



World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

Executive Committee

<i>Sirintara Pongpech</i>	<i>President</i>
<i>Michael Söderman</i>	<i>Vice-President</i>
<i>Allan Taylor</i>	<i>Secretary General</i>
<i>Darren Orbach</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>Georges Rodesch</i>	<i>Past President</i>
<i>Alessandra Biondi</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Timo Krings</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Hong Qi Zhang</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Dae Chul Suh</i>	<i>Member at large</i>
<i>Michihiro Tanaka</i>	<i>Member at Large</i>
<i>Luc Picard</i>	<i>Honorary President</i>
<i>Karel terBrugge</i>	<i>Editor-In-Chief INR</i>

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE WFITN VAL D ISERE, CENTRE HENRI OREILLER, THURSDAY, JANUARY 19th, 2017, 3 – 4 p.m.

1. Welcome

Members were welcomed by Sirintara Pongpech and thanked for their attendance.

2. New Matters

Jacques Moret took the floor and apologized to Luc Picard for comments made during the last General Assembly. He also offered his thoughts on the WFITN's future saying it needed to evolve and become representative of neurointerventionists. He is concerned that the current Executive does not represent members and suggested continental or country quotas a way of improving this.

3. Approval of Jan 2016 minutes (from the last general assembly)

The minutes were proposed as representing the content of the last meeting. This was accepted by David Le Feuvre and Karel ter Brugge.

4. Presidents report

a. Webex executive meetings

The executive has held the first video meeting using webex with the intention of continuing these meetings every 4 to 6 months.

b. Simulator training charter

The president expressed her thanks to Luc Picard, Serge Bracard and Georges Rodesch for arranging the Saturday seminar before ABC/WIN on simulator training. A document covering the WFITN guidelines for simulator training had been produced, approved by the Executive and uploaded on the website for members to view. There were no comments and the document was approved without objection for adoption and publication in INR. The possibility of holding simulator training for young trainees at the 2019 meeting will be looked at by the



World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

education committee.

c. WFITN prizes

The Executive has approved the awarding of 4 prizes at the Budapest meeting. Each winner would be given free registration to the 2019 Naples meeting and travel expenses of Euro 500.00. Categories would be clinical research and basic science with an award to a senior and junior participant.

d. Executive Director contract

A contract for an Executive Director for the WFITN has been concluded and an offer made to Sabine Heckman who would like to continue and expand her administrative role for the WFITN.

e. Stable financial status / Endowment

Income continues to increase particularly due to increasing membership. There is a need to manage these funds appropriately and the executive has started the process of opening an Endowment Fund which can be used to finance education.

f. World Stroke Organisation

Professor Werner Hacke the current WSO president has approached WFITN regarding possible collaboration at a political level in setting stroke policy and to cooperate on meeting programs. We will accept this proposal.

5. Report of the General Secretary

a. Non vascular spine intervention

The General Secretary thanked Alessandra Biondi and Mario Muto for undertaking this survey of WFITN members to understand their involvement in spine intervention. Unfortunately the response rate was low at 8% but of those who responded 50% of their practice was non vascular spinal work. The full survey results will be available on the website. The executive feels that sufficient time is being allocated to spine intervention in WFITN meetings.

b. New Excom members election before Budapest.

Members were reminded that according to the new constitution the process for electing excom members was to change this year. Voting would now be electronic and take place before the WFITN General Assembly. Jacques Moret and Shushi Kominami raised concerns about this particularly with a rapid increase in new and unverified membership. Without quotas regional control would be possible and members could be nominated without having attended WFITN meetings. In Sup Choi expressed the same concerns and explained that in 1990 when the WFITN was formed the whole world was represented. This had changed over time due to increasing membership. Patrick Brouwer did not support an e-vote and said the WFITN functions as a Society and not a Federation although many Societies would support the WFITN changing its role to that of a Federation. Luc Picard explained the evolution of the WFITN and that lots of discussions with other Societies would be required from all countries to make this change, he also thanked Jacques Moret for his apology which was gratefully accepted. Jacques Moret further added that the WFITN had had a simple start and long course but we now needed to look at the existing members and whether they represent a World Federation. We need to move to a true



World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

World Federation or this change would be independently sought by himself. The General Secretary proposed cancelling the e-vote in Budapest and holding a seminar in January 2018 to look at how the WFITN could become a true Federation. Michael Söderman agreed with the comments by Jacques Moret and said a through proposal would be required before Val d Isere seminar 2018. There were no objections from members to cancelling the e-vote and moving towards a federation.

- c. With the e-vote cancelled and the decision to change fundamentally the way the WFITN works there was no vote taken to approve the constitution changes.

6. Treasurers report

- a. Balances. Active payment account Euro 205,936 Savings account Euro 85,985
- b. Profits. Anatomy course Euro 19,064 / Membership fees Euro 35,600 and Bank interest Euro 1000.
- c. Expenses Euro 61,394
- d. Members stand at 499 plus 190 new members joining since last general assembly
- e. The Executive Committee has decided to open an Endowment Fund which can be used to accept donations and funds from industry and courses. It can be used for travel grants, prizes, trainee fellowships, research and INR advocacy. It will require seed funding of Euro 15,000 and set up cost will also be approximately Euro 15,000. A board of directors will be required who are renewed every 4 years. The chair of the board can appoint a Managing Director (non board member) who can be paid a salary.

7. New members

There were 190 new members that had joined since the last general assembly. Most new members were from China and Japan. The members were approved without objection.

8. Ethics

The ethics charter on live case teaching had been updated by Jacques Moret and other members involved in live case teaching. It had been approved by the Executive Committee and placed on the website for review by members. The charter was accepted without objection and will be submitted for publication to INR.

9. Education

A further request was made for applications to be submitted to the education committee for endorsement of educational courses that could be advertised on the WFITN website



World Federation of Interventional and Therapeutic Neuroradiology

10. Interventional Neuroradiology Journal

Year on year submissions continue to increase

The ratio of acceptance to rejection is 40% / 60%. The review time is approximately 1 month. Impact factor is stable at 0.7

This year Karel terBrugge proposes to update the Editorial Board to reflect those actively working and look at collaborating with other journals and societies.

Jacques Moret asked what is being done to increase the impact factor of the journal and suggested attracting high quality trainees with WFITN endowment funds and encouraging submission to INR. Karel agreed that this could be a good strategy and that the education committee could look at rewarding top submissions.

11. Congress Budapest update

Istvan Szikora presented the following information:

- a. Sponsorship contracts are concluded with 3 companies and is being negotiated with others.
- b. EUCOMED rules regarding individual physician sponsorship will not be applied in 2017 by the larger companies. Smaller companies will follow this lead. Medtech application for approval of the meeting site have been made and approval received. UEMS continuing education approval has been applied for but is still awaited.
- c. Abstract submission is open online already and publication of abstracts will be done by the publisher of INR SAGE.
- d. Meeting endorsement has been received from ESMINT, SNIS, JSNET, SILAN, SVIN and ESO.
- e. The program outline is completed and is available online.
- f. The venue has been changed back to the Pesti Vigado concert hall.
- g. There will be 4 prizes awarded for the best scientific contributions.

12. Naples Congress update

The meeting will be held from 21st to the 24th of October in 2019. Following this will be the intracranial stent meeting from 25th to 26th October. There will be a fee reduction for attending both meetings. Michael Söderman asked how the reduction would be applied i.e. would the reduction be in the WFITN fee, ICS fee or both. Alessandra Biondi replied this still needed to be determined and that it had been done at the 2013 Buenos Aires meeting.

The meeting was closed at 4 p.m.

The next scheduled General Assembly is Tuesday, October, 17th 2017 at 6 p.m. in Budapest.

Allan Taylor
General Secretary