



THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ULTRASOUND IN OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

**Sunday, 13 September 2009
Hall 2, CCH, Hamburg, Germany**

1. President's opening address

Gianluigi Pilu welcomed the members and thanked them for attending. He conveyed ISUOG's desire to hear more from its members. Advice and input is actively welcomed, especially where members would like to see a particular activity or course organized. He asked members to contact the Secretariat via email if they had any ideas.

The President extended a special thank you to the ISUOG Secretariat staff for their hard work throughout the year.

The meeting was quorate with 216 members present and was declared open.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Chicago, 2008

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Chicago were unanimously accepted without change.

3. Report and accounts for the year end 2008

Josh Copel presented the accounts to the members and highlighted that at the end of the calendar year ISUOG's assets, including the Secretariat building stood at £3,328,000. He confirmed that an educational endowment of £500,000 was set aside to build a fund for ongoing educational activities, and ISUOG would actively be adding to this. He also highlighted the 'free reserves' of £1,000,000, of which a portion will be put towards sourcing a new property for the ISUOG offices in London.

Josh Copel commented that since the inception of ISUOG Michael Jellicoe had undertaken both ISUOG's accountancy and audit and thanked him for his endeavours over time. Best practice principles are moving towards a separation of these functions and, having gone through a full tender and review process, the Board now recommends to the membership that Gotham Erskine be appointed as ISUOG's auditors for 2009/2010, with Mike Jellicoe retained in the capacity of ISUOG's accountant, which brought additional benefits of access to unrestricted advice from Michael.

Josh Copel requested that the members approve the accounts and appointment of Gotham Erskine. Steven Goldstein proposed a motion to accept the accounts and appointment of the auditor, which was seconded by Dario Paladini and accepted with none against.

4. Report of the Board and sub committees

UOG

Yves Ville, Editor-in-Chief

Yves Ville drew the members' attention to the increase in the journal's Impact Factor to 2.69. He thanked Sarah Hatcher and Oliver Stirrup for their hard work in the Editorial office and contribution to this success.

The Editor-in-Chief reported that submissions to UOG over the last three years have increased by 35% and also confirmed plans to slightly increase the rejection rate, which currently stood at 38%. He also highlighted the Early View website and suggested that members should use the site actively to check what will be published up to four weeks in advance. He thanked the Editorial Board for their continued work reviewing articles and the Editors for their support.

Secretariat report

Andrew Ngu, Secretary

Andrew Ngu reported on the continued strength of the membership which now stands at 3180 members in 100 countries. It is also promising to note that the number of members attending the ISUOG Congress is growing. The highest number of members are from the USA, Germany and the UK.

Meeting Planning Committee

Ann Tabor, Chair of Meeting Planning Committee

Ann Tabor thanked Sarah Johnson and Dayle Long for their significant contribution and work on this Committee and the Board for their support during her term which would end during the Hamburg meeting.

Ann Tabor reported that there were approximately 1,500 individuals on site at the Hamburg Congress and the top four countries attending are Germany, UK, Spain and USA. She confirmed that the next Congress would be held in Prague (Czech Republic) from 10-14 October 2010 with Pavel Calda and Karel Marsal as Co-chairs. Future congresses confirmed include Los Angeles (USA) from 18-22 September 2011, Copenhagen (Denmark) from 9-13 September 2012.

Ann Tabor reported that the 2009 International Scientific Meeting that was due to be held in Mexico unfortunately had to be cancelled due to the Swine flu outbreak. The 2010 International Scientific Meeting was on schedule taking place in Cairo, Egypt from 25-29 March 2010 and she encouraged abstract submissions. The 2011 meeting would be held in Macau.

Scientific Committee

Ahmet Baschat, Chair of the Scientific Committee

Ahmet Baschat confirmed that the following members would be stepping down from the Scientific Committee – Steve Goldstein, Basky Thilaganathan, Dirk Timmerman, Lil Valentin and Yves Ville – he thanked them for their long standing and valued contributions during their time on the committee. He asked any members interested in participating on the Scientific committee to step forward and identify themselves or contact the Secretariat via email.

Ahmet Baschat reported on the Scientific Committee activities for the year. He confirmed that there had been over 1000 abstract submissions for Hamburg. Of these 183 had been allocated oral communication presentations, 358 had been allocated as oral posters and 380 as posters. Ahmet Baschat thanked everyone who had submitted their papers to the Congress.

He announced that the top five selected abstracts, presented in the previous session, had been judged by the Scientific Committee and he was pleased to announce the winning abstract as “*A practical approach to preoperatively assess ovarian pathology: combining pattern recognition and mathematical models*” (OC01.04) first author Tom Bourne and presented by Dirk Timmerman. He confirmed that the best abstract came with the entitlement to a complimentary abstract submitter registration the following year and in the case that the authors were invited faculty members this could be transferred to a young investigator of their choice the following year.

Education Committee

Dario Paladini, Chair of the Education Committee

Dario Paladini reported on the Education Committee activities for the year and confirmed that he would be stepping down as Chair of the Committee. Due to the recent global financial crises the number of courses was less than the previous year, but there was optimism that this would go up in the forthcoming year. This being the case, he was pleased to report that the most popular course being sought is fetal anomalies and echocardiography and that three new countries had been reached including Argentina, Iran and Vietnam. He encouraged members who were actively looking to run a course to contact ISUOG.

The London course on “Doppler in obstetrics & ultrasound and labour” dates were announced (5-6 December 2009) and members and non-members could register for these on the ISUOG website. He also asked members to note that no pre-congress courses would be organised in Prague in October 2010.

Dario Paladini confirmed that the criteria for the creation and operation of Teaching and Training Centres (TTC) were being reviewed by the Education Committee and a report would be considered by the Board at the next Strategic Planning Meeting in March 2010. He confirmed that the existing TTC’s would continue as they have done and he thanked the contributors for their work done to date.

Dario Paladini thanked the Education Committee for all their hard work during his time as Chair and wished the new Chair Rabih Chaoui every success.

Gianluigi Pilu thanked all the committee chairs for their ongoing work and that concluded the reports from the ISUOG Committees. There were no questions.

5. Awards and acknowledgements

Gianluigi Pilu confirmed that to mark the occasion of the retirement of Prof Alfred Kratochwil an award would be presented in his name in Hamburg to the presenter of the best paper on 3D ultrasound. He also confirmed that Ulrich Gembruch had been awarded this years’ Ian Donald Gold Medal and invited the members to attend his Gold Medal lecture later that day.

Other acknowledgements were presented to Ann Tabor and Dario Paladini as they stepped down as Chair of the Meeting Planning Committee and Education Committee respectively. The Honorary Fellowship Award, which equates to a life time membership of the Society, was presented to Sturla Eik-Nes for his unwavering support of and work for ISUOG since its inception. Most notably he had served as second ever President of ISUOG and had introduced and since maintained the ISUOG Outreach program

6. Appointments and retirements

Andrew Ngu confirmed that five members of the Board (Trustees) were required to retire by rotation at the AGM each year and in 2009 these were:

- **Joshua Copel**
- **Dario Paladini**
- **Gianluigi Pilu**
- **Lawrence Platt**
- **Ann Tabor**

Several of these were eligible and recommended for reappointment for another term due to their active contribution to the Board and one new Board member was recommended for appointment.

- **Catia Bilardo**
- **Dario Paladini**
- **Gianluigi Pilu**
- **Ann Tabor**
- **Josua Copel**

The new Board members were unanimously approved by the members.

Gianluigi Pilu finished the meeting by announcing that the following World Congress would take place in Prague 10-14 October 2010 and looked forward to seeing the delegates again there.

Gianluigi Pilu thanked the members for attending and the meeting was declared closed.