

MINUTES EFIC COUNCIL MEETING 2015

Date: 1 September 2015

Start: 13:30

Venue: Marriott by Courtyard Wien Messe, Trabrennstrasse 4, 1020 Vienna, Austria

Present: all members of Executive board and 32 Councilors, 4 Councilors gave proxy votes, Apostol Vaso was absent. (See appendix 1 for full list.)

Welcome

13:30: The meeting was opened by CW at 13.30. He welcomed all Councillors and invitees. He thanked them for their work over the ten months since the last meeting. He introduced those new members present – Adrian Belii for Moldova, Thomas Tölle for Germany and Michail Arons for Latvia. Proxies had been received from the Councilor from Poland, Andrzej Basinski, to HK and from Silviu Brill for Israel, to EE, Brona Fullen, for Ireland, to CW and Syleyman Ozyalcsin for Turkey, to BM.

1. The Minutes had been previously submitted to Councillors for review. The minutes were proposed by William Campbell of the UK and seconded for approval by Thomas Tölle of Germany. **The minutes of the Council meeting 11/11/2014 were unanimously approved.**
2. EFIC Executive Board Reports
 - a. President's report– CW reported on the 5th Societal Impact of Pain Meeting, 17th/18th November 2014. He gave an update on the European Journal of Pain, this is now on-line. The new Editor-in-Chief from January 1st 2016 will be Luis Garcia-Larrea from Lyon, France. Bart Morlion will become the second Deputy Editor. He confirmed that the meeting in Dubrovnik, the first EFIC Topical Symposium on Acute and Chronic Joint Pain would take place from the evening of 21st September to 23rd of September, immediately preceded by the next Council Meeting on 21st September, with lunch at 12.30 and the meeting from 13.30 to 17.00.
He reported on the progress of the curriculum development, which would lead to a “European Pain Federation Certificate of Proficiency in Pain Management” (CPPM) and a Part II Medical Diploma, the “European Pain Federation Diploma in Pain Medicine (EDPM), with the first exams planned for 24th September in Dubrovnik. He announced details of the forthcoming “Pain in Europe Congress over the next four days, and thanked Chris Eccleston and all the relevant committees for their hard work in planning. He reported on the two new EFIC Pain Schools, one on Cancer Pain and one on Research and was pleased with the outstanding overall quality of these new Schools. He announced the defining of contributions for contributing members (by-law 6, B) as being € 100/ year for three years. (See appended report 2a)
 - b. Honorary Secretary report–Nevenka Krceviski-Skvarc: (See appended report 2b)
 - c. EYAP: / GYAP – Bart Morlion: BM reported that the 2016 fact sheets on Joint Pain were ready and would be uploaded onto the EFIC website soon, for distribution. A press conference had been planned on 14 January 2016 in Brussels. The 2017 topic was on acute and chronic pain after surgery. EFIC will work with IASP in a joint collaboration. The 2018 topic had been agreed as education in pain. The EXB had approved this; the IASP Board still had to discuss it and ratify it at their Council meeting. **The Councilors approved this topic.**

- BM reported that the year against joint pain might have some overlap with EULAR, and we were keen to involve them, to support and endorse it. They would be involved in the EFIC 1st Topical Symposium in Dubrovnik, which is being carefully assessed and monitored by the EFIC EXB.
- d. SIP 2016 – Bart Morlion presented 4 top strategic opportunities to address the societal impact of pain: Pain as health indicator, European Framework for chronic diseases and multi-morbidity, EU recommendations for high quality cancer survivorship care and rehabilitation and European Semester – Measures on rehabilitation and reintegration of workers. The Councilors are encouraged to look for their national contact person on the EU website (see link: <https://semesteralliance.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/2014-semester-alliance-toolkit-annex-2-who-to-contact.pdf>) in order to find and contact this EU Ambassador person in their respective countries with whom they can correspond to raise the awareness of chronic pain so that the EU Ambassador of the countries can mention this in their regular reports to the EU Commission in order to get this in the EU Commission Agenda. See full report appended.
 - e. Honorary Treasurer Report –Elon Eisenberg reviewed the financial position, and explained that we had taken the opportunity of an advantageous rate to change our Swiss Franc holdings into Euros (see appended report 2e) The report of the annual accounts was presented formally to the Council.
3. Report of the Audit Committee –Chair, Rudolf Likar: RL stated that he had inspected the financial statements, and that the EFIC audit committee approved them.
 4. Council Approval of financial report 2014: CW asked for a motion for approval of the annual accounts and audit report 2014. Proposer Rudolf Likar. Seconder Thomas Tölle and William Campbell. **The motion was carried unanimously by the Council.**
 5. Approval of decisions made by EFIC Executive Board
 - a. EU Liaison – Bart Morlion: see point 2d for more information.
 - b. Chair of Election Committee- replacing Michael Zenz, appointment of Thomas Arendt-Nielsen
 - c. Patient Liaison Committee: Chair Chris Wells, present members: Bart Morlion, Neil Betteridge, Joop Van Griensven, Pete Moore, Mariano Votta, Mary Baker, Jean Gaffin, Marios Kouloumas, Dieter Wiek.
 - d. Task Force on Post Graduate Core Curriculum and Pain Exam/Diploma for Europe
 - e. EYAP 2016 Joint Pain Committee members: Chairs: Serge Perrot and Bart Morlion.
 - f. First Topical Symposium, Dubrovnik, Chairs Chris Wells, Serge Perrot, Scientific Programme Committee - Elon Eisenberg, Mira Fingler, Bart Morlion, Dragan Primorac and Simon Vulfsons.
 - g. Contributing Members – Definition and rationale has been set and can be read on the EFIC website. People can (on the EFIC website) download an application form to become a contributing member.
 - h. Day against Arthritis, 12th October 2015. Call to the Councillors to join this campaign within their countries.
 - i. Letter against stop vivisection campaign, citizen initiative to the EU– Luis Villanueva reported on this letter to the EFIC Board and the Research Committee drew up a letter in response, which has been sent to the European Parliament in support of continuing animal research for translational medicine and for veterinary care. The EU responded that a debate will be organized in the EU Parliament.
All the above listed decisions taken by the EFIC EXB were unanimously approved by the Council.

6. European Journal of Pain + introduction of new Editor-in-Chief– Hermann Handwerker: (see appended report 6) Prof Hermann Handwerker was appointed by the EFIC Executive Board and the Council as an Honorary Member of the European Pain Federation EFIC in recognition of his many years of work as Editor in Chief of the EJP.. Luis Garcia-Larrea is taking over the Editor-in-Chief position and is in recognition of his many years of work as Editor in Chief of the EJ, already working with the new Editorial Office and Wiley to work on a strategic plan to increase the impact factor of the European Journal of Pain and to improve access using mobile phone apps and social media.
7. EFIC Committee Reports
 - a. Committee on Research –Chair, Luis Villanueva: (see appended report 7a) **No questions from the Council.**
 - b. Committee on Education – Chair, Andreas Kopf (report Comm. + Pain Exam): see (see appended report 7b). **No questions from the Council.**
 - c. Committee on Website & Newsletter – Chair, Bart Morlion: (see appended report 7c) Bart is stepping down as Chair of the Website & Newsletter, new Chair is appointed during the Council meeting 2015. Report on Website, newsletter and Social Media (Facebook, YouTube and congress Twitter #efic2015) presented by Melinda Borzsak.
8. EFIC “Pain in Europe IX” congress 2015 Vienna/ 2017 Copenhagen
 - a. Report Chair of the SPC, Christopher Eccleston: CE asked the Councillors to get involved in the meeting as much as possible. We all should view poster and talk to the poster presenters. He thanked the EXB for embracing his appointment as Chair of the Scientific Programme Committee and for the opportunity he had been given to be part of the important expanding work of the European Pain Federation. He felt that those people driving EFIC were very capable, and were bringing the Federation to a higher level than previously. CW thanked Chris for his work, which he had done extremely well, and asked him to pass on our thanks to the members of the Scientific Programme Committee. He felt that the programme itself was outstanding, with excellent plenaries, good workshops and three very important debates.
 - b. Report Chair of the LOC, HGK: Presidents Dinner will be held in the National Library and all Councilors are invited. During the dinner the ceremony of the EFIC Book Adoption of the book De Dolore Libre will be presented. The Networking dinner will be held in the Klosterneuburg Monastery and again all Councilors are invited.
 - c. Book, Pain in Europe, Copenhagen, 2017: Chris Eccleston reported that a book “Pain in Europe” is planned for the Copenhagen meeting, September 2017. There will be a chapter about each IASP Chapter. **Councillors will be asked to write their Chapter, or to ensure someone else does, by June 2016, using a proforma template. The book will be presented to each delegate at the congress 2017.**
9. Nominations new EFIC Member-at-Large for Website & Newsletter (Chair of Election Nomination Committee – Thomas Graven-Nielsen): TGN reported that 3 eligible candidates had been put forward: Juan Perez-Cajaraville (Spain), Brona Fullen (Ireland) and Brindusa Ilinca Mitsiou (Romania). Two had subsequently withdrawn. Dr Brona Fullen was the only candidate forthcoming. She had intended to be present at the meeting, but unfortunately had missed her flight connection and was not able to attend the Council meeting. She presented her apologies and her formal proxy had been given to CW.

Presentation of the nominee: Name: Brona M Fullen, details appended.



Manual voting took place and the **majority of Council approved Brona Fullen as Member at Large**. By affirmation therefore, Brona Fullen is the new member of the EFIC Executive Board as Member-at-Large responsible for EFIC Website, Newsletter and Social Media as from 1 September 2015, for a term of 2 years.

- 10. The next Council meeting will take place in Dubrovnik on 21 September 2016. CW asked the Councillors to save this date in their diaries. Also to remember to encourage and support application for the educational initiatives, such as Pain Schools, and Fellowships. Another task is the Book Chapter, and also Councillors should note European Semesters can help individual countries to get better facilities!**

There being no other relevant business, the President thanked all for their attention and for attending. The meeting was concluded at 15:58.

All appendixes attached.

Appendix 1:

Council Meeting - 1 September 2015 - Vienna

	Country	Name	Proxy yes, to whom
1	Executive Board	Hans Georg Kress	
2	Executive Board	Nevenka Krcevski Skvarc	
3	Executive Board	Chris Wells	
4	Executive Board	Bart Morlion	
5	Executive Board	Elon Eisenberg	
6	EFIC Office	Christel Geevels	
7	EFIC Office	Sarah Darley	
8	Albania	Apostel Vaso	Absent
9	Austria	Rudolf Likar	
10	Belgium	Anne Berquin	
11	Bosnia Herzegovina	Amira Karkin Tais	
12	Bulgaria	Ivan Smilov	
13	Croatie	Mira Fingler	
14	Czech Republic	Richard Rokyta	
15	Denmark	Thomas Graven Nielsen	
16	Estonia	Kaire Pakkonen	
17	Finland	Nora Hagelberg	
18	France	Luis Villanueva	
19	Germany	Thomas Tölle	
20	Greece	Manuel Anastasiou	
21	Hungary	Janos Szolcsanyi	
22	Ireland	Brona Fullen	Chris Wells
23	Israel	Silviu Brill	Elon Eisenberg
24	Italy	Stefano Coccacioli	
25	Kosovo	Adem Bytyqi	
26	Latvia	Mihails Arons	
27	Lithuania	Arunas Sciupokas	
28	Norway	Gunnvald Kvarstein	
29	Poland	Andrzej Basinski	Hans Kress
30	Portugal	Ana Valentim	
31	Romania	Sarah Adriana Nica	
32	Russia	Maxim Churyukanov	
33	San Marino	Daniele Battelli	
34	Serbia	Miroslava Pjevic	
35	Slovakia	Marta Kulichova	
36	Slovenia	Marija Cesar Komar	
37	Spain	Juan Perez	

38	Sweden	Malin Ernberg	
39	Switzerland	Christine Cedraschi	
40	The Netherlands	Gertie Filippini	
41	Turkey	Suleyman Ozyalcin	Bart Morlion
42	Ukraine	Volodymyr Romanenko	
43	United Kingdom	William Campbell	
44	Moldovia	Adrian Belii	
	Special Invites		
45	Hermann Handwerker	EJP	
46	Chris Eccleston	SPC 2015	
47	Andreas Kopf	Comm on EDU	
48	Luis Garcia Larrea	EJP	
49	Thomas Tölle	SPC 2017	