

INTERNATIONAL BALINT FEDERATION

www.balintinternational.com

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President: Dr Donald Nease (United States)

Vice Presidents:

Dr Kristiina Toivola (Finland)

Dr Marieke van Schie (Netherlands)

Treasurer: Dr Mark Budow (Israel)

General Secretary: Dr Paul Sackin (UK)



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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE COUNTY HOTEL, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, UK ON SATURDAY JUNE 7TH 2014 AT 13.30

PRESENT

BELGIUM

Jean Flechet
Michele Paree

DENMARK

Helena Nielsen

FINLAND

Juke-Matti Toivola
Kristiina Toivola

FRANCE

Jean-Daniel Gradeler
Philippe Guillou
Marie Anne Puel

GERMANY

Guenther Bergmann
Heide Otten

ISRAEL

Peter Berkley
Mark Budow

NETHERLANDS

Marieke van Schie

PORTUGAL

Jorge Brandao

SWEDEN

Juanita Forssell

UNITED KINGDOM

Christina Blackwell
Andrew Elder
Paul Sackin
David Watt

USA

Don Nease

1. **Welcome** The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked our UK hosts for organising it and for managing the change of venue.
2. **Apologies** Russia (St Petersburg)
3. **Minutes of the GA meeting at Heidelberg** Andrew Elder proposed and David Watt seconded that these were a true record. All agreed
4. **Matters arising from the Minutes** Paul reported that the Board had devised a template for reports from national societies and this had proved useful
5. **Treasurer's Report** Mark presented the income and expenditure account (attached) for 2013 and also the assets (attached). Mark explained that interest will be better next year as funds are being put in savings account. Ideas on how to spend money are welcome. Mark made a plea to societies to say from which country the payment comes from as this is not always apparent from the bank transfer.
6. **Revisors' report** Juanita presented the revisors' report. The revisors recommended to Council to approve the accounts for the year ending December 31st 2013 and they approved the economic management of IBF affairs by the Board. Subsequently the Board nominated and approved Christina Blackwell as interim revisor to carry out the term of Henry Jablonski until September 2015
7. **Budget 2014** Mark presented this (attached) and it was approved.
8. **Fee structure.** The Board proposed to return to the previous fee structure before the Charleroi amendments and this was agreed
9. **Reports from National Societies** These were received. Paul explained that others had been submitted since the agenda papers were circulated and these would be included on the website
10. **Leadership task force/conference Sep 2014** Andrew reported that the task force met in February in Brussels to plan the Israel conference. There had been 70+ applications and there would be five groups of 14. Esti Rimmer and Albert Lichtenstein were invited on to the staff team. Less experienced leaders needed to be sponsored by their societies; two were turned down because of lack of experience. Three people were on a waiting list as the conference is now full. Andrew explained how the task force was set up and how the membership might be rotated, perhaps after 5-6 years maximum. Don asked for suggestions from the task force as to how the rotations should happen and this will to be discussed in Israel.
11. **IBF Bursary.** Mark explained the criteria for the bursary. There had been only one applicant this round, Pawel Sala from Poland. Mark explained that the bursary will be available for international congresses as well as leadership conferences. There was discussion on the criteria for bursaries and the encouragement of GPs to apply but not to the exclusion of other professional groups. Marieke would like to know how many members in each society are GPs; nearly all Balint Society members in the Netherlands are GPs. There was a suggestion to put on national reports the delineation of numbers by specialty. Paul will request this for the 2015 reports.
12. **WONCA** Philippe Guillou is doing a workshop at WONCA Lisbon, 'Can Balint prevent burn out?' The Portuguese Society is also participating, perhaps doing a fishbowl. Dates are 2/4 July 2014. WONCA Europe 2015 is in Istanbul. In 2016 the World Congress is in Rio
13. **Website.** The Board feels that this needs refreshing and this was agreed. Updates are through an intermediary; we are looking at ways of doing it

ourselves. Will get two proposals on how to refresh it but we would like ideas on what should be on website. Suggestions to Paul please!

14. **Email communication/Mailchimp** We will aim to move forward with Mailchimp because of privacy issues.
15. **Translation Board** Paul reported that Helene Oppenheim Gluckman's book 'Lire Michael Balint' has been translated into English as 'Reading Michael Balint' and will soon be published by Routledge – Paul has been asked to write a Foreward. Paul agreed to find out how the translation of Bohdan's book is progressing. Helena Nielsen has replaced Don as a member of the translation board. Juanita suggested that Balint books reviewed in national journals should be put on the IBF website
16. **Euract** Marie Anne says meetings usually together with WONCA. Heather and Heide were IBF reps, would like change. Jorge, Katrin Fjeldsted and Shake Seigel were suggested. Jorge is happy to contact Euract at the WONCA meeting. Euract have tried in past to get Balint work on the core curriculum for general practice, would like to continue this work.
17. **Co-sponsorship of international congresses** Don reminded Council members that two methods of organising the finances of IBF Congresses are currently possible according to our approved guidelines. One of these allows the organising Society to keep all profits but puts them at risk in case of losses. The other option shares both risk and reward between the IBF and the organising Society. The Metz Congress will be using this shared risk/reward option.
18. **Council meeting in first half of 2015** Juanita reported that Stefan Balint and colleagues would be happy to organise this in Malmo. All welcomed this. Paul will contact Stefan and let him know that details will be needed by the time we meet in Israel.
19. **International Congress Metz 2015** Jean-Daniel Gradeler gave us an informative and highly entertaining presentation. Everyone is much looking forward! Dates 5th – 9th September 2015
20. **International Congress 2017.** David Watt offered that the UK organise this Congress in Oxford in 2017. This was readily accepted.
21. **Any other business** a) Michele Paree reported that on 4th October the Belgian Society is celebrating 40 years and would welcome our presence. If you cannot come the Belgians would welcome a letter of support. Details will be on the IBF website. b) Kristiina Toivola reported that the Finnish society is forming links with Estonia.
22. **Date of next meeting** Thursday September 11th 2014 at 20.30 at Karei Deshe, Israel