

**Minutes of 2010 KBS Annual General Meeting, Lausanne, Switzerland  
Friday, June 4, 2010 (11:15 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.)**

Chair: Kate Graham (President) approximately 50 members in attendance

**1. Agenda approved**

(moved by Robert Parker, seconded by Robin Room)

**2. Minutes from 2009 AGM Copenhagen approved**

(moved by Robert Parker, seconded by Paul Lemmens)

**3. Treasurers Report, Elin Bye**

The accounts are in a "good situation" helped by a €7000 profit from Copenhagen meeting allowing a balance of €32,500. Paid-up members number 192, including 60 new members. There have been 11 resignations and there are about 50 unpaid members.

**4. Report of the Nomination Committee**

(Kerstin Stenius (Chair), Ronald Knibbe, Geoffrey Hunt)

*Nominations for President:*

Franca Beccaria (Italy)  
Jacek Moskalewicz (Poland)  
Hilde Pape (Norway)  
Mats Ramstedt (Sweden)

*Nominations for coordinating committee:*

Alexandra Bogren (Sweden)  
Jason Bond (USA)  
Matilda Hellman (Finland)  
Michael Livingston (Australia)  
Petra Meier (UK)  
Myriam Munné (Argentina)  
Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye (Uganda)  
Tim Schoenmakers (Netherlands)  
Thaksaphon Thamarangsi (Thailand)

**5. Report from 2010 organising committee**

There were 230 people attending the meeting, 150 papers presented and 33 individuals provided with travel support. One recommendation for future meetings is to require e-mail addresses on abstracts to enable nominated discussants to contact paper authors who are late submitting their papers to the website. The members were asked for feedback regarding the innovation of having the last presenter chair each session. Sandra Kuntsche commented that the organisers thought it worked better than they expected. In general, it was felt that timekeeping was better than before but there was some confusion about who should chair the discussion relating to the final presenter. The Melbourne organisers advised they would not likely use this arrangement, partly because combining the chairing role with final speaker required chairs to be more senior/experienced KBS

members (thereby precluding newcomers and more junior participants who could get valuable experience and exposure chairing a session). A suggestion was made that there be a bell or sound other way to indicate the halfway point of the session to facilitate people who wished to attend the first part of one session and the second part of another.

## **6. Workshop reports**

**a) GENACIS.** Sharon Wilsnack reported on the 18th annual meeting with 36 participants from 19 countries took place over two days before the conference. Some funding for travel was provided to some participants from PAHO. A highlight was a report from developing countries on the challenges and special opportunities of conducting surveys in the contexts.

**b) Gender studies.** Geoffrey Hunt reported that there were eight participants, for papers presented and discussion sessions.

**c) AMPHORA work package 5.** Esa Osterberg reported on the closed meeting attended by researchers from Finland, Poland and Sweden who are participating in a four-year project.

**d) Qualitative research workshop.** Geoffrey Hunt reported that 20 people attended in the morning and 28 in the afternoon with eight papers presented from five countries.

**e) International project on Alcohol and Assault.** There were 12 people from six countries who attended the workshop in Lausanne, and studies have begun in Ireland and the USA. Rob Parker reported that this group also met around the thematic meeting on Alcohol and Violence held in Melbourne in March 2010.

**f) International Comparative Research on Substance Abuse Treatment Systems.** Sverre Nevsag reported that the group examines the public health effects of different treatment systems from the perspective of different user groups, different mixes of clients and services. While not an official or formal collaborating study, it is a useful forum for exchanging ideas.

**g) EU SMART Project.** Jacek Moscalewicz reported that this collaborating group, including researchers from Estonia, Poland and Finland, worked on standardising the measurements of alcohol-related issues.

**h) The Addictionary group.** Some members of the group met for a lunch meeting. Kerstin Stenius invited all interested KBS-members to join the addictionary google group, by contacting her or Gillian Smith. The google group page contains some documents on conceptual analyses and published texts. Andrea Mitchell has started to collect information about dictionaries in various languages. The group aims at exchanging preliminary texts and possibly following the development of the DSM-V. The group will meet again in Melbourne.

***i) AMPHORA Work Package 3 (Contextual factors and consumption patterns).***

Allaman Allamani reported that this was an informal meeting of a few WP3 partners to plan the next steps in the project.

***j) Consortium studying theories and images of addiction.*** Pekka Sulkunen reported that researchers from Finland, France, Sweden, Canada and Russia were collaborating examining this issue through surveys of general populations and treatment workers as well as focus groups. Several papers were presented this week and the project has a website hosted at the University of Helsinki.

***k) Nordic tax study.*** Robin Room gave the final report from this group which is now generated many publications and two successful PH they dissertation defences.

***l) Alcohol research in developing countries.*** Researchers from China, Uganda and Thailand had a successful meeting. The group plans to meet again in Melbourne.

## **7. Reports on Thematic meetings**

***a) Episodic Heavy Drinking Among Adolescents, Nijmegen, the Netherlands, December 10-12, 2009.*** Paul Lemmens reported on a successful meeting focusing on "binge drinking" at which 120 people attended from a broad range of disciplines including genetics, developmental psychology and history.

***b) Models, Implications and Meanings of Alcohol and Drug Treatment Systems, Stockholm, Sweden, October 7-9, 2009.*** Kerstin Stenius reported that the meeting concerning Treatment System in Stockholm was attended by 30 people from nine countries and generated a thematic issue of *Nordic Studies on Alcohol and Drugs*.

***c) Alcohol and Violence, Melbourne, March 15-19, 2010.*** The conference involved 40 papers presented from 14 countries of which 20 will be published in special issues of *Drug and Alcohol Review* and *Contemporary Drug Problems*.

## **8. Awards**

***Ole-Jørgen Skog Award.*** The 2010 winner was Karen Schelleman-Offermans. The committee for 2011 is Dike van de Mheen (Chair), Franca Beccaria, Jukka Torronen, and Sylvia Kairouz.

***Alcohol and Injury award.*** The winner of this one-time award was Kristine Brache.

## **9. Future Annual Meetings**

***a) Melbourne, 2011.*** Ann-Maree Laslett and Jason Ferris reported on preparations for the Melbourne symposium which will be held the 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of April, 2011. It will be the first annual symposium held in the southern hemisphere. The venue for the conference will be Karstens at CQ, 123 Queen Street, Melbourne VIC 3000, Australia. The call for

abstracts will be posted in September 2010 with abstracts due December 2010 and full papers due in February 2011.

**b) Stavanger, 2012.** A presentation and video presentation was made by Sverre Nesvåg and Espen Enoksen on behalf of the StaRus-group for the 2012 KBS annual meeting to be held in Stavanger, Norway. There was unanimous support for holding the meeting there in 2012 hosted by the Stavanger Group for Alcohol and Drug Research.

**c) Florence, ??.** Allaman Allamani reported that no commitment could be made at this time to host the meeting in 2012 due to present financial problems in his country but this might be a possible location in subsequent years.

## **10. Upcoming thematic meetings:**

**a) Alcohol Epidemiology and Evidence-based Policy, Translating Research into Effective Prevention, Treatment and Policy, Kampala, Uganda, November 2010:** Sharon Wilsnack explained this will focus largely on knowledge translation in developing countries. Deadline for abstracts is 15th of July 2010. Robin Room suggested that the new WHO initiative may find it useful to focus on technical diffusion regarding aspects of collecting taxes and controlling illicit production in developing countries.

**b) Alcohol Policy 15, Washington, DC Dec 5-7, 2010.** Participants were reminded that this meeting will be held in December and that submissions are due in June.

**c) Potential thematic meeting on generational/cohort analysis:** Tom Greenfield advised that Pia Makela, Ludwig Krausz and Bill Kerr were in early discussions to plan such a meeting.

## **12. KBS Journal Possibility**

The KBS society was approached by Tom Babor, President of the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE - <http://www.parint.org/isajewebsite/index.htm>) regarding an opportunity for the KBS to take ownership of an online journal that was developed through a small business grant funded by the U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) as part of an international initiative. The current stage of development of the journal is that a website exists but there have been no issues published as yet (see <http://research.datcommunity.com/Journal/Pages/default.aspx>). Therefore, the task would be to develop a journal from the ground up. The website has been offered to the Society free of charge but funding would need to be sought for operational costs. One possibility is that the journal be operated by the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) in Canada on behalf of the KBS with some resources supplied by CAMH. Another possibility would be for the journal to be merged with an existing journal.

Following much discussion with comments both against and in favour it was voted to allow the coordinating committee to investigate the possibility further. Those speaking against (including Rob Parker, Gerhard Gmel, Paul Lemmens) expressed the view that

there were already enough journals, that scientists were overloaded with requests to review papers, that the broader focus on substances other than alcohol would alter the nature of the society and that larger societies had failed to sustain their own journals. Those speaking in favour (including Kerstin Stenius, Tom Babor) suggested it was an opportunity for the next generation of alcohol researchers to create an innovative online journal. It was suggested it could focus on cross-cultural research and the many international studies underway and that the society would be in control of the focus of the journal, i.e., it could be predominantly focused on alcohol issues. It was recommended that there had been opportunity for open discussion from all members by e-mail. A motion was put forward (moved by Richard Wilsnack and seconded by Petra Meier) for the coordinating committee to investigate and develop a proposal regarding the possibility of a KBS journal was carried by a large majority (with 5 people voting against).

### **13. Archiving of KBS papers**

Paul Lemmens reported on his progress with creating a digital archive. It has been decided to only include papers presented from annual symposia (not thematic meetings) at this time. Andrea Mitchell reported that the archive was complete from the year 1998 onwards. In the first instance, access will be open only to members with password protection and other means of access. Individual members recommended that the archive become open access as soon as possible. Several issues were discussed including identifying publications resulting from the papers (possible copyright issues). Paul was applauded for his efforts on this project.

There was no other business and the meeting was adjourned.