BELGIAN SOCIETY OF FUNDAMENTAL AND CLINICAL PHYSIOLOGY AND PHARMACOLOGY

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Minutes of the General Assembly of the Belgian Society of Fundamental and Clinical Physiology and Pharmacology and of the
National Committee of Physiology and Pharmacology

Wilrijk-Antwerpen (Universiteit Antwerpen), October 22th 2011

The General Assembly starts at 13.30h

- 1. The administrative and accounting reports for 2011 are discussed and approved.
- 2. Prof. Dr. J. Van de Voorde attended the FEPS Council Meeting during FEPS Meeting in Istanbul, which was organized with the National Turkish Physiological Society. He commented the proposal of FEPS to organize a paneuropean meeting every three years and every year a joined meeting with a national society. The request to the national societies not to organize a national meeting in the year of a FEPS-meeting was not found appropriate by the Society members. Our national meetings give the opportunity to young researchers to present their results orally or in a guided poster session. It is our experience that this opportunity is not always available in international congresses.

The Assembly is also asked to decide on a proposed amendment to the IUPS constitution about the establishment of a new entity "Board of the General Assembly". Prof. Dr. J. Van de Voorde, the representative of our Society in IUPS, explains that the aim is to create this entity as a liaison between the General Assembly and the Executive Committee and Council during the years where there is not IUPS congress. The members approve the creation of the IUPS Board of the General Assembly.

3. The annual membership fee for our Society remains 40 €. The Assembly urges the members to pay their dues on time.

The Assembly decides to give a honorary membership to retired Society members who have been member during several years. Their membership will be maintained free of charge. Honorary members can vote on the general assembly when there are present!

The Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts of Belgium (RASAB) will be asked to pay the membership dues to IUPS and IUPHAR.

4. Elections

Prof. Dr. Hidde Bult (Universiteit Antwerpen) was elected as Second Vice-Chairman.

For 2011 the board will be as follows:

Chairman
First Vice-Chairmain
Second Vice-Chairman
Secretary General

Session Secretary - Treasurer

Advisors

Prof. Dr. Dirk Snyders (UAntwerpen)
Prof. Dr. Bruno Flamion (FUNDPNamur)
Prof. Dr. Hidde Bult (UAntwerpen)
Prof. Dr. Vincent Seutin (ULiège)

Prof. Dr. Johan Van de Voorde (UGent) Prof. em. Dr. Eric Lacroix (UGent)

Prof. em. Dr. Théophile Godfraind (UCLouvain)

- 5. Membership in the National Committee of Physiology and Pharmacology Prof. Dr. T. Godfraind reports on the proposal of the National Academy to enlarge the National Committee of Physiology and Pharmacology. Four active members of the Society, Philippe Gailly (UCLouvain), Philippe Lebrun (ULBruxelles), Ilse Smolders (VUBrussel) and Dirk Snyders (UAntwerpen) have been proposed. The Assembly approves these proposals.
- 6. The candidatures of two new members are approved:
 Abdullah Sener (ULBruxelles) and Xavier Florence (ULBruxelles), both sponsored by Philippe Lebrun and Sylvain Meuris
- 7. Calendar of the national meetings

March 16 2012 UHasselt Prof. Dr. Jean-Michel Rigo

The Assembly decides to organize this meeting on a weekday (Friday) in a central location. The proposal is the Academy Building, Hertogsstraat in Brussels, near the Central Station. J.M. Rigo will organize the meeting.

T. Godfraind volunteers to find an auditorium.

Autumn 2012 FUNDPNamur Prof. Dr. Bruno Flamion

The Board of our Society is invited to a meeting in Maastricht with the Dutch

Colleagues concerning the opportunity to organise a second Benelux Congress

on Physiology and Pharmacology.

8. International Meetings

July 17-20 2012 Granada (Spain) 6th European Congress of Pharmacology (EPHAR)

www.ephar2012.org

September 21-26 2012 Santiago de Compostela (Spain)

Joint FEPS and the Spanish Physiological Society

(website will be launched soon)

July 21-26 2013 Birmingham (U.K.)

IUPS – 37th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences

www.iups2013.org

July 13-18 2014 Cape Town (South Africa)

XVIIth Word Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology

www.iuphar2014.org

9. Miscellaneous - Points to discuss

a. Publication of abstracts on line in Acta Physiologica.

"Acta Physiologica" has decided to stop publishing the on line abstracts without costs and requires abstract submission several weeks before the meeting. An amount of 300 EUR was paid for the publication of the abstracts of the 1rst Benelux Meeting of Physiology and Pharmacology in Liège (March 2011). However it is decided to publish in the future the abstracts of our future meetings on our Society website, as "Proceedings of the Belgian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology".

b. Further strategy of the Society.

An adaptation of the number of yearly meetings is discussed considering the often limited abstract submission rate after the first meeting announcement. One problem could be the fact that our meetings are organized on Saturdays. Therefore, the next meeting is scheduled in Brussels at the Academy Building (cfr. 7 Calendar of the National Meetings) on a Friday. This central location in Brussels can be easily reached by railway, thus avoiding traffic problems.

The next point of discussion is to examine how our Society Meetings can be involved in Ph.D. post-graduate courses. This could increase the impact of the Society. No formal decision is made.

It is generally felt that the official name of the Society, namely "Belgian Society of Fundamental and Clinical Society of Physiology and Pharmacology" is rather long. As both the fundamental and the clinical aspects are included in our Society, it is decided to rather use the shortened Society name, namely "Belgian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology".
