

# EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY

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## Minutes of the General Assembly of the EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR STEREOTACTIC AND FUNCTIONAL NEUROSURGERY

held at 9.15 a.m. on Wednesday September 20th, 1972,  
at the Royal College of Surgeons, Edinburgh.

Invitations were sent out to the Society's  
members well in advance of discussion of the  
statutes.

## Agenda. Business arising from the Minutes.

- 1) Professor Gillingham, President of the  
Society, reported on the Society's activities  
since its foundation, on membership figures  
(now 156 ), on the links forged with other  
societies and in particular on the progress  
of the Society's application for full member-  
ship of the World Federation of Neurosurgical  
Societies.

As regards membership of the Society it was  
decided that only very active practitioners of  
stereotaxy combined with practical clinical  
work (including members of teams) should be  
eligible for active membership.

Associate members need not necessarily be  
doctors, but must be active members of teams  
using stereotactic or functional neurosurgical  
techniques.

Associate members (overseas) should have  
received special training in line with the

Society's aims at a recognized European training centre, and should not exceed 25 % of total membership.

Corresponding members are associate members (overseas) with special merit.

The members confirmed the bestowal of honorary membership on Dr. E.A. Spiegel and posthumously on Dr. Henry Wycis.

- 2) Inclusion of countries not yet represented on the executive committee.

After thorough discussion it was agreed that Professor Guiot, the first secretary, should write to the secretaries of the neurosurgical societies of those countries not yet represented on the committee and ask them to suggest names of representatives.

- 3) It was decided to raise the annual membership fee to 80 French francs or equivalent in another currency.
- 4) Decision on place and date of next congress.

The members agreed to the proposal to hold the next meeting in Freiburg, probably at the beginning of October 1975. The topics for the next congress are to be decided after the Tokyo symposium. The next business meeting will also take place in Freiburg in 1975, in connection with the next congress.

Alternating with the International Symposia of the International Society on Research in Stereocencephalotomy, the European Society's meetings may be held from now on in a 4-year cycle (taking place 2-3 years after every International Symposium).

5) Election of officers and members of committees.

In view of the Society's recent foundation it has made satisfactory, indeed remarkable, progress. It is beginning to make contact with other societies, and the existing officers' committee, have been extremely active. The congress in Edinburgh, which was of high scientific standard with its introduction of new topics and large attendance, is evidence of their hard work. In view of these factors and bearing in mind the prospective site of the next congress, it was proposed that the officers and members of committees remain unchanged for the next period of office.

The motion was approved unanimously.

A further step in dealing with the Society's business affairs was the appointment of Professor Mundinger, the Vice-President, as first treasurer (the permanent business office being in Freiburg), and the election of Professor Szikla, Paris, as second treasurer to assist the first secretary, Professor Guiot, in Paris. It was agreed that the members of the other committees should remain in office.

6) Inclusion of stereotactic surgery as an essential in the programme of neurological surgeons-in Europe.

A long discussion followed, in the course of which the President emphasized that replies ought to be formulated in advance to the kind of questions that national societies might put forward. In the ensuing discussion it was decided that ideally stereotactic surgery should be included in the neurosurgical training programme. People interested in receiving training in functional and stereotactic surgery should be given an opportunity to do so at an early date. They would not necessarily need to be experts in practice.

The point was also discussed that functional and stereotactic neurosurgery need not always be separate and distinct from one another, e.g. in the case of temporal epilepsy. It is thought that before long work involving the autonomic nervous system would also have to be included, as it is in Psychosurgery. On the other hand, the frontiers between the various fields will almost certainly remain. It will be a question of future developments and of contact being made with related scientific societies, e.g. the International Society of Psychosurgery - on an international level.

Any other business.

Professor Bates brought up the question of a sub-committee to promote and correlate research. Its tasks would be to summarize scientific reports and to keep in touch with scientific groups in other countries with a view to exchanging information and possibly research posts, etc. It was decided that this sub-committee ought to number amongst its active members: an active surgical neurologist, a computer-scientist, a pathological anatomist, a medical neurologist, and a bioengineer. Its secretariat is to be temporarily in the hands of Dr. John Bates, National Hospital, Queen Square, London. Anybody interested in being on the sub-committee was asked to communicate with Dr. Bates.

After Thanking the members for attending the congress and wishing them a safe journey home the President declared the meeting at an end.

The business meeting was concluded at 11.15 a.m.