



INTERNATIONAL CONTINENCE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
Of The 44th Annual General Meeting of the International Continence Society
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 23rd October 2014

Minute writer (from audio recording): Tracy Griffin

[Link to Annual Report and Accounts](#)

[Link to 2014 Committee reports](#)

Sender Herschorn welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Approval of minutes from AGM held on 29th August 2013 in Barcelona.

SH confirmed that the minutes from last year's AGM had been circulated and members had a chance to read them. The AGM minutes were approved.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the AGM held 29th August 2013.

SH asked for any matters arising from last year's AGM. SH confirmed there were no matters arising and the meeting continued.

3. Amendments to the ICS Articles of Association – special resolution vote.

SH reminded everyone that the Articles and Bylaws underwent a 2 year process of extensive revision. A number of teleconferences were held with stakeholders throughout. Drafts were created all of which were circulated amongst the membership. This special resolution must be passed by the majority, not less than 75% of the membership. This is the most significant review in a decade that makes our governance documents clear, aligned to the strategy and fit for purpose. We held membership consultation and the comments were taken into account. The voting process has already been held online and by UK company law an AGM vote will be taken. The online votes are added to the AGM votes and any double votes are discounted and we will have a result – no one can vote twice because of the restrictions we have. Those who voted online and are attending the AGM will have their online vote cancelled and only their AGM vote will be valid. The majority of over 75% is required for the Articles and Bylaws to be changed. A majority of over 50% is required for the Bylaws to be changed and for trustees to be elected. SH then asked if there were any questions. The voting will take place in 3 batches. SH then called for the poll of the amendments to the ICS Articles of Association. SH confirmed that members should only give their vote for the articles at this time. SH stated that the results of the voting would be announced, but not during the AGM.

In reference to the special resolution for the amendment to the Articles of Association approval was given by the membership with 95.8% in favour.

[Link](#) to proposed changes to Articles.

4. Amendments to the ICS Bylaws – ordinary resolution vote.

SH confirmed that this ordinary resolution is conditional on the special resolution being passed and should this not be passed, the ordinary resolution to pass the bylaws will be withdrawn. SH then called a poll for the amendments to the ICS Bylaws and asked for members to give their vote.

In reference to the ordinary resolution for the amendment to the Bylaws approval was given was given by the membership, with 94.4% in favour.

[Link](#) to proposed changes to Bylaws.

5. Voting for Trustees.

SH confirmed that this was the 3rd part of the voting for trustee candidates. The candidates had been placed forward on the ICS website for online voting. SH then confirmed the candidates as David Castro Diaz, Mauro Cervigni, Myung-So Choo, Carlos D’Ancona and Chris Payne. SH then called for a poll for the 5 trustee candidates and requested that members mark yes or no on each of the 5 forms. SH thanked everyone for their votes and confirmed the results would be announced on the ICS website as soon as possible.

The outcome of the voting on the Trustee positions was agreed by Ordinary Resolution, with Carlos D’Ancona, David Castro Diaz, Mauro Cervigni, Christopher Payne and Myung-Soo Choo elected for three years by the membership.

6. General Secretary Report – Sender Herschorn

Before starting his report SH thanked the people who worked very hard on behalf of the ICS.

Dan Snowdon, Administration Director.

Avicia Burchill who rejoined after maternity leave, Projects and Events Manager.

Jenny Ellis, Projects and Events Co-ordinator.

Tracy Griffin, Administrative Assistant.

Dominic Turner, IT Director. Dominic was recognised during the Trustee meeting for 10 year’s service to the ICS.

Ashley Brookes, Senior Analysis Programmer

Roger Blackmore, Flash Developer & Graphic Designer.

SH confirmed that the people in the office were devoted, honest, consistent and totally aligned with what we do in the ICS and without such devotion, allegiance and loyalty we would not be the dynamic organisation that we are today. SH then thanked the people in the office.

SH confirmed that the other key people who work very hard on behalf of the ICS are the trustees, working behind the scenes, usually working at home. There are multiple teleconferences during the year and the trustees are very responsive in getting items addressed and to some degree are the backbone to the organisation. SH then listed the trustees by name and thanked them on behalf of the members present for their work:

Adrian Wagg – General Secretary Elect
Katherine Moore
Sherif Mourad – Treasurer
Jacques Corcos
Masayuki Takeda
Steinar Hunskaar
Alex Wang
David Castro Diaz

SH then confirmed that his report would include the report on the adoption of committee reports, the announcement of elected persons from the web ballot, announcement of nominees and expression of interests for ICS posts,, announcement of the approved bids for 2018 annual meeting web ballot and the 2014 award and fellowship winners.

SH started by summarising membership and confirmed that there were fluctuations over the years with a blip recently and some of this was due to the location of the annual meeting as it is cheaper to join the ICS and attend an annual meeting. However there is a good curve upwards over time of renewing members, so although there was a drop in total number of members at this point in time, the ICS are not concerned as it was in the general fluctuations on what we see on a year to year basis – generally there is an upward trend and is an indication of a healthy organisation. SH then summarised membership by profession and location. SH highlighted the number of members attending who were very young, which is good for our society – 70% are under the age of 55, which is very healthy for a dynamic organisation to look to the future.

Committee Reports

SH confirmed that all the reports were available online but would run through them briefly.

Children & Young Adults Committee: Giovanni Mosiello is the new chair and in 2014 they are mainly focussing on transition care and want to create a handbook on this.

Continance Promotion Committee: Very active year with the Bladder Diary Day and Public Forum. Plans for 2015 are for engagement with continence organisations as well as health professionals throughout the world and collaboration with the CPC and PCC.

Education Committee: Also very active year with a lot of courses that were approved and responded in a positive way to the budgetary constraints by becoming much more efficient without decreasing the number of courses. Worked hard with the annual

meeting, reviewing the workshops. ELearning and trainee sub-committees were also quite active during 2014. The committee is working on alternative strategy that will improve the representative of the ICS worldwide with low cost quality education, promoting international presence for the ICS and generation of revenue. The committee will be revamped to be consistent with the strategy with many changes going forward over the next year.

Ethics Committee: They had a meeting this year. Had a lecture at the scientific meeting this year and some ethical education. They want to update their Terms of Reference and remind us to update our disclosures forms when speaking or on committees.

Fistula Committee: Took on some new direction with engagement on the education front by creating sources of education in fistula management. Workshops are planned and will be appearing on the website following this meeting.

Neurourology Promotion Committee: Also quite active with elaborating recommendations for the management of patients with various diseases. Held Neurogenic Bladder day courses in various locations throughout the world and will continue this with the new chair.

Nursing Committee: The new chair started earlier this year. A nursing forum will be held during the annual meeting in Rio and will continue to do their good work and involved in planning for 2015 ICS meeting. Planning to re-organise the committee, develop a work plan that focus on activities that are better aligned with our strategy and to establish more communication.

Physiotherapy Committee: The committee has met electronically 3 times over the past year. They have a physio roundtable sub-committee and they had a physio roundtable meeting here in Rio and have contributed to the ICS newsletter over the course of last year. 5 manuscripts have been completed from the 'State of Science' seminar, focussed on improving pelvic floor muscle training adherence strategies from theory to practice. There is a committee contribution to the Standardisation Steering Committee Working Group on chronic pelvic pain in conservative female management of pelvic floor dysfunction. There has also been a good contribution to the scientific programme of this year's meeting. 2015 plans include planning for the roundtable, inclusion of local speakers and liaison with local members and also to continue to contribute physiotherapy topic speakers to multi-disciplinary activities.

Publications & Communications Committee: Continued to produce the ICS newsletter. There was an editor who took over last year, Pamela Elsworth. There has been contribution to social media and a press conference. The committee was contacted by Ted Arnold regarding exit interviews for various ICS members who served in leadership positions for the archive. Would like to engage trainee members and have a primary care session in Montreal next year.

Scientific Committee: Very active year with 902 abstracts submitted in total. The best video abstract award was created and resulted in the high quality video submission. SH confirmed that the annual scientific meeting is the highlight of our year, a great degree attributed to the scientific committee and is so well appreciated by all those that attend. The reviewing process was improved, with the new online reviewing programme with live statistics, which guaranteed that 100% of the abstracts were reviewed by at least 3 reviewers. There were substantial modifications instituted at the programme to improve the attendee experience at the ASM and non-discussion posters were improved to open discussion posters.

Standardisation Steering Committee: Fairly active year, with a lot of plans. Working groups include chronic pelvic pain joint working groups with IUGA, good working practice revision, neurourology, nocturia, basic science. 3 further working groups are planned for 2014/15. The bladder diary day continues to be developed. There were some publications on urodynamics equipment in Neurourology and Urodynamics. A lot of plans in the works, including an ICS folder proposed to house accumulating flyers. In alignment with our strategic plan, the standardisation and strategic output is something that the world will look to the ICS to produce.

Urodynamics Committee: This committee has been very active with teaching models – pad testing, pressure flow, post void cystometry, video urodynamics, leak point pressures, background and philosophy and post void residual. The teaching modules are continued and modules will be submitted to Neurourology and Urodynamics for peer review. Their plans are to continue work on current modules, update urodynamics manual, refine the system to internally review the modules and update the ICS micro site.

SH then reminded attendees that the ICS website is very extensive and the revisions are pleasing to the eye and thanks go to our programmers, especially Roger Blackmore.

Announcement of elected persons from the web ballot

SH confirmed and congratulated the following positions:

- Neurourology Promotion Committee Chair – Emmanuel Chartier - Kastler
- Ethics Committee Chair – Nina Davies
- Nursing Committee Chair – Donna Bliss
- Physiotherapy Committee Chair – Doreen McClurg
- Urodynamics Committee Chair – Peter Rosier – elected for a 2nd term
- Scientific Clinical Representative – Alex Digesu
- Scientific Committee Non Clinical Representative – Chris Constantinou

SH also confirmed the special extension for James Gillespie on the scientific committee to provide additional non clinical support for 2015. Announcement of nominees and expressions of interest are required by 1st April for ICS posts and there will be a web ballot.

Elected positions available for 2015 – deadline 1st April 2015

SH confirmed the following positions:

- General Secretary Elect
- Trustee Allied Health Representative
- Continence Promotion Committee Chair
- Scientific Committee Chair. This is a new position as a result of discussion with the scientific committee/trustees. It is a 3 year position with terms just like other committee chairs. The Scientific Chair will be formally elected. The local scientific chair for the various locations will become the programme chair and will have different responsibilities to that of the Scientific Chair. The terms of reference are still to be posted but they will all be on the website. Deadline for all positions and

expressions of interest is 1st April 2015. SH then confirmed the committee member vacancies:

Neurourology Promotions Committee 4
Children's Committee – physiotherapist
Fistula Committee – early career member
Physiotherapy Committee 4
Communications Committee 4
Standardisation Steering Committee – Colorectal member

Annual Meeting Bids

SH confirmed that the ICS understand the importance of the meeting site for each annual meeting and listed the bids going forward for 2018 which will be in the USA. Online voting will be available in November.

Chicago – chair Karl Kreder
Philadelphia – chairs Alan Wein & Dianne Newman

SH also confirmed that bids were now being accepted for 2019 from European cities.

Awards and Fellowships 2014

SH confirmed that the ICS had awarded over £57,000 in awards to 35 members. Conference travel awards, emerging research awards, Pfizer award, fellowship urodynamics (Laborie sponsored), clinical, neurourology and the annual meeting abstract awards (two of which sponsored by SCA and Ferring), new investigator award and video award. There was a total of 60 applications with 35 awardees.

Retiring Committee Chairs

SH confirmed the following chairs who have retired:

Mandy Wells - Nursing Committee
Helena Frawley – Physiotherapy Committee
Helmut Madersbacher- Neurourology Promotion Committee (interim)
Ed Stanford – Ethics Committee

SH thanked the chairs on behalf of the ICS for their commitment and service as committee chairs.

Retiring Trustees

SH confirmed the following trustees who have retired:

Jacques Corcos – general secretary for 3 years and trustee for another 3 years. A round of applause was given to thank Jacques for his contribution to the ICS.
Masayuki Takeda has been a trustee for 3 years.
Steinar Hunskaar was co-opted last year and has served for 1 year.

SH requested that all members of the meeting should stand for a minutes silence to remember those members who had passed away in the last year.

Louise Kurczycki
Gerd Mürtz
Kubilay İnci
Elizabeth Glasgow

7. Treasurers Report & Statement of Accounts

SM confirmed that this was his first report as treasurer and would present accounts up to 31st December 2013. SM started his presentation by showing details of the ICS/Conticom consolidated accounts with a comparison over the last 3 years. SM highlighted the negative balance in 2011 and a huge loss in 2012. SM confirmed, following advice provided by the auditors in 2011, that a reduction to charity funds was made as we were above the reserve policy at that time. 2012 loss was due to the drop in income from Beijing. In 2013 a decision was made to reduce the number of awards and fellowships and add more add on educational courses rather than standalone courses. This action ensured we met, by the end of 2013, the calculated operating costs for 2014 and 2015 and therefore met the ICS reserves policy. SM confirmed the donations received in 2011 and 2012 from Laborie Urodynamics and industry donations to the Continece Promotion Committee. SM then covered the figures from 2013 annual meeting and confirmed that the figures were in pounds sterling. SM confirmed that the membership fees increased for 2013 from £50 to £70 with the increase in membership also for that year. Royalty income was from Wiley, who provide and distribute the N&U journal on behalf of the ICS. SM outlined the expenditure for ICS and Conticom, for 2013 including educational, staff and annual meeting costs. SM then went on to provide financial information regarding the annual scientific meeting costs and that due to the deficit from the Beijing meeting in 2012, the board of trustees took the decision to restrict the locations of annual meetings going forward (4 years between North America and Europe, with the 5th year location elsewhere). SM confirmed that the mandatory actions taken by the board to reduce costs was tough and included the cancellation of the joint meeting with IUGA in 2015 and the reduction in budgets allocated to the committees. SM highlighted the improved financial results as a result of this action as well as the improved projected figures for 2015 to 2018. SM thanked the board for their actions. SM confirmed that the accounts had been put together by the ICS auditors, Goldwyns (located in Bristol, UK), with Sarah Waters the ICS accountant and supervised by Dan Snowdon ICS Administration Director.

As there were no questions relating to the presentation, SM confirmed that the 2013 accounts were formally adopted.

8. Scientific Committee Report – Nucelio Lemos

NL confirmed that the committee had had a very active year, received 950 abstract submissions and provided a breakdown of withdrawn, abandoned, rejected and accepted abstracts. NL also provided details of how the 86% of accepted abstracts were categorised. NL confirmed that the average of the abstract scores was really high

this year which highlighted the quality of science produced by our society. NL stated that major improvements have been made to the scientific programme and this was a long term plan for the committee to keep with the changes moving forward. NL then summarised these changes which included theme days in Barcelona, reduction from 5 to 4 day meetings, integrating groups of interest tracking system, replacing of non-discussion posters with open discussion posters (including poster pilots and delegate choice awards), increased pool of reviewers, new terms of reference – including an Elected Scientific Committee Chair to work on the long term strategy to keep the modifications moving forward.

9. Final Words from General Secretary and incoming General Secretary (Adrian Wagg).

SH outlined the changes since taking up his role as General Secretary during the past 3 years and what had changed during this time, including the strategic plan and achievements following its introduction. SH also thanked again the office staff, trustees, committee chairs and members.

AW reiterated his thanks to SH confirming the difficulties SH managed both politically and financially during his time as general secretary. AW confirmed that the ICS has a great opportunity ahead and promised to continue the excellent leadership to date. . AW welcomed communication from members. AW confirmed that an official presentation was planned for SH at the annual dinner, and thanked him again for the past 3 years.

10. Any other business

There was nothing to be discussed.

11. Next Annual General Meeting

SH confirmed that the next AGM would be held on 8th October 2015 in Montreal, Canada.

SH confirmed that the meeting was adjourned.