above. The balance in the current account is €19,664, showing a deficit of €5,201 since the 2012 annual financial statement presented in London. However there is €13,971 Euro in the Kenes holding A/c, and more than £3,000 is anticipated from the masterclasses, so that IPSO's overall financial assets are approximately €35,800. This suggests that the organisation is financially in good health, and based on the current membership we can expect a minimum net income of > €3,000 per annum, allowing discussion about the use of this income to help achieve one of the stated aims of our organisation, to improve the global surgical care of children with cancer.
5. IPSO scholarships: the Secretary announced that, as a consequence of the positive financial report, the Executive Board is recommending that a Scholarship should be instituted in 2014, to help a junior surgeon attend the annual congress. The Executive Board are asking for advice from the membership regarding the content of the scholarship, and the criteria to be used to select a candidate. Initial thoughts from the Board were outlined, and there was discussion from the floor. The details will be finalised by the Board, taking the input from members into account. It was agreed that a single scholarship should be provided in 2014.
6. Membership report: the Secretary presented a membership report drawn up by Laura Kennedy, on behalf of Kenes. The report showed that IPSO membership is showing a steady increase, having been in decline as a result of members not paying dues. IPSO has strong global representation, and we would like to improve this further. Members present were asked to consider recommending IPSO membership to suitable surgeons in their own countries in cities or regions where there is no current IPSO representation. The Secretary has been asked by the Board to investigate other ways of informing surgeons of IPSO's existence, such as writing to officers of national paediatric surgical organisations.
7. Changes to the IPSO Statutes & By-laws: the Secretary gave a brief overview of proposed changes to the statutes that have been previously circulated to the membership in the newsletter, in accordance with the

current rules of the society. These changes are necessary to address the new on-line membership application process, and to address discrepancies between the statutes and current practice with regard to appointment of the Programme Director and the representative to the SIOP Scientific Committee. Members were asked to approve the changes, and there was unanimous agreement, so these changes will be signed off by the President, and will come into effect immediately.

8. Report from the Webmaster: Roly Squire asked members to look at the website, and recommend changes. He also asked if an active member would like to consider taking over as webmaster at some time in the not-too-distant future.
9. Arrangements for Toronto 2014: Ted Gerstle, who will be IPSO local organiser at the 2014 annual congress in Toronto, introduced himself, and invited members to attend.
10. Election to Executive Council 2013:
 - . Steve Shochat was the only nomination for President-elect, and was confirmed in this position by members present
 - . Steven Warmann was re-elected to his second term on the Executive Board & Programme Director by members present.
 - . There were 2 nominations for IPSO Representative on the SIOP Scientific Committee: Jan Godzinski & Piotr Czauderna. This position has previously been appointed by the Executive Board, and the board recommended that both candidates would be very suitable for the position, and so the decision should be left to the membership. Piotr Czauderna was elected by secret ballot of members present.
 - . There were 3 nominations for a single position on the Executive Board, resulting from Sandeep Agarwala completing the maximum 2 terms: Peter Ehrlich, Sajid Qureshi & Sushmita Bhatnagar. Sajid Qureshi was elected by secret ballot of the members present.

The Chair thanked Sandeep for his work as an officer of IPSO, and Steve Shochat for his efforts representing IPSO on the SIOP Scientific Committee. He congratulated the new IPSO Officers.

11. Introduction of new IPSO Members: during the above elections the new IPSO members for 2013 were recommended to the meeting, and their membership was approved by members present.

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| Romi DAS GUPTA | (Sponsors: Morreau, Nightingale) |
| Theodorus DIOYSIS | (Sponsors: Okoye, Squire) |
| Robert DOUSEK | (Sponsors: Carachi, Nightingale) |
| Ted GERSTLE | (Sponsors: Aronson, Carachi) |
| Moaied HASSAN | (Sponsors: Squire, Aronson) |
| Eiso HIYAMI | (Sponsors: Kaneko, Squire) |
| Michele ILARI | (Sponsors: Cecchetto, Cozzi) |
| Zoltan JENOVARI | (Sponsors: Carachi, Squire) |
| Norihiko KITAGAWA | (Sponsors: Squire, Kaneko) |
| Amos LOH | (Sponsors: Shochat, Davidoff) |
| Peter MATTEI | (Sponsors: Dall'Igna, Cecchetto) |
| Abdulrasheed NASIR | (Sponsors: Hadley, Squire) |
| Fazal MOUMAN | (Sponsors: Shochat, Squire) |
| Abid QAZI | (Sponsors: Powis, Squire) |
| Rodrigo RIBEIRO | (Sponsors: Abib, Hayes-Jordan) |
| Emmanuel TOWU | (Sponsors: Okoye, Holmes) |
| Lideke VAN DER STEEG | (Sponsors: Heij, Wijnen) |
| Calogero VIRGONE | (Sponsors: Cecchetto, Dall'Igna) |
| Jim WILDE | (Sponsors: Heij, Aronson) |
| Nikolaos ZAVRAS | (Sponsors: Squire, Cecchetto) |

12. Any other business

- . Sushmita Bhatnagar asked if it would be possible for IPSO members to have a membership number. The Secretary pointed out that Kenes have given every member a membership number to help with the collection of annual dues, and that it would be confusing if members had any other numbers. There are no plans for the membership number to be used for any other purposes, but members could look up their details in the membership directory at any time, using the link on the IPSO website, their email address, and their personal password. There is a mechanism for retrieving a forgotten password. It is members responsibility for keeping their entry in the directory up-to-date, in particular their email address.
- . It was confirmed that there is an agreement with Kenes that members attending the Congress could pay their dues for the following year at the congress itself, and the Secretary agreed to ensure that this process continues.

- . Steven Warmann drew the attention of all present to the WOFAPS meeting being held in Berlin in October, organised by members of IPSO under the guidance of our treasurer, Jörg Fuchs.
- . Roly Squire asked members present to join him in expressing special thanks to Dan Aronson, who as Secretary, President-elect, President, and now Past President has been a member of the IPSO Executive Board for 13 years, and has provided invaluable leadership and commitment to our Society. Stepping in to the breach to Chair this meeting as a result of the unforeseen absence of our President was a final demonstration of Dan's exemplary leadership. Members stood to applaud Dan, thanking him for his efforts.

13. Adjournment: 5 pm.