

Minutes OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
ON THE EXCHANGE OF RESIDENTS
EFIM

Royal College of Physicians, LONDON November 21, 2003.

Present : Christopher DAVIDSON, Andrew FRANKEL, Terence GIBSON, Alain JUNOD, Jürg SCHIFFERLI, Simone SCHIFFERLI (Secretary Steering Committee)

Excused: M. BUYSSCHAERT, Kevin DAVIES , Georg EISENBACH , Johan FEVERY, Michael GLYNN, Alison JONES, Philippe LESAVRE, Loic GUILLEVIN H. HALLER,. K. LEUNISSEN, Claire NICHOLL, Keith PROWSE, Diego REVERTE-CEJUDO, Daniel RODENSTEIN, Tariq SETHI,. Alexander SO

1. General comments

Many members of the committee could not come to the present meeting. It was decided however to keep the London meeting once a year, end of autumn, but if possible with a teleconference with the members who cannot be present. *Dr Schifferli will ask the RCP whether this is possible.*

The exchange scheme should be presented and discussed at the EFIM council meeting as well as at the EFIM congresses. The message is to recruit more heads of departments to enlarge and facilitate the scheme. *Dr Davidson and Dr Schifferli will organize a presentation at the next EFIM council meeting in Zürich (Feb 04).*

In a pre-meeting phone call, K. LEUNISSEN mentioned that the system in Holland is planned well in advance. Only double exchanges are possible (he cannot do one way exchanges). An additional difficulty is the language – few candidates from abroad speak Dutch.

Whether Alison JONES will continue to be involved in the exchange is uncertain. She is now Medical Director of Toxicology, and not responsible for the rotation programme anymore. *Dr Gibson will clarify the situation.*

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING 2002

The minutes 2002 are approved.

Comments about the open questions in the minutes (text in italic):

LEUVEN: Whether J. Fevery is still interested in the exchange. Answer: yes, but many handicaps: salaries, language. One way exchanges from Leuven to the UK are taking place (see rounds). J. Fevery is happy to continue with one way exchanges.

BRIGHTON : Kevin Davies remains in the exchange, has one way exchanges from Leuven (no UK candidate yet, because of the new organization in Brighton).

ST-LUC: J.. Schifferli contacted Yves Pirson (Chief Nephrology) at St Luc. St Luc has not been active in the last years. Y. Pirson is looking into the matter.

SPAIN: Dr Reverte indicated at the phone that it is very difficult to take up an exchangee from abroad because the system is a closed shop. There seem to be little acceptance to take up a foreign junior doctor. However, they are happy to send for 3 months young doctors abroad (such 3 months' stays are paid by the Spanish hospitals).

The report of R. Weinkove about the exchange from UK-GUY'S to Germany HANNOVER has been accepted for publication in the European Journal of Internal Medicine. *Dr Davidson will inform us about the date of publication.* In the future Dr Davidson suggests to have the reports of the exchangees put on the web site of EFIM (should be discussed in Zürich).

Change of staff at the Royal College

See list of addresses enclosed

Exchange review of the last years (round 24-25-26)

The international Office of RCP is very much interested in our exchange scheme. However Keith Prowse (Medical Manager) is leaving the office soon and the minutes have to go to the next head of this office. The system of training of junior doctors is

probably changing in the next two years in the UK, hopefully the scheme for SHO training in general internal medicine will remain, the tendency is to train specialists earlier.

The past and ongoing exchanges are shown in the tables of the different rounds (attached)

For future rounds:

Change in round 26: Geneva-Hamm/CX. Two candidates are proposed by Alain Junod each for 6 months. A. Frankel indicates that there are many candidates who want to go to French speaking centres.

Exchange teams 2005-2006 –(round 27)

UK.Hamm/CX - Lausanne (CH)

UK.GUY'S – Geneva (CH)

an exchange is already planned between Geneva and Guy's (A.Junod – T.Gibson)
Geneva: rotations open, Guy's: 6 months Internal Medicine + 6 months cardiology).

UK.BARTS - Hannover (Germany)

UK.Hamm/CX - ST LUC (Belgium)

Basel (CH) - Paris (F)

Leuven (Belgium) one way,open

MAASTRICHT (Holland) : strict exchanges both ways with a centre which can identify a candidate speaking or learning Dutch

BRIGHTON (UK): General comments : ready to take exchanges mainly one way.
Has to identify UK candidates to go to the continent. *C. Davidson clarifies the situation with K. Davies.*

**Reports of the exchanges:
see texts enclosed :**

- Sarah WHITE from GUY'S-UK to CHUV-LAUSANNE-CH
- Ravi GUPTA from CX/HAMMERSMITH to PARIS-Bichat
- Angelika BECKHOFF from KANTONSSPITAL BASEL CH to CX/HAMMERSMITH

General problems with the exchangees

Dr Wirema from Holland contacted Dr Gibson directly. It should be stressed that the first contact is between the members of the exchange committee and not directly from the candidates. Any other procedures would produce confusion in our scheme.

Finances

Each centre needs around 1000 pounds per exchange. The finances are running out in the next two years. Different sources of sponsoring should be found. *Schifferli will try to approach industries again.* The Royal College could facilitate some of the financial aspects on the UK side for exchanges related to the UK. That the postgraduate training may include 6 to 12 months rotation in another European country could be proposed to the department of Health as well (*common letter to be written by J. Schifferli and A. Frankel*).

Next meeting

Friday 5th November 2004 starting at 2pm to 5pm at the RCP.
Whether this will include a teleconference has yet to be discussed with the RCP.

EUROPEAN EXCHANGE MEETING will take place

On Friday November 5, 2004 (5.11.2004)

From 2pm. to 5pm

At the Royal College of Physicians

Royal College of Physicians

11 St Andrews Place

Regent's Park

LONDON NW1 4LE

ROOMS CAN BE BOOKED AT THE RCP at your own expenses BY DIRECTLY CONTACTING

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PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR BOOKING IS DONE WELL IN ADVANCE, ONLY FEW ROOMS ARE AVAILABLE