

European Prosthodontic Association

Annual Business Meeting

14:00 17th September 2004

Pine Bay Hotel, Kusadasi, Izmir, Turkey

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Professor Spiechowicz, Professor Jerolimov, Dr Prieskel, Dr Polyzois and Dr Zitzman.

2. Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, Geneva, 2003

Minutes of last year's AMB were issued and members given several minutes to read them. Some minor corrections were made with respect to the judges for the EPA and Quintessence awards.

3. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

4. Candidates for membership

There were 15 applications for membership (the list of names had been displayed on the conference notice board and is attached to these minutes). Their names were presented to the ABM. Members unanimously approved their election. The Honorary Secretary then welcomed the new members to the Association.

5. Election of Officers

At the end of this conference Professor Wieslaw Hedzelek, in association with the Polish Dental Association will become President. Professor Atilla User will become Immediate Past President. Professor Paul Wright, in association with the British Prosthodontic Conference, will become First President Elect. Professor Paul Economu will become Second President Elect. The following are Past Presidents who sit on Council: Professor Urs Belser, Professor Vjekoslav Jerolimov, Dr Josef Vacek, and Professor Warner Kalk. Dr Arturo Ruiz-Capillas completes his term of office and will retire from Council.

The elected members of Council were Dr T Narhi (2001-2004), Dr Mutlu Ozcan (2002-2005) and Dr Sven Rinke (2003-2006). Professor Pekka Vallittu was elected to serve on Council for (2005-2008).

The outgoing Honorary Secretary stated that he had been unable to contact Dr S Rinke, either by e-mail or ordinary mail, and Dr Rinke was not attending this conference. Council therefore assumed that Dr Rinke was unable to fulfil his obligations to the Association and therefore invited Dr Timo Narhi to continue as a Council member for a further Year. Dr Narhi kindly agreed to extend his term of office.

Dr Mark Packer again announced his intention to resign as Treasurer next year, so a replacement must be found. Unfortunately, no nominations have been made nor has anyone expressed an interest in the post of Treasurer. Members at the ABM were therefore asked to consider suitable candidates in time for next year's meeting.

Mr J Wilson has completed his probationary year as Honorary Assistant Secretary and will now become Secretary. Council warmly thanked Dr Richard Welfare for his contribution as Honorary Secretary to the Association. Council also invited Dr Welfare to remain on Council as an Assistant to the Honorary Secretary for one further year – which he kindly accepted.

Honorary Editor (Honorary Web-Master). Dr Dugagjin Sokoli was co-opted for a further year as web-master.

6. Election of Auditors

Both Dr H Prieskel and Dr M Barsby were willing to continue as Honorary Auditors for the Association.

7. Election of Honorary Members.

Council proposed Professor Bengt Owall as a new Honorary Member and his nomination was approved unanimously.

8. Scientific Programme

The President, Professor User, reported that there should be 117 EPA members attending this conference with a total of 389 delegates and accompanying persons. 117 poster presentations and 73 oral presentations had been accepted and there were 14 invited speakers giving a total of 204 abstracts. 20 countries from across the world were represented (Austria, Bosnia Herzegovina, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Iraq, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Persia, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, UK).

9. Honorary Secretary's Report

The membership of the Association last year numbered 532. Since the last conference one resignation has been received (Dr F de Vries). 15 new memberships have been approved. The total membership is now 546.

The Honorary Secretary and Assistant Secretary visited Poznan, Poland at the invitation of the President Elect, Professor Hedzelek to inspect the conference facilities for next year. Everything was found to be satisfactory. Council considered future venues for the Annual Conference. Although not finalised at present, the 2006 meeting will be held in London under the Presidency of Professor P Wright, and the 2007 meeting should be held in Athens under the Presidency of Professor P Economu.

The Oxford Lecture next year (2005) will be presented by Professor E Spiechowicz.

In correspondence, Dr W Murphy again raised the issue of insurance against adverse events happening at conference or causing cancellation of conference at short notice. This matter was discussed at length in Council and by the Trustees. Individual delegates are responsible

for arranging their own insurance against loss for both travel and personal liability. When travelling abroad on official business employers often provide such insurance. The responsibility for Conference expenses and liabilities is that of the President who should ensure that adequate insurance is arranged. As most conferences are organised by a professional conference organising body, the president should ensure that this insurance is included within the conference fees. Some past-presidents have commented that they arranged this themselves and that the cost was not onerous. However, the point was made that in today's world of terrorist attacks, incidents could happen anywhere at any time and it was important to take account of such eventualities. Council advised that future presidents should be reminded of this responsibility.

10. Honorary Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer reported that the income from membership subscriptions had recovered in comparison with previous years. The Treasurer drew the attention of members to the fact that the income of the Association covered the expenses involved in the running of the Association but would not support the Rowland Fereday and Sidney Barratt Travel awards indefinitely. The original idea was that the income from the capital reserves would support the award of these grants, but present interest rates do not generate sufficient income. Funding should be one of the factors taken into consideration as part of the discussions about the future of the Association. The EPA could afford to fund the oral and poster presentation prizes when sponsorship was not available. In future these prizes will be referred to as EPA prizes and, when appropriate, sponsored by whoever will fund the prize for that conference.

The Honorary Treasurer informed the Association that his unusually high expenses recorded in the balance sheet were, in fact, for the previous three years and not just last year.

Council has proposed that the annual membership subscription should be raised to £12 sterling (or euro equivalent). With the European Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry subscription now at £20, the combined subscription would be £32.

The Honorary Treasurer was looking into the possibility of setting up of a Bank Account in Euros.

The Honorary Treasurer informed the meeting that he would definitely be resigning immediately after the next ABM.

11. Honorary Editor's Report

The Association does not have an Honorary Editor at present and therefore there was no report. Council has proposed that the new EPA website should be the vehicle for communication with members, and anyone else who wants information about EPA events. The post of Honorary Web-master was therefore created on a provisional basis and Dr Dugagjin Sokoli kindly volunteered to set up the new EPA web-site. Unfortunately, Dr Sokoli will not arrive in time for the Annual Business Meeting so will not be able to present his report. However, the new web-site is up and running and can be accessed by members at www.epadental.org. In addition to containing the Association's newsletter, the website will also contain the proceedings and relevant membership information. There will also be a private (password protected) members' section for personal details.

The old web-site, maintained at the Eastman Dental Hospital, had now been removed. Anyone trying to access this old site should automatically be re-directed to the new web-site with a hyperlink

The Honorary secretary and Assistant Secretary will, with the approval of both Council and the ABM, discuss the future development of this web-site with Dr Sokoli.

Council was aware that few members knew about the web-site at present. The Honorary Secretary encouraged members present to visit the website. It was his intention to contact members personally to establish correct e-mail addresses and other membership details. The outgoing Honorary Secretary commented that it was easy to incorrectly record e-mail addresses. However, if all members were to send a contact e-mail to the Honorary Secretary a correct e-mail address list could easily be established.

12. Report of the meeting (Copenhagen) to discuss Specialisation in Europe.

Professor Bengt Owall had made a presentation to this conference on this subject. A report had been prepared and it was hoped that this would be published in a prosthodontic journal. The intention was for the report to be published in the International Journal of Prosthodontics and the former editor (Professor G Carlsson) had provided encouragement, but the editorship had recently changed to Professor G Zarb who was not so positive, saying that there would be very little interest from the International Prosthodontic Community. He also recommended some changes to the paper which were unacceptable, so the paper was withdrawn. Professor Owall warned the membership that they could experience difficulties when submitting papers to the Int J P. It was hoped that this paper would be published in a European journal

Dr R Welfare then commented on the future of the EPA. He suggested developing a questionnaire about the structure of the EPA that will be considered by Council at next year's meeting before distributing the questionnaire. Members were also invited to submit their thoughts directly to the Honorary Secretary.

13. Rowland Fereday Award

There was still confusion about the regulations for the above award and the Sidney Barratt Travel Grant. Applicants were applying for the Rowland Fereday Award for travelling expenses to conferences, when they should have applied for the Sidney Barratt Award. The Trustees discussed these problems and have decided that the regulations for these awards should be simplified and made clearer. It is hoped to finalise the new regulations at the next Trustees meeting.

There was one expression of interest about the Rowland Fereday Award, but this was after the official closing date and the candidate was not supported. He was advised of the regulations and encouraged to re-apply for next year.

An application for this award was made in 2003 that was considered by the Trustees but referred back for further development. Dr Dubravka Knezovic Zlataric (Zagreb) resubmitted the application and it was reconsidered again by the Trustees who have agreed that the award should be made. Congratulations were offered to Dr Zlataric.

14 Sidney Barratt Travel Grant

The Trustees agreed the revised regulations for the Sidney Barratt Travel Grant. Entrants should be young graduates with less than 5 years qualification, or Final Year undergraduate students. They should make a poster presentation at the Annual Conference of a relevant clinical audit or student research project. The abstract should be submitted with a letter of support from the Prosthodontics Department where they trained. The winner(s) will be selected by a committee of the President, the Honorary Secretary and a Trustee. Applications must be received at least 6 weeks before the abstract closing date for the conference so that the President can ensure that the presentation fits in with the programme.

There was one joint application for a travelling award to present a poster at this year's meeting. The Trustees decided to award the Sidney Barratt Travel Grant to Dr Petr Simunek and Dr Prokop Radina from Prague, Czech Republic.

15. EPA Oral Presentation Prize and EPA Poster Prize

Dentsply were no longer sponsoring the prize for the best oral presentation. Quintessence were sponsoring the conference from their local office this year so were unable to sponsor the prize for the best poster presentation. The prize would therefore be funded directly by the EPA as the EPA Poster Prize. Council therefore decided that, in future, these prizes would be made as EPA prizes. If a sponsor was found for any prize then their name would be included in the title of the prize and they would be given recognition at the Annual Business Meeting.

There were two entries for the **EPA Oral Presentation Prize**. The judges for this year were Professor W Kalk, Professor P Wright and Professor E Budtz Jorgensen. The winners of the EPA prize for 2004 were Dr U Hasanreisoglu, Dr S Berksun, Dr K Aras and Dr I Arslan for their paper: "An analysis of maxillary anterior teeth facial and dental proportions".

The judges for this year's **EPA Poster Prize** were Dr D Davies, Dr Timo Harhi and Dr M Ozcan. The winners of the EPA Poster prize for 2004 were Dr D Sen and Dr G Akgungar for their presentation: "Shear bond strength of two composite core materials after using all-in-one and single bottle dentin adhesives".

16. European Journal of Prosthodontics and Restorative Dentistry

Unfortunately, another change of editor has disadvantaged the Association. Whereas Professor P Wright was willing to publish the proceedings of the EPA conference in the EJPRD the new editor, Professor Mark Thomason, is refusing to do so because of the cost implications, as well of lack of standardisation of abstracts and presentations. However, he is encouraging members to submit original research papers to the EJPRD and will consider publishing some abstracts – if they are presented in IADR format. Council has agreed that this is a good idea and will advise future presidents to request this in their call for abstracts.

It is not yet clear if the EJPRD is listed in the Citation Index, although moves for recognition were started by Professor Wright when he was editor. The Honorary Secretary was tasked with finding out if the EJPRD is listed in the citation index.

17. 29th Annual Conference: Poznan, Poland 2005

Professor Wieslaw Hedzelek made a short presentation about his conference next year. He announced that he had changed the original conference venues! The conference will be held in a newly opened conference centre and at the new "state of the art" Dental School. He

invited all members to join him in Poland. Details of the conference would soon be available on the conference web-site www.epa2005.pl

18. 30th Annual Conference: London, UK, 2006

Profess or P Wright will host the 2006 conference. Details have not yet been formalised, but it is hoped to hold the conference in conjunction with the British Prosthodontic Conference meeting, 2-4 November.

19. Any other business

There being no other business, the meeting was closed.