



European Oncology Nursing Society  
General Meeting

16 April 2010  
World Forum Convention Centre, The Hague, The Netherlands

MINUTES

***Present:***

Dr. Sultan Kav	President
Mrs. Birgitte Grube	President Elect
Prof. Sara Faithfull	Past President
Mrs. Kay Leonard	Treasurer
Mrs. Anita Margulies	Board member
Dr. Mary Wells	Board member
Mr. Dimitrios Papageorgiou	Board member
Dr. Clair Watts	Executive Director
Mr. Rudi Briké	Executive Secretary

***Also:***

Representatives of the national society members, associated members and individual members.

***Apologies:***

Mrs Françoise Charnay-Sonnek	Board member
Dr. Ulrika Östlund	Board member
Dr. Daniel Kelly	Board member

**Item 1**     **Welcome and Apologies**

Dr. Kav welcomed everyone to the General Meeting and informed the attendees of apologies received for absence.

**Item 2**     **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The members approved and the President signed the minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday 22 September 2009 during the ECCO 15-ESMO 34 Congress held in Berlin, Germany.

**Item 3**     **Approval of the Election Result**

Dr. Kav reminded the participants of the reasons to amend the EONS Constitution and By-laws. In summary, it had been recognised that recruitment for the role of President (Elect) had become increasingly difficult in past years and there was a need to amend the EONS Constitution and By-laws to resolve this issue. The changes had been agreed at the 2009 General Meeting in Berlin and confirmed by the solicitor post-meeting. The election process had begun soon after. Dr. Watts informed the participants that the EONS Constitution and Bye-Laws would need to be updated and advice for recommendations had been asked of the Charity Commission. Dr. Watts invited the participants to forward input and comments with regard to the update of the Constitution and Bye Laws. Prof. Faithfull stressed also the importance of the Advisory Council in giving advice on this issue.

Dr. Kav presented the election results. Mrs Birgitte Grube had gained the maximum number of votes with Dr Stephen O'Connor receiving the second highest number.

The General Meeting was invited to approved the result. After approval, Mrs. Grube was presented to the membership as the EONS President-Elect. Mrs. Grube provided an overview of her career and informed the participants of her aims.

**Item 4** **Past-President's Report**

Prof. Faithfull gave an overview of work that had been undertaken during her term as President during the period September 2007-September 2009. She stressed the importance of continuing to improve transparency to meet the changed UK Charity Commission regulations and engaging with the national nursing societies, patients groups and political bodies to ensure the nurses voice was heard during key debates.

**Item 5** **President's Report**

Dr. Kav presented the participants with the renewed strategy which had been agreed at the EONS Board meeting in February 2010. She highlighted the EONS vision, the mission statement and values as well as the updated EONS CARE strategy.

**Item 6** **Treasurer's Report**

Mrs. Leonard gave an update of the financial report which had been presented at the previous General Meeting in Berlin. Mrs. Leonard stressed the importance of transparency and showing public benefit. Mrs. Leonard reported on the financial outcome of the Berlin ECCO-ESMO meeting and stated that it had provided an increased income compared to the previous ECCO congress. She informed the participants that it was too soon to give information on the financial outcome related to the EONS 7 Spring Convention and warned that, due to the financial crisis impacting on commercial sales, there would likely be little profit.

The question was put forward if the budget would need to be agreed by voting. For clarity, the Constitution and Bye-laws were checked and there was found to be no requirement for voting with regard to the budget. Budgetary sign-off was a role given to the Executive Board. As the financial year ended at 30 March, with the books being closed on 30 April, the end of year financial report would be provided to members by email.

**Item 7** **EONS Activity Update**

An update on deliverables of the CARE strategy was presented. Dr. Kav invited the participants to send in text for future issues of the EONS newsletter and to actively participate in the EONS working groups. Vacant seats on committees were presented and potential candidates invited to contact the office. Dr Kav stressed the importance of taking part at the European Partnership for Action Against Cancer as this would enable EONS to demonstrate the critical importance of the role of the nursing workforce in delivering good cancer related healthcare.

Dr. Wells outlined some of EONS educational initiatives that had been delivered in 2009-2010 as well as some that were near completion. She informed the participants that EONS sought volunteers to participate in the update of the post-basic curriculum.

Dr. Kav informed the participants that the EONS 8 Spring Convention would take place in Valencia, Spain from 25-28 April 2012 and that ECCO 16-ESMO 36 would take place in Stockholm, Sweden from 23-27 September 2011.

The ECCO-ESMO congress would have an EONS nursing track being developed in collaboration with the Swedish Oncology Nursing Society. EONS nurses would also be key in delivering the symptom science track. Mr. Papageorgiou informed the participants of progress with the Skeletal Care Academy (SCA) which aimed to create a network of experts competent in the management and treatment of cancer-related bone disease. The launch event - a ‘train the trainers’ event – had taken place from 12-13 March 2010 in Paris, France.

Mrs. Leonard outlined the results of the Febrile Neutropenia Survey, a pan-European survey conducted to explore current perceptions and identify gaps in understanding between cancer patients and healthcare professionals.

**Item 8**      **Grants & Awards 2009-2011**

An overview was provided by Mrs Margulies of EONS Grants & Awards that had recently been awarded as well as those where calls remained open.

Mrs. Alessandra Milani, recipient of the EONS Clinical Travel grant, 2009 outlined the results of her clinical site visit. Mrs. Margulies thanked Mrs. Milani for her valuable feedback and encourage members to consider applying for EONS grants and awards.

**Item 9**      **Open discussion forum**

There were no further comments/questions.

**Item 10**     **Date, time and place of next meeting**

The next EONS General Meeting will be held during the ECCO 16-ESMO 36 Congress in Stockholm, Sweden, 23-27 September 2011. Exact date to be communicated in due time.

**Signed:**

**Date:**