

## **EAHIL General Assembly**

**Date: Friday 10 June 2016**

**Time: 17.00-18.00**

**Venue: Hotel Silken Al-Andalus Palace, Room Descubrimiento.**

### **Minutes**

**1. Welcome and apologies**

Marshall Dozier (MD), President of EAHIL, welcomed attendees to the General Assembly (GA) at EAHIL conference in Seville. The assembly was confirmed to be a quorum. The Board introduced themselves.

**2. Announcements**

Hussein Haruna, winner of the EAHIL-AHILA scholarship 2016, invited EAHIL members to attend the AHILA Conference 17.- 21. October 2016 in Uganda.

**3. Minutes of the General Assembly 2015 (Edinburgh)**

The minutes were circulated together with the agenda. MD asked if there were any corrections. The General Assembly accepted the minutes as an accurate document. The minutes are available at the EAHIL web site.

**4. President's report**

The president's report gives a summary of the activities of the Association and its representatives for the year. The report was circulated before the meeting. No questions from the GA. The report is available on the EAHIL web site as:

<http://eahil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/Presidents-report-2015.pdf>

**5. Secretariat Supervisor's report**

Susanne Bakker (SB), Secretariat Supervisor, reported on the administration of EAHIL; operations are as usual. The membership data were transferred to a new database that includes options for Council members to review applications and to accept new members. At present 1593 records in the membership database.

**6. Treasurer's report**

MD reported on behalf of Ghislaine Declève(GD), EAHIL Treasurer, and informed that she could not be present.

*a. Report of the auditing committee*

MD informed that Oliver Obst (approved by the GA earlier) substituted Ulrich Korwitz in the auditing committee. Ulrich could not take part in the auditing process or be at the GA due to current problems at ZB Med. MD introduced Witold Kozakiewicz, who reported on behalf of the committee.

*b. Discharge of Treasurer*

Responsibility for the accounts was approved

*c. Budget*

The budget for 2016 is already approved, MD went through the proposed budget for 2017 and 2018, and explained why the budget go in minus with a deficit of about

20.000 euro. EAHIL is financially a healthy organisation but should not have surplus, due to this, it is a strategy to reduce the balance, and instead support members through scholarships and project grants. Major expenses in the budget are printing of the Journal, scholarships, awards and free waivers for future conference/workshop organisers.  
No questions from the GA, the budget was approved.

#### **7. JEAHIL Editor's Report**

Federica Napolitani Cheyne (FN), Editor in chief, reported on activities and introduced the members of the Journal Editorial Board. A positive trend is that the number of submitted articles are increasing. The costs of printing and mailing increased due to transferring these services from Romania to the Netherlands, and also to the increase of printed pages. The Board are working to increase sponsorship incomes

#### **8. Amendments to EAHIL Rules of Procedure and Policy Statements**

EAHIL has three types of formal documents: (1) Statutes, (2) Rules of Procedures, (3) Policy Statements. Changes to (2) and (3) require approval by the General Assembly for adoption. Current Rules of Procedures and Policy Statements are available on the EAHIL web site. The Board proposed three amendments for approval. The proposals were circulated before the meeting

- A. Rule of Procedure 2a (regarding institutional member representatives)
- B. Policy statement 7: Middle East and Gulf Region
- C. Policy Statement 8: Scholarships for EAHIL conferences and workshops

##### **A. Proposed revision to EAHIL Rule of Procedure 2a.**

Current wording:

*“Institutional members [statutes 4.1.1.2] shall nominate an authorised representative to represent their interests in relation to the Association. The nomination must be in writing to the secretariat and may be changed by written notification up to one month in advance of any meeting or election in which the representative may wish to vote.”*

Proposed amendment:

*“While individual membership remains free of charge, the option of Institutional membership [statutes 4.1.1.2] is removed and applicants are asked to register as individual members. This measure avoids the administrative burden of identifying and registering a voting representative for the Institutions. Should membership fees be re-instated, then an appropriate process of validating voting representatives for Institutional members will be established.”*

Approved by the General Assembly 10.6.2016

##### **B. Proposed revision to Policy statement 7: Middle East and Gulf Region**

Current wording:

*“POLICY STATEMENT 7 - MIDDLE-EAST AND GULF REGION:*

*Health librarians from middle eastern countries remain very interested in coming to EAHIL events. This group should not be made into a regional division of EAHIL,*

*but rather become a middle eastern medical libraries association that could acknowledged to be a sister organisation, and EAHIL can aid and advise this group in the formation of an independent association by exchanging experience, for example by inviting a representative to observe some of the formal business of the Council and Board.*

*Adopted by EAHIL Executive Board, Milan, 12 February 2010”*

Proposed amendment:

*“POLICY STATEMENT 7*

*Members and groupings outside the member states of the Council of Europe Health information specialists from many countries outside the member states of the Council of Europe remain very interested in joining EAHIL and coming to EAHIL events. We welcome the fruitful exchange of knowledge and ideas that arises from the global profile of our members and delegates. The EAHIL Board recognises the benefit to our individual members and to the organisation as a whole, especially in the collaborations that arise between members on different continents, and seeks actively to collaborate with sister organisations around the globe.*

*Should members from outside the member states of the Council of Europe request it, EAHIL can aid and advise in the formation or further development of independent associations by exchanging experience, for example by inviting a representative to observe some of the formal business of the Council and Board. However, members in this category should not be made into regional divisions of EAHIL. “*

Approved by the General Assembly 10.6.2016

**C. Proposal to change EAHIL Policy Statement 8: Scholarships for EAHIL conferences and workshops**

Current wording:

*“POLICY STATEMENT 8*

*SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EAHIL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS*

*Criteria:*

- No previous scholarship or registration award*
- No concurrent fee waiver, e.g. nominated by LOC for future conference/workshop*
- Still getting established in the profession*
- Not for members from the country hosting the conference*

*Adopted by EAHIL Executive Board, Milan, 12 February 2010”*

Proposed amendment:

*“POLICY STATEMENT 8 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR EAHIL CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS*

*The EAHIL Executive Board may award scholarships:*

- *To support the development of a network of professional health and information practitioners in and beyond Europe*
- *To support EAHIL members in the early stages of their careers by encouraging them to attend EAHIL meetings*
- *To support EAHIL members who for economic or political reasons may have difficulty in attending*
- *To maintain a quality, relevance and diversity of presentations/CECs at conferences and workshops*

*The criteria governing any EAHIL scholarship will be agreed by the Executive Board and published as part of the official instructions when each scholarship is announced.*

*Adopted by EAHIL Executive Board, Brussels, 1 March 2016"*

One typo corrected

Approved by the General Assembly 10.6.2016

## **9. Elections**

### **a. Results of elections for President and Board**

Katri Larmo reported on behalf of the Election Audit Committee. The nomination period was from March 17<sup>th</sup> to April 22<sup>th</sup> 2016, the voting took place from May 2<sup>th</sup> to May 27<sup>th</sup>. Members were invited to vote by mail via Formdesk and via Listserv EAHIL. 228 members cast their vote.

President: The candidate for EAHIL President was Maurella Della Seta. She got 210 votes and became EAHIL President for the 1st term for the period 2017-2018.

Executive Board: There were 6 candidates for the 4 vacancies for EAHIL Executive Board. Result of the voting:

Tuulevi Ovaska, 134 votes (elected to Executive Board 2017-2020)

Karen Johanne Buset, 130 votes (elected to Executive Board 2017-2020)

Witold Kozakiewicz, 117 votes (elected to Executive Board 2017-2020)

Ghislaine Declève, 114 votes (elected to Executive Board 2017-2020)

Eirik Reiirth 105 votes (co-opted to Executive Board 2017-2018)

Francesca Gualtieri 91 votes (co-opted to Executive Board 2017-2018)

The president and new Board member and co-opted members will take up office in January 2017. MD clarified that co-opted members will participate in the board work but cannot vote.

### **b. Upcoming Council elections**

The Council is an advisory group for the Board and acts as a link between the members in their country and the Association. The EAHIL Council election 2016 for the period 2017-2019 will be announced in the EAHIL Journal in September 2016.

## **10. Report from the Council meeting**

The Council members participating in a group work with three themes:

- What topics would you like to have covered in online CPD/CEC webinars? Maria García-Puente reported
- Building networks to increase membership and improve communication and access to peer support and CPD: Regina Küfner Lein reported

- What themes and article topics would you like to see in JEAHIL? Federica Napolitani gave a short summary.

#### 11. Future EAHIL meetings

2017: Dublin

2018: Cardiff

2019: Bern – the proposal was accepted this week

#### 12. Any other business

- Motion from Gerhard Bissels: Statement in support of ZB Med – funding will be withdrawn. (Attached at the end of the minutes).  
Action: An open letter from EAHIL will be sent to the funding body, and will be published online and in the Journal. Approved unopposed by the General Assembly.
- Motion from Isla Kuhn and Tom Roper: Improved reporting standard for systematic reviews. (Attached at the end of the minutes).  
Approved unopposed by the General Assembly.

MD declared the General Assembly closed.

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After the General Assembly the meeting continued with Closing Ceremony, including presentation of awards:

Winner of a camera from Sage (presented by Mark Lord Zahra): Rosaria Rosanna Cammarano

Scholarship for best paper in EAHIL Journal 2015 (FN): Jane Blumenthal

EAHIL – AHILA scholarship 2016 (PM): Hussein Haruna

EAHIL - Ebsco scholarships 2016 (PM): Anna Brown, Sally Dalton, Krisztina Egri, Anna Gasparello, Martina Kocbek Gajšt, Sarah Hagström

Best poster and oral presentation (presented by Pilar Toro Sánchez-Blanco). Each poster and presentation evaluated by three persons, using EAHIL standard scheme for evaluation.

Best oral presentation: Catherine Williams (*Alt*) *Metrics in practice: effective analysis and application of modern research metrics*

Best First Time attendee oral presentation: Shelley de Kock with co-authors K. Misso, L. Stirk, M. Westwood, S. Deshpande, J. Kleijnen, D. Clayton and J. Kleijnen *Finding systematic reviews on pain: building the KSR Pain Evidence database*

Best poster: Giuse Ardita with co-authors E. Poltronieri and F. Toni *Tag your research and enhance your citation rate: last call for author ambiguity problems*

Best First Time attendee poster: Deirdre Andre with co-authors S. Dalton and P. Spoor *New directions: health librarians in the changing research landscape*

The full text of the prize-winning papers and posters, and reports and memories from conference participants may be seen in the Journal of EAHIL 12(3) <http://eahil.eu/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/journal-3-2016-web.pdf>

EAHIL Award 2015: Arne Jakobsson

EAHIL Award 2016: Susanne Bakker

Honorary member: Sally Wood. Ioana Robu received the award on behalf of Sally

MD thanked the Seville Local Organising Committee.

The team from Dublin invited members to the next EAHIL Workshop / ICML Conference in Dublin2017

a. Motion from Gerhard Bissels:

## Statement in support of ZB Med

Medical librarians all over Europe have been shocked and dismayed about the news that funding for the ZB Med will be withdrawn, and the library reduced from its current national and international role to that of just a faculty library within three years.

ZB Med is the second largest medical library worldwide after the NLM, and libraries internationally rely on its document supply service. Much of the collection of ZB Med is not held elsewhere in Europe or elsewhere. Beyond collection building, ZB Med's search tools provide access to content not indexed anywhere else; and the library supports researchers with publishing advice and an OA publishing platform.

Medical librarians organised in EAHL recommend that ZB Med should be kept as a national and international service, and that an adequate and stable funding stream should be re-established.

b. Motion from Isla Kuhn and Tom Roper:

## Improved reporting standards for systematic reviews

This General Assembly notes with concern the continuing failure of many systematic reviews in the literature to report their information retrieval methods, as required by existing standards such as PRISMA. These failures have been highlighted in presentations to this conference, and occur despite plentiful reporting guidelines, such as those collated by the Equator Network.

The General Assembly calls on the officers of EAHL to open dialogue with publishers, with a view to improving systematic review methods reporting, in particular more rigorous application of existing standards via the peer review process. Furthermore, to ask the EAHL board to liaise with the Equator Network and other interested parties with a view to promoting awareness of and adherence to these standards by researchers and authors.