



EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR SOCIAL PEDIATRICS - ESSOP

Annual General Meeting of ESSOP 2004

Montreal, Québec (Canada) – 24th September 2004

Notes taken by O. Duperrex and completed by the propositions made to the AGM on the future of ESSOP.

1. Welcome by Aidan Macfarlane

Special welcome to Dan Coury – President of the Ambulatory Pediatric Association

2. Those attending

15 members present at beginning + a few arriving later

3. Apologies for absence

Gulbin Gökçay, Garth Alperstein, Tony Waterson, Ilona Szilagy-Pagouska, Paul Bouvier.

4. Minutes of the last meeting

- Aidan apologised for not having circulated widely enough the document on the future of ESSOP (prepared with Nick Spencer) and for too short a session on the 22nd September 2004.

5. New Members

Presented by Olivier Duperrex – all accepted:

- Raul Mercer – Argentina
- Ana Bruzon - Canada
- Lyra Queeley - Canada
- Jean Clinton - Canada
- Lisa Graves - Canada
- Michael Malus - Canada
- Milivoj Jovancevic – Croatia
- Anica Persoglia-Petrac – Croatia
- Anneke Kesler – Netherlands
- AnneMieke von Woudenberg - Netherlands
- Anna Bodin – Sweden

6. President's Report

- Aidan reminded the original aim of ESSOP: raise the profile of Social Paediatrics by having meetings around Europe. He re-emphasised his view that ESSOP needs:
 - to move to an umbrella organisation;
 - to strengthen relations with other associations (including the APA);
 - a President who not only has a vision but also time to take ESSOP forward.
- A new President will be elected next year.

7. Treasurer's Report

- Travel expenses for General Secretary for 2001 meeting have been paid in 2002.
- There were no travel expenses for General Secretary for 2002 meeting (did not attend) and 2003 meeting.
- List of lifetime members has been put on the website.
- No charges for website.

Balance for 2003: + 1'559 EUROS (+ 2'270 CHF)

Annual report of accounts

EUROS					
Bank accounts	01.01.'00	01.01.'01	01.01.'02	01.01.'03	01.01.'04
ESSOP CHF	3'275	2'762	3'916	3'469	4'520
ESSOP Euros	0	0	0	1'150	1'863
TOTAL Bank accounts	3'275	2'762	3'916	4'619	6'384
Difference to previous year		-513	1'154	703	1'765

Memberships

	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Lifetime	33	33	33	33	33
Annual fee paid	34	47	40	16	1
Total	67	80	73	49	34

Comments

- Fees are too low (James Perrin) or too high (Shanti).
- ESSOP need to offer something before increasing fees (Lennart Köhler + Concha Colomer).
- Olivier needs to send his reminder by email.

DECISION => no change in fees for now

8. Proposal as to how to take Presidential and Executive Committee elections forward

	Action	Who	Deadline
1	Send letter to members asking them to propose a candidate for President + Curriculum vitae + vision for ESSOP	Aidan + Gülbin + Olivier	1 st December 2004
2	Propose a short list of candidates for President		1 st March 2005
3	Discussion with the candidates		
4	Possible vote by correspondance (or web?) for those not coming to Croatia in June 2005		1 st May 2005
5	Prepare Executive Committee renewal		1 st March 2005

9. Proposed changes to the ESSOP constitution

Aidan Macfarlane and Nick Spencer prepared a set of questions and drafted a first proposal that was circulated to Executive Committee members. A meeting on the 22nd September clarified some points, amended the proposals as shown below and set up working groups for next year.

Topic	Questions raised	Proposal to the AGM	Discussion points	Decision
1. Name change	Is there a case for changing the name with a view to attracting other professional groups and more clearly characterising our aims?	That the present name of the society 'European Society for Social Paediatrics, ESSOP' Should be changed to a full title: - European Society for Social Paediatrics and Child Health. But that the acronym should remain ESSOP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some say it would be better to wait until major change made before altering the constitution. Others say we are entitled to make changes in several steps and the AGM is the place to make these decisions. Main reason for changing the name is to make clear ESSOP is open to non-doctors. Changing name will be cosmetic if more staffing is not put into the management of ESSOP. Not forget adolescent phase. 	Topic 1-3: OK on the principle but wait until subgroup on Future of ESSOP has met and circulate proposed changes to all members and vote in June 2005.
2. Aims and objectives	Are these clearly stated in the constitution/mission statement etc.?	That section 2 (Purpose) of the Constitution entitled 'PURPOSE' be changed from: <i>The Society is a non-governmental, non-profit making, scientific body with the purpose to promote the knowledge of social paediatrics, stimulate research in this field, to disseminate such knowledge at meetings and elsewhere and to cooperate with other national and international agencies with the same or similar scope.</i>	See topic 1	See topic 1

Topic	Questions raised	Proposal to the AGM	Discussion points	Decision
		to read: 'The Society is a non-governmental, non-profit making, scientific body open to all child health professionals with the purpose of promoting knowledge of social paediatrics, to stimulate research in this field, to disseminate such knowledge at meetings and to work together with national and international agencies to use our skills, resources and knowledge to develop local and global strategies to improve the health and well-being of children and young people'		
3. Membership and other child health professionals	Is it clearly enough stated in the constitution etc. that ESSOP is open to all relevant health professionals, not just paediatricians	Delete current 3a in the Constitution which reads <i>'Members must have an active interest in social paediatrics'</i> and substitute: <i>'Membership is open to all professionals in child & adolescent health'</i>	See topic 1	See topic 1
4. International orientation	Is there a case for formalising what is already a trend to increasing international membership or should we simply let 'nature take its course' and hold the occasional meeting outside Europe? What are the pros & cons?	Delete current 3b of the constitution which states: <i>'Members are accepted from European countries and from non-European countries to an amount of up to 10%.'</i> And substitute <i>'Membership is open to professionals working for child and adolescent health from anywhere in the world'</i>	Originally 'to health professionals' replaced by '...professionals working for child &ado health'	Accepted to majority.
5. Policy statements	Should we plan to produce a small number	That we should commission a brief (2 page) policy statement on a key child health issue for submission to the Executive Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Important to do it, but need a process for approval and 	Mitch Blair will make a proposal for a process

Topic	Questions raised	Proposal to the AGM	Discussion points	Decision
	of policy statements on subjects in which we have expertise and that are relevant to our mission statement?	for ratification and distribution as ESSOP policy – possible issues: training, advocacy, child rights, child health inequalities, secondary prevention in childhood, early childhood prevention, Child Health Indicators of Life and Development. Aim: to raise profile of ESSOP.	publication. • Choose topics that other groups don't.	for ESSOP policy statements. Nick Spencer has drafted a policy on Child Health Inequalities which will be available on the ESSOP website for discussion.
6. Need to professionalise the organisation.	How does one professionalise the organisation. Do we need to have job description done at the same time? Equipment, travel, sited within a university or other organisation (private or public). Do we need to for EC money. Who has an entree into the European community?	We need to find money for a <i>professional paid for coordinator</i> . Should be our number one commitment for the next year. This project should be taken forward by Gilles Julien, Lennart Kohler, Concha Colomer, Aidan Macfarlane. This subcommittee should (a) draw up a job description for the position of professional coordinator (b) look at the costing of employing such a person (c) examine how the resources can be found (d) suggest possible candidates for the position (e) examine what kind of institutes might be suitable to have this position in e.g. university department etc.		Approved at majority
7. Publications	Should we attempt to build on the success of the 'Glossary' collaboration led by Professor Nick Spencer, with a view to producing further relevant publications?	A. To take a subject from the annual meetings (Social Paediatric Training for this year perhaps) and let <i>that</i> form the basis of a publication from 'ESSOP'. It is propose that Gilles Julien takes this on initially with the support of – Shanti Raman and Graham Vimpani from Australia, and Jeff Goldhagen from the USA B. 'Gender issues' led by Concha and with Shanti Raman, Raul involved should be another future subject. C. Undertake a review of key social paediatric literature related to		Approved at majority

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		<p>the areas identified in the Glossary – Nick Spencer is willing to try and coordinate;</p> <p>D. That Aidan Macfarlane look at the possibility of ‘Social Paediatrics’ being a subject for the ‘electronic library’ in the U.K and that members of ESSOP should write ‘critiques’ on specific social paediatric articles.</p>		
8. Members acting as a resource in their areas of expertise		That the executive committee should examine the possibility of having a section on the website for peoples names and areas of expertise.		Approved at majority

10. ESSOP developments

	Working groups	Who	Deadline
1	ESSOP coordinator	Aidan + Concha + Lennard + Gilles	Will meet early December 2004 in Valencia or Paris. (see point 9.6)
2	Election for President + Executive Committee	Aidan + Gülbin + Olivier	Early December 2004 for letter (see point 8)

Need half a day including the AGM at next Annual Meeting in order to discuss proposals of working groups and make decisions.

11. Next year's - 2005 meeting in Croatia

Milivoj Jovančević (President of the Croatian Society for Social and Preventive Medicine) presented the elements of the program and his colleagues distributed gifts and the leaflet.

Dates: 22-25 June 2005 (to be joined to the 17th Annual meeting of the Croatian Society for Social and Preventive Medicine)

Topic: Child health care during the period of transition (change in health systems in relation with political changes / training issues / change in social values)

Comments: might be too wide / 'peace' as a component of transition / political transition at global level

12. Venues for the 2006 meeting

Nick Spencer informed us that Elspeth Webb is offering to host ESSOP 2006 in Cardiff, Wales on the topic of children's rights.

Aidan Macfarlane will contact Giorgio Tamburlini to see if Italy is still on the cards.

13. Any other business

- **Bursary for colleagues from less wealthy countries:** Shanti Raman proposed that we invite them, Aidan can offer a participation ('small bursary'), Nick suggest we add an extra 'tax' to attendee fees => to be discussed again once the next phase of ESSOP is clearer.
- Raul Mercer informed us that the **10th Annual meeting of the Argentinean Social Paediatric Society** will be held at the same dates as ESSOP (22-25 June 2005). He will communicate details to Olivier who will put them on ESSOP website. Concha will make the link with him and Aidan to explore possibilities of collaboration between Argentina and ESSOP, specially regarding training.
- Jim Perrin (editor of [Ambulatory Pediatrics](#), USA) will contact Stuart Logan (editor of [Child: Care, Health and Development](#), UK) to explore the possibility of a **joint publication of the annual meetings**.