

Summary of the **8th Diabetic Foot Study Group (of the EASD)**
BUSINESS MEETING and Elections

Saturday, 13. September 2008 at 17:15
Il Ciocco, Castelvecchio Pascoli, Italy

Present: Dr. S. Morbach, Chairman - Germany
Dr. V. Urbančič-Rovan, Scientific Secretary - Slovenia
Dr. E. Jude, Treasurer - GB
Dr. C. Caravaggi - Italy
Dr. A. Jirkovska - Czech Rep
Dr. C. Van Shie - The Netherlands

Apologies: Dr. D. Armstrong - USA
K. Larsen, Vice Chairman - Denmark
Dr. J.-L. Richard - France
E. Stamm - Secretary
Dr. G. Matricali - Delegate

Minutes kindly taken by V. Urbančič -Rovan and C. van Schie
Delegates present: **82**

1. **Open meeting:** Chairman S.Morbach opens the meeting at 17:20.
2. **Farewell and elections:** 3 committee members are leaving this year: Stephan Morbach, Kirsten Larsen and Jean-Louis Richard. The candidates are Neil Baker (GB), Isabelle Dumont (B), Fran Game (UK), Klaus Kirketerp-Moller (DK), Anna Korzon-Burakowska (PL), Ralf Lobmann (D) and Oleg Udovichenko (RUS). Each candidate introduced him/herself in a short talk.
Vote counters chosen, results to be announced at the end of the meeting.
3. **Minutes of the 7th business meeting** in Elsinore, Denmark, 12th September 2006, were approved unanimously.
4. **News from the IDF Consultative Section / IWGDF** by Karel Bakker:
 - a. The DVD Practical guidelines on the diabetic foot (2007) *does not sell well*: Karel Baker asks for help in the implementation and in the distribution of the document.
 - b. The DVD Practical guidelines on the diabetic foot is given for free to those who order the latest edition of **The Diabetic Foot by Levin and O'Neal**.
 - c. Proceedings of the 2007 symposium The Diabetic Foot have been issued as a supplement to Diabetes Metabolism Research & Reviews
 - d. The Step by Step programme that was started in 2003 was carried out in Pakistan in 2007 and in Egypt in 2008; Rotary Clubs in England are financially supporting the project in the Caribbean region
 - e. The Diabetic Foot Care Education Programme for the training of certified Diabetic Foot Care Assistants has been prepared and launched during the 2008 DFSG meeting
5. **Italian Meeting:** Stephan Morbach hands over to Ed Jude who shows how the number of participants has increased from **280** in 2006 to **344** in 2008, also the financial situation is encouraging with the positive balance of € 59.000,--
Comments from the participants:
 - f. Alberto Piaggese is pleased that the number of participants has increased and that so many professional profiles were represented
 - g. National foot meetings pre- or post- main meeting are a good opportunity to offer a good quality training course to a large number of participants at a

reasonable cost. DFSG serves as a platform to the local organisers of the meeting.

- h. Technical innovations symposia are a good refreshment and the focus group meetings do not in any sense spoil the meeting
- i. The quality of oral presentations and posters has improved.
- j. **Criticism:** there were differences among the chairmen of the sessions - some of them did not limit the length of the discussion properly which resulted in delays and questions were not equally distributed among speakers
- k. One of the participants wanted to know how the abstracts were scored? the reply was that they were scored anonymously by all committee members. A new scoring system is currently being developed.
- l. Karel Bakker wished DFSG a happy birthday.

6. Report and Discussion:

- m. Ed Jude presents the suggested registration fees for the non-presenting members, and the no-shows policy, as previously discussed at the Executive Committee meeting in the morning. DFSG will try to keep free registration for presenting authors. There were 10 no-shows in 2006 and 2008, this costs DFSG a lot of money. From next meeting onwards presenting authors will be asked to pay a € 50 deposit, which they will get back when attending the meeting. After a 1st registration deadline there will be a €200 registration fee which will increase to €300 after the 2nd deadline. For non-presenting members registration free will increase to €200 and €300 after deadline. *Presenting members who register after first deadline will be treated as non-presenting members and will NOT have their registration refunded.*
- n. Future role of the DFSG: Alberto Piaggese - DFSG is the most open space to present and discuss about the diabetic foot, we should not move towards a more educational meeting. Keep the structure as it is.
- o. Isabelle Dumont - it is not easy to communicate in English: she speaks in favour of more education and workshops.
- p. Alberto Piaggese - it is very important that we have the opportunity to communicate outside the lecture hall as well.
- q. Kristien van Acker: we must be aware of the different roles of DFSG, Diabetic Foot Symposium and IWGDF. The role of DFSG is to present scientific work. The posters at DFSG offer good discussion opportunity.
- r. Posters vs orals: poster presentations have a more relaxed atmosphere.
- s. Anna Korzon: raising the fee to €300 will prevent many people from coming. We should promote the young people, maybe use a tickbox on the abstract form to tick when >35 yrs of age. We should choose the best presentation.
- t. Jones: we are a democratic society - how do we make decisions when our opinions are different?
- u. Ed Jude: future meeting structure: we keep oral posters, focus groups and new technologies symposia: New would be a poster critical appraisal session organised by Carine van Schie; prizes for best oral presentation and poster presentation, controversial debate and keynote lecture.
- v. Kristien van Acker: if the balance is not bad - what about travel grants? It is also important to ensure that venues are easy to be reached.

8. **Any other business: Results of the Elections:** new Executive Committee Members are Neil Baker (GB), Anna Korzon-Burakowska (PL) and Ralph Lobmann (D).

9. **Date and venue of DFSG 2009:** September 24 - 27, 2008, Bled, Slovenia. Vilma Urbančič, on behalf of the local organising committee, showed some slides of Bled and explained the possible means of transportation. **18:30 MEETING CLOSED**