

## Twelfth Annual General Meeting

Blankenberge, Belgium, 23 September



The Annual General Meeting of the company was held on 23rd September at Hotel Azaert, Blankenberge, Belgium. The President reported on activities during the preceding year, starting with the successful conference held at the Tallinn University of Technology, with special thanks to Mare-Anne Laane. EASE collaborated with several other organisations during the conference, including the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors, the International Association of Veterinary Editors and Mediterranean Editors and Translators. The International Society for Managing and Technical Editors (ISMTE) organized one of the parallel sessions. This led to an invitation to EASE to collaborate with ISMTE in their annual European meeting in 2013. Chris Sterken played the lead role for EASE, including all arrangements with the Hotel Azaert in Blankenberge, Belgium, which proved an excellent venue.

The Publications Committee has been restructured and renamed the Editorial Board for *European Science Editing*. Manuella Walker has joined the Board. The Editorial Board have appointed an International Advisory Board with eight members who will serve an initial three-year term.

Sylwia Ufnalska has continued to develop the EASE Guidelines for Authors and Translators, producing a publication ethics checklist, which was presented as a poster at the 3rd World Conference on Research Integrity in Montreal in May 2013.

The Regional Chapters programme has started, with chapters in Russia, led by Sergey Gorin, in Croatia, led by Ana Marusic, and an Italian chapter is being formed led by Paola de Castro. Each chapter is self-supporting, with its own page on the EASE website to present information on local activities.

A Gender Policy Committee has been formed, led by Shirin Heidari. Their aim is to create common standards and policies to ensure that the work of both genders is given equal recognition.



Our collaboration with sTANDEM (Standardising English for Medical Purposes) continues. Sera Tort, on behalf of EASE, has created a list of 4000 medical journals in Europe. sTANDEM will use this database to encourage the editors to sit a short test and gain a certificate to say that they have attained a certain level of writing ability.

EASE has become a member of HIFA2015: A Global Campaign in Health Care for all by 2015. Its mission of improving healthcare by providing healthcare information in easy to understand language agrees with EASE's goal of improving science communication. EASE has also entered an informal collaboration with the EQUATOR Network, which promotes good reporting of health research studies.

Paola de Castro represented EASE on training events at the University Sapienza Rome, Catania in Sicily and EnteCRA (Research in Agriculture) in Rome (the latter organized by John Wiley & Sons), as well as speaking at the annual conference of AMERBAC (Mexican Association of Biomedical Journal Editors). Joan Marsh and Paola de Castro attended a meeting of the Bioresources Impact Factor Group in Rome in June 2013.

The 12th General Assembly and Conference will be held in 2014. It was decided to build on the success of the Tallinn meeting and hold another in two years rather than the traditional three. Two submissions were received to host the 2014 Conference. Izet Masic offered to host the meeting in Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Ana Marusic offered various facilities in Split, Croatia. The proposals were of a high standard, but Split was deemed to have a slight advantage. The conference will be held on 13-15 June 2014 at the School of Medicine of the University of Split, and we are very grateful to the University authorities for allowing this. Ana will be the official chair of the local organizing committee, aided by Professor Wigan. Dalibora Behmen will be on the local organizing committee with responsibility for logistics.

**Joan Marsh**

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