

Minutes for SBSP Board Telephone Meeting 11 January 2017, 9:00-10:30

Members Present:

Jakob Skov (JS)

Pikka Jokelainen (PJ)

Vaidas Palinauskas (VP)

Gunita Deksne (GD)

Andrea Miller (AM)

Rebecca Davidson (RD)

Members Not Present:

Age Kärssin (AK) (with notification)

1. **Accepting new members (if any?) (all)**

RD has been receiving new/old member payments via PayPal, but it is unclear where the new member application forms are being sent. The webmaster has been contacted to investigate this. Once this issue is solved, the Board plans to organize welcome emails (which will include our informational brochure) for the incoming members.

2. **CSBSP7 update (GD)**

The website for CSBSP7 has been launched (<http://csbsp7.mozello.eu/>)! Registration has been opened and is functioning properly.

GD reports that the schedule is mostly confirmed, however, there is still some organization remaining for the invited speakers. The Board decided to sponsor one invited speaker for 1000 Euros.

Board members are expected to attend the biannual meeting. SBSP has historically not provided any monetary support for travel or attendance for the Board members. As it can be problematic for all Board members to find funding, the Board will bring this matter up for discussion at the GA in June.

3. **Student Travel Grants for CSBSP7 (all)**

The Board decided to offer seven student travel grants for 350 Euros each. The forms for the travel grants will be updated and added to the conference website.

4. **Young Scientist Awards at CSBSP7 – election of person responsible for the YSA jury and contest—and audience award**

VP volunteered to be responsible for the YSA. The Board supported this nomination.

VP will contact individuals to organize a jury before the conference. Ideally, the jury will be made up of members from different countries. Jury members should not have direct connection to any competing student.

JS suggested indicating in the conference program which presenters were students to make voting for both the YSA and the audience award easier. JS also suggested that the last student presentation be in plenty of time to allow for the jury discussion time before awards are given at the GA. AM suggested the definition of student be clarified on the website/application form. Students include Bachelor's students, Master's students, and PhD students.

The YSA award must go to a student who is a SBSP member. Formerly, this requirement also applied to the audience award. However, for this conference, the Board decided to allow all students, regardless of membership, to compete for the audience award. Although all students are encouraged to become members, this change was to try to encourage more students to compete and to promote the organization.

5. Update on ICOPA 2022 bid and organization (Pikka/Jakob)

The group in Denmark has decided to go forward and submit an Expression of Interest to host ICOPA XV in 2022 in Copenhagen. The Danish Society for Parasitology (DSP) and SBSP would be the hosting societies. The financial responsibility is carried by WFP, and there is a professional congress organizer for practical matters.

PJ and JS are in the organizing committee and working on writing the EOI. Only two full bids will be invited. The deadline for the full bids is likely May 2017.

SBSP actively supports the efforts involved. Board members were also encouraged to show support and encourage those around them to support the effort and, if invited to submit a bid, the bid. As the composition of the Board may be changing at the GA in June, the Board will stress the importance and honor of this task to the new Board.

The suggestion from a Norwegian tourism contact to bid for ICOPA to take place in Norway will be answered by RD. SBSP representatives are already committed to the Copenhagen bid, this discussion started already in summer of 2016 when we were contacted by DSP, thus it is too late to consider other options. We suggest that the Norwegian contact would be involved by offering pre/post congress tours.

6. A general information letter to members (Jakob)

JS has drafted a letter. After including comments from the Board, it will be circulated to the members.

7. Keeping track of successful SBSP grant applicants YSA winners (very brief, Jakob/Vaidas)

VP and JS have been trying to compose a list of YSA winners. It has proven to be very difficult, as the winners are not always mentioned in the GA minutes. The Board will make an effort to gather this information before the GA in June.

8. Join and Renew / Doc. explaining regulations on payment and membership to members (Jakob)

JS will formulate a document explaining the membership payment rules. New members do not need to pay until after January 1st every year. All payments and renewals will be required by the end of February every year. The membership list will be updated on the website after this time. Those not on the list will not be considered members.

9. AOB

The Board began to discuss which country would host SBSP 2019. The official announcement will be at the GA. The top candidate at this time is Lithuania.

The Board will begin recruitment of possible new Board members and the discussion on continuing of the current members (election at the GA in June). AM will prepare a document summarizing which Board members would be willing to stay, change position, or step down. Some turnover of Board members is encouraged. The Board should also be made up of representatives from each country.