EAHIL Council Meeting

Wednesday 6 July 2011
Sevgi Gönül Auditorium, Koç University, Istanbul, Turkey

DRAFT Minutes

Present
Peter Morgan (Board), Karen Buset (Board), Manuela Colombi (Board), Lotta Haglund (Board), Tuulevi Ovaska (Board), Ivana Truccolo (Board), Tomas Allen (SIG Public Health), Elena Ganina (Russia), Kai Geschuhn (Germany), Güssün Günes (Turkey), Gun Brit Knutsøn (SIG MeSH), Katri Larmo (SIG Public Health), Regina Küfner Lein (Norway), Minna Liikala (Finland), Silvia Lopez (Portugal), Margarida Meira (Portugal), Federica Napolitani (Italy), Oliver Obst (Germany), Sofia Pemer (Sweden), Ioana Robu (Romania), Marie Teissier (SIG EVLG), Michelle Wake (UK), Janet Wamby (Sweden), Margarita Zelve (Latvia), Larisa Zhmykhova (Russia),

Apologies
Suzanne Bakker (Board), Marshall Dozier (Board), Sally Wood-Lamont (Board), Janet Harrison (UK), Gerdien de Jonge (Netherlands), Jouni Leinonen (Finland), Jaqueline Limpens (Netherlands), Matjaz Musek (Slovenia), Charlotte van der Valk (Netherlands)

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence**

2. **Round-table introductions**

3. **Minutes of the 2010 Council meeting in Estoril**
   The minutes were accepted, with amendments.

4. **President's report**
   The report was distributed for reading, and PM highlighted on some of the issues in the president's report.

5. **SIG and other professional division group reports**
   Mesh SIG (Gun Brit Knutsøn): the group has published four contributions in JEAHIL. The SIG discussion list is active, but more would be appreciated. An important task for the group is to translate the yearly new MeSH terms. The group will have a meeting during the workshop. The aim of the group is to improve collaboration among the international translators and other stakeholders.

   Pharmaceutical Information SIG (Michelle Wake): a survey has been conducted among the members asking what the group could do for the members, and the findings will be discussed at the SIG meeting during the workshop. The group would very much encourage discussion on the PHING discussion list.

   Public Health SIG (Tomas Allen): Tomas was elected in Lisbon, it has been a transition year, both for WHO and the Global Health library. Due to budget cuts the project hasn't moved very much forward. Ivana Truccolo will report during the SIG meeting today about the work with consumer health information, and the collaboration within Europe.

   Veterinary SIG (Marie Teissier): The group has had very little activities, since Friedhelm Rump (chair) has been off work this last year. The group is becoming less European, and more international, since the collaboration also includes colleagues from the USA. The group had intended to have elections for chair this year, but it has not come about. The group will meet soon, and hope to form a more stable organization.

Health Informatics SIG: a message was received from Bruce Madge suggesting that EAHIL discontinues the group. The Board sought Council members' views on whether this should happen.

Registry Taskforce: PM summarised a report received from Helena Bouzkova and Suzanne Bakker. Ioana Robu commented that when embarking on the project they were more ambitious but now, after working on this task, the question is if it is possible to come up with a common standard for medical librarians.

6. **Individual councillors: news and reports**
No reports or questions.

7. **Group breakout discussions**
The members present were divided into groups 1-4 and each group was asked to provide feedback on issues (a) to (f) below:

(a) **Proactive liaison between councillors and national members**
1) Suggested that perhaps we could use our national conferences and discussion lists to raise awareness about EAHIL, although the strength of medical librarianship as a group varies from country to country. Also suggested to use non-EAHIL lists for communication. Consider regional sessions during conferences.
2) Should promote EAHIL in their countries, promote EAHIL, get more members, be more active in their countries. Spread information when there is a new issue of JEAHIL. Communicate with the Board. Maybe have "Peter's blog" on Board ideas? Self-education for councillors to know the Association better, to be able to promote to their country.
3) The new council members asked for some kind of introduction for new Councillors. More regional cooperation (e.g. as in Scandinavia). Inform EAHIL members in adjacent countries about local events. Responsibility to inform the members what's happening in EAHIL, and also to report back what's happening in the country.
4) The group thinks that maybe the councillor role should be defined more clearly. As most EAHIL information is distributed centrally, giving councillors a more active dissemination role might be repetitious. The role should be to promote EAHIL more actively. When it comes to communication with members, the councillors need papers from the Board well ahead of Council meetings in order invite comment from their national members.

(b) **Use of EAHIL-L for interlibrary loans**
1) Agree.
2) Agree with item no 1 & 2, suggested change for item 3: the group suggested the last sentence be removed since they don't think we should promote personal favours.
3) Also talked about the personal connection. Suggested that we add "that you also could send a request to the EAHIL list of a specific country" to item 3.
4) Agree with the suggested policy

(c) **Length of annual EAHIL conferences and workshops**
1) Up to the local organizers. Generally thought length was ok. Could also seek views of non-participants
2) A lot of different meanings. The cost for travel and accommodation; the organizer can try to get low fees for accommodation. The possibility to pay for single days. Remote conference possibilities. Bigger difference between conferences and workshops, one longer with CE courses, the other shorter without courses.
3) There were different opinions. One suggestion is that it would be good if you could pay for single days. The group would like the conferences to stay as a face-to-face conference. But the courses could be offered as remote

courses.

4) The conference every second year, with the possibility of one day fee. The conferences every second year could be perhaps not longer, but with more parallel sessions. Perhaps the sessions could be recorded, so people could listen to the sessions they couldn't attend, at a later date. Other meetings, e.g. Board and SIG meetings could be more frequent if there is a need for that. SIG meetings could use video conferencing systems for meetings. The SIG meetings and activities should be up to them, with advice from EAHIL

(d)   Venue for 2014 EAHIL conference
1) Encourage countries that haven't organized any EAHIL conferences.
2) No volunteers, and no suggestions …
3) Italy offered to take the question back to the members in Italy
4) The group doesn't know of any volunteers, but Edinburgh, Croatia or Lithuania were suggested

(e)   Possible collaboration with LIBER
1) Collaboration might lead to local communication between EAHIL members and their parent LIBER libraries.
2) It sounds good to make a more formal agreement with LIBER, so agree with suggestion.
3) The group thought they didn't have enough information to approve the suggestion, but were not against it.
4) No opinion. The benefits are hard to see, the group leaves it up to the Board. The group members will check how many members from each country is a member of LIBER, and then when the Memorandum is presented the group may be able to give advice.

(f)   Future of the Health Informatics SIG
1) Close the group if there is no one who's active in this area - could always resurrect it if interest grows. Possible problem that health informatics means different things in different countries.
2) There has been an email about this group, asking for interest. No one in the group is interested enough to be a member, even though the topic is an interesting one.
3) The group thought that the SIG was quite new, and suggested we check our minutes from when the group was started, to find the aims and spread the information about the group, and that it will then be closed if there is no activity
4) Could we define "informatics"? The group doesn't understand why there is no activity.

8.   Any other business
There was no other business.