**27th EASDec General Assembly: 24th May 2017, Budapest, Hungary**

Present: Board of EASDec and attendees of the 27th EASDec conference

Apologies: Prof M. Porta

Meeting opened at 5 pm.

Minutes:

1, Summary of the 2017 Conference:

There were 110 attendees of the conference.

62 abstracts were received, 24 were accepted for paper presentation, 32 for posters, two were rejected. There were 2 keynote lectures. 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 Thursday symposium-**Late complications of diabetic eye disease** was successful and generated a lot of interest.

2, Finance: The balance of EASDec was healthy at £65,000 at commencement of the 2017 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 Vivianne Schreur from Nijmegen, The Netherlands

The **Eva Kohner Lecture** was given by Professor S. Aldington entitled “I've looked at life from both sides now"

A prize for the best local abstract was awarded to Gabor Toth, Budapest, Hungary

The **Best Poster Prize** was awarded to Thomas Lee Torp, Odense, Denmark

 “**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:

May 2018: Belfast

May 2019 Prague tbc

May 2020: 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