

Protocol for SSI council meeting 2017-10-18 in Stockholm

Called

SSI board members

Trevor Owens (Denmark), president X
Eva Sverremark-Ekström (Sweden), secretary X
Arno Hänninen (Finland), treasurer X
Jóna Freysdóttir (Iceland) X
Stefania P Bjarnarson (Iceland)
Anne Spurkland (Norway) X
Silke Appel (Norway), vice-president X
Jan Pravsgaard Christensen (Denmark)
Mika Rämets (Finland)
Vivianne Malmström (Sweden)

Adjunct

Anna Fogdell-Hahn (Sweden) X
Anders Örn (Sweden)
Steffen Thiel (Denmark)
Zlatko Dembic (Norway)
Hanna Jarva (Finland) X
Seppo Meri (Finland) X
Roland Jonsson (Norway) X
Alexandre Corthay (Norway) X
Hans-Gustaf Ljunggren (Sweden)
Petter Höglund (Sweden)
Bjarne Møller (Denmark)
Olli Vainio (Finland)
Sami Junnikkala (Finland)
Mikael Mikko (webmaster)


1. **Opening of the meeting.** Trevor Owens opens the meeting.
2. **Matters arising to the agenda.** None.
3. **Suggestions for new council members.** Arno Hänninen steps down as treasurer and leaves the board after seven years. Hanna Jarva is suggested to replace Arno Hänninen as a board member from Finland, and she is also proposed to be the new treasurer.
4. **Report of SSI activities 2016/2017 (Trevor Owens).** The following activities were reported:
 - a. Attendance by TO, AS, SA, RJ and SM at the **ICI meeting in Melbourne**. Fourteen SSI travel awards and 4 EFIS awards were given to SSI members.
 - b. Attendance there at the **IUIS Council meeting**, and election, where unfortunately neither SM nor TO were elected.

- c. The SSI Council has held **five Council meetings held via Adobe Connect** (28-10-16, 13-12-16, 23-01-17, 31-05-17 + Travel Grant review 27-06-17).
 - d. SSI has been **formally registered** as a not for profit society based in Turku Finland – this allows us to carry out the international financial transactions that are necessary for our operation.
 - e. We are actively participating in planning the **2018 ECI meeting** 2-5 Sept in Amsterdam: Silke (Scientific program committee), Arno (financial committee) and Anna (steering committee).
 - f. **Frida Henningson Johnson** will no longer work for SSI as we decided that the webpage and email would be our preferred means of communication with members – we thank her for her efforts.
 - g. **Arno Hänninen** steps down as Treasurer, we thank him for his many contributions especially with regard to registration of the society.
 - h. TO attended the **50th anniversary meeting for the German Society for Immunology** (at their invitation) in Erlangen 12-15 September.
5. **Report from the SSI treasurer (Arno Hänninen)**. Arno reports on the profit and loss statement and balance for 2016. The report is attached to this protocol as **Appendix 1**. In all, the capital for SSI by December 31 2016 was **27,430.80€**. The financial statement was outsourced to a professional service, similar to 2015.
 6. **Auditor's report (Hanna Jarva)**. Hanna Jarva served as auditor for 2016 and reports no major concerns in her report. This is attached as **Appendix 2**.
 7. **SSI membership status (Arno Hänninen)**. The recruitment of new members has been very successful. The number of SSI members is 1400 for 2017 (an increase of close to 300 members from 2016).
 8. **Budget for 2017 (Arno Hänninen)**. The finances are stable and the SSI assets are estimated to **32,212.89€** by the end of 2017. Attached as **Appendix 3**.
 9. **Auditor for 2016**. The board suggests Dr Eliisa Kekäläinen from Helsinki to serve as the auditor for 2017.
 10. **Announcement of travel grant recipients for 2017 (Arno Hänninen)**. SSI supported 55 persons with travel grants to SSI in Stockholm 2017 (Denmark-4; Finland-5; Norway-10; Iceland-3; Sweden-33). In total, the sum for travel grants from SSI during 2017 was **24,000€**. The list of the awarded persons is found in **Appendix 4**.
 11. **Report from Scandinavian Foundation for Immunology & Scandinavian Journal of Immunology (Roland Jonsson)**.
 - a. *The Scandinavian Foundation for Immunology* has published 12 issues in two volumes (Volume 83-84) of the *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology (SJI)* with an average of 9

articles per issue and a total of 844 pages. The number of institutions with access to *Scandinavian Journal of Immunology* has increased considerably during recent years. From 2015 there were only on-line subscriptions and no printing.

- b. The Board of *The Scandinavian Foundation for Immunology* (SFI) consists of Roland Jonsson (Chairman, Editor-in-Chief), Jacob B. Natvig (Co-chairman), Hans-Gustaf Ljunggren (Deputy Editor-in-Chief), Trevor Owens (SSI President) and Peter Garred (SSI appointed member).
 - c. The most recent Editorial Board Meeting for the Journal was held in Turku, Finland, May 10, 2016. Renewal/replacement of the Editorial Board has taken place and potential time frames for the periods of service has been suggested. In addition, it has been emphasized to request invited speakers at the SSI meetings to submit short reviews. Similar reviews have also been requested from new honorary members.
 - d. The Citation Impact Factor of SJI was 2.256 in 2016. There is a strong wish to further improve the Impact factor and with the current strength of the Scandinavian Society for Immunology and the increasing influx of manuscripts, this should be feasible.
 - e. In 2016 the total submission was 423 (377 in 2015) manuscripts with a rejection rate of 77% (71% in 2015).
 - f. The economy of the Scandinavian Foundation is good. The amount transferred the last year is 693,051 NOK during 2017 (for 2016). The total assets are 5 435 380 NOK per 31.12.2016.
12. Future SSI meetings. 2018: during the ECI meeting in Amsterdam; 2019 in Norway, 2020 in Denmark (SSI 50 years!); 2021 ECI, Istanbul.
 13. Decision on travel grants for 2018. The board suggests a budget of 40,000€ for 2018 (ECI, Amsterdam) (50 grants of 800€ each). The board also suggests to keep the present criteria for eligibility: Member of a national society at the year of application; Master/PhD trainees and Post-doctoral fellows up to 5 "working years" after PhD; Presenting author for an accepted meeting abstract.
 14. Report from Webmaster (Mikael Mikko). This report can be found in Appendix 5.
 15. Reports from the national societies 2015/2016. These reports can be found in Appendix 6.
 16. Report from the Nordic Foundation for Immunology (Anders Örn). Nothing reported.
 17. Membership fee. There is a suggestion to continue with 15€/person/year.
 18. SSI Honorary Member nominations: Roland Jonsson and Alberto Mantovani are suggested as honorary members 2017.
 19. Other matters. None.
 20. Closing of the meeting. Trevor closes the meeting.

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Eva Sværre Mark-Ekström, Secretary



Trevor Owens, President

Adjusted by



Silke Appel



Jóna Freysdóttir