**26th EASDec General Assembly: 24th June 2016, Manchester, UK**

Present: Board of EASDec and attendees of the 26th EASDec conference

Apologies: None

Meeting opened at 5 pm.

Minutes:

1, Summary of the 2016 Conference:

There were 173 attendees of the conference plus 9 accompanying persons.

82 abstracts were received, 22 were accepted for paper presentation, 59 for posters, one was rejected. There were 3 keynote lectures. One debate was staged around the issue of OCT in diabetic macular oedema. The abstracts were reasonable to good with regards to publication standard. All attendants were again reminded that good standards must be maintained as the abstracts are published in the European Journal of Ophthalmology and will allow us to retain this valuable option.

The 2 symposia on Thursday were both successful and generated a lot of interests.

2, Finance: The balance of EASDec was healthy at £65,000 at commencement of the 2016 cycle. The Board committed £30,000 to the skills awards.

3, There were no elections this year: the Board will be constituted of:

Simon Harding – President

Massimo Porta – Past-President

Rafael Simo – Vice President

Tunde Peto – Treasurer

Reinier Schlingemann – Secretary

4, Awards and prizes:

The **Professor Anne Katrin Sjolie Award** for the best abstract was awarded to Bianca Gerendas from Austria for the abstract: “Prognostic factors in the treatment of diabetic macular oedema (DMO) using aflibercept, ranibizumab and bevacizumab (DRCR.net protocol T)”

The **Eva Kohner Lecture** was given by Professor Thomas W. Gardner, Ann Arbor, Michigan and Jeffrey L. Sundstrom from Hershey, Pennsylvania entitled “A proposal for early and patient specific treatment for diabetic retinopathy”

The **Best Poster Prize** was awarded to N. Gahir from the UK for the poster entitled “Diabetic Retinopathy after initiating continuous subcutaneous insulin infusion (insulin pump)”

“**The EASDec Skills Transfer Awards**” From 2017 onwards, up to 2 awards each year at or around Annual Meeting.

Awards will be made as a grant to the host institution (no overheads) under the following conditions: agreed timeline, funds transferred from Treasurer’s Account, written report submitted to EASDec Board and results presented to EASDec Annual Meeting.

Advertisements will be sent out soon and will be available on the website. In summary, the award will allow for members to visit eminent laboratories and clinical sites to learn new skills. Details will be on the website soon.

5, Next meetings:

25th -27th May 2017: Budapest, Hungary.

May 2018: Belfast

May 2019/2020: Prague or Barcelona

6, Website: [www.easdec.org](http://www.easdec.org) – all were reminded to visit regularly for updates

7, The EASDec Charitable Trust

Declaration of Trust signed December 2014. There were 12 strenuous months of interaction with HSBC, involving 12 individual contacts, 2 formal complaints, which were settled on compensation. The account was finally opened on 17th June 2016. Next step will be to apply for Charitable Trust Status.

Meeting closed: 5.45 pm