



2019 NFOG Extraordinary General Assembly Minutes

Time: April 26th, 2019, 13:30-15:00

Place: Stockholm, Svenska Läkaresällskapet, Klara Östra kyrkogata 10, Stockholm

Board of NFOG:

Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann (President), Espen Berner (Treasurer), Maija Jakobsson (Secretary General), Ganesh Acharya (Chief Editor AOGS), Niels Ulbjerg (Guidelines Committee Chair), Hanna Lilja Oddgeirsdottir (NFYOG chair), Mervi Väisänen-Tommiska (Educational Committee Chair), (NFYOG), Bjarne Rønne Kristensen (President NFOG 2018), Hanne Brix Westergaard (DSOG), Hannu Martikainen (SGY), Alexander Smáráson (FÍFK), Eva Uustal (SFOG), Nils-Halvdan Morken (NGF), Lars Ladfors (Webmaster) .

Excuses: Antti Perheentupa, Ragnheiður I. Bjarnadóttir (President NFOG 2021)

Delegates:

Denmark (5 votes): Tine Greve, Annemette Lykkebo, Malou Barbosa, Anita Sylvest, Helen Edwards.

Sweden (5 votes): Liselott Andersson, Ellika Andolf, Elisabeth Frederika Rosen, Helena Kopp Kallner (on Skype), Malin Strand (on Skype).

Finland (5 votes): Leena Petas, Oskari Heikinheimo, Anna-Kaisa Tolka (on Skype), Anniina Haverinen, Reija Hietala.

Norway (5 votes): Kirsten Hald, Hans Kristian Opøien, Yngvild Hannestad, Anders Einum, Jenny Alvirovic.

Iceland (1 vote): Thora Steingrimsdottir.

The General Assembly (GA) is open to all members of NFOG.

1. **Opening** Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann (KRW) opened the meeting. Due to the SAS strike some delegates had to leave, and therefore The Board decided that there is a force majeure situation and delegates therefore can attend the GA and vote on Skype, when needed. The GA accepted this.
2. **Delegate roll call:** Maija Jakobsson (MJ) carried out the roll call of the delegates.
3. **Election of Chairman and delegates for checking of the minutes:** KRW was proposed and elected as Chairman of the GA. Anders Einum from Norway and Ellika Andolf from Sweden agreed to check the Minutes.
4. **NFOG 2021 congress** Alexander Smáráson presented the 42nd NFOG 2021 Congress venue Harpa in Reykjavik.
5. **NFOG 2023 congress** Kjell Å (Pepe) Salvesen presented the 43rd NFOG 2023 Congress venue in Trondheim.
6. **Board Report for 2018:** MJ and KRW presented the Board activities for 2018. Annual report will be posted on the NFOG website.
7. **Scientific Committee (SC) Report:** Lars Henning Pedersen gave a presentation of the work done by the SC. The main work is the assessment of the applications to the NFOG Fund. The SC also handles, evaluates, and scores the abstracts for the NFOG Congress. Further, it evaluates the presentations and awards prizes for Young Scientist and best oral and poster presentations. SC is collaborating with Dutch researchers.
8. **Educational Committee (EC) Report** Mervi Väisänen-Tommiska presented the committee members, the work of the committee and the course “Do the right thing” arranged previous to the extraordinary NFOG GA. The next educational course will be in 2022. EC aim to harmonize education with NFOG.
9. **Guidelines Committee (GC) Report:** Niels Uldbjerg presented the NFOG guidelines and showed numbers of around 2000 clicks on the guideline webpage in the last 12 months. GC has prepared a first NFOG guideline on progesterone for prevention of preterm delivery. The committees work on updating the guideline continues in the coming year.

10. **NFOG website Report:** Lars Ladfors informs that the report will be published on the website shortly.
11. **NFYOG Report:** Elisabeth Frederika Rosen, Sweden is stepping down as head of the NFYOG board, Hanna Lilja Oddgeirsdottir, Iceland is taking over. In closing of the campaign “Pass on the knife” NFYOG will initiate a new campaign called “Pass on the research” working towards the NFOG congress in Reykjavik 2021.
12. **Report from AOGS** Ganesh Acharya presented the Journal and advertised new assistant Chief Editor position, and asked all members to promote the position to their colleagues. He presented the International Editorial Board which is evaluated regularly. All continents should be represented in the international Editorial Board. New AOGS layout and app was presented. AOGS special issues are published every year. Impact factor is 2.649 in 2018, highest ever.
A New Article format was presented. New contract with Wiley is in the process of being negotiated and signed.
There are plans to transfer into Open Access publishing. Currently income comes mainly from subscriptions. Factors to consider when deciding between OA and traditional Journal are cost, prestige, speed, impact, visibility. AOGS will become 100 years in 2021 and will celebrate it with a special issue and during the NFOG 2021 Congress in Reykjavik.
13. **Decision on the Nordic Textbook:** Niels Ulbjerg (NU) presented plan of action regarding the Nordic textbook for medical students, and addressed the questions from the NFOG board. The aim is to develop an open access electronic textbook for Nordic medical students and in the future to consider reaching out to the trainees in addition. The project should be evaluated in 5 years. It’s potential will be OA platform for the entire world. Potential users will be 4 500 Nordic medical students annually. Electronic platforms have been investigated thoroughly and it’s been decided to use Sundhed.dk. NFOG owns the rights. The consolidation in NFOG could be a committee for the Textbook. The Budget of 1 mill DKK was presented, running costs like for other NFOG committees will 100.000 DKK yearly for the next five years. The 1 mill DKK will be taken from the accumulated Board reserve, and will therefore not influence the balance. In respect of the high amount the board have decide to ask the GA if they could approve their decision for the textbook.

The vote showed 21 in favour, none against, and the GA approves the board decision for a Nordic textbook.

14. **Financial report:** Espen Berner treasurer presented the financial report. There has been delays and errors in payments and therefore the next treasurer will be Danish to facilitate the process with the Danish accountant. Total equity-closing balance is 8.5 million DKK. The revision shows a surplus for 2018, and shows a closing balance of 4 million DKK for the NFOG fund, and a reserve of about 1 million DKK which will be put into the work with a new textbook. The financial reports showed a robust economy in the federation. **The GA approved the financial report.**
15. **Auditor's report** EB showed conclusions of the Auditorial reports. NFOG internal auditors Thea Lousen and Kevin Sunde Oppegaard were absent due to the SAS strike and have sent their recognition in written reports.
16. **Budget proposals for 2020 and 2021. including confirmation of the fee** The budget adjusts for making AOGS partly open access by putting aside an AOGS transition fund of 200 000 DKK. Some money was also put aside for the EBCOG 2020 congress to secure a Nordic perspective. The annual membership fee for the national societies of the NFOG was suggested to remain the same: 250 DKK per paying member of the society. **A budget with a deficit of 500 000 DKK for 2020 and 750 000 DKK for 2021 was approved by the GA.**
17. **Election of NFOG President** Oskari Heikinheimo from Finland presented himself to the GA and was elected as President of NFOG.
18. **Election of Secretary General** Espen Berner from Norway was elected as a new secretary general from 1st, January, 2020.
19. **Election of Treasurer** Kristina Renault from Denmark was elected as a new treasurer from 1st, January, 2020.
20. **Election of NFOG Auditors** Thea Lousen and Kevin Sunde Oppegaard were elected as Internal Auditors. Liselott Andersson was elected Deputy Auditor

21. Closing of the meeting: KRW closed the meeting.

Stockholm, 26th June, 2019

In witness thereof:

Maija Jakobsson
General secretary

Karen Reinhold Wøjdemann
Chairman of the General assembly

Anders Einum
Checker of the Minutes

Ellika Andolf
Checker of the Minutes