Minutes of the ISUOG Annual General Meeting, Copenhagen – September 2012

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY
OF ULTRASOUND IN OBSTETRICS
AND GYNECOLOGY

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Sunday, 9 September 2012
Hall A1, Bella Center, Copenhagen, Denmark

1. President's opening address

Ann Tabor welcomed the members to the 2012 AGM and thanked them for attending. She informed them that there were over 1700 delegates that registered for the Congress from 88 different countries. She thanked the scientific committee and ISUOG office for their hard work and the LOC for their work and help pulling together the social program. She also thanked all the sponsors for their support.

She reminded the delegates that all sessions at the Congress would be recorded and made available via ISUOG's OnDemand portal the day after they were given. In addition to that, this year saw the launch of the new ISUOG App which is now available for download.

Professor Tabor hoped that the delegates would enjoy the Congress and the scientific research being presented throughout.

The meeting was quorate with 480 members present.

2. Report of the Board and sub committees

The AGM agenda was made available online to all members ahead of the meeting and copies were handed out on site.

Ann Tabor reported on the main achievements of the Society in the last year. The Society was founded in 1991 and has had a steady growth in membership since then and currently has over 6300 members from over 200 countries. ISUOG aims to have 10,000 members by 2015. One fourth of the current members are Trainees who received two years free membership. The price for membership has not increased over the past 5 years and following a Board decision it will not do so for this year either.

Journal activity was also reported and Ann Tabor noted that the impact factor was now 3.007 which is a slight decrease from last year but still high for a niche journal. The 5 year impact factor for the Journal is high however and it is the leading peer review journal on imaging in the field of obstetrics and gynecology with approximately 65 papers submitted each month. The Journal has worked to reduce the time from acceptance to publication which is now approximately 2 months.

As the next Congress will be held in Sydney from 6-9 October 2013, Ann Tabor welcomed all delegates to attend and submit abstracts, the deadline date being 6 May 2013.

Ann Tabor also reported on other ISUOG educational activities noting that three educational courses had already taken place in London and Paris with one more in December this year on Gynecology in London. So far
in 2013 there is one course confirmed on fetal echocardiography, which will be held in Berlin in February 2013 following the success of holding the course in Paris this year.

Ann Tabor also informed the membership that ISUOG will be moving headquarters at the end of this year to a larger premise as staff numbers are growing. The larger area will also allow for the possibility of holding smaller courses on site.

She also spoke about the International Symposium which started in Singapore in 2005. There have been 8 Symposia in total to date, with the last one having been held in New Delhi in May 2012. The meeting was very well attended and resulted in 585 new members to ISUOG. A proposal has now been received to hold the next meeting in Colombia, which will be reviewed and decided on shortly. Delegates were advised that more information will become available on the ISUOG website soon.

Thirty approved courses had taken place in the previous year and ISUOG is still targeting more courses in China and South America for this upcoming year. All members are invited to submit their courses to ISUOG for approval.

Ann Tabor spoke about some of ISUOG’s new features, and drew the members’ attention the ISUOG website which provides a large amount of online learning material and lectures. In addition, ISUOG is in the processes of finalizing new guidelines which will be published early in the new year.

Ann Tabor spoke briefly about ISUOGs Outreach program and the ongoing efforts of the committee to partner with other organizations and find new project locations. Delegates and volunteers were invited to attend the Outreach Workshop scheduled to take place during the Congress on Monday afternoon.

Ann Tabor invited all members to visit the ISUOG lounge to meet the ISUOG staff during the Congress.

3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, Los Angeles, 2011

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting in Los Angeles were unanimously accepted without change.

4. Appointments and retirements

Andrew Ngu, ISUOG Secretary reported all the following retirements from the Board:

- Beryl Benacerraf
- Julene Carvalho
- Andrew Ngu
- Boris Tutschek
- Simcha Yagel
- Gianluigi Pilu

He also requested the member’s approval of the following re-appointments and new appointments to the Board:

- Beryl Benacerraf
- Julene Carvalho
- Gustavo Malinger
- Andrew Ngu
- Aris Papageorghiou
The members accepted the new appointments.

5. Report and accounts for year end 2011

A summary of ISUOG’s annual accounts was published online ahead of the meeting.

Alfred Abuhamad, ISUOG’s treasurer, reported that the financial situation for ISUOG remains stable with the main sources of income including membership, the journal and the annual World Congress. ISUOG has invested in a new headquarter in London, and additional funds have been allocated for key ISUOG activities, including education and outreach in the coming year. ISUOG continues to hold sufficient reserves to continue its work and protect against an uncertain financial environment. The accounts were approved by the membership unanimously.

6. Appointment of the auditors

Alfred Abuhamad reported that all of ISUOG’s financial information had been officially audited by MHA MacIntyre Hudson who have now incorporated Gotham Erskine, ISUOG’s auditors for previous years. He asked for a motion to approve the reappointment of MHA MacIntyre Hudson for the forthcoming year. The motion was approved.

7. Awards and acknowledgements

Simcha Yagel, Boris Tutschek and Gianluigi Pilu were presented with acknowledgments for their work on the ISUOG Board. Ann Tabor thanked them for contributions, dedication and expertise over the past years.

Ann Tabor also thanked Andrew Ngu for his work as ISUOG’s secretary and confirmed that he would be serving on the ISUOG Board as incoming President-Elect for the next two years.

Ann Tabor thanked the organizing committee and her Congress co-chair for their work in putting together an excellent Congress program and the ISUOG office headed by Sarah Johnson and the Journal team headed by Sarah Hatcher.

Ann Tabor informed the membership that she had now finished her two year term as President of the Society and with this handed over the presidency to Yves Ville who will serve as President from 2012 to 2014. Yves Ville thanked Ann for her work and looked forward to continuing his work with the Society.

Yves Ville thanked the members for attending after which the AGM was declared closed.