

**Minutes of the Management Committee meeting  
COST Action BM1005  
Gasotransmitters: from basic science to therapeutic applications  
(ENOG: European Network on Gasotransmitters)**

**19<sup>th</sup> January 2012, Madrid, Spain**

**0. Welcome to participants**

The participants were welcomed by Prof. Andreas Papapetropoulos, who chaired the meeting.

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

The draft agenda for this Management Committee meeting was adopted.

**2. Minutes of the last meeting**

The minutes of the previous (kick-off) meeting were approved unanimously without amendment.

**3. Matters arising**

Changes made in the budget after the recent increase in the amount allocated by the COST office that have been previously approved by an electronic vote were also ratified and approved unanimously.

Prof. Papapetropoulos noted that he had received a number of requests from individuals wishing to join this COST action, both from currently participating and non-participating countries. It was agreed unanimously that persons from new countries, or those wishing to join the Management committee, would seek approval from Prof. Papapetropoulos. Otherwise, working group leaders with whom any new individuals wished to align themselves would make a decision.

It was also highlighted that only 1 jointly authored manuscript arising from this COST Action had been published to date. More collaborative publications are required and the COST Action must be mentioned in such reports.

#### **4. Presentation by the COST office**

A member of the COST office staff presented an update on the status of the COST Action including number of participating countries and budget status. In particular, it was noted that an Intermediate Financial Report is due by the end of April 2012, and that the Annual Financial Report must be filed by the end of July 2012.

The Annual Progress Conference will be held in Zagreb, 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May 2012. A Scientific Report, to be presented and discussed at the Annual Progress Conference, must be submitted by 16<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

#### **5. Progress report from working groups**

The first formal meeting of the working groups will take place in Frankfurt, May/June 2012. Therefore, the working group leaders did not report at this stage.

However, the format for the next working group meetings was discussed. It was decided to run sessions (2 working groups) in parallel, one May 31<sup>st</sup> 2012 afternoon and one June 1<sup>st</sup> 2012 morning. Splitting these will be a cross-cutting discussion session in which working group leaders will outline the major points they have considered. The format/key discussion points of each working group will be decided by the leader, following consultation with the members of that group. Each working group leader will provide a draft programme by 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012.

#### **6. Action planning**

**6.1.** This COST Action will be represented by the Chair at the Annual Progress Conference in Zagreb.

**6.2.** Seven STSMs had been made available as per the original budget. However, to date no applications had been received. It was decided that it would be difficult to fill all seven places before the end of the financial year, so it was agreed unanimously that this would be reduced to four. The additional funds freed-up from this change (7,000 €) are to be used to support the WG meeting and to invite guest speakers, as needed. The budget was adjusted to reflect these changes.

**6.3.1.** The next meeting will be in Frankfurt, Germany, May 31<sup>st</sup>/June 1<sup>st</sup> 2012. The local organizer will be Prof. Ingrid Fleming.

**6.3.2.** The date and location of future meetings will be decided at the conference in Frankfurt. The budget for 2012-2013 will also be finalized at that time.

The focus, place and date of the first training schools will also be

determined. It was agreed that these would be primarily for ESR, and include lectures from experts in the field coupled with 'hands on' experience. Possible topics included animal models of disease and utilization of fluorescent probes.

## **7. STSM status**

Please refer to 6.2.

## **8. Publications, dissemination and outreach activities**

It was agreed that methodological consensus papers should be published by the COST Action to represent the expertise of its members. Joint reviews and development of common tools were also advocated; these would be discussed further in the next working group meetings.

## **9. Request for new members**

It was noted by Prof. Papapetropoulos, and other members of the Management Committee, that many researchers interested in the gasotransmitter field may have been overlooked, or were not aware of, this COST Action. Thus, it was agreed that a proactive recruitment process (e.g. personal emails, suggestions to the Management Committee, advertising at pertinent conferences) would be followed.

## **10. Promotion of gender balance and Early Stage Researchers (ESR)**

It was agreed that women were well-represented in this COST Action and that several ESR accompanied their PI to the meeting. The training schools to be held late 2012 early 2013 would also be principally for the involvement and education of ESR.

## **11. Non-COST country participations**

There were no items to report under this category, although the Management Committee thought that guest lectures from individuals from non-COST countries would be valuable in the future.

## **12. Web news**

Prof. Papapetropoulos gave a brief overview of the COST action BM1005 website (<http://www.gasotransmitters.eu/>).

## **13. AOB**

The next meeting of the Management Committee would be held in Frankfurt on 31st May 2012. There was no other business.

#### **14. Closing remarks**

Prof. Papapetropoulos thanked the members for their participation. A special note of appreciation was given to Prof. Lamas for his excellent organization of the meeting.



