Minutes from the General Assembly in the Scandinavian Physiological Society 2010

Participants: 22  
Place: University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Date: 29th March 2010  
Time: 14:30

1.a. Chairman and secretary during the meeting  
Professor Hans Hultborn (HH) was elected chairman and Bryndis Birnir (BB) secretary.

1.b. Secretary General Ole Skøtt (OS) submitted the board’s report for 2009-2010  
OS went through the main activities for the society for the above mentioned period. There has been one board meeting and several cases have been discussed and decided through e-mail. The society has an increasing number of members; the number is now approximately 865. There has been, due to an unstable market, a decrease in the Society’s income from Kapitalforvaltningen. The main income for SPS is from Acta Physiologica and Kapitalforvaltningen. There were no comments to the report.

1.c. Chief Editor Jan Henriksson (JH) submitted the report for Acta Physiologica 2009-2010

Publishing agreement  
The publication of Acta Physiologica is governed by a “Journal Publishing Agreement” with the Publisher Wiley-Blackwell. The last agreement (2004-2009) was cancelled by SPS in December 2008. During 2009 the agreement was extensively reviewed and revised with the assistance of external consultants (Baltzer and Hartmann publishing consultants, Copenhagen; Legal adviser Peter von Heidenstam, Stockholm). A new agreement has now been signed and is in effect 2010-2014 with automatic renewal for succeeding one (1) year periods thereafter.

Economy  
The economical situation of the journal is good. In 2009 the income of SPS from the journal was especially large due to outstanding rebate payments for the years 2005-2009 and was almost 90% higher than the cost for SPS of publishing the journal. Normally, the surplus of the journal is around 20%. In addition, under the new Publishing agreement, the Publisher Wiley-Blackwell will contribute 12 000 £ yearly to an Editorial development fund for Acta Physiologica.

Editorial Office  
The Editorial Office was in 2009 headed by Sue Chin Lwee, Boston, USA

Manuscripts  
The number of submitted manuscripts to the journal in 2009 was 300. Of all regularly submitted manuscripts with a decision in 2009, 31.6% was accepted and 68.4% rejected. The relative distribution of geographic regions that contributed with accepted manuscripts (regular submissions) were Nordic countries 29%, Europe outside the Nordic countries 29%, USA-Canada-Australia 22%, Asia 15%, Rest of the world 4%. The subject coverage of published articles in 2009 was Endocrinology/Metabolism 25%,
Cardiovascular 19%, Muscle 14%, Nervous system 12%, Cell biology 10%, Respiratory 7%, Renal 6%, Exercise 5% and Gastro-intestinal 3%. The average handling time (time to first decision) of all manuscripts that underwent a full review evaluation in 2009 was 49.5 days, with a median value of 46 days.

The impact factor
The current impact factor (released in 2009 for the publication year 2008) is 2.455.

The digitization project
In 2009 all previous English language issues (Acta Physiologica Scandinavica, back to 1940) became available via the Journal home page. The digitization now continues with all volumes of the German language issues (Skandinavisches Archiv für Physiologie, 1889-1940).

Marketing
One main goal of the 2009 marketing campaign from Wiley-Blackwell was to increase online journal readership by 10% (a 6% increase occurred in 2008). This was mainly done by promoting the Symposia issues published in 2009. Another main goal was to increase the number of readers and authors from the Asian market. Other marketing initiatives in 2009 was the presentation of Acta Physiologica on selected key conferences and to increase the number of e-alert subscriptions to Acta Physiologica.

The Acta Physiologica Quality Program
This programme was launched in 2009 in order to develop the journal with a goal to substantially increase submissions as well as the importance of the journal. A new graphic design for the journal was finalized in 2009, and will be initiated from the May issue of 2010.

Editors
Rolf Reed, Bergen replaces Gunnar Nicolaysen, Oslo, who after a long period retires from the Editorial board. In addition Karl-Heinz Herzig, Oulu, is new Editor for the new area “Nutritional Physiology”, an extension of the Metabolism section of the journal, where he will work closely together with the Section Editor Antonio Zorzano, Barcelona.

The Joint Acta Physiologica-FEPS Committee (JAFC)
This committee with three members assigned from the SPS and three members assigned from FEPS was initiated at the start of the SPS-FEPS collaboration agreement in 2005 in order to develop the collaboration within the agreement and to promote and develop the journal as the official journal of the FEPS. In 2009 a meeting was held in Ljubljana, November 13. From the Ljubljana meeting there were several initiatives started regarding FEPS-SPS collaboration in order to increase the impact of Acta Physiologica.

Acta Physiologica International Symposia and other Symposia
The following international symposia held during 2008 has been supported by the SPS with contributions published as Special issues of Acta Physiologica during 2009/2010: Frontiers of Physiology (Editor Peter Bie). Published in Acta Physiol 195(1), 2009 AMPK in sickness and Health (Editor Jørgen Wojtaszewski). Published in Acta Physiol 196(1), 2009.
10 years of hypocretin/orexins – Physiology and Pathophysiology (Editor Karl-Heinz Herzig) Published in Acta Physiol 198(3), 2010.
The following symposia were held in 2009 (all except the first economically supported by SPS) and will later be published as special issues of Acta Physiologica.
Human Integrative Physiology - The Legacy of the Copenhagen School; in the footsteps of Lindhard and Krogh (Editors Bengt Saltin and Ylva Hellsten), Copenhagen, May 2009.
Acid-Base Transporters and Epithelial Electrolyte Transport (Editors Bryndis Birnir/Gunnar Flemström), Uppsala, Augusti 2009
Purinergic Signalling (Editors Bertil Fredholm and Alexej Verkhratsky), Stockholm, September 2009
Cardiovascular physiology and metabolism (Editor Kirsti Ytrehus), Tromsø, October 2009.

1.d. Audit report for SPS 2009
The audit report for 2009 was presented by OS, there have been no comments from auditor to the report and the economy for the society is good.
There were no comments to the report.

1.e. Discharge of liability for the board members
There were no votes against discharge of liability. The board maintains their exempt from liability.

Information regarding the financial administration and result was presented by OS.
There were no comments to this.

Elections

2.a. Election of president for the society – 4 years
Anders Arner (Sweden) was elected as president for the society.

2. b. Election of national representatives and deputy members to the board
The following persons have been elected to the board:
National representatives
Jenny Nyström, Sweden, new

Deputy members
Fredrik Elinder, Sweden, new

2.c. Election of:
Secretary general – 4 years
Bryndis Birnir (Sweden) was elected as secretary general.

Meeting secretary – 4 years
Markus Sjöblom (Sweden) was elected as meeting secretary

2.d. Election of Chief Editor
Jan Henriksson was re-elected for 4 years in 2008 and there was no election at this meeting.
2.d. Election of auditors and deputy auditor
No elections

2.g. Representatives to the board of the foundation Acta Physiologica Scandinavica Jubilee Found
Ex officio: Bryndis Birnir and Jan Henriksson
No elections

2.h. Election committee
The election committee consisted of Erik Persson from Sweden and Ole M. Sejersted from Norway and Peter Bie from Denmark.

2.i. Determination of the annual fee
The fee is unchanged.

3. Other
Anders Arner in the capacity of SPS president and Bryndis Birnir in the capacity a SPS secretary general have both the authority to attest invoices/bills on the behalf of SPS.

Members of the SPS board:
President
Anders Arner, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
Secretary General
Bryndis Birnir, University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden
Chief Editor
Jan Henriksson, Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden
Meetings Secretary
Markus Sjöblom, University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden

Members of the board and country representatives

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>Søren-Peter Ølesen</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Dan Klaerke (alternate)</td>
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<td>Christian Aalkjær</td>
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<td>Karl-Heinz Herzig</td>
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<td>Pirjo Saransaari (alternate)</td>
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<td>Esa Hohtola</td>
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<td>Thor Eysteinsson</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Thorarinn Sveinsson (alternate)</td>
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<td>Olav Sand</td>
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<td>Hilde Kanli Galtung</td>
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<td>Anne K. Jonassen (alternate)</td>
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<td>Per Hellstrand</td>
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<td>Fredrik Elinder (alternate)</td>
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<td>Jenny Nyström</td>
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Anders Anders replaced Peter Bie as President of SPS
Bryndis Birnir replaced Ole Skött as Secretary General of SPS
Markus Sjöblom replaced Boye L. Jensen as Meeting Secretary of SPS
Uppsala 16th June 2010

Bryndis Birnir
Secretary General