



## EUSPR Members Meeting report

Paris, 15.11.2013

### Meeting Agenda

15 November 2013

*Chair: Harry Sumnall*

*Minutes: Sanela Talić*

- 1) Examination of the reports of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board
  - a. Presentation of Activity Report by Board of Directors (financial report, conference committee, membership summary)
  - b. Audit Report by Supervisory Board - membership to vote on whether to accept this report.
- 2) Determining the regulations concerning functioning of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board
- 3) Proposal of any actions, resolutions, or policy changes in order to improve functioning of the EUSPR
- 4) Requests presented by members
- 5) Bylaws amendments
- 6) Membership of international associations
- 7) EUSPR policy and actions
- 8) Decision on appeals against a decision about loss of membership
- 9) AOB

## EUSPR Members Meeting 15.11.2013

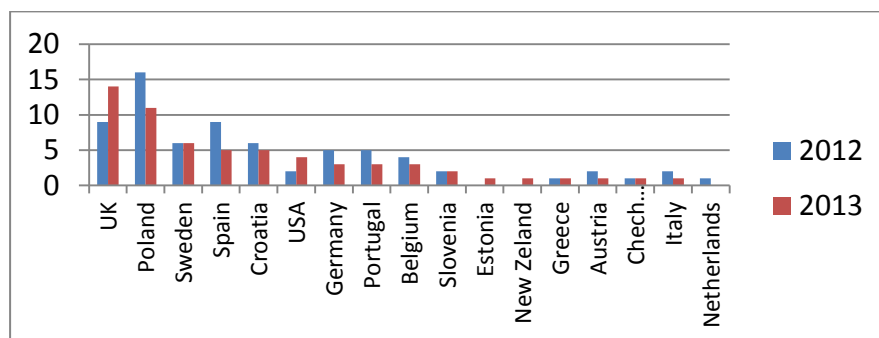
### 1) Examination of the reports of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board

#### Finance report (Kasia Okulicz-Kozaryn)

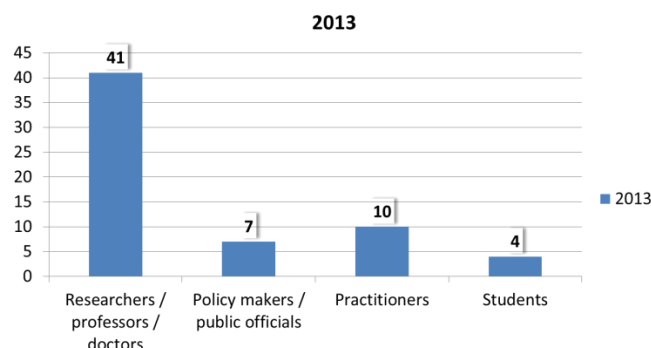
- Balance of account at the end of 2012: 18 351,94 eur.
- Total income from conference/membership fees: 17 743,49 eur.
- Expenses in 2013 such as secretary work in Poland and LJMU, accountancy and (not final) costs for this year's conference are higher than the expected income.
  - o **Important note:** the final annual report will be ready in March 2014.
- Suggestions/comments from Members:
  - o Major cost incurred is administrative support (Stuart). Most of this work is concentrated around the conference period. The support provided in terms of administrating the conference is valuable and we have to think about how to ensure funding for this position.
  - o Rosaria Galanti highlighted that one of important aspects of success of this year's conference was Stuart's time/cost. This is crucial and therefore, he must be supported better to increase society revenue and visibility.
  - o Krzysztof Wojcieszek announced he would no longer act as representative of the EUSPR to the bank - a new solution must be found, identifying a Polish bank that has international presence. That means that Board Members outside of Poland could undertake financial tasks if required.

#### Membership report (Sanela Talić)

- Decrease in number of members according to the year 2012. In 2013 we had 51 renewals and 11 new members: **total 62 members.**
  - o In 2012: 71 members (21 have not renewed, 6 new members).
  - o Number of members by country



- On the basis of old membership forms it is difficult to determine the profile of EUSPR members. Approx. figures are as follows:



- Next step is to contact former members to specify the reasons for not renewing their memberships.
- Suggestions/comments from members:
  - *Harry Sumnall stated that retaining members of the society is a challenge we have been facing since its establishment. Important fact is that the most membership renewals are realised in November or December - a month or two before the conference. Harry suggested that we should consider about special membership deal, which would include membership for the following year if the conference is held in November or December.*
  - *We have been successful in raising the profile of the society. EUSPR is becoming more and more recognized especially in the EU Drug field but further challenge is to raise the profile within individual countries. Additional efforts will be focused on working together with existing members on how to approach and recruit new members.*
- Suggestions/comments for increasing the membership:
  - *Krzysztof Wojcieszek suggested promoting the society by organising small national/local meetings of society members.*
  - *Anders Eriksson (Sweden) suggested a researcher/practitioner forum and dedicated sessions for practitioners at future conferences to attract/retain practitioners as members.*
  - *Amador Calafat stated that number of members is one way of measuring our success but if recruiting new members would take a lot time and effort we should start to think about other alternatives.*
  - *Jeff Lee offered to promote EUSPR through Mentor Prevention Hub.*
  - *Fabrizio Faggiano highlighted that currently there is little incentive for members to join, as main benefit is conference attendance and this is not tied to Society membership. Further incentives (e.g. subscription to a journal, different activities during the year) need to be provided to encourage conference attendees to join as members.*

### Brief update of activities undertaken in 2013:

- Progress with respect to the partnership of the Social Research Unit to establish the joint journal ("Prevention Action") had been slow.
- EUSPR was accepted as a member of EU Civil Society Forum on drugs. Sanela attended the first meeting in June 2013.
- A COST funding scheme proposal was submitted by Harry Sumnall to support a research methodology network. It was successful in the first round (the feedback was very positive and promising) but due to lack of time and internal structure reorganisation within LJMU it was not possible to progress the application to the second round. The application will be resubmitted in March 2014.
- We applied to DG SANCO for conference grants in 2014. We received good feedback but unfortunately we weren't successful. If next year the similar scheme arises we plan to apply again.
- Some of our members participated in the Society for Prevention Research International Task Force networking meeting. Next year's event is due to take place in Washington.
- Continued partnership with SPAN project – we had very successful pre-conference workshops. SPAN also sponsored the poster prizes.
- EUSPR developed a partnership with Mentor International to promote the Prevention hub Registry of Prevention professionals.
- EUSPR launched a new website and social media presence (Twitter) where we try to post prevention related research and updates from individual members.
- Suggestions/comments from members:
  - o *Rosaria Galanti and David Foxcroft suggested that SPAN could promote the EUSPR membership.*

### Conference 2013:

- Increase in number of registrations (this year we had approx. 175 registrations - last year 110) but slight decrease in submitted abstracts. We have to think how to attract new research groups to submit abstracts.
- This year we had extremely generous support from our co-organisers.
- There was good interest in pre-conference workshops and also lunch time sessions which, with refinement, could become regular part of annual EUSPR conferences.
- Suggestion/comments from members:
  - o *Rosaria Galanti suggested more effort on attracting sectors of prevention research/work beyond the field of alcohol and other drugs (e.g. physical activity, dietary etc.).*
  - o *Angelina Brotherhood suggested that in order to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of membership and interest in the society, we could consider how many individuals attend the conferences repeatedly without being Society members.*

### Audit Report by Supervisory Board (Andrew Brown)

- There haven't been any changes in the statute.
- Andrew suggested that Summer Schools and workshops held outside the conference would encourage membership; other possible incentives include house journal and publication of conference proceedings – who will take the lead on such activities and developing further society benefits?
- Special note on next year's conference: important part of members' meeting will be election of new board members. In following year board members have to focus on preparation of needed procedures.

***Note: Report by Supervisory Board was accepted by members.***

### 2) Determining the regulations concerning functioning of the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board

- no changes.

### 3) Proposal of any actions, resolutions, or policy changes in order to improve functioning of the EUSPR

- proposal on linking membership to the new period after the conference;
- no additional proposals.
- we didn't receive any requests by members.

### 5) Bylaws amendments

- no proposals by members.

### 6) Membership of international associations

- EUSPR was accepted in EU Civil Society Forum on drugs

### 7) EUSPR policy and actions

- no report.

### 8) Decision on appeals against a decision about loss of membership

- no appeals were launched.

### 9) AOB

- no additional comments/ideas/suggestions.

**Future steps:**

1. Find a solution how to secure funding for the administrative support position.
2. Identification of Polish bank that has good international presence.
3. Contact former members to specify the reasons for not renewing their membership for 2013.
4. To consider a special membership deal, which would include membership for the following year if the memberships are paid just before the conference (in November or December).
5. In the beginning of 2014 start to work together with existing members on how to approach and recruit new members from different countries. Fabrizio Faggiano suggested further incentives (e.g. subscription to a journal, different activities during the year etc.).
6. Resubmit COST proposal in March 2014.
7. To consider how many individuals attend the conferences repeatedly without being Society members - in order to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of membership and interest in the society.
8. Preparation procedures for the upcoming elections of new Board members.