

Minutes Health SIRG Annual General Meeting
12.00 Noon – 1.30 PM
Wednesday May 23rd 2007,
Health SIRG Roundtable
Prato Italy

Chairperson : Mike Kerr

Welcome: The chair Mike Kerr welcomed people to meeting

Present: Mike Kerr, Bob Davis, Helene Ouellette- Kuntz, Helen Beange, David O'Hara, Deborah Elliott, Henny Lantman, Margaret Kyrkou, Jane Tracy, Seeta Durvasula, Marijke Meijer, Monica Borkman, Nick Lennox

Apologies: Mark Scheepers, Robyn Wallace, Lyn Lee, Anna Cooper, Tom Cheetham

Minutes previous AGM

Apologies were offered from the secretary (Bob Davis) as his laptop in which the minutes were kept was lost in the hold of the air craft returning home to Australia at the time of terrorist scare at Heathrow Airport.

Business of the meeting was essentially the re-election of officers from the previous year and the decision to hold the next health SIRG in Prato with Bob Davis responsible for convening this. There was some discussion on theme at the time where the Carer/health professional interface was proposed but the alternative of "Chronic Disease Management was brought up by David O'Hara and supported by the meeting with Bob, David and Mike advised to further develop the concept.

The meeting asked that its representatives discuss with council the current requirement to pay an extra fee for membership of each of the SIRG's. This was seen as a tax on commitment and that those involved in a number of SIRGs were unfairly disadvantaged and that this discouraged the development of other SIRGs. The representative was asked that such costs be subsumed within the fees of IASSID.

Financial Position of the SIRG was approximately \$US1500 at the time and membership 35, according to IASSID records.

Moved Helen Beange Seconded David O'Hara that this be accepted as the record of meeting.

Financial Report

The treasurers role had passed on to Mark Scheepers as Vee Prasher was no longer able to continue and the account was managed in the UK Currently the SIRG had approximately £2000 the membership was

Membership

Currently there are 65 members under the new rules of the SIRG making the health SIRG the third largest of the groupings. Currently the budget is allocated on a pro rata basis through council according to the membership.

Update from IASSID

Mike reported to the group that the SIRG had successfully lobbied through Henny Lantman the coordinator of the SIRGs for a change in the way members paid for membership of the SIRG and that this cost was absorbed in the overall membership fees with members able to join SIRGs and the SIRGs funded according to a formula which distributed funds linked to the level of interest.

The SIRG Roundtable and AGM for 2008 & 2009

The next meeting of the SIRG will be at the Congress in South Africa in 2008. Discussion ensued on a theme. Bob Davis brought up the idea that it would be advisable to look at themes that would engage other fields of interest as we needed to take advantage of the broad field of intellectual disability meeting in one place to encourage interaction across the sector.

Marijke advised that especially the non English speakers would like some paper work prior to the Roundtables

Helene Ouellette- Kuntz indicated that the Canadians were keen to run the SIRG Roundtable in 2009 and the meeting agreed to accept this offer. Marijke offered to help with the programme for that event.

Newsletter

The meeting congratulated Robyn Wallace on her efforts to produce and send out the newsletter. It recognised the difficulty in getting contributors but felt that this was a critical function in the activity of the SIRG. It was felt that we could probably better use IT to communicate particular around issues such as developing guidelines whether through posting on a website, increasing the IT accessibility in some way or setting up a list serve.

Guidelines

Continuing issue with guidelines going on and off the web site. This seems to be an issue with the changes in providers and problems they had with the site going down at one stage. It would be advisable for those responsible for the guidelines to keep an eye on this. At this stage the guidelines were relatively informal with key individuals responsible for their maintenance Mike is in the process of updating the Epilepsy guidelines. Helene Evenhuis has been reviewing the vision and hearing guidelines but has been frustrated by their disappearance from the site at times.

Election

Mike Kerr	Chair
Bob Davis	Secretary
Mark Scheepers	Treasurer
David O'Hara	
Henny Lantman	
Marijke Meijer	
Helene Ouellette- Kuntz	
Robyn Wallace	
Monica Boirjkman	
Helene Evenhuis	