



## EUFAS General Assembly (GA) 2019

### Minutes

**Date:** October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Time:** 10:45-12:12 h

**Location:** CENTRO DE CONGRESSOS DE LISBOA, Praça das Indústrias,  
1300-7 Lisbon, Portugal

**Attendants:**

*Frieder Wurst* (EUFAS treasurer, Austrian Society for Addiction Research and Addiction Therapy), *Conor K. Farren* (St. Patrick's University Hospital, Dublin), *Solja Niemelä* (Finnish Society for Addiction Medicine), *Marcus Herdener* (Swiss Society for Addiction Medicine), *Cristina Ribeiro* (Portuguese Addiction Medicine Association), *Ioannis Diakogiannis* ( Hellenic Society for the Study of Addictive Substances), *Emanuele Scafato* (EC member, Societa Italiana di Alcolgia), *Gerardo Florez* (EC member, Socidrogalcohol, Spain), *Geert Dom* (President of EUFAS, Flemish Society for Psychiatry, Section on Addiction Psychiatry), *Antoni Gual* (immediate past president of EUFAS), *Hanne Tønnesen* (Sweden), *Karl Mann* (German Society for Addiction Research & Addiction Therapy), *Colin Drummond* (first vice president of EUFAS, three UK addiction societies), *Jørgen G. Bramness* (Secretary General, Norwegian Association of Addiction Medicine), *Marcin Wojnar* (second vice president of EUFAS, Polish Society for Addiction Research), *Hans-Jürgen Rumpf* (German Society for Addiction Research & Addiction Therapy).

**Excused:**

Benjamin Rolland, Falk Kiefer.

**1. Welcome (G. Dom)**

The minutes of the GA meeting (Nice March 6<sup>th</sup> 2018) were approved.

**2. Report of the President (G. Dom)**

See attached report

### **3. Report of the General Secretary (JG. Bramness)**

The General Secretary has worked closely with Ingrid Weber (Administrative Secretary) to bring EUFAS procedures in line with GDPR regulations. The General Secretary reports that in his understanding the EUFAS procedures for contacting its member societies is now in line with the rules.

The web-page has been updated acc. to our possibilities as a small organization. Please inform the General Secretary if amendments should be made on the web-page. Social media activity: Twitter activity is increasing (Benjamin Roland). Many thanks for his efforts!

### **4. Report of the Treasurer**

EUFAS continues to do fine also regarding financial aspects.

The balance generally is around 50 000 €.

As of Sept. 29, 107 the balance was 46 792.51 € and on August 19 2019, 51 898.28 €.

Of note, this balance includes pre-financing for the Futurize project (14 122.72 and 8000 € respectively).

These are the major gains. As decided earlier, no membership fees were raised and no organization actually did pay fees.

Expenses mostly reflect travel supports for members to attend the TWIST and FUTURIZE meetings (they come from directly from the pre-financing money mentioned above), but also expenditures for the EUFAS/EAR award, a room for meetings such as at the EPA meeting 2019 and costs for the Secretary, Ingrid Weber.

### **Report of the auditors:**

Both auditors (Conor Farren & Cristina Ribeiro) reported that the account was audited and approved.

### **Exoneration:**

The auditors and the Executive Committee were exonerated by the General Assembly. The president thanked both auditors and the EC for their work 2017-2019.

### **Decisions:**

The participants unanimously agreed on the following “good academic practices” and certain regulations:

- 1) Invoices need to be signed.
- 2) Invoices need to be accompanied by the original documents (hotel bills, flight costs etc.)
- 3) Costs for alcoholic beverages are not reimbursed.

## 5. European projects

Futurize, INCA COST, FAR SEAS (T. Gual)

Different European research projects were initiated (both submitted and running research projects) by Toni Gual and his group (see heading). In these projects EUFAS is participating as a partner. Participation in these projects is very important for the current and future development of EUFAS. The GA thanks Toni Gual explicitly for his continuing support and for involving EUFAS in these projects.

## 6. EUFAS surveys (JG. Bramness)

The EUFAS survey on medical Cannabis in Europe was published as a scientific paper In EAR in 2018 (Bramness JG, Dom G, Gual A, Mann K, Wurst FM. *A survey on the medical use of cannabis in Europe. A position paper.* Eur Addict Res. 2018; 24 (4):201-205.). The next survey on European Alcohol guidelines has been performed by Colin Drummond, members of the EC and coworkers and will be sent to EAR during the coming months. The EUFAS survey team (headed by JG Bramness) welcomes new suggestions for surveys.

## 7. Activities of the Task forces

- Guidelines task force continues under its current coordinator C. Drummond
- Liver transplant task force continues with F. Wurst, M. Wojnar, T. Gual
- Cannabis task force is inactive and was dissolved.

## 8. Proposal for the new board by the nomination committee (NC) (chair: T. Gual)

The proposal was accepted unanimously by acclamation.

Prof. Geert Dom	President
Prof. Colin Drummond	First vice president
Prof. Marcin Wojnar	Second vice president
Prof. Jørgen G. Bramness	Secretary General
Prof. Frieder Wurst	Treasurer
Prof. Benjamin Rolland	EC member without portfolio/member of NC
Prof. Emanuele Scafato	EC member without portfolio
Prof. Hanne Tønnesen	EC member without portfolio
Prof. Gerardo Florez	EC member without portfolio
Prof. Falk Kiefer	EC member (Ex officio as Editor in Chief of EAR)

Three colleagues serve as advisors and permanent guests in the EC:

Prof. Cristina Ribeiro	Portugal
Prof. Karl Mann	Founding President
Prof. Antoni Gual	Immediate Past President.

## 9. Election the of nomination committee (10/2019 – 10/2021).

The new nomination committee consists of Cristina Ribeiro, Benjamin Rolland and Gerardo Florez. It is chaired by the immediate past President Antoni Gual.

## 10. Election of the auditors

Ioannis Diakogiannis and Connor K. Farren.

### **11. Journal European Addiction Research (EAR) (F. Kiefer)**

Report was postponed.

### **12. European Addiction Research AWARD 2019 (EAR/EUFAS)**

The 2019 EUFAS-EAR Addictions Research Award was awarded to Professor Sir John Strang, London. The prize was handed over at the ceremony of the closing session of the 2019 Lisbon Addictions Conference, following his lecture: "Opioid-related deaths: learning from pharmacology, laboratory-based studies and physical assessments".

The Award Nomination Committee (headed by the immediate past President Antoni Gual) welcomes new suggestions for the EUFAS-EAR Addictions Research Award 2020. He underlined the importance of taking gender equality for the nominated experts into account.

### **13. Adaptation and changes of the EUFAS statutes**

Some parts of the statutes were changed marginally, and others were prepared for change: see attached document.

### **14. Proposal for the next EUFAS GA meeting and the next EUFAS symposium**

EUFAS has been invited by the Dutch Society for Addiction Medicine by their President Dr. Peter Vossenbergh to join them on their jubilee symposium November 1 - 2, 2020, Leiden/Holiday Inn. The EC will follow up on this and explore the possibilities to also hold the next EUFAS GA and EC meeting there.

EUFAS will host a joint symposium EPA-EUFAS at the EPA Congress 28-31 March, 2020 in Madrid.

### **15. General brain storming on future activities**

Prof- Emanuele Scafato suggested that EUFAS should, in addition to its scientific activities, take up a broader perspective towards society and public health policies. Among others this may include EUFAS taking active positioning with respect to the roles and activities of the alcohol, tobacco or gambling industry. The GA welcomed these comments from E. Scafato and encourages future initiatives in this line of work, in addition to the scientific activities.

### **Thanks**

The GA wants to extend their thanks to Ingrid Weber for her continued efforts to support the EC in its work on all practical matters. Her help is invaluable for the EC and EUFAS.

November 2019

Jørgen G. Bramness  
Secretary General

Geert Dom  
President

## Attachment

### The Presidents reports to the General Assembly (GA) about EUFAS 2018 - 2019

#### Meeting of EUFAS

Since the last GA and EC meetings in Nice during the EPA Congress 2018 (March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018), the EC has held one board meeting in Warsaw during the EPA Congress 2019 (April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019). Several phone conferences took place (one with almost the whole board on November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018).

#### Memberships

At present, EUFAS has 36 membership societies from 23 European countries. During the period since the last general assembly several things have happened. A new member is the Drugs Research Network for Scotland. Furthermore, EUFAS has been contacted by and has established relations with the Turkish Association Green Crescent. They have been guided in how to apply for membership of EUFAS, but we have not received a membership application. The EC has been working to make former members that are currently not members (e.g. the Swedish society) reapply for membership.

#### Collaboration with other societies and organisations

EUFAS has collaborated with the following organisations during the past period:

- *ESBRA*: the second vice president of EUFAS, Marcin Wojnar, is also vice president of ESBRA
- *EPA*: president of EUFAS Geert Dom and EC member Falk Kiefer together chair the Section of Addictive Behaviours in the EPA. Through the years, EUFAS has had their GAs and a joint symposium during the yearly EPA conference. Due to changes within the EPA this will not be upheld in the future.
- *ICARA*: Secretary General of the EUFAS, Jørgen G. Bramness, participated in the annual ICARA meeting in Prague where he presented EUFAS. There were talks on a joint survey that were not followed further due to the possibilities to perform the intended study.
- *ISAM*: The President of EUFAS Geert Dom and Secretary General Jørgen G. Bramness have had talks on collaboration with ISAM with the President of ISAM, Henrietta Bowden-Jones, and the European ISAM President, Alex Baldachino.
- *European Pain Federation EFIC*: Contact has been made and talks on collaborating on a pain curriculum have been made with President, Bart Morlion.
- *WHO*: EUFAS has made a statement on WHO treatment guidance.
- *INHSU*: EC member Benjamin Rolland has worked to make INHSU a collaborator.

#### Joint symposia and official congress attendance

EUFAS has participated in several congresses and arranged symposia:

- During EPA's meeting in Nice 2018, March 2018 a joint EPA-EUFAS joint symposium with more than 400 participants was held.
- During November 2018, the President Geert Dom attended the Teheran Addiction Congress and presented EUFAS in a lecture.
- During January 2019 Gerardo Florez and the current President of the Spanish Socidrogalcohol Society, Francisco Pascual Pastor, held a EUFAS symposium during the annual Spanish Socidrogalcohol Society Congress.
- During EPA's meeting in Warsaw in April 2019, a EPA-EUFAS joint symposium with more than 400 participants was held.
- EUFAS attended the ISAM Congress in New Delhi, November 2019.

## Lisbon Addictions 2019

EUFAS was invited in as a co-producer at the Lisbon Addictions 2019 (LA19). This came after an initiative from the EC and with work from the EUFAS president. We succeeded in being given the responsible for an alcohol track during the LA19. Members of the EUFAS EC reviewed more than 130 abstracts and rated them, prioritizing them for general talks, oral presentations at symposia, symposia (when they were suggested as such), short communications or for e-poster sessions. The programme was suggested to the LA19 scientific committee by Jørgen G. Bramness. The poster sessions were organised by Colin Drummond.

EUFAS also held a symposium (organised by Karl Mann) on Harm Reduction.

All in all, the LA19 was a great success for EUFAS with a great scientific programme and good exposure. We managed to introduce a topic to Lisbon Addictions that was under-represented before and had very favourable feedback on this. A preliminary signals from Lisbon Addictions is, that they will welcome EUFAS to have a similar role in LA21-

## Research projects:

EUFAS has been active in and participated in different European projects:

- Futurize project made it possible to bring approximately 120 people to the LA19 meeting who would not have been able to participate otherwise. Futurize also provided some funding for EUFAS and will continue for LA2021. Thanks to T. Gual.
- INCA COST is also a project initiated by T. Gual, trying to define “a standardized joint”. This involves creating networks for researchers.
- FAR SEAS is a project that will build capacity for policy makers to use in their countries and will include work-shops and new projects. (T. Gual)

Geert Dom

President EUFAS