

Minutes from the KBS Coordinating Committee meeting, Torino 2014

Sunday, June 8th 2014

16:00 – 19:00 hours

In attendance: Kim Bloomfield (KB), Henk Garretsen (HG), Jason Bond (JB), Matilda Hellman (MH), Michael Livingston (ML), Petra Meier (PM), Norman Giesbrecht (NG), Myriam Muneo (MM), Robert Parker (RP), and Claire Wilkinson (CW).

Regrets: none (Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye could not attend due to travel delays).

Invited guests: Robin Room, Franca Beccaria, Ludwig Kraus, Jenny Cisneros, Kerstin Stenius, Tom Babor

1. Approval of agenda 2014: approved (NG, ML second)

2. Approval of minutes 2013: approved (CW, and PM second)

3. Torino meeting: report by Franca Beccaria

241 participants will attend. 270 abstracts were submitted at deadline and 211 registered for the conference, 55 applications for financial support of which 24 were supported; in total 9'362 Euro outside support of 3'500 Euros from other sources, else from KBS; Attendees with financial support were eight from Africa, three from Asia, one from Australia, seven from Europe or North and South America. The total budget was 85'000 Euro including social dinner.

Problems: as always papers were not in time submitted, 40 manuscripts were still missing by the time of this presentation. In addition most of the people applying for financial support without receiving such resigned from the conference later. Additional cancellations caused major changes in the program and delayed the printing of handbooks. Present organizers accepted all papers submitted, independent of their quality. As the conference is growing this may cause problems in the future and criteria should be developed to help local organizers to deal with possible refusals in the future. For example, some submissions were not scientific, NGOs submitted reports, but organizers did not reject them due to lacking criteria for paper acceptance.

4. Munich meeting 2015: report by Ludwig Kraus

Dates are June 1 - 5, 2015, venue is an old clinic of the University of Munich, close to the city center and the central station (venue to Marienplatz about 10 minutes' walk). Distance between airport and the city center is about 45 minutes by train. Possible social tours are presented. Accommodation: prearrangements are planned in various price categories. Lunch facilities: Cantine at the campus or outside the venue are possibilities; Arrangement of weekend pre-meeting rooms is possible. Applications for additional funding are being made.

5. Candidates for future KBS symposia: Jenny Cisneros (Stockholm), Petra Meier (Sheffield)

a. Stockholm (Jenny Cisneros): candidate for the annual meeting in 2016: conference venue on the University Campus (preliminarily booked for six rooms) close to the city center; submissions for additional financial support are planned, tour ideas. Professional organizer or not?: A conference service at the university will be used.

b. Sheffield (Petra Meier): candidate for the annual meeting in 2017

Both will be proposed at the business meeting with voting option for Stockholm (2016) and Sheffield (2017, if membership agrees on voting three years ahead)

6. Report from thematic meetings: none

7. Overview of workshops 2014

a. World Health Organization/Thai Health "Harm From Others' Drinking Project"

b. GENACIS

c. IGSAHO – GENACIS meeting

d. International Alcohol Control (IAC) Study

- e. Qualitative workshop
- f. Alcohol use as it happens: Innovative methods for recruiting young adults and capturing in-the-event drinking behavior

8. Upcoming thematic meetings: Melbourne, September 2014; others?

9. Treasurer's report

Accounts are presented, local organizers of Torino will refund 3'500 Euro from travel support

- a. Increasing membership fees
Agreement to suggest an increase in membership fees for individuals by 10 Euro and 5 Euro for institutions at the business meeting
- b. Policy on travel support for co-com members
CoCom members needing travel support will apply for such to the local organizers within the official deadline and inform the local organizers about their CoCom membership and the president about their application for travel support.

10. Approval of new members: all approved.

11. O-J Skog award committee by Matilda Hellman

- a. Report on submissions in 2014
6 applications within the deadline; somewhat problematic to equally judge quantitative and qualitative papers, as well as the number of authors as co-authored papers may get more support than single authors - the possibility to include a statement of contributions was discussed
- b. Nomination of new committee (2015-2016)
New committee of 5 new members is needed of which two will serve for a single year, the other three for two years. Suggestions for members are made and they will be contacted during the KBS week. Petra Meier agreed to chair the new committee.

12. Proposed changes to by-laws:

- a. Update on secretary-treasurer position to two positions
Text suggestions are made:
19. The Secretary shall be elected every two years by a majority of Coordinating Committee members voting.
The Secretary is responsible for communicating Society activities and plans to the members (via the website or e-mail) no less often than once a year. These include the time and place, as well as the organizers of seminars and workshops sponsored by the Society.

20. The Treasurer shall be elected every fifth year by a majority of Coordinating Committee members voting.

As financial officer of the Society, Treasurer receives the dues of the members and makes disbursements under the supervision of the Coordinating Committee to which he/she presents an annual report, available on request to any member.

The Treasurer shall prepare a membership list to be used for election purposes and announcements of annual meetings/thematic meetings.

~~18. The Secretary Treasurer shall be elected each two years by a majority of Coordinating Committee members voting.~~

~~The Secretary Treasurer is responsible for communicating Society activities and plans to the members no less often than once a year. These include the time and place, as well as the organizers of seminars and workshops sponsored by the Society.~~

~~As financial officer of the Society, the Secretary Treasurer receives the dues of the members and makes disbursements under the supervision of the Coordinating Committee to which he/she presents an annual report, available on request to any member.~~

~~The Secretary Treasurer shall prepare a membership list to be used for election purposes.~~

~~The Secretary Treasurer shall announce to the membership the time and place of the Membership Meeting.~~

- b. Inclusion of Ole-Jørgen Skog award and committee in by-laws
Purpose, functioning and election of the committee should be included in the by-laws. The following text is proposed:

THE OLE-JØRGEN SKOG AWARD AND AWARD COMMITTEE

16. The purpose of the Ole-Jørgen Skog Award for Early Career Scientists is to recognize the excellence of papers presented by early career scientists at the annual symposium. The award is a cash prize, two years of membership in the Kjetil Bruun Society and a certificate.

The best paper presented by an early career scientist (no more than 5 years in alcohol research) will be selected by the Ole-Jørgen Skog Award Committee and be based on its contribution to advancing knowledge in alcohol research and on its theoretical and methodological quality. Specific selection criteria, developed by the Committee, are available on each year's conference website.

The Ole-Jørgen Skog Award Committee shall consist of 5 members of the Society who represent both qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches. The Committee shall consist of a chairman and 4 regular members. Members shall serve terms of 2 years and shall be appointed by the Coordinating Committee. Memberships shall be staggered with 2 members appointed in one year and 3 members appointed in the following year. It is desirable that at least one member of the Committee come from a low or middle income country.

- c. Extension of president's and vice president's terms
Possibility to include the status of a president-elect was discussed. The statuses of president and vice president remain. But to simplify the transition between two presidents and to increase their productivity within the two years period the position of a "president-elect" was proposed, while statuses of president and vice president remain. The president and vice president will serve two years, the president-elect four years after election. The president-elect will assist the president and attend the two CoCom meetings before becoming president for two years. Every second year elections will be held for the president-elect and the vice president. For the first round (2015) all three positions are up for election. The individual with the most votes becomes president, second highest president-elect, third vice-president. The first and last serve for two years, the president-elect for four.

All proposed changes will be discussed at the business meeting and in case of positive advice a mail ballot among the membership is needed to change the by-laws.

13. Nomination of the election committee for CoCom members and presidency 2015
Terms ending in 06/2015: Jason Bond, Matilda Hellman, Michael Livingston, Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye, Petra Meier, Kim Bloomfield, Henk Garretsen

The following members are suggested and will be asked to be part of the election committee 2015: Kypros Kypri, Ludwig Kraus, Kerstin Stenius.

Addendum: However, due to Kypros illness, Allaman Allmani replaced him on the committee. They will contact 6 for presidency in case the by-law changes pass the mail ballot.

14. Conflict of interest – how to proceed

Based on suggestions made by Tom Babor a working group was formed to report to the CoCom about their suggestions. Initial members are KB, MH (Tom Babor for consultations). Franca Beccaria, and Jacob Demant were suggested as possible candidates for this working group and will be asked during the KBS week. The group will be announced at the business meeting with an invitation for members to join the group.

15. Report from IJADR – International Journal of Alcohol and Drug Research by Sandra Kuntsche
Report on published issues and work in progress was given. Start-up funding by NIDA ended after one year due to the economic crisis. Implementation of page charges (100 US Dollar per printed pages) in January 2014, since July 2013 transition to Scholar One to manage submissions and review process. Furthermore, the membership is reminded of the possibility of non-financial support: reviewing manuscripts, mentoring submissions and becoming associate editor.
 - a. Request from IJADR to KBS for consistent financial support
The possibility of financial support by KBS was discussed. The CoCom agreed on a one time support of 2500 US Dollar, but emphasizes the importance of self-efficacy of the journal.
16. Upcoming ICARA meeting (International Confederation of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Research Associations) and the role of KBS
The background and suggested participation of KBS was presented by Kerstin Stenius and Tom Babor, the issues will be discussed within the CoCom during the upcoming year, Kim Bloomfield will contact KBS members already attending the upcoming meeting in Chicago whether they agree to represent the society
17. KBS website and archive:
 - a. Webmaster : Website needs a new server location and a webmaster for regular updates.
 - b. Final policy on archive: Archive a final policy is needed and will be discussed at the business meeting.
18. Other issues
Listserve needs a new host. Will be discussed at the business meeting