



# NFGP EB Meeting with observers on Friday 24

## March 2023 – 08:30-11:00 - Minutes

**Participants:** Andreas Stomby, Anna Davelid, Anna Nager, Anna Stavdal, Anne Mette Torp, Annika Kolster, Bolette Friderichsen, Halfdan Petursson, Helena Liira, Ingvild Vatten Alsnes, Jaana Franck, Juha Auvinen, Jóhann Sigurðsson, Linn Ekström, Louise Hørslev, Magnus Isacson, Margrét Ólafía Tómasdóttir, Marte Kvittum Tangen, Nazila Mansimli, Olav Thorsen, Päivi Korhonen, Roar Maagaard, Sandra Ásgeirsdóttir, Sanne Bernard, Sofia Eriksson

### 1. Welcome

### 2. Election of chair of the meeting

Louise Hørslev was appointed chair of the meeting.

### 3. Appointment of person to take minutes of the meeting

Sanne Bernard was appointed to take the minutes.

### 4. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved.

### 5. Information of current matters (Johann Sigurdsson) ([see annual report here](#))

A few of (the many) subjects from the report:

- One of the major challenges last year was to decide whether to go through with the congress in Stavanger.
- We all had a very successful congress in Stavanger, - [the Stavanger statement](#) is important – do remember to refer to this statement, when relevant.
- The WONCA Europe Core Values inspired of the Nordic Core Values.

The chair's annual report was introduced and discussed.



## 6. Changes in by-laws (background)

- The NFGP EB wishes to invite both the chairs of the scientific and the organizing committee to participate in the annual meetings as observers. NFGP EB considers it of importance to be involved in discussions, present and future plans, not only of the organization, but also of the scientific program ahead.
- Change of election time/period – and a maximum of 6 years – for the chair of NFGP is proposed.

## 7. Proposal for election of new chairman of NFGP (official handover date will be 1 September 2023) (Louise)

As Johann is stepping down the NFGP EB needs to find a new chair. The process of the election started after the summer holiday 2022, and several Zoom meetings have been held. One very good candidate, - Roar Maagaard accepts the opportunity, and is very honored by the confidence of the NFGP EB.

Roar: *Our 5 Nordic countries have so good GP systems embedded in "the Nordic welfare systems", so well-trained GPs and so good Nordic cooperation amongst the GP colleges, that we sort of have a moral and academic obligation to offer inspiration to our colleagues in the rest of Europe.*

## 8. Evaluation of NCGP 2022 in Stavanger v/ Olav

Looking back the Stavanger congress was a success. Stavanger was chosen as town already back in 2013. NFA and the organizing team experienced great challenges due to the Corona pandemic - and along the way there was a need for a new budget and new calculations. It was considered postponing the congress another year, but in January 2022 the decision was taken to move on forward for June 2022.

The total number of attendees at the NCGP 2022 was 862, including both paying (823) and non-paying (39) participants, - 810 participants were from our Nordic countries. The congress ended up with a surplus.

How do we ensure a solid number of participants at the Nordic congresses from all 5 Nordic countries? In Iceland participating in the congress is mandatory for young doctors in specialist training. In Finland there is no tradition of paying travel or conference fees.

NFGP thanks NFA, the organizers and the scientific committee for a successful congress in Stavanger in 2022.

The report from the congress was comprehensive and probably time consuming to perform. The EB as well as NCC members endorsed the report.



## 9. Congress in Turku in 2024 v/ Juha and team

The plan was introduced by Jaana. The congress will take place from 11-14 June and the pre-congress from 10-11 June 2024. The congress venue is "Logomo", the Get together on 11 June (evening) will take place at Turku city theatre foyer and the Congress dinner on 13 June takes place in Ruissalo shipyard.

Breakeven is 800 persons, however the organizing team is hoping for 1000 persons. The venue can accommodate up to 1500 persons.

Arrangements in opening/closing ceremony in Turku regarding handover of past and present chairs of NFGP to be decided.

- Program overview; especially contents of opening and closing ceremonies, timetable of award ceremonies (Friederichs mindelegat and SJPHC best article of the year).

*This was discussed in congress committee meeting Thursday, and award ceremonies will take place after keynote presentations Thursday afternoon and Friday morning.*

- Registration fees for different groups of participants

*Discussed in congress committee; young doctors in the future only those who are still specializing?*

*NYGP finds is very fruitful that participants at the pre-congress have the possibility to join, also when having specialized – it gives very fruitful discussions.*

*The NFGP board needs to continue the discussion about fees, make a decision and update the guidelines.*

*Should the guidelines include the possibility for NFGP inviting e.g. 3 politicians or other stakeholders free of fee?*

*It is not an option to ask keynote speakers to pay registration fee, but all other participants should pay registration fee – also if presenting.*

- Overview of keynote speakers and possible rules for their recompensations and/or free participation to congress

*The program overview was introduced and discussed in congress committee Thursday.*

*The host country still has the main responsibility for the scientific program, but should the content of the program be discussed and approved in the congress committee and executive board in the future?*

- Advertising of the congress in other Nordic countries

*This has been discussed within the congress committee, and plans have been made for sharing knowledge.*

- Main rules in sponsoring the congress.

*No pharma companies can exhibit. But what are the rules for commercial firms trying to hire doctors? In*



*Sweden it is difficult not to allow both public and private companies at the exhibition. They are already here – we have to accept this – they will not disappear.*

The plan was approved.

## **10. Congress in Sweden in 2026 v/ Magnus and team**

- Update on the current plan

The dates 26-29 May 2026 has been decided, as this is the period where the venue (Elmia) is available. Anna Davelid is chair of the organizing committee, and Andres Stomby is chair of the scientific committee. Anna and Andreas will include the local SFAM in the organizing committee, and maybe other local organizations. Anna and Andreas have received a proposal from a PCO.

The plan was approved.

## **11. Update from SJPCHC and discussion v/ Anna and Helena**

Anna Nager is very happy to start as chief editor. Helena and Anna have shared the post the past 3 month to secure a good handover.

A lot of things were discussed at the SJPCHC meeting Thursday, - many new things are happening with both new editors and a new publisher. The aim is having a steady team of editors for some years onwards.

The workload has increased, which causes challenges, and it has been difficult to motivate the assistant editors. If the economy allows, Anna would like to invite all editors for the annual meetings in Copenhagen (as this year for the celebration of the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SJPCHC).

SJPCHC editors ask for NFGP to support economically to being able to meet once a year, all 12 national editors. Anna will make a written presentation, including a budget, to present to the NFGP EB.

What about reviewers, - and what about the future – will people work without fee? It has been discussed, - and some think a fee would be a good thing, others find that this is not necessary. Anna will see what it takes to motivate the team.

The Impact factor has gone up for the last couple of years and is also high compared to other journals. The journal must grow to create the income it used to create.

The report from Helena was introduced and endorsed. NFGP thanks our Editor-in-Chief, Professor Helena Liira for her contribution to the journal for the past 7 years.

## **12. Update from NYGP and discussion v/ Annika**

### **Pre-congress in Turku 10-11.6 2024**

Pre-congress in Turku from 10-11 June with title "Dare to be the change". The focus will be on discussions and workshops rather than several keynotes. The aim is 100 participants with a certain number of tickets for each



Nordic country. Practice visits will be arranged for Monday 10 June.

### **Networks in the Nordic Countries**

The young doctors need to make their work visible, and we need a continuously focus on recruitment of new young doctors.

Yesterday Thomas Purup – chair of FYAM (the Danish young doctors) – presented the structure in Denmark, how FYAM works and how young doctors are represented in all major working groups of DSAM.

NYGP has discussed how to reach the young doctors (universities, national congresses, colleges and unions).

### **Wellbeing questionnaire**

This work started one year ago. The aim of this study is to identify factors that affect wellbeing and resilience among young and future GPs.

With increasing experience GPs evolve coping methods, (some of which are interconnected with personal qualities.) We want to learn more on how, and possibly when, GPs learn coping methods and identify variation between countries and stage of specialization.

See slide for timeline. If anyone knows eg. a Ph.D.-student making research within the area, please let NYGP know, as NYGP will need assistance with analyzing answers from the questionnaire.

### **13. Specialist training in the Nordic countries (Roar Maagaard)**

Roar gave a short report from the committee, who had a fine workshop in Stavanger with introduction from Katrina Tibballs with 15 recommendations from NYGP. The group must decide how to move on further.

Roar will resign from this group, the new Danish representative is Joachim Frølund.

### **14. Presentation and discussion of the annual financial account (Martin Pedersen + Louise Hørslev)**

#### [\*\*NFGP Annual financial report 2022 - final\*\*](#)

Martin went through the annual financial figures 2022. No comments or questions to the reports.

### **15. Preparation of the discussion of [\*\*the budget 2023\*\*](#) and 2024 (Martin Pedersen + Louise Hørslev)**

Martin went through the proposal for budget for 2023. No comments or questions to the budget.

### **16. Changes in guidelines for NCGP (background)**

No radical changes are suggested. The suggested changes aim at involving young doctors and NYGP more, and the main message is that the pre-congress now is considered to be a "formal" part of the Nordic "main" congress. The host country and host organization will negotiate how NFGP can be more visible (with posters, videos or other). NYGP to be addressed in both the opening and closing ceremony.

### **17. Policy recommendations regarding academic posts (background)**



We have earlier experienced problems with professorships, where duties and tasks were not at all connected to general practice. Our wish is that future professorships have a specialty discipline connected with general practice. If endorsed today, we suggest the policy recommendation is send to a professional proofreader for language corrections.

## **18. Guidelines for NCC**

Guidelines for NCC has been discussed with the congress committee yesterday, and as well at the EB meeting. All changes were accepted with one addition; one of the tasks of the congress committee is to ensure that the content and experience of former congresses will be passed on. Johann, Roar and Louise will update the text.

## **19. If there are any matters to be discussed before the Annual General Assembly, they can be presented at this item**

None.

## **20. Any other business**

Roar has prepared a letter suggesting that WE EB at their next meeting in Brussel will discuss and decide common guidelines for not having pharmaceutical companies as exhibitors or sponsors at WONCA conferences. Furthermore, this should also include discussion about sponsorships for WONCA Europe in general.

So far, all five Nordic countries, Spain and France support this suggestion, and a letter will be sent to WONCA Europe. We will also look into which other countries could be willing to support as well.

Please remember that it is very important that we use our votes in Brussel, - please make sure to give proxy if not attending.

## **21. Date for next annual NFGP meeting in 2024**

4 – 5 April 2024 or 11 – 12 April 2024

We suggest that next meeting will be **11-12 April 2024** in Copenhagen