

EEG and Clinical Neuroscience Council Meeting, September 2008.

Date of the meeting: September 10, 2008
Location: Frankfurt, Germany
Present: Ivan Bodis-Wollner (President [IBW])
Silvana Galderisi (President Elect, Secretary [SG]),
David Cantor (Treasurer, Past President [DC])
Norman Moore (Chief Editor of the ECNS Journal [NM])
Oliver Pogarell (Councilor at large [OP])
Bernd Saletu (Councilor at large [BS])
Dean Salisbury (Councilor at large [DS])
Andrei Vedeniapen (Councilor at large [AV])
Peter Bernad (ABEN President [PB])
Kenneth Moss (Observer [KM])
Armida Mucci (Observer [AM])

Meeting Agenda

Old business

1. Welcome (IBW)
2. Secretary report: Minutes from the 2007 council meeting; new councilors, thanks to councilors rotating out, decision to move the financial operation location (SG)
3. Treasurer report: finances, new offices and bookkeeper (DC)
4. Program committee (OP for Gerard Bruder)
5. ABEN/ECNS report (IBW); Discussion on ABEN/ECNS report (PB,DC, NM)
6. Resolution on the EEG position paper – EBM symposium and Journal issue (NM)

New business

7. Discussion of ways to obtain support for fellows attending (All)
8. ABEN/ECNS proposal, forming committees (All)
9. The 2009 Atlanta meeting: program, funding efforts, overall organizing and local organizing committees (IBW and DC)
10. Financial planning (DC)
11. Clinical EEG – Journal Report (N. Moore)
12. Committee Reports
 - Membership Committee (SG for E. Stevens)
 - Publication & Web Committee (SG)
 - Program Committee (OP)
 - Examination Committee (SG for L. Pritchep)
 - ECNS Chapters (OP, SG)
 - Pharmaco-EEG committee and links to IPEG (BS, SG, IBW)

Old Business

1. The President welcomes those present and illustrates the agenda.
2. The Secretary reviews the list of current council members: Ivan Bodis-Wollner (President), Silvana Galderisi (President Elect and Secretary), David Cantor (Treasurer and Past President), Norman Moore (Chief Editor Clinical EEG & Neuroscience) and the following Councilors at large: Hans Breiter, Pierre Flor-Henry, Benjamin Greenberg, Ronald Hering, Oliver Pogarell, Bernd Saletu, Dean Salisbury, Emily Stevens, Antonio Strafella, Michael Trimble, Andrei Vedeniapen. The presence of the ABEN President (PB) and his role in the Council is acknowledged. Thanks to Councilors rotating out (Gerard Bruder, Kemal Arikan, Lukasz Konopka and Robert Weinmann) for their contribution to ECNS are expressed. The minutes of the 2007 meeting in Montreal (Canada) are read and approved by all. The decision process about centralizing all the administration (excluding the journal administration) in Georgia, where the Treasurer's office is located, is summarized and the final decision of the Council to approve this change is reported. Secretary's report is approved by all.

3. The treasurer (DC) presents a brief report on the steps taken to improve the management of membership renewal and account functions. He informs the board that he cannot present a proper account since he received the books only in February 2008. He also reports that Kevin Kjellberg sent him a membership list that was made available on the website. In the next weeks it will be possible to pay membership online and to have the option of automatic renewal (credit card charge) unless the member withdraw his consent. DC informed the board that ECNS members are approximately 311 (this number is possibly inflated as not all of them are paying members). By the end of November, DC will send an update and a financial report. SG proposes to have an external auditor, independent from the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and DC, who are doing the bookkeeping. NM proposes to have DC and the CPA completing the work and then to have an external auditor. SG proposes to make the decision in advance to have an external auditor after the bookkeeping will be completed. All councilors vote in favor of this proposal, only DS abstains.
OP reports on the work of the program committee for the present congress, and underscores the high scientific quality of sessions and speakers. 17 travel awards were given to young investigators world-wide from USA, Canada, China, Australia, Israel, and Europe.
4. IBW thanks PB for attending the council meeting and invites him to address the issue of ABEN board examination and possible collaboration with ECNS.
5. PB reports on ABEN activities, in particular EEG board certification (and sub-board certification, such as pediatric EEG, quantitative EEG and evoked potentials). A discussion follows on the history of ECNS and ABEN relationships. NM underscores the lack of ABEN representatives participation in the ECNS activities and Council meetings for many years. It is clarified that ABEN examination is mainly for MDs, especially for neurologists. IBW observes that the ECNS aims to design a certification procedure for psychiatrists and non-MD professionals. He also proposes to form an ECNS working group for establishing the new certification process. The following members are designated for the working group: Dean Salisbury (who will coordinate the group), Nash Boutros, Silvana Galderisi, Norman Moore, Oliver Pogarell, Bernd Saletu and Kenneth Moss. PB will organize a meeting in Atlanta or a course on MD board certification.
6. The issue of the EEG position paper is discussed and NM illustrates steps taken in preparation of a largely shared, scientifically-supported view about the position paper. In particular, the EBM symposia which will be held in the present ECNS/ISNIP congress, will include several systematic reviews and EBM classification of research in the field of electrophysiology in psychiatry. The contributions will be published in 2009 in a special issue of the journal and will form the basis of the debate among members for a final position paper.

New Business

7. Ways to obtain support for fellows attending were discussed but no concrete proposals emerged from the discussion.
8. IBW proposes to form an ECNS working group for establishing the new board certification process, closer to the aims of ECNS. The following members are designated for the working group: Dean Salisbury (who will coordinate the group), Nash Boutros, Silvana Galderisi, Norman Moore, Oliver Pogarell, Bernd Saletu and Kenneth Moss. PB will organize a meeting in Atlanta or a course on MD board certification.
A change to the bylaws is proposed: Article VI, Section 2, relating to the election and term of the officers is changed with a simple insertion: "... All Officers shall hold office for two consecutive years. *The President, Secretary and Treasurer* may serve no more than two (2) consecutive two year terms", so that the President can serve two terms. IBW is asked to serve two terms: he indicates that he will serve initially an extra year and will decide on stepping down after three or four years of presidency at which time the president elect SG takes over. SG will write to all members who need to renew the mandate. OP accepted to continue
9. For the Atlanta meeting an agreement is reached on the dates of September 10-13. IBW asks DC to try to find local institutions, societies and industries which can be involved and asked for support. IBW is heading the congress. He is to form the the scientific and program committee of the meeting. DC is going to form and head the local organizing committee.
10. DC recommend to increase the membership fee of \$12 for US and of \$18 for non-US members, to reflect the increase in the journal subscription rate. The proposal is accepted.
11. As to the journal, NM illustrates that it is necessary to increase the subscription rate from \$107 to \$119 (\$12 increase) for US and from \$129 to \$147 (\$18) for non-US members. The Editor also informs the audience about the planned special issues:

Date of release	Topic and/or Guest Editor
Jan 2009	Herning
July 2009	EBM papers/Geddes
October 2009	Rodin spikes
April 2010	Sleep/Armitage

October 2010 Laterality/Flor-Henry
To be defined Parkinson/Bodis-Wollner

Electronic reviews could be introduced, 2 types of review: Review and Bio-Review, password-protected on the website. DC and NM will try to define the budget of the journal. Two separate accounts will be kept but with only one accountant. DS raises the point of PDF availability and suggests to make them freely available for people accessing the website (to increase the citation rate and thus the impact factor of the journal). NM will investigate how much it would cost to realize the proposal. A large consensus is manifested on DS proposal. Catherine Demeter had all the editorial and money issues in her hands, it would be useful to start diffusion of knowledge on these issues. Guidelines for Editorial board should be created. NM and SG will circulate the bylaws and communicate to all members the rules.

12. Committee Reports

Membership Committee

SG reads the report sent by Emily Stevens. The proposal of expanding the electronic membership form is accepted and DS will take care of it; the proposal of reducing the membership fee for each referral is refused, while the proposal of preparing AMAZON as corporate member will give discount to ECNS members. DC will check the website membership list and will teach the current chair how to look through the website on several issues. The Membership committee is however still working on the membership list.

Publication & Web Committee

SG underlies the need to have a better coordination to update and check the website, since some items posted in it were never sent to her. She proposes to identify a person responsible for website updating and management. AV offers to help with website design. It is discussed the opportunity of constant update of links, deleting those which are no more active. The website committee will include: SG, AV, John Richards [JR], DC, OP. It is proposed that website administrative functions be limited to JR and councilors. DS will prepare a membership form to be added to the website and send it to JR

Program Committee

A general topic proposed for the Atlanta congress is "Why do we need to get together". A discussion follows on the need to have distinct societies cooperating in the field of Clinical Neuroscience which might organize into a Federation of societies.

Examination Committee

Dean will contact Leslie and Lukas for the examination committee.

ECNS Chapters (OP, SG)

Both OP and SG agree that for the time being the possibility of creating national chapters does not appear promising.

Pharmaco-EEG committee and links to IPEG

BS illustrates the aims and organization of IPEG. The common interests of the two societies are underscored. A discussion follows on the need to have distinct societies cooperating in the field of Clinical Neuroscience which might organize into a Federation of societies.

Overview Action Items

Action Number	Responsible Person(s)	Action to be taken
[01]	Galderisi	To write to all members who need to renew their mandate.
[02]	Moore	To investigate how much it would cost to realize the proposal of having PDFs available.
[03]	Cantor	To send an update on accounting and a financial report by the end of November; to find local institutions, societies and industries which can be involved in the Atlanta meeting and asked for support; to check the website membership list and to teach the current chair how to look through the website on several related issues.
[04]	Salisbury	To coordinate the working group on certification process; to contact Leslie Pritchep and Lukasz Konopka for the examination committee, informing of the working group; to prepare a membership form and send it to JR for the website.
[05]	Bernad	To organize a meeting or a course in Atlanta on MD board certification
[06]	Galderisi, Moore	To circulate the bylaws and communicate to all members the rules for renewal of the journal board.
[07]	Cantor, Moore	To define the budget of the journal.

