



13th meeting of the board of SBSP, Minutes

Where: Skype

When: Tuesday 02 July 2019, 10:30-11:30 Danish time

Key points: Decisions on travel grants
Nominations: Honorary Members
Update on manuscript from SBSP in PAREPI special issue

Board members present:

Pikka Jokelainen (PJ)
Andrea Miller (AM) (taking notes)
Rebecca Davidson (RD)
Guðný Rut Pálsdóttir (GP)
Vaidas Palinauskas (VP)
Age Kärssin (AK)

Board members absent (with notification):

Gunita Dekšne (GD)
Andrew Williams (AW)

1. Welcome

2. Documents

2.1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of this and previous meetings will soon be uploaded to the website.

3. Update on CSBSP8-EVPC2019 planning (Pikka, Andrew, Gunita, Vaidas, Gudny)

3.1. Abstracts evaluated, program being planned

The budget is on track.

Abstracts are nearly finished being evaluated and participants will soon be notified of their decisions. The SBSP Board supports accepting the few late abstracts for evaluation. Due to the large number abstracts for the SBSP portion of the program, oral presentations may be limited. Alternatively the original SBSP schedule may become adjusted to accommodate more oral presentations. The synergy with EVPC is obvious: topics of keynotes and submitted abstracts support each other nicely.

AM will provide a short proposal about a parasite photo contest at the conference for the organizing committee to consider at their next meeting.

3.2. Promoting – early bird registration fee deadline is 31.07.!

All those with accepted abstracts will be reminded to register before the 31st if needed. The Board was encouraged to promote the conference - particularly with reference to the early bird registration fee.

4. Update on ICOPAnhagen planning (Pikka, Andrew)

4.1. Branding document is circulating, deadline for input 04.07.

Board members were encouraged to comment on the circulating document. The deadline is July 4, but good ideas and comments will always be welcome.

5. Financial matters (Rebecca, Andrew)

5.1. PJ is in contact with Nordea

AW is fully functioning as the treasurer now with RD only as occasional support. PJ is in contact with Nordea and is working with RD and AW to finalize the transfer of bank account access rights. PJ thanked RD and AW for their work in this challenging task. Based on experiences with this bank, whether SBSP should change to another bank might be worth evaluating.

6. Membership matters (Andrea)

6.1. Received nominations: Honorary Members

Two nominations were received. Both nominations were considered worthy of consideration and the Board decided to present both for the GA's approval. It was discussed that it could be nice if the nominated candidates would be notified in good time in case they should like to attend the meeting. This has not been done before, we may lack contact information too. Documents are prepared by next board meeting.

6.2. Update on drafting procedure for nominating for WFP awards

Progress pending.

6.3. Ideas for attracting more members?

There has been an influx of new membership (over 10 new or renewed memberships) in the last months due to the upcoming conference.

Andrea mentioned that is nice to know the country of our members. However, this is not currently information collected. If we were to collect information on members' countries, we need to have a legitimate reason. This topic may be brought up at the GA for discussion – what information does SBSP need from the members?

Andrea has also noticed that some members are sending in multiple forms (one for both invoice and Paypal). The system may need to be clarified on the website.

6.4. Promoting 'Papers from Members'

Vaidas will continue to work with this and post the one suggestion we have received recently. This opportunity could be advertised also on the website, Pikka could forward a text to webmaster.

7. Grant matters

7.1. Decision on travel grants

The Board received 7 grant applications. The board members who had no conflict of interest towards any of the applications participated in making the decisions. PJ, VP and GD did not participate due to conflict of interest.

The Board was impressed with the overall quality of the applications, which were evaluated carefully following the evaluation criteria. Three grants were awarded according to the full amounts named in the grantees' budgets (in alphabetical order by last name: Inna Maliuk 500 Euro, Emelie Pettersson 450 Euro, Elena Platonova 500 Euro). As the Board had budgeted up to 3 grants of up to 500 Eur =1500 Euro, it was decided to offer the remaining 50 Euro as partial support for a fourth grantee Maira Mateusa. The grants will be paid to the grantees' accounts as soon as they inform of their account information. The Board congratulates the grantees and wishes success to all the applicants.

8. Awards at CSBSP (Vaidas, Gudny)

8.1. Young Scientist Awards: ideas for promoting it?

VP is working on gathering the judges and will try to incorporate people from both the SBSP and the EVPC, if possible. The conference schedule is arranged to ensure that the student presentations are done in time for the judges to make a final decision before the GA.

Students will be informed of the opportunity for the contest at registration and those participating will receive a different colored nametag or other visible indication of their participation.

The Board discussed the potential that one student could win multiple awards (the judge category and the audience award). This is allowed according to the rules now. However, limiting the number of awards per student may be a point of discussion, especially if there would be only one judge-based and one audience-based award.

9. All the official aspects of GA (Pikka, Vaidas)

The agenda for the GA will be sent out after the next Board meeting in August. The GA day and time has already been announced as part of the conference program online.

VP and PJ will begin to prepare a PowerPoint presentation for the GA.

10. PAREPI

10.1. Update on submission that will represent SBSP in Special Issue

Based on comments received after the last membership email, PJ has organized a preliminary outline for the article. The theme of the article will revolve around parasites in a changing world (specifically with reference to climate change) and will list relevant examples from all Nordic and Baltic countries. PJ and VP will be the main coordinators for the article with contributions from others in the Board and members at large. PJ will circulate an updated outline to those who indicated interest in the coming days. This paper has a short deadline and submission should occur in August.

PJ mentioned that this type of paper may become a recurring theme in the journal, and the SBSP should be aware that another opportunity may be coming in a few years. This could be highlighted at the GA.

11. Minutes of this meeting: compiling, round of comments, to the website (Gunita)

Minutes of this meeting and others are coming to the website soon.

12. AOB

Suggestions for where to hold the next CSBSP were collected: Lithuania has been the only suggestion so far.

The Board will arrange for election of new officers. VP will circulate an email asking who will be willing to stay and who will step down. An email to the members with this information and requests for nominees will be sent after the next Board meeting in August.

PJ will update our Society information on the Yearbook of International Organizations website.

13. Main action points agreed: covered under specific points above.

14. Next meeting first workday-Tuesday of the month at 10:30-11:30 Danish time

CSBSP8 update (Pikka, Andrew, Gunita, Vaidas, Gudny)

ICOPAnhagen update (Pikka, Andrew)

Membership matters update (Andrea)

Grant matters update (Gudny, Age)

Timeline for all the official matters to do before GA (Vaidas, Pikka)