



**EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR VASCULAR SURGERY  
COUNCIL MEETING**

Pjerrot Meeting Room, Tivoli Hotel & Congress Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark  
Tuesday 27 September 2016, 14:00-18:00  
MINUTES

**Participants**

Prof. Jürg Schmidli, President  
Prof. Martin Björck, President Elect  
Prof. Arkadiusz Jawien, Past President  
Prof. Sebastian Debus, Secretary General  
Prof. Tina Cohnert, Treasurer  
Prof. Ross Naylor, Editor in Chief  
Prof. Philippe Kolh, Senior Editor, and Belgium  
Prof. Frank Vermassen, ETC Rep.  
Dr Vincent Jongkind, EVST Rep. (excused), represented by Dr Hubert Stepak  
Prof. Armando Mansilha, UEMS Rep.  
Dr Thomas Hölzenbein, Austria (absent for 2 votes)  
Prof. Valery Arakelyan, Russia  
Dr Harri Hakovirta, Finland  
Dr Mauro Gargiulo, Italy  
Dr Jürg Heckenkamp, Germany  
Prof. Alison Halliday, United Kingdom  
Dr Antonio Gimenez-Gaibar, Spain  
Dr Maria Kubikova, Slovakia  
Dr Tomasz Jakimowicz, Poland  
Dr Zsolt Palásthy, Hungary  
Dr George Geroulakos, Greece  
Dr Lotte Klitfod, Denmark  
Assoc. Prof. Dimitar Petkov Petkov, Bulgaria  
Dr Ilijas Činara, Serbia (excused)  
Dr Aldo Ivancic, Croatia (excused)  
Dr Peter Balaz, Czech Republic  
Prof. Fabien Thaveau, France  
Mr Martin O'Donohoe, Ireland  
Prof. Clark Zeebregts, Netherlands  
Prof. Erney Mattsson, Norway  
Dr João António Albuquerque e Castro, Portugal  
Dr Ionel Droc, Romania  
Dr Anders Wanhainen, Sweden  
Prof. Jean-Marc Corpataux, Switzerland  
Dr Tankut Akay, Turkey  
Dr Ihor Kobza, Ukraine (excused)  
*and*  
Mr Tim Rogerson, Accountant  
Ms Anastasia Duval, ESVS Executive Director



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No.	Issue	Actions
1	<p><b>Introduction by the President</b> Apologies were received from Dr Ilijas Činara, Serbia. The President welcomed everyone, and specifically every to new councillor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Belgium: Philippe Kolh</li> <li>▪ Bulgaria: Dimitar Petkov Petkov</li> <li>▪ Denmark: Lotte Klitfod</li> <li>▪ Greece: George Geroulakos</li> <li>▪ Hungary: Zsolt Palasthy</li> <li>▪ Poland: Tomasz Jakimovicz</li> <li>▪ Portugal: João António Albuquerque e Castro</li> <li>▪ Serbia: Ilijas Činara</li> <li>▪ Slovakia: Maria Kubikova</li> <li>▪ Spain: Antonio Gimenez Gaibar</li> </ul> <p>Prof. Schmidli reported on a busy year of internal re-organisation where he learnt a lot as the President. There has been many ExCo and officers' meetings. Financially speaking, ESVS is on the right track especially thanks to Prof. Cohnert's and Anastasia's efforts. The previous ESVS office in Copenhagen is finally closed. A survey was carried out showing that ESVS' greatest aspect is its high scientific value, and its objective to develop standards and educational opportunities. Sponsors are supporting ESVS thanks to Lieven's efforts (MCI). There should be a plan for imaging companies. ESVS still doesn't have strong bounds to National Societies. That needs to be strengthen. The President thanked all Council members for their cooperation.</p>	
2	Minutes of the previous Meeting were approved.	
3	<p><b>Secretary's Report</b> <u>Leadership:</u> Prof. Debus thanked Prof. Jawien who finished his mandate as Past President, Prof. Vermassen whose mandate of Education &amp; Training Committee (ETC) Chairman terminates, and Prof. Naylor as outgoing Editor in Chief of the journal. Prof. Debus informed the Council that the outcomes of the online vote was in favour of granting Honorary Membership to Mr. Simon Parvin (20 votes in favour, 1 against). <u>Membership:</u> To date ESVS counts 1,818 members which is less than the previous year. Prof. Debus reminded the Council to actively promote membership in their countries. In addition, ESVS is seeking full country membership. For this the Council support will also be highly appreciated. Actions were taken in order to increase membership:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Automated renewal system in progress</li> <li>- Frequent email renewal reminders</li> <li>- New offer for National Societies: group membership or full society</li> </ul> <p>New communication channels have started to reach members through LinkedIn and Twitter. <u>Annual Meeting:</u> Registration numbers at Copenhagen are similar to Porto 2015 and ESVS hopes to reach 1,300 participants. Full member registrations have decreased, whilst EVSTR registrations have increased, showing that ESVS' focus on training is important. Abstract submission numbers were the highest ever achieved this year. Industry supports ESVS although the amounts are overall decreasing. But the ESVS leadership is striving to re-establish long term partnerships with industry. <u>Achievements:</u></p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New website</li> <li>- New sub-title: “Specialists in Vascular HealthCare”</li> <li>- Rules for endorsement and barter agreements</li> <li>- Clinical trial centres and fellowship databases in progress</li> <li>- Task Force in place working on future membership structure and meetings</li> <li>- New Volodos keynote lecture</li> <li>- New ongoing trial session and industry beaking news session at the Annual Meeting</li> </ul> <p><u>Grants:</u> In September 3 Educational Travel Grants will be offered, as well as 1 Research Grant.</p> <p><u>2020 Annual Meeting Destination Selection:</u> Following the call for proposals sent to Councillors, 2 offers were received, from Belfast and Krakow. Financial offers are respectively 140k€ and 60k€ making the Krakow offer financially very attractive. ExCo decided to wait for the next Council meeting to make a final decision. In the meanwhile, industry feedback on both possible venues will be searched for, since their needs will play an important role.</p> <p><u>Strategic direction:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2017-2019: reaching sustainability</li> <li>- 2020-2022: growth</li> </ul> <p>How will this happen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Annual Meeting’s business model review (idea of a Vascular Week: 1 focus per day, with a hub in the middle of the week for more generalist topics. Scientific sessions in the morning, followed by “state of the art lectures” (what do we know in 2017 that we didn’t know in 2016), followed by courses and training/workshops in the second part of the day.</li> <li>- Long-term industry partnerships</li> <li>- Membership restructure</li> <li>- Journal publisher’s contract renewal</li> </ul>	
4	<p><b>Treasurer’s Report</b></p> <p>Prof. Cohnert reported that she was happy because ESVS has gone through worst times before. She reminded the Council of the main activities generating income and expenses. She then presented the 2014 results in comparison with 2015. In 2015 the overall result reached +300k€ mainly thanks to a good meeting in Porto. Prof. Cohnert thanked Prof. Mansilha as the Porto local Chairman, as well as Lieven Marien and Anastasia Duval from MCI.</p> <p>Prof. Cohnert reported on the support costs, and showed a 2016 summary budget. For the first time for years, ESVS was able to put back 100k€ into the reserves, as promised to the Council. Thus the total funds are climbing again for a long time.</p> <p>To conclude:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 2015 showed the best results for many years despite double administration cost</li> <li>- The treasurer continues to work towards reaching 1.2m€ to 1.5m€ total funds</li> <li>- The overall society’s results still relies on the Annual Meeting result. Thus the importance of careful destination selection because the venue has a high impact on the conference budget.</li> </ul> <p>The Greek Councillor commented that there was no innovation forum at ESVS and that was an issue. Prof. Debus replied that ExCo is in intense discussion with industry on this topic.</p>	
5	<p><b>Editor’s Report</b></p>	



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	<p>Prof. Naylor first reported on the sad death of a dear and very active member of the Editorial Board's team, Dr Paola De Rango. He then updated the Council on the journal's activities, including an increase in submission of original articles, the growth of the Impact Factor, the active development of guidelines. He pointed out that it was the end of his term as Editor in Chief after 10 years in the Editorial Board. The Board has been working hard on improving the journal, as well as on providing assistance to authors and readers. He thanked all Editorial Board members without whom all this could not have happened. Prof. Naylor eventually introduced his successor Prof. Kolh, and Dr Florian Dick as Senior Editor.</p>	
6	<p><b>Guidelines Committee Report</b> Prof. Kolh reported on the guidelines' development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chronic Venous Disease: published in June 2015</li> <li>- DTA: approved, now 2<sup>nd</sup> proof reading. Publication scheduled in January 2017.</li> <li>- Vascular Access: 4<sup>th</sup> review starting. Publication scheduled in 2017.</li> <li>- Carotid &amp; Vertebral: 1<sup>st</sup> review soon. Publication scheduled in 2017.</li> <li>- Mesenteric: to be published in 2017.</li> <li>- AAA: to be published in 2018.</li> <li>- Joint ESC-ESVS guidelines: to be published in 2017.</li> <li>- Joint ESVS-SVS-WFVS guidelines: to be published in 2017.</li> </ul>	
7	<p><b>Education and Training Committee Report</b> Prof. Vermassen reported on the ETC activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Workshops organised outside the Annual Meeting are for most of them fully booked</li> <li>- Workshops organised at the Annual Meeting: 95 participants in Copenhagen (in comparison with 73 last year in Porto)</li> <li>- The e-Learning group works on MCQ in the journal, Annual Meeting videos</li> <li>- Future development: the idea of a workshop week in discussion.</li> <li>- Prof. Vermassen's term of office as ETC Chairman terminates. He is replaced by Assoc Prof. Jonas Eiberg.</li> </ul> <p>The Greek Councillor asked whether ESVS surveyed trainees to understand what courses they want. Prof. Vermassen answered that there is an EVST representative within the ETC. In addition, Prof. Björck informed the Council that the EVST Secretary General will be invited in ExCo meetings, and that a Council vote is expected in April aiming to have the EVST Secretary General as an official ExCo member (bye-laws change would be necessary after the vote, if in favour).</p>	
8	<p><b>Officers' elections:</b> Prof. Debus presented the election process.</p> <p>a) President Elect (Presidency year: 2018). Candidates presenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Ross Naylor, UK</li> <li>• Prof. Alison Halliday, UK</li> </ul> <p>Prof. Halliday was elected with the simple majority of the votes.</p> <p>b) Deputy President Elect (Presidency year 2019). Candidates presenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Tina Cohnert, Austria</li> <li>• Prof. Henrik Sillesen, Denmark</li> <li>• Prof. Athanasios Giannoukas, Greece</li> <li>• Prof. Stéphan Haulon, France</li> </ul> <p>Prof. Sillesen and Prof. Haulon reached the highest numbers of votes on the first round. A second vote was carried out, whereby Prof. Sillesen was elected with simple majority.</p>	



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	<p>c) Treasurer (starting office in September 2017). Candidates presenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof. Michael Wyatt, UK</li><li>• Prof. Pirkka Vikatmaa, Finland</li><li>• Prof. Frank Vermassen, Belgium</li></ul> <p>Prof. Vikatmaa was elected with simple majority.</p>	
9	<p>Annual meetings</p> <p>a) Copenhagen 2016 update – <i>numbers previously presented in the Secretary's report</i></p> <p>b) 2017 Annual Meeting, Lyon</p> <p>Prof. Björck made a presentation on the 2017 Lyon Annual Meeting to the Council. He introduced his ideas on the programme and social programme. Following a comment from a Councillor that there was not enough focus on vascular access, it was agreed that discussions on the Vascular Access guidelines will be included within the programme.</p> <p>c) 2020 Annual Meeting: destination selection – <i>previously discussed during the Secretary's report</i></p>	
10	<p>The next meeting takes place in London (UK) in connection with the Charing Cross meeting: Tuesday, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2017 8:00-13:00, venue to be announced.</p>	