



**Minutes - EONS Education Working Group,  
Face-to-face meeting, Friday 23 September 2016, 09.00 - 16.00 hrs CET  
Dutch Design Hotel Artemis, Amsterdam, the Netherlands**

**Participating:**

Anita Margulies (AM) (co-Chair), Lena Sharp (LS) (co-Chair), Marjana Bernot (MB), Maria Cable (MC), Cristina Correia de Lacerda (CCdeL), Paula Mitchell (PM), Erik van Muilekom (EvM), Harald Titzer (HT), Rebecca Verity (RV), Mariska Mooijekind (MM) (Working Groups Manager) and Iveta Nohavova (IN) (Projects Manager)

**Unable to attend:**

Patricia Fox (PF), Terhi Hautaviita (TH), Patrick Jahn (PJ)

**1. Opening and Welcome**

LS welcomes all Working Group members present to the meeting, which is the second face-to-face meeting of Working Group of the year. PF, TH and PJ have all three sent their apologies. PF and PJ will however call in to discuss their special agenda items.

**2. Report from the EONS Board**

EONS Executive Director

LS informs all that Clair Watts, the Executive Director of EONS, is leaving the organisation from October 1<sup>st</sup>. At the moment no new candidate for this position has been identified. The coming months the work will be executed by the three EONS Presidents (the current president Professor Daniel Kelly, the past president Mr Erik van Muilekom and the president-elect Dr Lena Sharp) with the assistance of Rudi Briké and Mariska Mooijekind. This team will meet on a monthly basis in so called "Business Meetings". The eons.director-email address will remain active and will be monitored by Rudi Briké.

EONS Finance

EONS largely depends on the financial outcomes of the ECCO conferences. Up to and including the ECCO congress of 2017 EONS will receive and has always received a proportional share of the surplus of the congresses, which has always been the main source of income of the organisation. The structure of ECCO and the ECCO (founding) membership has however changed and after the 2017 ECCO congress the income for EONS is no longer secured. It is unknown how much income will be derived from the future ECCO congresses and what share EONS will receive and therefore EONS will need to seek alternative ways of generating income. The EONS Board is working on this intensely. In the meantime the organisation needs to be very critical on



expenditure as major changes are expected. As a result of this some of the grants are not being issued, unless outside funding can be secured. For the magazine it has been agreed to only give out one printed edition per year. The other editions will be prepared in a digital format.

#### European Cancer Nursing Day

One of the current projects of the Advocacy WG is to organise the first European Cancer Nursing Day. This first event will take place on 18 May 2017. On that day the EONS Board will be in Estonia at an EONS Educational Event, organised in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Estonian Oncology Nursing Society congress and an EONS Board Meeting. The European Cancer Nursing Day is mainly organised to raise the profile by networking and lobbying. The Advocacy WG will further develop the plan for the day.

#### Estonia event

One of the learning outcomes of the membership survey is that nurses without specialist training need EONS' support. Additionally it has come to the EONS Board's knowledge that working conditions for oncology nurses in Estonia could seriously be improved. EONS has therefore decided to support the Estonian nurses by organising an educational day, in conjunction with the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Estonian Oncology Nursing Society. Additionally a hospital visit, a stakeholder meeting and an EONS Board Meeting will be organised in the same week, in Estonia. Funding for these events is currently actively being sought.

#### EONS10

At the moment 450 participants have registered for the EONS10 congress, which is being held in Dublin in October. Although this is yet a very good number, there is always room for more! A good programme, including a number of satellite symposia from industry, has been established with the collaboration of the Irish society. It is important for this meeting to be a success for both enhancement of EONS' reputation and the positive financial outcome. EONS will also hold a Board Meeting and the 2016 Advisory Council Meeting in Dublin, on Sunday 16 October.

### **3. ECCO2017, Amsterdam**

ECCO 2017 will be held in Amsterdam, late January. The group agrees that January is not a very good month for holding a congress, however ECCO had good reasons for choosing this month (cheaper rates at meeting venues, no clashing meetings). There will be a total of four meeting days planned. Three days of ECCO congress will take place with a multidisciplinary programme,



which is also certainly of interest to nurses. At the congress there will be no exhibition by pharma; companies are invited to organise satellite sessions to focus more on their product and importance to oncology. EONS has strived to get nurses into the programme, which has worked well. On the day prior to the ECCO congress, the so called “Day 0”, EONS organises a focused nursing day. The programme for this day has mainly been developed by RV and Paul Trevatt. Speakers are currently being invited to present at Day 0. To encourage bringing together a good group of young cancer nurses, the last session of Day 0 is focusing on this specific group specifically.

#### **4. RECaN-project, update**

At the 2015 ECCO congress in Vienna ECCO presented its priority for the coming years to be oncology nursing. EONS has agreed with ECCO to collaborate on an Oncopolicy Project. The project is lead by the EONS President, Professor Daniel Kelly, and has been called RECaN: “Recognising European Cancer Nursing”. It will count three phases: phase I = a systematic review, led by DK and Mary Wells. Two outside researchers have been hired, who have selected 600 valuable articles out of a total of 4.000. The first results of this systematic review will be presented at the Amsterdam ECCO congress, in one of the sessions on one of the three ECCO days. Phase II = case studies, including an Estonian case study. Phase III = lobbying on the basis of the results of phases I and II.

The Education Working Group could very well get involved in phase II of the project. For the project a logo has been designed, which will also be used for the European Cancer Nursing Day.

#### **5. EONS Membership Survey - discussion and action plan**

A very high number of responses to the Membership Survey have come from UK nurses and it is questioned if the outcome is therefore perhaps not representative for Europe. It is agreed that the Board will be asked if they are willing to invest in getting the data analysed again, now taking out the UK responses.

The Working Group is of the opinion that it can't act upon so few responses from the various countries.

The outcome of certain subjects of the survey is contradictory. Therefore it would be a good idea to examine the results to see which comments come from which geographical area.

It is a fact though that EONS (should continue to) meet different needs seeing the working conditions for nurses greatly vary between the various European countries. It is common knowledge that it can be very difficult for nurses to find the time, funding and IT to engage in courses and/or training. One thought



was that most nurses however do have a smart phone. Perhaps EONS could focus on developing apps and promote the use of the EONS website. This may also to ensure that messages not disseminated to the membership through the National Member Societies could reach the nurses in an alternative way.

*PF joined in on the conversations by Skype*

## **6. EONS Curriculum: update on planning**

The EONS Curriculum Task Group has 8 members, represented by members from the Education Working Group plus a representative of each of the other 3 WGs. Up to now 2 teleconferences have been held and good progress has been made. It was decided to rewrite chapters rather than to correct and amend the current chapters. In the earlier version there was a lot of overlap in the different chapters and concepts and terminology have changed. A chapter for advanced nurses will be added and it is aimed to have consistency in the terminology and learning outcomes used all throughout the book. A next conference call is planned for October and in December the Task Group will meet in Stockholm for a further review. The Education Working Group members will be asked to provide feedback, as well as the EONS Board and a number of outside organisations. The Task Group aims to finish the review by March/April 2017. RV compliments LS on her leadership in the role of Task Group Chair.

## **7. ESO (European School of Oncology)**

Subjects for 2017 ESO-EONS e-sessions

- *MM circulates the suggestions received for discussion -*

The list of suggestions is discussed and three topics are being agreed upon (see separate paper):

- Patient safety in cancer care (including the patients' role)
- Recognizing oncology emergencies
- Supportive care (which was listed as palliative care)

"The role of nurses in the MDT" was suggested as a potential subject for a 2018 e-session, with Lelita Cabello of the University College of London, as suggested expert.



#### Translation past e-sessions

EONS received 3 past ESO-EONS e-sessions from ESO for own use, for dissemination across EONS membership:

- Teenage Young Adult Cancer
- Radiotherapy-related Skin Reactions
- Malignant Fungating Wounds

All three sessions have been translated into the following six languages: German, Spanish, Portuguese, Slovenian, Estonian and French. The translations have been done by EONS nurses for which they have each received a small compensation. This phase has nearly been finalised, only the Estonian translation has not yet been finished. EONS is nearly ready to launch, also through the National Member Societies. ESO is very enthusiastic about the way EONS has handled this project and is willing to share the video files of other sessions too. IN states that great support has been received from Steve Rowett, who supports the EONS website technically.

#### Master class 2017 and 2018

The 2017 ESO-EONS Masterclass will be held in March, in Germany. For the organisation of the 2017 ESO-EONS Masterclass the faculty is built up as follows: CdeL and Birgitte Grube are Chairs, EvM is the Scientific coordinator, LS is Advisor. The call for applications is open and there are 30 places available. A good spread of countries is aimed for. LS informs the group that one of the previous Masterclass students will now come to present! For the organisation of the 2018 Masterclass the faculty will need to be renewed by one person. RV is interested in participating in the faculty for the 2018 event. If other Working Group members are interested they are invited to contact MM within a week, expressing their interest.

In 2018 an extra mini-Masterclass will be organised in Eastern Europe, which was initiated by ESO. The EONS Board has approved the plan and LS and BG have agreed to participate. The plan will be further developed in the (near) future.

## **8. Website EDU pages**

#### E-learning pages

PM had reviewed the pages last year and provided feedback to Kate Griffin, who was Website Editor, but unfortunately many of the suggested changes (if not all) have not been incorporated. Newly, Helen Oswald is now responsible for the web pages. PM has reviewed the available links in preparation of the Working Group meeting and has found that a lot of them are not longer functional. MM will put PM in contact with Helen Oswald to update the pages / links. It is agreed that the chapter "Education and Training News" should be part of the Education WG pages rather than Communication. PM agrees to



review all text on the Education pages also. It is agreed by the Working Group to include a general Education update in November Newsletter, once web pages have been updated.

Discussion - next steps

The Working Group members agree that the Communication WG needs to be activated to realise a full review of the EONS website as the site currently holds too much old information.

*PF leaves the conversation.*

## **9. OncoAssist**

Following the discussion at the last Working Group meeting this idea has been presented to the Board, who has agreed on moving this forward. OncoAssist is an app for smartphones in English, which the EONS members get free access to for one year. The tool will be updated regularly. The members individually have to register to gain access. The app will be launched at EONS10 and any feedback is welcomed.

## **10. TYA Leadership Summit**

The third EONS-TCT Leadership Summit was held last week in London. The summits are 50:50 funded by EONS and Teenage Cancer Trust. The first two summits were held for the same delegates. This third summit was held with a new group of people: 9 leaders, 9 nurse specialists, 1 nurse consultant, 1 educator, 1 advance nurse practitioner. Participants came from the United Kingdom, Romania, Portugal, Holland, Ireland, Spain. Day 1 was a day of introduction and led by a nursing leadership expert. Day two focused on personal development and was led by Anne Mulliner. The themes were service development, workforce development and advocacy / changing cultures. Very positive feedback was received from the participants. As a result of the previous summits delegates have attended the international AYA cancer Conference; the Belgium society has now set up an AYA Cancer nursing forum and delegates have undertaken academic course in AYA cancer care.

The Working Group agrees that EONS should consider to hold general summits in the future, rather than for TYA specifically. Potential subjects could be "leadership in cancer nursing" or "early career". The Working Group Chairs will bring this to the Board for discussion.



## **11. “target” Update**

The “target” Update is a large project. All is running according to plan. The update of the Pre-Course Book, which counts about 60 pages including a new immunology section, is now nearly finished. The Pre-course book has been reviewed by the Task Group and additionally by eight external reviewers. The updated of the Course Book is now in process; the first four topics have been confirmed. The Course Book will be updated and a new chapter on immunology/immunotherapy will be added. Due to a reallocation of earlier received funding for another project which proved not recommendable, the budget is looking very good. The Task Group aims to organise a roll out meeting in the form of a “train the trainer” course. It is aimed to launch the project by June or September of 2017. MM will ensure the web page to be updated and to include an update on the project in the next Newsletter.

## **12. TITAN**

The TITAN module will be updated for which funding has been secured from Takeda, Amgen and TEVA. This is a much smaller project than the “target” Updated. A Task Group has been set up. The group has had a first conference and will meet face-to-face in Dublin on 15 October. Tasks have been allocated within the group and the updated is aimed to be finalised by late August 2017.

## **13. PreP project**

The PreP project is the next phase, following up to research done and published in 2013. It will provide tools for nurses in daily practice. A draft outline of the project has been prepared which will be used for approaching funding companies.

## **14. Clinical Travel Grant 2016**

For the 2016 Clinical Travel Grant 8 applications were received of which 4 were not from Europe, which is considered to be somewhat disappointing. One of the applicants had also applied for the research travel grant for the same project and had been awarded that grant. The 2016 Clinical Travel Grant has been awarded to Charlotte Weston.



Information from the EONS Board meeting

It was recognised by the Board that there is an overlap with some other EONS grants. Therefore it has been decided not to issue a 2017 grant, unless outside funding can be secured.

### **15. Invited Speaker Grant**

This is the third year that the Invited Speaker Grant has been given out and the number of applications received is increasing. EONS gives out 2 calls of EUR 1.000,- each, one at the beginning of the year, one in the second half of the year. The funding is meant for covering travel and accommodation. Any left over funding may be used for translation. Currently the application is open and the deadline for applying is December 5<sup>th</sup>. MC agrees to replace LS on the Task Group.

### **16. Specialists List**

The Specialists List has been consulted a number of times. The Working Group agrees that a (formal) database is needed. LS and MM will bring this up at the first "Business Meeting" with the aim to start discussions within the Board.

*PF joins in on the conversations by Skype*

### **17. Endorsement process**

A modest number of projects have been endorsed in 2016, up to now. One of the endorsement requests was submitted in German, for which HT and PJ were asked to assist with the review of the application. It is agreed that when a programme is being delivered in exactly the same way a number of times it is endorsed for the number of times it runs.

MC and PF are happy to continue on the Task Group, but would welcome the support of a third person to cover for periods of (long) leave. MB is willing to join them on the Task Group.

It is agreed for the application form to be reviewed, specifically the question about the evaluation of the programme. The response period will be changed from 1 month to 6 weeks.

*PJ joins in on the conversations by Skype*



## 18. New ideas / projects (30 mins)

### Otsuka initiative for Supportive Care guidelines

The EONS Secretariat was contacted by Otsuka, who would like to collaborate on supportive care guidelines. The WG does not feel inclined to engage. The subject is one of many syndromes and is extremely rare. The group has many other projects ongoing and nursing care interventions are not warranted as this is a medical emergency.

### EORTC Project - \* PJ presents slides via Skype\*

EORTC has approached PJ to see if EONS would be interested in collaborating on establishing an M-learning project. The subject is health related quality of life measures in clinical practice to facilitate the implementation of health related quality of life guided patient care. EORTC plans to develop and pilot test a generic training programme for health care professionals caring for cancer patients on how to utilise health related quality of life measures in clinical practice. The programme will include information for health professionals and training for clinical practice for health professionals such as physicians, nurses and psycho oncologists. The M-learning programme will be made available in three languages (English, German and Dutch), providing the means for the participating health care professionals to acquire key competences for quality of life guided patient care in order to facilitate international implementation of KRQOL measures (e.g. EORTC) in clinical practice. EONS' role would be to review the online material and EORTC would appreciate to receive a Letter of Intent, stating EONS' interest for collaboration, if any.

After some discussion the WG agrees to express an interest to participate in the project, at this stage. PJ will check with EORTC if any other European organisations are being invited to participate also and inform the WG members once he has a reply from EORTC. LS will bring this project to the table at the next Board Meeting. PJ will send draft letter of intent to MM, for review.

### EURECCA

MM has been approached by EURECCA via the EONS website. As it is not exactly clear what EURECCA is looking for RV offers to have conversation with Clair Taylor. RV will further inform the WG members in due course.

### ESMO request.

ECPC is planning to develop a brochure about survivorship and ESMO has contacted EONS to see if EONS is interested in collaborating on developing this brochure? The WG agrees that more information is needed to be able to take a decision. AM will ask ESMO for further information, after which the request will be brought to the Board.



### **19. Succession planning**

EvM takes over from LS directly after this meeting, when she leaves the Education Working Group. AM will step down as co-Chair of the Education Working Group in April of 2017. She will decide in due course if she will leave the group entirely or if she only steps down as Chair. WG members are invited to express their interest of becoming co-Chair to MM before the end of October. It will be a closed vote. MM will send out a message with this information to all Working Group members shortly after the meeting to ensure that all Working Group members are aware and can apply.

### **20. Closing comments**

MB offers to contact her neighbouring countries about the membership survey. MB will write to MM with list of countries she can and is willing to contact. Within the EONS Board each Board Member functions as point of contact for a number of EONS National Member Societies. MM will check with Rudi which Board Members are responsible for which of the countries identified by Marjana to coordinate between MB and the relevant Board Member(s).

### **21. Next Face-to-face meeting**

MM will contact AM and EvM about possible dates for the next face-to-face meeting, which is agreed to be held in the spring of next year. At this next meeting the Terms of Reference will need to be reviewed.