

HPBASA

HEPATO-PANCREATICO-BILIARY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE HEPATO-PANCREATICO-BILIARY ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AFRICA SUNDAY 18 AUGUST 2019 AT 12h30 in CTICC ROOM 1.40 CAPE TOWN

PRESENT: 34 Attendees as per attendance register

1. WELCOME

The President, Dr Stapleton, welcomed members and thanked them for their attendance.

2. APOLOGIES

Nil

3. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 17 NOVEMBER 2018

The minutes of the previous AGM were approved and accepted as an accurate report of that meeting.

Proposed: Prof J Ramos

Seconded: Dr J Devar

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – G STAPLETON (Full report appended)

Dr Stapleton gave an overview of the busy and challenging year since the last AGM, the major part of which involved chairing the Local Organizing Committee for the IAP 2019 Congress. He gave numbers of delegates who had registered from the various countries: 894 registered delegates, 273 speakers and a total of 399 presentations - (see the full report appended to this document).

Special acknowledgement and thanks were accorded to Denise Kemp and her Eastern Sun Events team, for their outstanding support and professional management of the congress.

Thanks and appreciation were extended to Drs Burmeister and Bond for putting together an excellent programme under difficult circumstances.

The E-AHPBA-approved pre-congress HPB Postgraduate Course was the brainchild of Dr Burmeister who was assisted by Drs Bernon and Hofmeyr in arranging it.

▪ **Position Statements**

Following an invitation from Dr Hartnick of Medscheme for HPBASA to comment on protocols regarding ablation of liver tumours and spyglass cholangioscopy, Dr Stapleton asked Drs Hofmeyr and Bernon to draft a position statement on hepatic tumour ablation.

Drs Ziady, Bond and Barrow drafted a similar statement on Cholangioscopy and both documents have been submitted to the executive committee members for review and refinement prior to publication.

Members who may wish to contribute to these documents were asked to contact the President or Secretary of the Association.

Dr Stapleton announced that the recipient of the Abbott Laboratories Travelling Fellowship this year is Dr John Devar who has been invited by Professor Safi Dokman to spend time in the Beaujon Hospital in France, to further his skills in laparoscopic pancreaticoduodenectomy and ultimately to develop a team in South Africa dedicated to academic medicine and minimally invasive HPB Surgery.

He noted the importance of this annual fellowship which offers members the opportunity to gain valuable experience abroad.

Further funding is currently being considered to support quality research as well as inter-unit mobility in South Africa where members will have the opportunity to make short visits to gain experience in units where specific expertise is available.

Dr Stapleton concluded that it had been a great honour to lead the LOC despite the difficulties and disappointments and noted that the congress is unlikely to make any profit. He congratulated all who had put so much work into the event.

He recommended that the HPBASA gives consideration to attracting more multi-disciplinary members, facilitating mentorship and continuing education.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT – M SMITH (Full report appended)

Professor Smith presented the financial report explaining that the figures do not represent a full year, but cover the period December 2018 to July 2019.

He noted that:-

- Bank charges are slightly lower
- Membership fees for the current year have not all been paid yet
- Abbott Laboratories Fellowship funds are still awaited for this year
- The HPBASA Congress held in Durban in November 2018 made a profit of R21 016,65.

He explained that the HPBASA has funds in 3 different areas:

- i. A cheque account for regular transactions – current balance R180,769.00
- ii. A congress/Liquidity account which attracts interest and does not incur bank charges – current balance R327,587.00
- iii. An investment account averaging 6.5% interest – current balance R996,000.00

It was agreed that HPBASA membership fees will not be increased in 2020 and will remain at:

R450.00 per annum for full members
R300.00 per annum for registrars
R200.00 per annum for trainees

Professor Smith recommended to the executive that they manage the association's finances with a qualified bookkeeper to contend with the financial complexities and ensure that the management thereof is transparent, appropriate and tax compliant.

He strongly advised the development of a more conservative travel policy and an increase in the cost of trade stands at future congresses. He concluded that the HPBASA is in a comfortable financial position which will allow them to look at other opportunities to support the membership through educational and research activities.

He said that it had been an absolute pleasure to serve the association of which he will always be a member and will always participate.

6. SECRETARY'S REPORT – S BURMEISTER

Dr Burmeister reported that 13 new members have joined HPBASA since the last AGM and that total membership stands at 103.

He acknowledged support from Medtronic and Boston Scientific for their financial assistance with the initiatives to support trainees with educational grants to attend local and international congresses: for example 12 trainees attending the IHPBA meeting in Geneva last year, 6 attending the E-AHBPA in Amsterdam in June this year and a number to attend this IAP Congress.

He notified the membership that HPBASA is working towards registering as a Non Profit Organization which will require drafting constitutional changes for review and approval at the next AGM. Formal NPO status is in the interests of good corporate governance and will obviate any problems in hosting international congresses and possible tax vulnerability.

▪ Move to HPBASA Southern Africa

Dr Burmeister informed members of the proposal to change the name of the association to the Hepato-Pancreatico-Biliary Association of Southern Africa in the interests of inclusivity and a move away from country to regional chapters. Consideration will need to be given to the membership fees required from members outside of South Africa. Criteria and conditions will be drafted by Exco over the coming year for approval at the next AGM.

Noted that HPBASA is already involved in training (supernumerary) registrars from other countries in sub-saharan Africa so that these individuals can return to their home countries to share the skills gained in their training here. Focus on education is a prime objective of the association.

Further development of EUS procedures will be taken forward.

Dr Burmeister noted that Professor Martin Smith will be standing down as Treasurer of the HPBASA after 8 years in that office and after serving on the executive committee since the establishment of the association. He extended a special vote of thanks and appreciation to Professor Smith for all his valued guidance and wisdom over the years, noting that we owe him indelible gratitude for all he has done to make the association what it is today.

7. ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Nominations for the office bearers were announced and ballot sheets were distributed to the members for them to vote for the members-at-large. Noted that Exco has the authority to co-opt additional individual members to ensure regional representivity.

Results of the election were available after the votes had been counted by the election officer, Professor Martin Smith. The new executive committee members for the 2019-2021 term of office are as follow:

HPBASA Executive Committee 2019 - 2021

OFFICE BEARERS

PRESIDENT: Dr Sean Burmeister

PRESIDENT-ELECT: Professor Eduard Jonas

PAST PRESIDENT: Dr Graham Stapleton

TREASURER: Dr Stefan Hofmeyr

SECRETARY: Dr John Devar

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Dr Moses Balabyeki

Dr Marc Bernon

Prof Martin Brand

Dr Thomas Marumo

Dr Nicole Morse

Dr Leanne Prodehl

8. GENERAL

a) Abbott Laboratories Travelling Fellowship 2019

Recipient: Dr John Devar - invited by Professor Safi Dokman to spend time in the Beaujon Hospital in France, concentration on laparoscopic pancreaticoduodenectomy.

9. CLOSE

Dr Burmeister closed the meeting with his vision to foster a collaborative and collegial environment and to promote HPB growth and education in achieving these aims

The next HPBASA congress will be held in Johannesburg in November 2020 under the management of Dr John Devar.

The meeting closed at 10h40.

**2019 HPBASA Presidential Report to Annual General Meeting
Dr Graham Stapleton**

**2019 HPBASA Presidential Report to AGM
Dr Graham Stapleton
HPBASA/IAP/ASSA/SAGES**

The overwhelmingly dominant activity since our last congress has been the planning for the IAP / ASSA / SAGES meeting.

Eastern Sun, our professional congress organiser, guided us very competently through the last 3 years of planning and implementation. I thank Denise Kemp and her team for the outstanding service she and her team have provided.

As of 17 August the tallies showed that we had a total of 894 registered delegates for the congress of whom 120 were foreign delegates, 224 were from “trade” and 108 were nurses. Foreign delegates comprised 36 from 11 African countries and 83 from the 21 countries in the rest of the world, with 10 or more delegates from South Korea, Britain and USA. We did not get any delegates from South or Central America. There were 273 speakers, with 72 oral abstracts, 34 E-Posters and 3 Videos.

Total presentations (workshops, symposia, congress programme): 399

We had to do some serious bargaining with the other societies and associations involved in this complicated partnership. According to the final MOU, which was signed in December 2018, HPBASA and IAP were allocated 30% of any surplus or deficit. IAP had refused to accept responsibility for any deficit but would receive half of any profit allocation to HPBASA Sean Burmeister and Rob Bond, in collaboration with the IAP Council, were responsible for drawing up the programme and are to be congratulated on and thanked for doing an excellent job.

I propose a vote of great gratitude to Sean and Rob and to the international faculty. Ed Jonas collaborated with Marco del Chiaro to organise a very good consensus meeting on borderline resectable pancreatic cancer.

The HPB Postgraduate Course was the brainchild of Sean Burmeister, who managed to get EAHPBA endorsement for it. Marc Bernon and Stefan Hofmeyr assisted Sean in arranging this and 59 registered for this, which we felt was reasonably good.

In the process of organising this congress we learned some tough lessons with respect to engaging with international societies in arranging joint congresses. We may also have to relook at the ASSA / SAGES congress format but we need to go through a major debriefing with Denise Kemp after the dust has settled. At this stage we hope the congress will just about break even. We do not expect to make any significant profit.

Position Statements

In response to an approach from Medscheme to comment on protocols they had drawn up regarding ablation of liver tumours and spyglass cholangioscopy, I asked Stefan Hofmeyr and Marc Bernon to draw up a HPBASA position statement on hepatic tumour ablation, to which I also contributed and I asked Chris Ziady, Rob Bond and Peter Barrow to do a similar job for cholangioscopy. These documents were sent to all the executive committee members and it was decided at the ExCo meeting that they required further refinement and wider consultation before they would be ready for publication as position statements of HPBASA. If anyone is interested in contributing to the finalisation of these documents, please contact me or your new president or secretary.

Iatrogenic Bile Duct Injury “Epidemic”

At several recent fora we have heard about the serious problem that we have with iatrogenic bile duct injuries in this country, so I was very pleased that Mike Klipin asked me to organise a session on this subject in the ASSA stream of the congress. In conjunction with Jake Krige, I believe that we are going to have a very good session and we have also asked David Bass to give a talk in the ethics session on the medicolegal implications of iatrogenic bile duct injuries.

I believe that the talks from these sessions should be very valuable for anyone doing cholecystectomies.

There is concern that the training of young surgeons in laparoscopic cholecystectomy may be sub-optimal and that, despite qualifying with a College fellowship, many may not yet be fully competent to do these procedures alone. I believe that our association needs to be proactive in perhaps facilitating mentorship programmes for young surgeons to work with experienced and skilled surgeons.

News from the Executive committee meeting is that:

- John Devar has been awarded the Abbot Travelling fellowship to enable him to visit Hôpital Beaujon in Clichy, Paris to learn more about laparoscopic pancreatic surgery. I visited there in 2007 when Jacques Belghiti was the boss and Dr Dokic, who will be John’s host, was a senior fellow. I am confident it will be a valuable experience for John.

- we agreed that we want to establish mechanisms to support clinical fellows to make short visits to other teaching units within South Africa

- we want to find funds to support registrars, fellows and PhD students with quality research

Summary and the Way Ahead

It has been a great honour, on your behalf, to lead the local organizing committee to arrange this congress and, despite the travails, I am beginning to believe that we put together an outstanding programme and I have been gratified by many compliments I have received.

However, whether we earn anything for our association remains to be seen. This year, because of our collaboration with IAP, the programme has been dominated by

Pancreatology and the only other HPBASA contribution is the session on Iatrogenic Bile Duct Injury and the postgraduate HPB course.

I strongly believe that our society should consider:

- redoubling its efforts to attract a more multidisciplinary membership
- actively identifying and taking positions on deficiencies that we see in the training of specialists in the management of hepatobiliary and pancreatic diseases
- facilitating mentorship programmes for young surgeons with experienced surgeons in the private sector
- facilitating continuing medical education events to improve management of HPB diseases, especially in areas outside the big metropolitan centres

It has been a great honour to serve as your president for the past two years. I hope I have served you well and I hope, if the health profession in South Africa survives the looming threat of NIH, that HPBASA goes from strength to strength.

APPENDIX 2

TREASURER'S REPORT – AGM 18.08.2019



Finance report
2019pptx.pptx