

**Minutes of the KBS Business Meeting  
University of Copenhagen, Denmark  
Friday, June 5, 2009, 11:30am – 1:00pm.  
(Approved in Lausanne June 2010)**

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**1. Approval of agenda.** The agenda for the meeting was approved (moved by Norman Giesbrecht and seconded by Robert Parker..

**2. Election of KBS Officers.** New President, Vice-president and coordinating committee members were announced: Kate Graham, President; Christoffer Tigerstedt, Vice-president, and new members of Jakob Demant, Sandra Kuntche, Kipros Kypri and Sylvia Kairouz

**3. Approval of minutes of the 2008 meeting in Victoria**

The minutes of the 2008 meeting were approved.

**4. Treasurer's report.** Elin Bye reported that the KBS has a balance of 19,400 Euro. She reported that there were 16 new members, 7 resigned and 172 fully paid. The Treasurer's report was approved (moved by Robin Room and seconded by Robert Parker).

**5. Report from organizers of 2009 meeting in Copenhagen.** Jakob Demant and Kim Bloomfield presented their experiences relating to this year's meeting in Copenhagen. There were 243 delegates and 180 abstracts, 8 workshops on Tues afternoon and numerous other workshops both before and after the actual conference. They defined thematic tracks for the first time, which people found useful. They noted that the proliferation of workshops caused some logical difficulties, especially given that the KBS occurred during some holidays. Some of the issues they raised were discussed later in the meeting under general discussion of format for KBS annual meetings. They were thanked and congratulated for organizing such a successful meeting as well as the largest one to date.

**6. Workshops reports**

(a) GENACIS - had several meetings, about 40 people attended.

(b) Nordic tax study - the team is planning a paper.

(c) EU SMART- the team is developing an instrument to measure alcohol consumption and harm.

(d) Images of alcohol - people from 5 countries attended an initial meeting.

(e) Qualitative research - 9 papers were presented at the meeting.

(f) Alcopops - this was an exploratory workshop, attended by about 20 people.

(g) Concepts of addictions - this workshop had 26 members and focused on analysis of words and concepts as a means of understanding alcohol politics and policy.

(h) International group on alcohol and assaults - 12 people attended this project, intended to access and analyse time series population archival data on alcohol and assaults.

(i) Alcohol: No ordinary commodity - the group is preparing the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the book

(j) Alcohol control policy and public health – the participants reported that the meeting went well.

**7. General discussion of meeting format.** Members were invited to comment about the desired structure of KBS meetings, including problems and benefits of the increasing size of the conference (about 250 delegates this year), the conference CD, length of the meeting (i.e. should it be shortened to fewer days), invited speakers and other issues. A suggestion was made to accept posters (at the choice of the presenter – no one would be forced to present a

poster) as a way to accommodate more people, perhaps increasing attendance at the poster session by combining it with a social event. Pros and cons of having invited speakers were discussed, including the benefits of cross-fertilization from other fields versus the egalitarian tradition of the KBS. An informal count was taken on whether speakers should be invited and a narrow majority was against inviting special speakers. Participants failing to meet deadlines continues to be a problem, with the conference organizers reporting that only about 20% of papers were received by the deadline, although most authors (about 150/180) sent their papers in time to be included on the conference CD. A number of options were discussed for addressing this problem. Opinions were mixed on many of the issues and no decisions were made at this time. The issues will be revisited at the general meeting in 2010 following the Lausanne meeting and taking into consideration the experiences of the organizers for that meeting.

## **8. Future meetings**

**a) Lausanne, Switzerland, June 2010.** Sandra Kuntsche, the lead organizer of the meeting, gave a presentation. The Apha Palmier hotel has been reserved. It can accommodate up to 220 delegates at the plenary meeting, 3 concurrent sessions and 195 people. Most international flights will be to either Geneva (45 minutes away by train and 5 trains per hour) or Zurich (150 minutes away by train). Tentative ideas on the social program include a trip to the vineyards and a castle.

**b) Melbourne, Australia, March 2011.** Claire Wilkinson and Anne-Marie Laslett made a presentation for holding the 2011 meeting in Australia. They suggested the date should be moved forward to March. The Melbourne meeting in March was approved in a vote (with no persons voting against it).

**d) Stavanger, Norway, 2012?** Rasmus Sand made a presentation for holding the annual KBS meeting in Stavanger, Norway. Stavanger is located on the western coast with a population of 150,000.

**e) Florence, Italy, 2012 or 2013?** Allaman Allamani gave a short presentation on the possibility of having KBS in Florence, 2012.

**f) Kampala, Uganda, 2013?** Nazarius Mbona Tumwesigye made a presentation to host the 2013 meeting in Kampala, Uganda.

## **9. Upcoming thematic meetings**

The following thematic meetings were described briefly. More details are available on the KBS website or will be in the future:

- (a) Treatment systems (Kerstin Stenius)
- (b) Binge drinking and adolescence (Paul Lemmens)
- (c) Alcohol and violence (Robin Room)
- (d) Alcohol policy (Norman Giesbrecht).
- (e) Community action (no discussion)

It was announced that Robin Room and Norman Giesbrecht have prepared draft guidelines for thematic meetings. The draft will be posted on the KBS listserve for comments and then posted on the KBS see website. Robin and Norman were thanked for making this valuable tool available.

## **10. Ole-Jorgen Skog Award Committee**

Mats Ramstedt will chair the committee for 2010. He was not present to discuss the membership but it has since been confirmed to include: Dike van den Heen, Franca Beccaria and Jukka Törrönen)

## **11. Other Awards**

**(a) Jellinek Award.** Anya Koski-Annes announced that the Jellinek Award 2010 will be for clinical and experimental research. She is chairing the committee and asked members to submit nominations.

**(b) Alcohol and Injury award.** No one was given the award due to the lack of relevant submissions. It is planned to give the award at the alcohol and violence thematic meeting planned for Melbourne 2010. Preference will be given to a graduate student working on alcohol and injury in developing countries.

## **11. Other business**

None.

Meeting was adjourned.