

Minutes EAUN General Assembly (AGM)

Date: 4 September 2021
Time: 14.50 – 15.30 hr CEST
Meeting room: Online during the virtual 21st International EAUN Meeting



Attending Board Members: Susanne Vahr (Chair), Paula Allchorne (Chair Elect), Jason Alcorn, Corinne Tillier, Jeannette Verkerk-Geelhoed, Giulia Villa, Tiago Santos, Franziska Geese, Ingrid Iversen

Minutes: Hanneke Lurvink

Chair: Susanne Vahr

The virtual Annual General Meeting was attended by 31 delegates from 14 countries.

- **Welcome by the Chair**

Susanne Vahr Lauridsen (Copenhagen, DK), Chair, welcomes everyone to the first virtual EAUN General Assembly. She thanks the board members for the extra work they put in during the COVID-19 period. She stresses the importance of virtual education during the lockdown period. Paula Allchorne (London, UK) succeeds her as Chair and thanks Susanne for her strong leadership. Susanne will continue as Past Chair and will remain Chair of the EAUN Guidelines committee.

Paula highlights the achievements of Susanne during her Chair period 2018-2021:

- restructuring of the EAUN board
- developing an Educational Framework for Urological Nursing (EFUN);
- abstracts from the annual EAUN meeting published in International Journal of Urological Nursing;
- continued to work on the development of guidelines
- accreditation through EU-ACNE;
- update of the EAUN long-term plan.

Among her personal achievements, Susanne mentions the strong support she received from her professional network. She is also grateful for the international network she was able to develop thanks to the work in the board. She thanks Paula for the cooperation when Paula was Chair Elect.

- **Approval of the AGM Report 2020**

The minutes are accepted without comments.

- **Voting Changes in the board**

Susanne thanks Giulia Villa (Milan, IT) and Jerome Marley (Newtownabbey, IE) for their time and efforts as EAUN Board Members. Giulia will continue to be involved in EAUN guidelines work. Jerome will continue to be part of the EFUN group. They will remain active for the EAUN.

Susanne introduces Franziska Geese (Berne, CH) and Ingrid Iversen (Kristiansund, NO) as new EAUN board members. The members vote unanimously in favour of their installation.

- **Education group**

Jason Alcorn (Wakefield, UK) informs the audience that the Education group had to expand its horizon into the virtual world due to Covid-19 and revamped its programme. They continue to plan annual meetings, with a 2-year horizon. Furthermore, a schedule will be prepared for:

- webinars on behalf of the Special Interest Groups (SIGs) prostate cancer, bladder cancer, endourology and continence;
- ESUN courses, virtual, live or a mixture of virtual and live;
- e-courses: preventing catheter-associated urinary tract infections, nephrostomy pigtail catheter e-course, EAUNwebinar e-courses;
- website: tools for writing & presenting an abstract.

Jason is urging all members to send in suggestions for education and training.

- **Accreditation**

Jason Alcorn is also responsible for accreditation. This year the conference was accredited through the ACNE system for the first time and there is now a system for event accreditation in place. There is also a credit point registration system in place for nurses: <https://mycme.eu-acme.org/mycme/signup>. EAUN Members receive an account automatically as free membership benefit; non-members can create a Continuing Nurse Education (CNE) account. In the near future there will be one website for both medical and nurses' education accreditation and all EAUN courses will be accredited. Furthermore, an independent board has been installed to review and assign credits to courses. The members of the accreditation board of the Continuing Nurses Education come from different backgrounds and countries all over the world.

For further information or ideas on education or accreditation you can contact Jason at j.alcorn@eaun.org.

- **Guidelines group**

Susanne Vahr Lauridsen informs the audience that the update of the Indwelling Guidelines from 2012 was finalised this year. Because it takes more time than expected to prepare updates of guidelines, a guideline group for the update of the Intermittent Catheterisation Guidelines from 2013 was formed consisting of an international group of nurses. A broad guideline group leads to more success in disseminating the guideline knowledge and implementation of recommendations. In the future, the guidelines will no longer be printed unless they are sponsored, however, they will be accessible for free on the EAUN website. The high numbers of citations of the EAUN Guidelines on Research Gate show how much interest there is for these guidelines worldwide, and the importance of continuing to develop and update them.

- **International relations**

Susanne Vahr: The most important international relations are the national nurses societies. The online National Societies Meeting is postponed to 4 October 2021 so participants have more time to prepare.

The European Specialist Nurses Organisation (ESNO) aims at harmonising nursing education in the European context. In 2020, three online conferences of the ESNO were organised. For more details about ESNO, please contact Jeannette Verkerk-Geelhoed at j.verkerk@eaun.org.

EAUN has become a member of the European Cancer Organisation. Its aims are to reduce the burden of cancer, improve outcomes and quality of care for cancer patients and improve multi-disciplinarity and multi-professionalism. It has 31 member organisations. The EAUN participated in the campaign 'Time to act – don't let COVID-19 stop you from tackling cancer'.

In 2020, we also collaborated with Health First Europe. EAUN participated in developing a guideline on how to improve adherence to existing guidelines to prevent catheter-associated UTI. The guideline was presented during a virtual

event. Many EU policy makers, health care professionals from clinical practice and associations were brought together there.

- **Scientific Congress Office**

Jeannette Verkerk (Nieuwegein, NL): This year's congress was the first virtual congress. It was a 2-day congress packed with lectures. Next year, the composition of the Congress Office will change. This year, there were 4 members: Jeannette Verkerk-Geelhoed (chair (NL)), Robert McConkey ((IE), Julie Ellis-Jones (UK) and Ana Semedo (UK). The new member for next year will be Hendrique Huisman (NL). Julie Ellis-Jones agreed to stay on the board for another year.

- **Social media**

Since 2020 one board member, Tiago Santos (Lisbon, PT), is dedicated to social media. Social media are used by the EAUN to share knowledge, information about EAUN activities and EAUN news. Currently, Facebook and Twitter are the most platforms used to reach the members and followers. Frequent updates are published. The EAUN LinkedIn account is focused mostly on sharing EAUN's activities and on relations with other organisations, sponsors and associations. However, LinkedIn is not yet used to its full potential and we need to explore its opportunities. The EAUN board members are working on a social media plan, which should serve as a protocol for managing EAUN social media platforms. Tiago thanks Hanneke Lurvink for her efforts in the field.

- **Special Interest Groups**

Corinne Tillier (Amsterdam, NL) would like to start with highlighting some achievements of the EAUN in 2019 that have not been presented to the members yet. In 2019, before COVID-19 came along, Corinne went to Hong Kong to visit the anniversary congress of the local urology nurses association. She also shows the anticoagulant card, developed together with the EAUN prostate biopsy guideline, which can be used to check when to stop using anticoagulants before prostate biopsy. The card can be downloaded from the guidelines page of the EAUN.

Corinne is responsible for the contacts with the EAUN Special Interest Groups. The SIGs prostate cancer, bladder cancer, endourology and incontinence were obliged to develop online webinars more quickly because of the pandemic. Thus, they were able to reach nurses from all over the world. Corinne invites all EAUN nurses to join the webinars and the ERUS-EAUN 2021 Robotic Nursing Programme on 11 November 2021 in Dusseldorf (DE), a programme that is developed by the EAUN Special Interest Group Endourology. Should you be interested to join a SIG group, feel free to contact Corinne at c.tillier@eaun.org.

- **Report finances & membership update**

Paula Allchorne: EAUN membership has fluctuated in 2020, probably because of COVID-19. Paula Allchorne expects membership numbers to go back to normal soon. In 2020, the total of EAUN members amounted to 2,516. URONAP (Philippines) is a new member in 2020/2021 and accounts for 200 members. There are individual members and online group members (nurses societies).

Finances: Income was less than normal due to COVID-19 (less sponsors). Expenditure is low as well, despite the fact that online education was developed. Only one face-to-face board meeting took place, this was just before lockdown in January 2020. One fellowship in Switzerland was supported. Paula thanks the EAU for all its support to the EAUN. The total balance is positive. Some money will be allocated to EFUN and guidelines development to help members with an educational framework and clinical guidance. Most of the income comes from memberships and sponsoring.

Susanne asks the audience if there are any questions from the members. There are no questions and she closes the meeting.

A promotional banner for the 22nd International EAUN Meeting in Amsterdam. The background features a stylized illustration of Dutch architecture, including a row of colorful houses and a large blue bicycle with a basket of tulips. The text is overlaid on this background.

22nd International EAUN Meeting

EAUN22 | AMSTERDAM
19-21 March 2022

EAUN22 abstract submission is open
Abstract and Video Submission, Difficult Case Submission
Research Project Plan Submission
Deadline: 1 December 2021 >>

We look forward to meeting you in person in Amsterdam!