

## **Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology Annual Report 2018**

### **The Board of the Nordic Federation of Societies of Obstetrics and Gynecology (NFOG)**

President: Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann, Denmark

Secretary General: Maija Jakobsson, Finland

Treasurer: Espen Berner, Norway

National Representatives: Andreas Herbst and Eva Uustal (SFOG), Marit Lieng and Nils-Havdan Morken (NGF), Hannu Martikainen (SGY), Thomas Larsen and Hanne Brix Westergaard (DSOG), Alexander Smáráson (FÍFK)

Other members of the Board: Ganesh Acharya, Norway (AOGS Chief Editor), Ulrik Schiøler Kesmodel, Denmark and Antti Perheentupa, Finland (Scientific Committee Chair), Katrin Kristjánsdóttir, Iceland and Mervi Väisänen-Tommiska, Finland (Educational Committee Chair), Niels Uldbjerg, Denmark (Guidelines Committee Chair), Lars Ladfors (Webmaster), Elisabeth Frederika Rosen, Denmark (NFYOG), Bjarne Rønde Kristensen, Denmark (President of NFOG 2018) and Ragnheiður I. Bjarnadóttir (President of NFOG 2021)

Internal Auditors:

Thea Lousen, Denmark and Kevin Sunde Oppegaard, Norway

Deputy Auditor:

Elin Svensk, Sweden

External auditor:

Jesper Fenger Smidt, Aaen & Co, State Authorized public Accounting firm.

The Board of NFOG held three meetings during 2018. The minutes from these meetings are posted on the website.

The Board has introduced a declaration of interest form for the members of the NFOG Board and for the members of committees.

### **Economy, budget and accounts**

The economy of NFOG is supervised by treasurer Espen Berner. The income is derived from the membership fees, AOGS subscriptions and returns from the NFOG assets.

The expenditure is generated by the activity of AOGS, and the management costs generated by the Board, the NFOG Committees, and a possible deficit generated by the NFOG Congress. 66% of the budget surplus is transferred to the NFOG Fund, and is thus distributed to the members of NFOG.

The economy of NFOG is well balanced. The budget and accounts will be presented at the General Assembly in April, 2019.

## **NFOG congress 2018**

NFOG Congress was held in Odense, June 2018. It was very successful with more than had 800 participants from 29 countries. There was in total 13 pre-congress workshops with over 200 participants. The congress resulted in surplus, according to the statutes two thirds of the final surplus comes to the local organizing committee and one third to NFOG. CME points were applied for the courses.

The NFOG Board decided to give 10 grants of 5000 DDK to trainees who have an oral presentation, or a poster presentation accepted for NFOG Congresses 2018 and 2021.

## **AOGS (ACTA)**

Ganesh Acharya (GA) has been the Chief Editor of AOGS. The number of manuscript submissions per year has remained stable in the last few years. The rejection rate is around 80 % and it is still increasing. The average time from submission to first decision has been decreasing continuously since 2015. The number of articles submitted from English speaking countries has been increasing. The impact factor of AOGS has increased to 2.649 - the highest ever. AOGS is the fourth well considered Journal in general Obstetrics and Gynecology. Self-citation rate (5.5%) is lower than in many other journals. AOGS has regularly published special theme issues and they have been very popular.

Worldwide the proportion of subscription of journals shrank between 2012 and 2016 giving way to more open-access (OA) and hybrid journals.

The Board has decided that articles older than 12 months should be made freely available to read and download. Negotiation with Wiley (the publisher) about transition to OA publishing has started.

The Board accepted that "AOGS will encourages authors to share the data and other artefacts supporting the results in the paper by archiving it in an appropriate public repository. Authors are encouraged to include a data accessibility statement, including a link to the repository they have used, in order that this statement can be published alongside their paper.

## **NFOG Fund**

The Scientific Committee (SC) has worked actively for the NFOG fund. The NFOG Board has approved and decided to follow the nominations from the SC.

An annual report for the NFOG fund is posted on the website for further details.

## **Website**

([www.nfog.org](http://www.nfog.org)). Improvements for the website has been decided on in the board and introduced by webmaster Lars Ladfors.

## **Committees**

The Scientific Committee (SC) has been part of the NFOG 2018 congress. In addition they have assessed the applications to the NFOG Fund and suggest allocations. The application procedure for the NFOG fund had been changed into an online application.

SC has collaborated with the dutch NVOG Consortium to learn from their research collaboration and to establish similar collaborations in the Nordic countries.

Educational committee (EC) have worked for the Educational course on Ethical issues in obstetrics and gynecology, that will be held on April, 2019.

Guideline committee has presented the first Nordic guideline on progesterone in prevention of preterm birth (grading through "Grade").

NFYOG collaborates with EC to further evaluate educational needs and to uniform specialist training in Nordic countries.

Annual reports from the Committees of NFOG are posted on the website for more detailed information.

## **EBCOG**

Several members of the board have attended EBCOG meetings and congresses.

In general, there has been few Nordic participants in EBCOG meetings, and NFOG decided a few years ago to move the nordic congresses from 2021 to strength the European collaboration

The next EBCOG congress will be held in May, 2020 in Bergen, Norway. The NFOG will work for Nordic impact in the congress.

## **FIGO**

The NFOG Board arranged two Nordic symposia during the FIGO 2018 congress in Rio. They were well attended and successful. Kristina Gemzell Danielsson from Sweden was elected for the FIGO Executive Board for the next six years. The NFOG also supported other candidates who favour democratic development in FIGO organization. The NFOG president wrote contacted the FIGO president about concern having subsequent FIGO congress in Dubai mainly due to women right problems, but also because of difficulties for some collagues to attend a congress in Dubai due to visa problems.

## **Nordic textbook**

The NFOG Board has decided to supported the project of Nordic textbook for medical students and to use Board initiative money for the preliminary phase of the textbook. The Editorial Board have made some example chapters ready. In respect of the relatively high costs for a textbook, the board decided to ask the General Assembly to approve the decision. The GA could however not decide on this project in 2018. The Board have investigated some of the concerns raised about and will present the proposal again at the GA in 2019.

## **General remarks**

The aim of the NFOG Board is to promote the clinical and scientific collaboration between the obstetricians and gynecologists in the Nordic countries, and to work to achieve a high standard of training at all levels in obstetrics and gynecology. NFOG works to improve the reproductive health of women worldwide . The assets of NFOG are used to promote this aim, and the NFOG Fund is an important tool in order to achieve these goals.

The present NFOG Board will make every effort to continue, and expand, the important work of NFOG.

On behalf of the NFOG Board

April 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann

Maija Jakobsson

President

Secretary General