

EAHIL Council Meeting

Tuesday 3 July 2012

"Van Gehuchten" room, (Université catholique de Louvain, Brussels, Belgium)

Minutes

Present:

Board members: Peter Morgan (Chair), Suzanne Bakker, Helena Bouzkova, Marshall Dozier, Lotta Haglund, Tuulevi Ovaska

Council/SIG members: Vinciane de Bergeyck (Belgium), Dana Zdenkova (Czech Republic), Hanne Christensen (Denmark), Katri Larmo (Finland), Liikala Minna (Finland), Marie Teissier (France), Guillemette Utard-Wlerick (France), Kai Geschuhn (Germany), Niamh Lucey (Ireland), Anne OByrne (Ireland), Maurella Della Seta (Italy), Jurate Stukiene (Lithuania), Silvia Ciubrei (Moldova), Liubovi Karneeva (Moldova non-council member in attendance), Gerdien de Jonge (Netherlands), Ronald van Dieën (Netherlands), Hanne Dybvik (Norway), Regina Küfner Lein (Norway), Liv Vikan (Norway), Ana Ivkovic (Serbia), Matjaz Musek (Slovenia), Janet Wamby (Sweden), Carol Lefebvre (UK), Sue Thomas (Public Health SIG, UK)

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

- Apologies: Manuela Colombi (Board), Lea Skoric (Croatia), Jouni Leinonen (Finland), Oliver Obst (Germany), Paul Murphy (Ireland), Federica Napolitani Cheyne (Italy), Jacqueline Limpens (Netherlands), Barbara Niedzwiedzka (Poland), Margarida Meira (Portugal), Ioana Robu (Romania), Colm Doyle (Sweden), Tomas Allen (Switzerland), Gussun Gunes (Turkey), Janet Harrison (UK), Michelle Wake (UK)

2. Round-table introductions

- Everyone introduced themselves.

3. Minutes of the 2011 Council meeting in Koc University, Istanbul

- Corrections: Charlotte van der Valk was from the CAM group, not representing Netherlands; Carol Lefebvre was added to the list of apologies.
With these corrections, the Minutes were accepted as an accurate record.

4. Matters arising

- 5 - Clarification of the note about the Public Health SIG: the delays were not specific to any project but rather to the work of the group in general. 5 - PM noted that this year the SIGs were asked to report after the conference, rather than at Council.
- 7b - ILL requests on general list: the policy statement about not using the list for requests had been approved and will shortly appear on EAHIL website.
- 7d - 2014 venue: The 2014 conference was now confirmed as Rome in June 2014.
- 7e - LIBER: For the time being, it was decided not to press forward with collaboration with LIBER.

5. President's report

- PM summarised the President's report.
- PM and the Council recorded their thanks to Manuela Colombi for proposing the idea of the 25th anniversary research grants, and managing the process.
- PM noted that from 2013, all members will be asked to re-register as part of creating a new membership database. It was agreed that this refreshed database will be beneficial, and council members can help by encouraging colleagues from their countries to register in the new database, with a list of those who have not re-registered.

- SB reported that Wiley would open access to 25 articles in HILJ in recognition of EAHIL's 25th anniversary.

6. Individual councillors: news and reports

- RvD asked that in future the Council meeting should not clash with courses. It was noted that this will not be a problem in Stockholm.
- PM asked whether Councillors would find it easier to get funding by having the annual meeting timed to happen during the conference days, rather than on a separate day.

7. Discussion topics

JEAHIL

- There was a discussion about improving the submission of papers. Clarification of the types of submissions would help (variety is welcome). The requirement to write in English is a barrier, but TO reported that the editorial board can give editing help, and several English-speaking Councillors offered to be available to help with English language editing. It would be useful to know more about whether colleagues read print or online. SB reported that the printing and mailing are covered by advertisements and EBSCO support.

Registry Taskforce and EAHIL's role in professional development

- The meeting reviewed the role of the Taskforce in establishing or supporting professional registration needs in specific countries.
- Anne O'Byrne mentioned the SHELLI Report which is being presented, and which perhaps could help others as a model.
- Matjaz Musek observed that in Slovenia, which has a small professional community, even having the Bologna agreement does not help specialist librarians. Countries with larger numbers of medical librarians have less need of a system of professional certification, but it would be useful for smaller countries. The training and level of qualification differ between countries, so a statement of a minimum level of skills would be a useful starting point. Slovenian members would support a certification system.
- Carol Lefebvre sought clarification about whether we are talking about qualifications in medical librarianship, or general librarianship.
- The differences between competences needed as solo librarians in small libraries or as part of a team in bigger libraries were discussed. The solo librarian in particular needs support in learning about working in a health context.
- It was suggested that exchanges between countries are possible, and have been enabled by contact through EAHIL.
- Lithuanian librarians desire knowledge, and feel that certification will improve the career prospects of new librarians, and attract more to the profession.
- PM summarised his sense that the Council discussion indicates that there is a need for the registry taskforce.
- CLefebvre asked if a baseline audit of what certification is available in the EAHIL countries was available, or could be undertaken.
- Regina Kűfner Lein proposed that there should be a difference between certification and specialist medical librarian courses. The present courses are very good, but give no certification.
- RvD highlighted the MLA's credit system for CPD.
- MMusek pointed out that each country would have different requirements for certification, so a single certificate may not be able to be implemented in all countries, but could be used as leverage to have national programmes created (like the school librarians' qualifications in Slovenia).

Venues for future conferences

- PM highlighted that there are still no formal applications to host the annual meeting for 2015, and encouraged councillors to consider hosting a workshop/conference, and talk to local organizing committees to get an idea of what is involved.

Nomination of Councillors for 2013-16

- PM highlighted two changes need to the previously circulated list: Moldova now qualifies for two Councillors, and Italy needs a new Councillor now that Maurella Della Seta is joining the Board.
- PM asked Councillors to encourage colleagues to stand for election so that there is a healthy election process with more than one person standing for each position.

Creation of national discussion lists for health information professionals

- PM indicated that EAHIL can offer country/regional mailing lists if Councillors felt that could help support discussion. RvD indicated that it is now very easy to set up discussion for a in a variety of tools, in the Netherlands for example there are already national discussion groups, and he would rather promote awareness of EAHIL in the existing lists

Open access policy statement

- PM outlined EAHIL's current position on OA - the principle was supported, but the Journal's policies on copyright ownership were not entirely consistent with this, as highlighted by a recent request for re-use rights to a Journal article.
- RvD suggested that if EAHIL hasn't already signed the Berlin Declaration it should now consider doing so.
- CLefebvre suggested that the Journal wording doesn't specify that the author retains © but that the Journal doesn't take copyright.
- CLefebvre asked about © in papers submitted to conferences? SB indicated her understanding that as a matter of principle, EAHIL doesn't take the ©; PM summarised that the position should be made explicit.
- SB suggested that the GA is asked this week whether signing the Berlin declaration and a clearer stance on open access is desirable; if it is approved as an idea, then a proposed statement will be taken to the general assembly in 2013.

8. Any other business

- PM noted that this is the last meeting as formal Board member for Helena Bouzkova and Suzanne Bakker and thanked them for their work. SB will continue as supervisor of the secretariat. A thanks was recorded for Manuela Colombi who has completed her duties as Treasurer.
- PM encouraged Council members to attend the General Assembly to ensure that the meeting is quorate and that the budget for the next year may be voted upon.