

MINUTES: 2001 MEMBERS' MEETING, JUNE 1st, 2001, TORONTO, CANADA

The meeting was opened by the outgoing president Moira Plant

1. Approval of minutes of year 2000 annual meeting in Oslo.

Robin Room moved that these minutes be adopted. Seconded by Jim Rooney. The motion was passed unanimously.

2. Introduction of new executive and committee members.

Moira introduced the new president (Ingeborg Rossow) and Vice President (Tom Greenfield) and committee members (Guillermina Natera [2 year term], Kim Bloomfield, Pia M@kel@, Sharon Wilsnack, Harald Klingemann and Marie Choquet). It was also announced that the change to the By-Laws, separating the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, had passed by a vote of 70-0.

Ingeborg then assumed the chair and formally thanked the outgoing President, Vice President (Harald Klingemann) and retiring committee members (Robin Room, Kaye Fillmore, Martin Plant and Sturla Norlund).

3. Report on the Toronto conference

Alan Ogborne reported on the conference on behalf of Norman Giesbrecht and other members of the organizing committee.

The conference had 148 participants from at least 20 countries. Thirty two (32) attendees were given partial support from KBS funds. The final figures for the cost of the conference are not yet in but it appears that these were in line with the original budget.

One hundred and ten (110) papers were presented and 76 arrived in time to be uploaded to the conference Web site. About the same number of abstracts arrived by the deadline set for abstracts.

As ever a lot of work was required to process abstracts and format papers for the Web. Abstracts and papers that arrived after the deadline and those that did not follow the guidelines were especially troublesome. Clearer guidelines and a stricter adherence to the published deadlines will be recommended to future conference organizers.

4. Report from the KBS secretary

Alan acknowledged the hard work of the outgoing executive and retiring committee members and indicated that an ongoing priority will be to improve communication with members through the KBS Website. Tom Greenfield has offered to propose that the site be hosted by the Alcohol Research Group and he will work with the local webmaster to improve the site and add new material. One priority will be to add information on organizing thematic meetings. Suggestions for improvement or additions to the Website should be directed to Tom or Alan.

Moira asked that members acknowledge Ron Roizen's work on the KBS Website and this brought an enthusiastic round of applause.

5. Report from the KBS treasurer

Trygve reported that before the conference the society had 295 members who have paid at least once since 1996. Ninety-three have not paid since 2000 or earlier, while 68 have paid for 2001, 22 are paid up through 2002 and 12 are paid up through 2003. Between the Oslo and Toronto meetings Trygve received fees from 80 people, of whom 44 were paying from personal resources (US\$15) and 36 from institutional resources (US\$50).

Trygve considered that this was a good year for KBS financially. We raised US\$6000 for the Toronto conference because many members paid their fees. This was due to a more active approach by Trygve. More people have signed up or renewed their membership at the conference and Trygve will be sending reminder notices at the end of this calendar year.

Trygve and other members of the committee were, however, concerned that the society will not have US\$6000 to support the conference in Paris. An increase membership fees was therefore called for.

Ingeborg indicated that a proposal to increase individual membership fees to US\$25 (from US\$15) and institutional fees to US\$75 (from US\$50) will be sent to all members within the next three months.

Jacek Moskalewicz asked why the individual fee increase was higher in percentage terms than the institutional fee increase, and suggested setting the latter at \$85. Moira Plant pointed out that more member joined as individual than as institutional members. Roberta ferrence remarked that KBS was the kindest society that she knew of, but if only half of the members were paying their fees, it needs to get more structured. Andrée Demers pointed out that the fees were used to provide partial travel support to scholars from developing societies and without access to institutional resources. Trygve Ugland noted that he would send e-mails reminding people of fees which were due; he sent 90 in November, which resulted in 30 members paying up.

6. Workshop reports

International Research Group on Gender and Alcohol (IRGGA)

Sharon Wilsnack reported that this will hold its 9th annual meeting after the conference. It is an open group that currently has over 100 members from 30 countries. IRGGA has conducted a number of collaborative analyses and projects over the years. The major project at present is GENACIS — “Gender, Alcohol, and Culture: An International Study.” GENACIS will involve surveys and comparative analyses of women's and men's drinking in up to 30 different countries using a common questionnaire developed by IRGGA members over the past three years.

Workshop on alcohol related crashes: how to cut them down

Moira presented a report on this workshop on behalf of Alicia Rodriguez-Martos.

Two sessions were held during the conference. On Sunday three papers were presented and discussed. The discussion focused on identification and brief interventions. On Tuesday there was a session on attitudes, knowledge and beliefs among health professionals working in emergency departments.

Names and address of participants were collected to build a network of people interested in this topic. Anyone interested in joining the network should send an email to Alicia: amartos@imsb.bcn.es.

The role of qualitative research in the addictions field: experiences and examples

Harald Klingemann reported that two meetings were held during the conference. The first involved 20-25 people and the second 40-50. Points of general interest which emerged including computer analysis, sampling and cross-cultural research. Another workshop will be held in Paris and there has been some talk of producing a book.

7. Recent thematic meetings

Youth cultures and subcultures: functions and patterns of drinking and drug use.

Robin Room reported that over 40 people attended this meeting in April 2001 and that everyone was very pleased with the outcome. Among other things the meeting succeeded in bringing the British tradition of cultural studies into contact with the field of substance use and abuse. Selected papers will be published in Contemporary Drug Problems.

Natural recovery

Harald reported that a book based on this 1999 meeting is now available (H. Klingemann et al., Promoting Self-Change from Problem Substance Use, (Kluwer, 2001, paper- & hardback) and that some papers will be published in Substance Use and Abuse and in Addiction.

Measuring alcohol consumption and problems

Robin reported that selected papers from this 2000 meeting had been published in a special double issue of the Journal of Substance Abuse (12:1-212, 2000).

8. Future thematic meetings

Community-based prevention research - Helsinki March 2002

A flyer concerning this meeting was distributed by Marja Homila. This will be the fifth in the series of these meetings under KBS auspices. Abstracts are due October 31, 2001. Those who did not receive this flyer can find out more by contacting Marja: marja.homila@stakes.fi or Thomas Karlsson: thomas.karlsson@stakes.fi.

Qualitative and qualitative studies of substance use over the life course – probably in Stockholm, October 2002

Anja Koski-J@nnes reported on plans for this meeting. Both qualitative and quantitative studies will be solicited. The organizers would also like to see

conceptual papers on the historical development of the disease concept. The participation costs will be about EU250. Abstracts will need to be submitted by May 31st 2002.

9. Other meetings

Harald reported that there is to be a meeting in October 2002 to mark the 100th anniversary of Swiss Institute. The theme will be 'From Science to Action'. The KBS coordinating committee has agreed that KBS will cosponsor this meeting. The provisional program is already pretty final; many of the speakers are from the KBS.

10. Future annual meetings

Paris 2002

AndrPe Demers gave a report on plans for this meeting on behalf of Marie Choquet. The meeting will be held from June 3rd to June 7th at Val de Grâce, in the 3rd arrondissement, at the oldest military hospital in Paris. The meeting will be cosponsored by the Société FranHaise d'Alcologie.

Deadlines will be: as follows: Abstracts: February 1st
Papers: April 15th.

AndrPe urged members to respect these deadlines.

Robin moved that members approved the proposal to hold the next meeting in Paris. This was seconded by Moira and approved unanimously.

Krakow 2003

Jacek noted that he was pleased to suggest Krakow for this meeting. He reported that this will be ten years after KBS last met in Poland. Krakow is a beautiful old city about 300kms south of Warsaw. It is close to the mountains and home to Poland's oldest university. Accommodation can be found for as low as US\$19-US\$28.

And beyond—

Marja reported that she and her colleagues have offered to host 2004 conference in Helsinki.

11. Matters arising

Jacek noted that in the past members had received more writing communications concerning events and other issues of interest. There was a KBS Circular, which originally came twice a year, and which was a very useful channel of communication. Tom indicated that he saw the KBS Website as potentially carrying more information of this kind, and that he would look into resuming publication of something like the Circular.

12. Other business

There being no further business the meeting concluded with a further round of applause in appreciation of the Toronto conference.