

INTERNATIONAL CONTINENCE SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Of The 48th Annual General Meeting of the International Continence Society
Philadelphia, USA, 30th August 2018

[Link to Annual Report and Accounts](#)

[Link to 2018 Committee reports](#)

Sherif Mourad (SM) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. SM asked people to introduce themselves if they would like to ask a question or say a comment. Contribution from the floor will be limited to 1 per person. We have already invited questions in advance prior to the AGM. The agenda papers have links to the key reports, as was emailed to the membership on multiple occasions. Please note that at this stage no changes can be made to any vote. To allow more time for due process, voting results will not be given at the end of the AGM. Results will be made available via the ICS website as soon as possible after the AGM.

1. Matters arising from the minutes of the AGM held 14 September 2017, Florence, Italy.

There were no matters arising.

2. Approval of minutes of the AGM held 14 September 2017, Florence, Italy.

SM as there are no comments sent to us or now then minutes are approved, there is no need for vote from members.

3. General Secretary Report – Sherif Mourad

a) Trustees' annual report: SM summarised the progress of the Board and the organisation this year, confirming it had been another great year for the ICS. SM confirmed membership numbers had increased significantly, with over 3,100 members and holding very strong financial reserves. SM stated that the treasurer would provide a full report later during the meeting.

b) SM confirmed that the ICS was growing in scientific stature with rapid development of publications of new ICS standards, consensus statements and the success of the 6th ICI book. Many more are planned for publication in the forthcoming year and recommended members kept an eye on ICS news. ICS have agreed a memorandum of understanding with SUFU which will mainly see joint terminology papers created. Discussions are underway for similar partnerships with AUGS, IUGA and EAU. Our committees and Institute Schools are working very hard and delivering many great outputs. For instance, the Education Committee organised 20 guest lectures and add-on education courses just this year and all within a very reasonable budget. SM confirmed there had been a vast increase in video content on the ICS website including annual meeting content, interviews and educational modules. ICS have great ambitions in this area for the coming years, including accredited learning, so please keep checking ICS TV and the ICS Institute. All of this extensive activity is of course underpinned by our dedicated and very capable ICS office.

- c) Strategy and ICS Institute: following the most recent strategic Board review meeting the trustees agreed the primary aim for 2017 – 2022 is for the ICS “to be the global home of science and clinical education for LUTS, Incontinence and Pelvic Floor Disorders”. We are making progress with this aim through increased publications (standardisation reports, consensus documents, scientific news articles) and a great increase in filmed content (abstracts, interviews, workshops and special commissions). We have launched the ICS Institute with 12 individual Schools and Directors assigned to each. ICS Schools work to serve the e-learning needs of ICS members and to provide training in designated centres of excellence. SM asked the members to visit the website now and keep checking back for much more exciting content and if anyone was interested in joining the working groups of any School then contact the office. The strategic goal for the ICS institute was developed and formally launched at ICS 2017 to be the hub of ICS e-learning and the house all ICS educational activities. We have already created 12 Schools and applications were accepted with Directors formally appointed in 2018. The 12 schools are Anorectal Dysfunction, Female Pelvic Medicine and Reconstructive Surgery, Male LUTS and Urethra, Neurourology, Nursing, Paediatric Voiding Dysfunction and Transitional Urology, Pelvic Pain, Physiotherapy, Modern Technology, Translational Research in Pelvic Health, Urodynamics and Transgender Health.
- d) Membership: Tremendous increase in membership numbers and it’s important to know that this year we have the highest number of new members which reflects the interest in joining the society. This is the 2nd consecutive year that we have exceed 3,000 members and this is due to the increase in benefits of ICS membership.
- e) Regional Meeting: After the great success of the first regional meeting in Phoenix, USA the ICS is pleased to announce the second ICS Regional Meeting will be held in Brussels, Belgium over 30 Nov – 1 Dec 2018. The meeting title is “A Pragmatic Approach in Refractory and Complex Neurogenic Bladder Problems”. There will be simultaneous programmes for doctors, nurses and physiotherapists all with an interest in neurourology. In the true spirit of any ICS multidisciplinary event, delegates are welcome to join any session in both of the programmes. As you can see we have an outstanding faculty. I hope you will consider joining us at what promises to be an excellent event. Registration is now open. We are planning to run a regional course in Europe in 2018 – more news to come on this.
- f) Cadaver Course: We are delivering the 2nd ICS cadaver course this September, once again in Bristol with Hashim Hashim as Course Chair. We have nearly quadrupled our delegates compared to the inaugural meeting held in 2017. The intention is to run the course on an annual basis.
- g) Fistula Workshop: Our famous Fistula workshops are back with this one running on 12-14th of December this year in Khartoum state, the capital of Sudan. Full support will be given to the first 5 applicants from the developing countries then partial support to another five and the participation is then open without travel support to all international delegates. We shall have many cases with the chance of real hands on training under direct supervision of the trainers so it is a great experience both surgically and socially.

- h) Incontinence 7th Edition: ICS has been in close conversation with the ICI editors to discuss the terms of ICS hosting the 7th consultation during ICS 2020 in Las Vegas, and publishing the 7th edition of Incontinence. I am pleased to confirm that we reached a strong partnership that will see the ICS and ICUD working more closely together in the strategy of the ICI project. 4 ICS trustees will join the newly formed ICI-Steering Committee which is responsible for the smooth running of the 7th ICI. The ICI-SC will invite the chairs on behalf of ICUD and ICS. For the first time ICS members will be asked to apply to join ICI chapter committees, please look out for more information on this from the ICS office. We are proud of high quality of the final written word and the published book. I hope you have received a copy of either the hard copy or e-book. As you can see we have enjoyed a successful international distribution of the book. It is important to ICS and ICUD to disseminate the contents of ICI. To this end we are going to publish the "Recommendations of the International scientific Committee" – which we expect to highlight cited. Further reports from individual chapter committees are also planned for publication
- i) ICS Office Team: Please go and visit the strong and dedicated ICS team at the ICS booth in the exhibition.
- j) Summary of committee achievements: Our committees have had another very active year. The summary committee reports were sent to all members so SM gave some key points from the reports

- **Children and Young adults Committee**

The committee have finalised their agreement with Wellspect and Coloplast. They are working on the details for the fellowship, which will be advertised in due course. The committee was also involved in the publication of a text on Clinical Urodynamics in children with Springer.

- **Developing World**

The committee is working on two research proposals. The focus over the last year has been the 'systematic review about prevalence of urinary incontinence in developing world.' Once completed the committee will start the second project: prevalence of voiding dysfunctions in 5 developing countries (mostly working group members' countries).

- **Education Committee**

Hosted 20 educational guest lectures and add on courses across the world. The committee contributed to the scientific committee review of ICS 2018 workshops. The committee have commissioned a number of videos - faculty development, educational modules and scientific committee. All of which are now available on ICS TV. Learner assessment will be implemented in the coming year.

- **Ethics committee report**

The committee are hosting a workshop at ICS 2018 entitled "Ethical Dilemmas in the Care of the Aging Patient: A Case-Based Interactive Workshop".

The committee has continued to encourage applications for the "Best Ethics Poster Award" in 2018 – prize of £500. Please consider applying for the award during abstract submission for ICS

- **Nursing Committee**

The Committee Chair received official ICS endorsement from the trustees to produce a book about the management of faecal incontinence for the advanced practice nurse. This is now available to purchase from Springer. The committee have been working on a Bladder and Bowel Training Consensus document, due to be completed by the end of 2018. The Committee prepared their annual Nursing Forum and Nursing Workshop for the 2018 annual conference in Philadelphia. The Nursing Committee assisted in identifying nurse speakers for the PACS conference (Sharon Eustice) and EAUN (Angela Rantell) in 2018. As well as a course in collaboration with CUAN, offering educational courses in 3 cities in China, in September 2018.

- **Neurourology Promotion Committee**

Start of the process of production of Recommendations for IC in under development countries (E Braschi), survey to be produced first, Delphi process to be used. The committee have 2 workshops recorded from ICS2018 for the website and have submitted teaching courses within national congresses CAU (confederación Americana de Urología) Urological society of india, Turkish society and Saudi Arabia society.

- **Physiotherapy Committee**

The committee prepared their annual Physiotherapy Round-table programme for Philadelphia. The Education & Professional Development subcommittee produced the 'International Continence Society supported pelvic physiotherapy education guideline' and are working on an education review-Scoping review of current world-wide practice in PFM examination and assessment as well as a terminology report, in conjunction with the SSC.

- **Standardisation Steering Committee Report**

Completed: 3 reports published in 2017; 1 published in 2018; 1 soon to be sent for publication in August 2018. 4 reports due to be published in 2018/2019 8 working groups have been launched since the Tokyo meeting. A peer review of The Terminology for Male LUT and PF Dysfunction will take place after the AGM. The committee are hosting a workshop in Philadelphia regarding the ICS wiki, organised by Beth Shelly.

- **Urodynamics Committee Report**

The committee have been working on the ICS teaching modules this year with 2 new modules published. This follows on from the 4 modules published in 2017 and 6 modules in 2016. All new modules will be prepared preferably in a review adhering to PRISMA-guideline, partially depending on further decisions on (centralised or decentralised) structure and process of education development and submitted to NU&U for peer review including a printout of the slides. The committee will host a workshop at ICS 2018. This workshop will be divided in two parts: one dedicated to beginners and one for advanced learners.

- **Publications and Communications Committee**

Committee members have produced high-quality articles and interesting topics to ICS eNews. The committee has investigated a series of debate topics with the NAU journal and will be working with the office on an annual presentation of ICS activity for members.

SM thanked all the committee members for their hard work.

SM announced that the free supplement of the NAU is free to collect either outside of the meeting room or at the ICS booth.

4. Announcement of elected persons from web ballot

This year there was only one elected post available – that of Trustee. Attendees will shortly vote on this position during the AGM.

5. Announcements of nominees and expressions of interest required by 1st March 2019 for ICS posts web ballot

SM announced the elected positions for 2019 and requested that applications should be submitted by 1 March 2019 to the ICS office.

- Treasurer (trustee position)
- Trustee position (any discipline)
- Children and Young Adults Committee Chair
- Developing World Committee Chair
- Education Committee Chair
- Nursing Committee Chair
- Publications and Communications Committee Chair
- Standardisation Steering Committee Chair
- Scientific Committee Chair
- Scientific Committee - Nursing Representative

6. Bids to host ICS 2022 Annual Meeting

SM confirmed that there were 7 bids received to host ICS 2022 in Europe. 4 were shortlisted for presentation during ICS 2018. Finally 2 bids were selected for membership voting. The ICS members will vote for their preferred Chair and destination following ICS 2018. Paris, France Chair: Emmanuel Chartier-Kastler and Vienna, Austria Co-Chairs: Heinz Koebl & Helmut Madersbacher

7. Call for bids to host ICS 2023

SM confirmed that bids were invited from North American cities. Expressions of interest are required by 1st February 2019 and the final bids to be received by 1st April 2019.

8. Awards and fellowship winners

We had a busy year with many applications received. The ICS was able to offer many awards to deserving persons therefore fulfilling a key charitable objective. We continue to seek further funding avenues so that we can offer even more awards to the ICS community. SM provided a summary of our 2018 awards and confirmed that Sender Herschorn, Lifetime Achievement award winner for 2018 will be presented with his award during the annual dinner. SM confirmed that we also continue to offer many abstract awards and in addition to the normal ICS annual awards 20 best in category abstracts would be awarded also. The ICS are also looking to increase these awards in future years.

9. Deceased members

SM asked all present to take a moment to remember our ICS members who passed away this year.

- **David Rowan:** Biomedical Engineer
- **Roger Feneley:** Urologist
- **Donald Gleason:** Urologist
- **Jacques Susset:** Urologist

Ted Arnold and Paul Abrams both gave a short eulogy for David Rowan, one of the founders of the ICS, and Roger Feneley.

10. Amendments to ICS Bylaws: Ordinary Resolution vote

SM stated for good practice the Board undertakes an annual review of the Articles and Bylaws. Just one change is proposed to the Bylaws this year. Please note that no member can vote twice. If anyone here today voted on-line then your vote will be cancelled and replaced with your AGM vote.

Proposal: To change the composition of the ICS Meetings Committee to include the entire Board of Trustees and one member of the ICS permanent congress organiser.

Rationale: This change is proposed to improve the efficiency and diligence of the annual meeting bid review and short-listing process. The ICS membership will continue to retain the right to vote on and confirm the short-listed bids. The decision of where to host the ICS annual meeting has gained strategic and financial importance due to the challenges of reduced income from industry and reduced opportunities for delegate funding. The Board is elected by the ICS membership to take strategic decisions so it is prudent that trustees be fully involved in the detail of all submitted bids.

SM called a poll for the Amendments to the ICS Bylaws and asked members to only give their votes for the Bylaws at this time.

11. Ballot for Trustees: Ordinary Resolution vote to approve the appointments of Trustee (Allied Health)

SM thanked members for their vote and confirmed Cristina Naranjo-Ortiz was successful in the online vote held earlier this year and asked members to mark Yes or No on the relevant form.

12. ICS Treasurer's Report & Statement of Accounts

SM assured members happily that the ICS accounts were very healthy and stable over the past 3 years and moving steadily with the ability to support our scientific and educational activities and we are confident regarding our financial strategies and are doing the best to secure for the future of our society. Jerzy Gajewski shared the following financial results with the members:

ICS & Conticom Consolidated Accounts: JG summarised the income and expenditure for the last 3 years and confirmed 2017 resulted in a surplus of £354,956. Florence was a strong destination and produced a substantial surplus covering the expenditure of the Charity for the year and resulting in a substantial surplus at the year-end. The Fund balances as at 31 December 2017 of £1,729,728 cover the calculated operating costs for 2018 and 2019 and therefore meet the ICS Reserves policy.

ICS & Conticom Consolidated Expenditure: JG summarised the expenditure for ICS and Conticom for 2017 and confirmed total expenditure has increased from 2016, mainly on Educational activities. Much of this is from the sacral neuromodulation project which was supported by a grant from Medtronic. Annual meeting expenditure includes all costs incurred by Conticom-ICS Ltd including annual meeting expenses and all office running costs and staff salaries.

ICS Annual Scientific Meetings: JG summarised Summary of income and expenditure for the Annual Meetings. 2017 – Florence produced an excellent surplus, the best seen since 2005 in Montreal. 2016 – Tokyo produced a lower surplus largely due to approx. \$300k less in sponsorship and exhibition. 2015 - Montreal produced a good surplus and the Scientific fee increased from €100k to €130k to reflect the additional work the office has done on educational programme and marketing. JG presented a graph outlining the surplus from the annual meetings.

Investment update: JG confirmed the Total investment of £640,000 was made in September 2015 via a diverse managed investment portfolio, managed by Crystal Wealth Management and Russell Group Investments, alongside a Trustee investment working group. Total value of £798,477 as of 1 Aug, 4.5% gain since Sept 2017. Represents 24.8% gain on starting point of £640,000 in Sept 2015. Continued growth to date and well above our initial aim of 4-5%. Forecast for coming months is 'static.' JG also confirmed the Accounts are examined by an independent firm of accountants, Goldwyns Ltd based in Bristol. The ICS bookkeeper is Sarah Waters, managed by Dan Snowdon, ICS Executive Director and approved by the Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees.

13. ICS Scientific Committee Report 2018

Laurence Stewart – Scientific Chair confirmed the members of the ICS2018 scientific committee and stated that they had done an excellent job. LS also confirmed that if recognised, the committee was top heavy on urologist members, which has led on to consideration of the structure of the committee which will be the biggest change wished to be made. The proposal will be to alter the structure so that there is more permanent representation of gynaecology and basic science. This will still leave a post open for a.n. other. LS stated that even with these changes there would not be a significant increase in the size of the committee. LS confirmed that the abstract numbers were down this year in America 833 for 2018 in comparison to 1161 in Florence last year. Of those submitted for 2018 33 were withdrawn and 30 rejected, leaving 770 to make the programme. LS then gave a breakdown summary of the presentation types and disciplines represented. LS confirmed that there had been some changes regarding abstract submissions for 2018 – no word templates, completely online with rule checking which cut down the number of rejections. There is also a new reviewing system in place, following recommendations from Steinar Hunskaar. These included expertise allocation algorithm, Induction video and guidelines, more scores per abstract meant outlier scores (top and bottom) could be removed to resolve problems. LS thanked the committee once again for all their hard work.

14. Any other business

SM confirmed that there were no questions or comments. SM thanked everyone again who had contributed to ICS2018 for the success of the meeting So once again I want to thank Alan Wein, Diane Newman and the LOC, ICS committees, Board, ICS office, Kenes and of course all of you here today for running and attending sessions, and for your ongoing support of the ICS.

15. Date of Next Annual General Meeting – 5 September 2019, Gothenburg, Sweden