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IALM PRESIDUM MEETING

Date: February 1st 2014 - 15:00-20:00 hrs

Place: Dubai Police Officers' Club - Meeting room

Participants

President

S.D. Ferrara (Italy)

Past-President

D.N. Vieira (Portugal)

Vice Presidents

A. Carracedo (Spain)

P. Mangin (Switzerland)

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T. Fracasso (Switzerland)

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D. Cusack (Ireland)

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M. Rothschild (Germany)

M. Tidball-Binz (Argentina)

D. Ubelaker (USA)

E. Villanueva (Spain)

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T. Sawaguchi (Japan)

P. Ricci (Italy)

ECLM Scientific Auditors

E. Keller (Hungary)

M. Vali (Estonia)

Chief Organizing Committee

F. Benemran (Dubai)

Dubai 2015 IALM Congress



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MINUTES

1. WELCOME

S.D. Ferrara, President of IALM, welcomes the Attendees and introduces the Meeting Agenda, which is composed of two main sections, “Preparation of the IALM Congress in Dubai 2015” and “IALM Presidium Items”.

The Agenda is adopted by the Attendees.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION BY THE PRESIDENT

Briefly summarizes the Presidential Action Plan for 2013-2015, comprising objectives, related actions and operational instruments.

3. PREPARATION OF THE IALM CONGRESS IN DUBAI, 2015

a. Nomination of the Congressional Scientific Committee

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion regarding the composition of the Congressional Scientific Committee, which will have to supervise the organization of the Scientific Sessions and Workshops. It will also have to carry out the selection of the contributions to be presented in the form of oral communications and posters during the Congress.

F. Benemran, Chief of the Organizing Committee, proposes 5 Colleagues from Dubai to be included in the aforementioned Committee.

S.D. Ferrara proposes that the Committee be composed of the IALM Scientific Committee and the 5 Colleagues indicated by *F. Benemran*.

All of the aforementioned proposals are approved by the Presidium.



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b. Preparation of the Congressional Scientific Programme

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion regarding the Congressional Scientific Programme, summarizing the topics forwarded to the Presidium, the Scientific Committee, the Auditors and all of the Attendees, prior to the Meeting, formulated by taking into consideration the geographical setting of the Congress, the need to provide highly educational and up to date content for the participants, and the need to propose a selection of topics both traditional and of current interest, as follows.

- I. “Death Investigation Systems - Comparative Legal and Forensic Processes”
- II. “Management of Mass Disaster Events and Victim Identification (DVI)”
- III. “Forensic Imaging vs Autopsy & Traumatology”
- IV. “SIDS & Neurotransmitters”
- V. “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants”
- VI. “Torture and Clinical Forensic Medicine”
- VII. “Quality of Expert Witnessing”
- VIII. “Accreditation of Medico-Legal Services & New Trends in Forensic Medical Education”
- IX. “Why, how, where and when to publish in Bio-Medico-Legal Sciences”

D.N. Vieira, Past-President of IALM, proposes topic VIII to be modified to “Accreditation of Forensic and Medico-Legal Services & New Trends in Forensic Medical Education” and proposes an additional topic entitled “How far can/should we go in Forensic Autopsies”. He then proposes the inclusion of a topic regarding “Facial Reconstruction”.

A. Carracedo, Vice-President, proposes the inclusion of a topic regarding “New Techniques in DNA Typing”.



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D. Cusack, Representative for International Relations, proposes the integration of topic I and topic VIII with “How far can/should we go in Forensic Autopsies”. He then proposes the inclusion of a topic regarding “Forensic Medical Education for Undergraduate, Post-Graduate and Expert Witnesses”. In addition, suggests inclusion of the issues of facial reconstruction and novel techniques in DNA typing within “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants”.

P. Mangin, Vice-President, proposes the organization of a roundtable to deal with topics I, VIII and “How far can/should we go in Forensic Autopsies”.

D. Ubelaker, Member of the Scientific Committee, and *D.N. Vieira* propose the involvement of the International Committee of the Red Cross to sponsor “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants”.

E. Villanueva, Member of the Scientific Committee, proposes the inclusion of a topic concerning “Medical Malpractice”.

All of the aforementioned topics and proposals are approved by the Presidium. The topics dealing with “New Techniques in DNA Typing” and “Facial Reconstruction” will be included and dealt with in the Session entitled “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants”.

S.D. Ferrara will prepare a definitive list of the aforementioned Scientific Topics to be transmitted to the Presidium, the Scientific Committee, the Auditors and all of the Attendees. [See attached *Preliminary Draft of the Scientific Programme*]

c. Preparation of the Congressional Workshops

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion, stressing that the Chairpersons as well as the topics of the Workshops will have to be chosen by taking into consideration the contents of the Scientific Programme, thereby ensuring a logical and consistent trait d’union. Then summarizes the topics forwarded to the



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Presidium, the Scientific Committee, the Auditors and all of the Attendees, prior to the Meeting, as follows.

- i. “Age Estimation in Living Persons”.
- ii. “Underwater Forensic Pathology & Criminalistics”.
- iii. “Postmortem Interval Estimation of Skeletonized Human Remains”.
- iv. “Analysis of Violence Against Women: Questions and answers from Forensic Medicine”.

D.N. Vieira reminds the Attendees that *E. Baccino* has resigned from the position of FASE Representative and that he will be replaced by *E. Cunha*, current FASE President. In addition, FASE intends to organize an Advanced Course within the IALM 2015 Congress. He then proposes “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants” to be transformed into a Workshop sponsored by the International Committee of the Red Cross. In addition, proposes that the Workshops will start on the afternoon of Saturday 17th of January 2015 and go on until Sunday the 18th of January 2015.

P. Mangin proposes *A. Schmeling* as the Coordinator for the Workshop entitled “Age Estimation in Living Persons”.

D. Ubelaker announces that, since “Postmortem Interval Estimation of Skeletonized Human Remains” has already been discussed by FASE at a recent event, he will evaluate the feasibility of a Workshop concerning a different topic in Forensic Anthropology with *E. Cunha*.

S.D. Ferrara proposes contacting *V. Pinchi*, current IOFOS President, and *H. Bernitz*, Member of the Scientific Committee, in order to plan a Workshop dealing with a topic specifically relating to “Forensic Odontology”.

S.D. Ferrara lists the possible Chairpersons for the proposed Workshops as follows.

- *A. Schmeling* for “Age Estimation in Living Persons”.



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- *P. Ricci* for “Underwater Forensic Pathology & Criminalistics”.
- *D. Ubelaker* for a Workshop dealing with a topic specifically relating to Forensic Anthropology - *To be decided upon with E. Cunha.*
- *E. Villanueva* for “Analysis of Violence Against Women: Questions and answers from Forensic Medicine”.
- *M. Tidball-Binz* for “Management and Identification of Unidentified Migrants”.
- *V. Pinchi* for a Workshop dealing with a topic specifically relating to Forensic Odontology, to be agreed upon.

All of the aforementioned topics and proposals are approved by the Presidium.

S.D. Ferrara will prepare a definitive list of the proposed Workshops to be transmitted to the Presidium, the Scientific Committee, the Auditors and all of the Attendees. [See attached *Preliminary Draft of the Scientific Programme*]

d. Preparation of further Sessions

S.D. Ferrara lists the further Sessions to be included in the IALM 2015 Congress as follows.

- FASE Session - To be managed by *E. Cunha.*
- EALM Session - To be managed by *B. Ludes*, EALM Representative.

S.D. Ferrara proposes contacting *V. Pinchi* and *H. Bernitz*, in order to plan a possible Session dealing with Forensic Odontology, as a potential alternative to the aforementioned Workshop.

All of the aforementioned topics and proposals are approved by the Presidium.



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4. PRESIDIIUM ITEMS

a. Continental Sections

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion regarding the creation of the Continental Sections, the role of which would involve the necessity of attracting new Members from geographical areas where the Bio-Medico-Legal Sciences are currently underrepresented, thus increasing the reach of IALM. Then lists the Referents appointed up until now, as follows.

- African Section – Prof. Ali Chadly and Dr. Ryan Blumenthal.
- Middle Eastern Section - vacant.
- Far Eastern Section – Prof. Philip Beh.
- North American Section – Prof. Victor Weedn.
- South American Section – Prof. Marta Maldonado and Dr. Daniel Silva.
- Oceanic Section – Prof. Stephen Cordner.

S.D. Ferrara explains that the appointment of the aforementioned Referents does not imply that the Sections are already active. Underlines that, although not included in the Statute, the intention to forward a Section to the General Assembly for approval exists, only on the condition that the aforementioned Section contains at least 50 Members.

D.N. Vieira proposes that the South American Section be renamed as **Central-South American Section**, in order to include the Central American Area.

T. Fracasso, Treasurer, clarifies that the number of Members composing each Continental Section will have to be checked every year.

On the specific request of the Presidium, *F. Benemran* agrees to be the Referent for the Middle Eastern Section.



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The aforementioned proposals are approved by the Presidium. Therefore, the updated list of the Continental Sections, including the related Referents, is as follows.

- African Section – Prof. Ali Chadly and Dr. Ryan Blumenthal.
- Middle Eastern Section - Prof. Fawzi Benemran.
- Far Eastern Section – Prof. Philip Beh.
- North American Section – Prof. Victor Weedn.
- Central - South American Section – Prof. Marta Maldonado and Dr. Daniel Silva.
- Oceanic Section – Prof. Stephen Cordner.

b. Board of Regional Representatives

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion regarding the creation of the Board of Regional Representatives, the role of which would be that of fostering relationships of collaboration with National Societies and Academic Bodies, not necessarily affiliated with IALM, with the specific aim of creating a scientific network between the IALM Members located in different areas and the related local Scientific and Academic Institutions.

The aforementioned proposal is approved by the Presidium.

c. Youth Section

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion emphasizing that the creation of a Youth Section, with the aim of organizing opportunities of comparison and growth for Young Researchers interested in Bio-Medico-Legal sciences, would involve the following.

- Creation of a **Working Group**, referred to as the Young Scientific Committee, composed of a **dozen young** (30-35 years old), promising **researchers** (preferably already with a permanent position at a University), at least **4 from Europe** and the remaining **6 from other Continents**, with at least



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one representative from each Continent and with 1 Coordinator.

- Introduction of a **IALM Scientific Prize** to be awarded to the best and most innovative scientific research paper produced by young Researchers in the course of the last three years.
- Organisation of **Scientific** and/or **Didactic Events** (including Training Courses) at least once a year.

D.N. Vieira proposes 35 years as the maximum age limit for the Youth Section. In addition, proposes that each Continent be represented by a maximum of 2 Members within the Youth Section.

P. Mangin proposes that the IALM Scientific Prize could be in the form of a bursary to cover the costs of a residential experience abroad.

S.D. Ferrara proposes that the Members of the Youth Section shall have the possibility to organize Scientific events with the supervision of the Presidium and the Scientific Committee.

The aforementioned proposals are approved by the Presidium.

d. Forensic Odontology Working Advisory Group

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion regarding the creation of a Forensic Odontology **Working Advisory Group** with the task of organizing Scientific initiatives. Prof. *Vilma Pinchi* could act as IALM Representative for the aforementioned Group, considering her role as current President of the International Organization For Forensic Odonto-Stomatology (IOFOS).

The aforementioned proposal is approved by the Presidium.



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e. Other Section Proposals

T. Sawaguchi, Auditor, proposes the creation of a Women's Section.

D. Cusack proposes that the aforementioned initiative is formalized in a written document and then forwarded to the Presidium and the Scientific Committee for evaluation.

The aforementioned proposal is approved by the Presidium.

f. Report by the IALM Representative for International Relations

S.D. Ferrara introduces the Report concerning International Relations to be presented by *D. Cusack*.

D. Cusack presents his Report which deals with the participation in 3 Conferences of the International Non-Governmental Organisation (INGOs/OING) of the Council of Europe (CoE) body in Strasbourg and the establishment of a collaborative relationship with the Indo-Pacific Association of Law, Medicine and Science (INPALMS), represented by *Bhupinder Singh*, current INPALMS President.

The aforementioned Report is duly noted by the Presidium.

g. Management of IALM funds for Institutional Missions & Role of the IALM Representative for International Relations

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion and stresses that it will be of the utmost importance to implement the most efficient strategy to manage the IALM funds in order to provide financial support for the Institutional Missions undertaken by the Representative for International Relations or other IALM Delegates acting on behalf of the former and selected by the IALM Presidium. This issue is strictly connected with the practical role of the IALM Representative for International Relations, who should act as effectively as possible as the "Minister for foreign affairs" of our Academy. In light of the aforementioned considerations, it would be



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of great importance to create a Working Group, made up of a number of supporting Representatives, who would have to travel in person and act as “Ambassadors” of IALM, therefore supporting the activities of the IALM Representative for International Relations, with the aim of developing and maintaining a network of Relations with a various number of Scientific Societies, Organizations, and Institutions.

D. Cusack agrees with the aforementioned and underlines the feasibility of delegating his role as Representative for International Relations, in those cases where it would be more convenient and rational, also in order to make use of IALM funds as efficiently as possible. He also stresses the necessity to screen the Scientific Societies and Association with which IALM wishes to collaborate.

T. Fracasso emphasizes that the creation of Continental Sections will make delegating the commitments of Representative for International Relations easier. In his role as Treasurer, points out that it is feasible to finance a few International missions per year, but over this could be a problem.

The aforementioned observations, comments and proposals are duly noted and agreed upon by the Presidium.

h. Financial Report by the IALM Treasurer

S.D. Ferrara introduces the Report concerning the Financial situation of IALM to be presented by *T. Fracasso*.

T. Fracasso presents his Report which deals with the financial situation of IALM in the last year, 2013. Concerning the current status of the Memberships, there are 391 Full Members, 30 Extraordinary Members and 1 Honorary Member, being a total of 422 Members, including 20 new Members. Regarding the payment of the fees, in 2013 there were 186 who had paid the related fee and 224 non paying Members. This involved a profit of 10.940,00 CHF (Swiss Francs) and a loss of 13.060,00 CHF. The balance at the end of 2013 was 102.986,88 CHF.



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P. Mangin points out the difficulties encountered with regard to the collection of the annual fee from Members, given that a significant proportion of them do not pay it.

The aforementioned Report and observation are duly noted by the Presidium.

i. Management of funding for IALM Congresses and Symposia

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion emphasizing that it would be opportune to formalize the unwritten custom according to which each Organizer of a IALM Congress (and in the future also Symposia) transmits to the next Organizer a certain percentage of the profits arising from said Congress, at least equal to the sum received previously. This will have to be incorporated into the Statute.

D.N. Vieira clarifies that, on the occasion of the IALM Congress in Lisbon, the amount of 15.000 € (Euros) was entrusted to *M. Gulmen*, in his role as Organizer of the 2012 IALM Congress in Istanbul.

S.D. Ferrara explains that for a series of reasons, mainly connected to the financial management of the Istanbul Congress, which incurred a loss, *M. Gulmen* has so far not been able to transmit the aforementioned sum to be used for the next Congress, and will not do so in the near future.

F. Benemran stresses that, since he will not receive any funding from the previous Organizer, he is not obliged to comply to the aforementioned rule.

The aforementioned proposal is approved and the observations duly noted by the Presidium.

j. Membership fee reduction for Members coming from developing Countries

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion stressing the importance of reducing the Membership fee for those who would like to become Members, originating from the Least Developed Countries, as



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included in the list compiled by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), since it would be crucial to foster the expansion of IALM in those Countries.

D. Cusack proposes the introduction of a minimum floor fraction of 1/4th of the Full Membership fee. For some Countries the floor fraction could be increased to 2/4^{ths} or 3/4^{ths}.

T. Fracasso points out that establishing the criteria for such a floor fraction would be problematic.

D. Cusack says that the calculation of the reduced fee will have to be further developed and refined.

The aforementioned proposal is agreed upon and the related suggestions are duly noted by the Presidium. From now on and pending further developments, the minimum floor fraction to be adopted is 1/4th of the Full Membership fee.

k. IALM Publications And Initiatives - Guidelines

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion, stating that, contemporarily with a Monograph entitled “Malpractice and Medical Liability”, published by Springer in 2013, the Guidelines entitled “Malpractice and medical liability. European Guidelines on Methods of Ascertainment and Criteria of Evaluation” were published by the International Journal of Legal Medicine. Then, he mentions that the possibility for both ECLM and IALM to publish Guidelines exists, but from different perspectives. Those documents to be issued by ECLM will be valid for Europe and, with the necessary modifications, could be adopted by IALM at International level, and viceversa.

The aforementioned matter is duly noted and approved by the Presidium.

1. Role of The International Journal of Legal Medicine

S.D. Ferrara reports that *T. Bajanowski*, IALM Representative for the International Journal of Legal Medicine, has expressed his agreement in relation to the importance of fostering the



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collaborative relationship between IALM and the International Journal of Legal Medicine.

The aforementioned matter is duly noted by the Presidium.

m. Establishment of a Committee for the Evaluation of Open Access Publications and Bibliometric Data

S.D. Ferrara points out that the issue regarding the balance between ease of access and the quality of Scientific Publications published in Open Access Journals has been rapidly gaining importance over the last few years. There is currently a certain amount of debate concerning the influence of Open Access Journals on the Research Community, in light of the dual necessity to, on the one hand, provide Researchers with wider access to Scientific content and, on the other hand, guarantee a level of quality in conformity with the parameters pertaining to the Journal – level metrics used to evaluate traditional Scientific Journals. In practice, there are many issues still to be confronted systematically and thoroughly, such as the feasibility to consider as valid the contributions made by an Author to Open Access Journals in terms of the value to be attributed to the Scientific knowledge published therein and the construction of a CV with regard to its use as a reliable criterion in the National and International Academic context. Notwithstanding the aforementioned, there is a need to ensure the quality of the peer reviewing process which precedes the publication of any given article in fee-based Open Access Journals. Therefore, he proposes that IALM sets up an **International Working Group**, operating on behalf of the former, dedicated to the investigation, analysis and evaluation of the quality of the content in Open Access Journals, with a view to publishing an analysis/report, officially approved by IALM, focused on the current situation **in the field of Bio-Medico-Legal Sciences**. Then, he proposes a list of suitable Candidates to be part of the aforementioned Working Group, as follows.

– Prof. Thomas Bajanowski, Full Professor, Institute of Legal Medicine, University Hospital Essen, Germany.



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- Prof. Jeffrey Beall, Associate Professor, Department of Administrative Services, Scholarly Initiatives Librarian, Auraria Library, Denver, Colorado, USA.
- Prof. Hitoshi Maeda, Full Professor, Department of Legal Medicine, University of Osaka, Japan.
- Prof. Pier Giorgio Righetti, Full Professor, Department of Chemistry, Materials and Chemical Engineering, Milan, Italy.
- Prof. Franco Tagliaro, Full Professor, Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of Verona, Italy.
- Prof. Victor W. Weedn, Full Professor, Department of Forensic Sciences, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences, Washington, D.C., USA.

The aforementioned proposal is duly noted and approved by the Presidium.

n. IALM Bulletin

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion summarizing the difficulties encountered so far in preparing such an initiative, mainly concerning the collection of contributions from the Authors contacted. He then introduces *T. Fracasso*, who has been entrusted with the preparation of the IALM Bulletin.

T. Fracasso emphasizes that, up until now, contributions have been received from Prof. Vincenzo Pascali (presentation of the Institute of Legal Medicine of the Catholic University of Rome) and Prof. Marika Vali (presentation of the Estonian Forensic Science Institute). He then points out that the setup of a regular publication requires a consistent organizational work as well as a constant monitoring and that these conditions are far from being fulfilled at the moment. The bulletin could also be used to report opinions or descriptions of scientific events or congresses. But again, the active and spontaneous participation of the contributors is essential.



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S.D. Ferrara, in order to overcome the difficulties encountered so far, presents two examples of possible Bulletin formats, currently being issued by Scientific Societies operating in areas related to the Bio-Medico-Legal Sciences, the International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference (ICADTS) Bulletin and the International Association of Forensic Toxicologists (TIAFT) Bulletin. He then proposes that the Bulletin could be a very brief summary of the IALM Activities, of Congresses and Meetings of possible interest for the Members and of the most relevant news for the world of Bio-Medico-Legal Sciences. This would be a publication of no more than 2-3 pages each 3-4 months.

T. Fracasso states that, up until now, the conditions have not existed in order for a publication of this type to be created.

A. Carracedo states that some of his Collaborators could contribute, providing news about the world of Forensic Genetics.

M. Rothschild and T. Sawaguchi state that they will enquire as to whether some of their Collaborators would be willing to participate in the creation of a IALM Bulletin.

The aforementioned observations are duly noted by the Presidium. A trial will therefore be conducted, in order to ascertain the feasibility of publishing a very brief Bulletin, taking the ICADTS Bulletin as a benchmark model.

o. Role of IALM Presidium Members - Secretary

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion reporting that *M. Gulmen*, the elected Secretary, recently communicated that, for a series of professional and personal reasons, he is not able to continue in the aforementioned role and therefore asks that a suitable replacement be chosen. He then asks if there are any proposed Candidates for this position.

There are no proposals from the Attendees regarding the position of Secretary.

S.D. Ferrara proposes *P. Ricci*, currently acting as IALM Auditor, as a suitable Candidate for this position, in light of his experience,



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expertise, active roles previously carried out as part of IALM, as well as for the geographical vicinity with the IALM Presidency.

P. Ricci states that he would be willing to take on such a role, provided that the Presidium approves.

There are no objections or counter-proposals from the Attendees regarding the aforementioned candidacy. The aforementioned proposal is therefore unanimously approved by the Presidium and P. Ricci is appointed as Acting Secretary.

p. Role of IALM Presidium Members - Scientific Committee

S.D. Ferrara points out that, according to the Statute, the **Scientific Committee** “shall advise the Presidium on scientific matters”. Therefore, the role of the aforementioned Committee needs to be clarified, in order to enhance its effectiveness and contribution to the ongoing activities of IALM, also in light of the Scientific value of its Members. For example, it would be a valuable asset in the selection of the Scientific events to be proposed via the IALM Website and in the preparation of the next IALM Congresses, Symposia, Guidelines, Monographs and other initiatives. In light of this,

The aforementioned proposal is approved by the Presidium and, on the occasion of the next General Assembly, the role and scope of the Scientific Committee will consequently be deliberated upon and adapted accordingly.

q. Management and update of the new IALM Website

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion detailing the new IALM Website and then introduces a brief presentation by one of his Collaborators, *Dr. Alessandro Amagliani*, currently acting as Coordinator of the Website, concerning the innovative features of the new IALM Website, including the seven distinct Continental Sections of IALM – European, African, Far Eastern, Middle Eastern, North American, South American and Oceanic –, in addition to subsections dedicated to National Journals and National Societies, Institutes and International Collaboration. The



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ethos of the new Website is that of a forum that fosters cross-cultural communication and sharing of information, knowledge and projects, as well as providing information regarding Scientific Journals, Guidelines, Textbooks, International Societies, as well as notifications of Meetings and Conferences in the Member Countries. Furthermore, a regular Newsletter has been created, circulated via email to IALM Members, detailing various initiatives, including Congresses, Conferences and Meetings to be held, which are of interest to the field of Forensic Medicine, along with brief descriptions of these events. The Website's Software platform will have to be updated during 2014, in order to provide a secure, stable and even more efficient portal.

The Attendees unanimously praise the work carried out up until now on the new IALM Website and express their approval in relation to its management and maintenance.

D. Cusack points out that the Website could be a tool to encourage the Members to pay their annual fee, provided that the "Members Only Area" would have to be enriched with a number of premium contents.

S.D. Ferrara emphasizes that the costs for the creation, running and maintenance for 2013 have all been borne by the University of Padova. In 2014, it will be necessary to provide funds for the maintenance and update of the Website. Those costs will have to be borne by IALM and a suitable source for technical support will have to be identified.

The aforementioned observations and suggestions are duly noted by the Presidium. The provision of funds for the maintenance and update of the new IALM Website in 2014 is therefore approved by the Presidium.

r. Statute Modifications

S.D. Ferrara opens the discussion, stressing the need to make a series of Statute modifications in order to implement all of the aforementioned proposals and items. He then introduces a brief presentation by one of his Collaborators, *Dr. Thomas Dewis*,



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PROF. THOMAS BAJANOWSKI (GERMANY)

EALM REPRESENTATIVE

PROF. BERTRAND LUDES (FRANCE)

FASE REPRESENTATIVE

PROF. ERIC BACCINO (FRANCE)

AUDITOR

PROF. TOSHIKO SAWAGUCHI (JAPAN)

dealing with the proposed modifications, as forwarded to all of the Presidium Members, Members of the Scientific Committee and Attendees, prior to the Presidium Meeting.

The proposed Statute modifications were duly noted by the Presidium. In light of the issues, observations and suggestions raised during the Meeting, an updated and amended version of the proposed modifications will be forwarded again.

The Recipients will then have 15 days to express any further comments and observations.

The lack of a reply will be taken as an agreement. The final document will be then forwarded to the next General Assembly for approval.

5. CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

S.D. Ferrara closes the Presidium Meeting and thanks all of the Attendees for their efforts in preparing and conducting the Meeting. As previously mentioned, a draft of the Scientific Programme and the definitive list of the proposed amendementes to the Statute will be forwarded to the Presidium Members, Members of the Scientific Committee and Attendees.

Prof. S. Davide Ferrara

President

Prof. Pietrantonio Ricci

Acting Secretary