



UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS

Association internationale sans but lucratif

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UEMS SECTION OF CLINICAL GENETICS

Annual Report of UEMS Section of Clinical Genetics (SCG); year 2017

The year 2017 was the fourth full year of function for the SCG, as the section was formally established in April 2013 at the UEMS Council Meeting in Brussels and the first Section Meeting with elections was held in November 2013 in Brussels.

The bureau was renewed at the Copenhagen Section Meeting, it included the following persons: Béla Melegh (Hungary) president; Alessandra Renieri (Italy) secretary; Helen Kingston (UK) treasurer till 31 December, 2017 and Artur Beke (Hungary) treasurer after 1 January, 2018; and the following vice-presidents: Brigitte Rode Diness (Denmark); Hannele Koillinen (Finland); Ulf Kristoffersson (Sweden); Guus Lachmeijer (Netherlands); Ute Moog (Germany); Asbjörg Straj-Pedersen (Norway); Feliciano J Ramos (Spain); and Peter Turnpenny (UK).

Delegates

At the end of year 2017 the section had delegates from 21 UEMS full member countries. Additionally, Turkey, as an associate member has nominated delegates and Georgia as an observer has also nominated a delegate. Altogether 39 delegates have been nominated to the section.

Finances

Overall, despite of the liquidity problems and withdrawals, the Section budget remained in balance, with annual expenses broadly matching annual income. Expenses incurred by attendance of Board members and invited advisors at various UEMS and Section meetings throughout the year.

The main source of income for the Section is the annual contributions made by member countries and the Board is grateful for this continuing support. Fees due to be paid to the Section from EACCME, for approving the content of educational events, are still being in part withheld centrally and a part of it was refunded in 2017. However, this additional funding may be needed to support the development of the European Board Examination, which is on the way.

Section Meeting

The annual Section Meeting in 2017 took place in association with the European Society of Human Genetics Meeting, which was organized in Saturday May 27th, 2017 at 9.00-11.00 AM, venue: room 18-19, Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark. Altogether 26 delegates from 17 countries participated. There was active discussion particularly about the documents; new Board members (vice presidents) and treasurer were elected; the financial documentation was accepted as prepared by the treasurer Helen Kingston.

Meetings of the bureau & and miscellaneous meetings

The bureau had two physical meetings in 2017, first in Copenhagen, exactly before the Section Meeting and in Lund (4-6 October). The bureau also had two teleconferences on 28/09/2016, and 15/02/2017. The president of the section participated at the Council Meeting of UEMS in Tel Aviv (27-28 April), vice president Ulf Kristofferson participated at the October 20-21, 2017 meeting in Brussels. Bela Melegh and Ulf Kristofferson had a gathering in Budapest to discuss some strategic steps (02/06/17), and with Alessandra Renieri they also participated at the ERN Kickoff Meeting in Vilnius (9-10/03/17); they had there a non-official meeting of MJC RUD as well. Bela Melegh and Peter Turnpenny participated as external observers at the 8th European Board Examination of Neurology (Amsterdam, 23 June, 2017). The president participated at the EACCME meeting in Brussels (1/14/2017). The bureau has had weekly active email conversations, as usual. The president also participated in the EBMG physical and conference calls as well.

Main focus in 2017: Preparation for the European Exam of Clinical Genetics

After almost 3 years of preparatory phase, the 3 documents of the ETR were submitted to the UEMS according the new submission rules, and the revised version with the incorporated modifications was submitted to the UEMS for discussion, and was unanimously approved in the above mentioned Tel Aviv meeting in spring 2017. The main focus thereby became the EU exam. At the Lund meeting some strategic decisions were taken, a roadmap was approved by the Board Members entered the meeting. Thus, there will be a meeting in Dundee (1-3 February, 2018), then a next exam-committee meeting in Heidelberg (16-17 April, 2018). A "pilot exam" will be performed in association of the annual meeting of ESHG in Milano.

Collaborations & participation in other activities

As the Section of Clinical Genetics became a member of the CESMA, and Feliciano Ramos was elected as CESMA Board member, he remained active, and participated at two CESMA meetings (Glasgow 13 May, and Brussels 9 December). André Reis was actively participating EACCME's work till mid of 2017, after his step down the EACCME representation and the event review as well went to Bela Melegh. In the EACCME Bela Melegh participated in the work of the newly formed working group of "Training of the reviewer", while Ulf Kristofferson joined to the working group on "Collaboration with other healthcare professionals".

The Multidisciplinary Joint Committee of Rare and Undiagnosed Diseases (MJC RUD) has a strategic partnership with us, since we were the charter member in the creation of it. At the kickoff meeting Enrique Terol was present, and expressed his interest about this MJC, we continued this connection, and as a further step he supported an opportunity to have a lecture from our side at an RD Action workshop (- <http://www.rd-action.eu/european-reference-networks-erns/workshop4/>) held in Rome (6-7 December, 2017). The Joint Action of Rare Cancer (JARC) was also represented, we are already involved in this project since it's launch.

We continued the strong collaboration with the Branch of Medical Genetics and Genomics, as they are strategic partners of us, according our Glasgow MoU signed in 2016.

On behalf of the Section of Clinical Genetics,

Pécs – Brussels, 30 January, 2018



Béla Melegh
President
of UEMS Section of Clinical Genetics