



EUROPEAN  
HEMATOLOGY  
ASSOCIATION

**Business Meeting  
11th Congress of the EHA, June 17, 2006  
Amsterdam RAI Convention Centre, The Netherlands**

1. Report EHA Activities & Projects June 2005-June 2006 (Eva Hellström-Lindberg)
2. Results election new councilors for EHA Board (Eva Hellström-Lindberg)
3. Results voting on changes statutes (Wim Fibbe)
4. Results voting on members Nomination Committee (Wim Fibbe)
5. Results voting on increase membership fee (Wim Fibbe)
6. Financial report 2005 (Ton Hagenbeek)

**Panel**

Eva Hellström-Lindberg, President  
Willem Fibbe, President Elect  
Ton Hagenbeek, Treasurer

**Welcome**

Eva Hellström-Lindberg, welcomed all attendants to the Business Meeting and remarked that in this meeting important issues such as the voting results, regarding the changes to the statutes, will be presented. She reported on the major achievements of last year.

**EHA Activities & Projects June 2005 – June 2006**

**EHATol project 2002-2004 (supported by European Commission)**

The project is closed and a unit has been established with Gina Zini as Editor and Barbara Bain and Maria Rozman as Co-editors. Annual tutorials have been organized in Rome (2004-2006) and this year a tutorial was also held in Brazil. The self learning tool is CME accredited and new clinical cases are welcome.

**ECAH project 2002-2005 (supported by European Commission)**

The project is closed and the final report was submitted in March 2006. The main results of the project are:

- European Curriculum for Hematology; a true pan-European project discussed by most national societies, and implementation will be organized by national contact persons. The Curriculum-Passport was printed in March 2006.
- European CME System for Hematology; a non-profit unit has been established with Dimitris Loukopoulos as Chair and Archibald Prentice, Francesco Lo Coco and Jacek Musial as Co-chairs. Project is in implementation phase 2006-2007.
- EU recognition of hematology as a monospecialty

### **EHA Education Committee**

The committee, chaired by Tony Green, has taken on the task of organizing the EHA Scientific workshops, establishing the Educational journal which includes the education program of the congress, and web casting of education sessions of the congress.

### **Scientific Workshops**

#### **2005 EHA Workshop on Micro Array Approaches to Hematological Malignancies**

Dates: October 2005

Chairs: Hartmut Döhner (Ulm) and Bob Löwenberg (Rotterdam)

#### **2006 Biology and Clinical Applications of Mesenchymal Stem Cells**

Dates: October 6th to 8th, 2006

Chairs: Wim Fibbe (Leiden), Francesco Frassoni (Genova), Katarina Le Blanc (Stockholm), and Catherine Verfaillie (Leuven)

#### **2007 The Role of Epigenetics in Hematological Malignancies**

Dates: February 9th to 11th, 2007

Chairs: Jean Pierre Issa (Houston), Michael Lübbert (Freiburg), and Manel Esteller (Madrid)

### **Building an EHA Communication platform for the future (2005-2006)**

EHA tools to communicate and exchange information: Haematologica/ THJ, Newsletter, E-bulletins, and [www.ehaweb.org](http://www.ehaweb.org).

### **EHA Fellowships & Grants Program**

Since 2004 EHA has established an extended Fellowships and Grants program which currently contains the following grant funds:

- One José Carreras Young Fellowship  
42 000 € / year for 2 years
- Four EHA Fellowship  
36 000 € / year for 2 years
- Two EHA Clinical Research Grants  
15 000 € / year for 2 years
- Two EHA-ASH Fellowship (transatlantic exchange)  
75 000 \$ for 10 months - 2 years  
First announced Sept 2006

### **EHA Scientific Working Groups**

Eleven Scientific Working Groups have been established under the umbrella of EHA. Many of them had a program at this year's congress. Information on the structure, benefits and obligations of Scientific Working Groups are published on the EHA website. Regular updates on the activities of working groups will be published in the Newsletter and on the website.

### **Haematologica/The Hematology Journal**

The number of manuscripts received are increasing year by year and the new Impact Factor (June 2006) is 4.575.

## **Results election new councilors for EHA Board**

Three vacancies for councilors at the Board due to the resignation of Marc Boogaerts, the end of the term of Pierre Fenaux (2002-2006) and the extension of Irene Roberts' term as Secretary.

Eva Hellström-Lindberg stated that the board was pleased with the nomination of high level candidates for councilorship by members and the high number of votes received at the online election. She is pleased to announce that the new elected board members are Radek Skoda from Switzerland (over 55% of the votes), Ulrich Jäger from Austria (65% of the votes) and Ivo Touw from The Netherlands (over 57% of the votes).

## **Voting results regarding changes to statutes and members Nomination Committee**

Willem Fibbe reported on the need for changes in the statutes of the association. The ongoing growth of the society and the increase in activities will make ample demands on board members. In order to guarantee quality and democracy within the society, the statutes have been revised including the establishment of a Nomination Committee. EHA members were asked to vote on the amendment of the statutes and the members of the initial Nomination Committee by an electronic ballot form. The vast majority of the members agreed on the amendment of the statutes (over 94%) and the members of the initial nomination committee (93%).

## **Voting results regarding increase membership fee**

Due to the increasing number of issues of the Journal since January 2005 (12 issues per year) and the rising costs, a higher membership contribution is needed to cover expenses and to enable EHA to continue with its current programs and projects. The EHA Board proposed a change in the annual membership fee from Euro 95 to Euro 125 from January 2007. The proposed fee for young members (age < 36) is Euro 85. EHA members were asked to vote on the increase of the membership fee and a majority agreed on the increase of the fee from 2007 (over 64%).

EHA has considered reducing the membership fee for certain groups and/or countries, as suggested by one of the attendees at the business meeting. However, the EHA Board has decided to make no exceptions with respect to membership fee.

## **Financial report 2005**

Ton Hagenbeek, reported on the financial results of 2005 and a summary of the balance sheet was presented. From this summary can be concluded that the main costs of EHA are the secretarial costs, the journal, the fellowships and grants program and costs related to EHA Education and the EHA/CME Accreditation project. EHA had positive results from former congresses and received income from EHA Corporate Sponsors. The financial result of 2005 was a negative end result of Euro 115.572. Based on this summary and explanation the balance sheet was approved.

## **Future EHA meetings**

Eva Hellström-Lindberg mentioned that the next EHA meeting will be in Vienna, Austria and the congress president of this meeting is Heinz Ludwig. This meeting will be held from June 7th to June 10th, 2007 and everyone is invited to attend this meeting.

No further questions and comments were addressed and Eva Hellström-Lindberg thanked all present for their attendance at the Business Meeting.