

## Season's Greetings From the NDA

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At the end of September, the board members of the Nordic Dermatology Association (NDA) met up at the EADV Congress in Vienna. Our Treasurer Katarina Zak Stangeland confirmed that the NDA has a balanced economy with an appropriately sized capital buffer for future congresses and other activities. The second quarter showed a loss of approximately 58,000 SEK but we are awaiting a surplus from the Nordic Congress of Dermatology and Venereology (NCDV) in Trondheim of over 100,000 NOK. In regards to this, Kristin Ryggen and Petter Gjersvik presented the results from the NCDV in Trondheim, which was also a great success in terms of organization, educational value, and networking. In total, 354 delegates were registered including 290 paying participants. Among these, 43 were nurses. Approximately 65% of the delegates were from Norway, but there were >40 delegates from Finland and Denmark, respectively, and >60 delegates from Sweden.



Our next NCDV will take place at the Clarion Hotel Post in Gothenburg, Sweden, on May 8–10, 2019 and the planning for this has already begun. As the Congress President, I have been working in close

collaboration with the Swedish Society of Dermatology and Venereology (SSDV) to make this meeting a fantastic event for all our members in the Nordic dermatological societies. Several exciting names are already on the list of people who will work with me in the local organizing committee and the program committee including: Maria Bradley (Stockholm), Artur Schmidtchen (Lund), Charlotta Enerbäck (Linköping), Mihály Matura (Stockholm), Johan Dahlén Gyllencretutz (Skövde), Anna Josefsson (Örebro), Elisabet Nylander (Umeå) and Olle Larkö (Gothenburg). Our goal is to have a dedicated website for the congress up and running within the coming months.

Tove Agner, who is the chairman of the NDA's Education Committee, presented the successful results of both the 3<sup>rd</sup> Nordic Course on Skin Surgery and the 1<sup>st</sup> Nordic Dermoscopy Course, which have taken place during 2015–2016. The 1<sup>st</sup> Global Dermatology course, headed by Maria Bradley, took place in October and the outcome will be evaluated at our next meeting. Furthermore, Ellen Mooney from Hafnarfjörður, Iceland

and Ismini Vassilaki from Stockholm, Sweden proposed a new "Virtual Dermatopathology" course. The first course will take place in Iceland on April 27–28, 2017. Needless to say, we are very excited about the progress of these educational initiatives for all our members and are already seeing the positive effects of getting to know and sharing experiences with more and more of our Nordic colleagues.

We are also proud to announce that we now have a new Main Office for the NDA, which will be situated at Acta Dermato-venereologica's (ActaDV) headquarters in Uppsala and administered by Agneta Andersson, who also administers ActaDV and Forum for Nordic Dermato-Venereology as well as the SSDV Main Office. You may have already noticed that we have made some improvements and several updates to our website [www.nordicdermatology.com](http://www.nordicdermatology.com), which is just the first step in improving our interaction with our members. Any feedback and suggestions from our members are more than welcome and can be sent to the NDA's new official e-mail address: [info@nordicdermatology.com](mailto:info@nordicdermatology.com).

Finally, we received reports from our 5 member societies. The Norwegian Society for Dermatology and Venereology informed the board about the problems they are confronted with now that residents will be offered permanent positions at hospitals. This system works in Sweden where the residents can be sent out to district hospitals if there are not enough positions at the larger University hospitals, but in Oslo, for example, this is not possible. This may result in an inability to recruit new residents. Furthermore, the Norwegian Medical Association is no longer in charge of establishing the criteria to be met by residents to become specialists. The government has taken over this role instead, which limits the Norwegian society's possibility of influencing the curriculum and requirements of the residency program. The Finnish Dermatological Society reported that the number of specialists in Finland is balanced. The Finnish Dermatological Society also celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary recently. The Danish Dermatological Society confirmed that they have a new President: Lone Skov. A new and more formalized process for recruiting residents is being put into use. The society is also working with an ambitious project of writing treatment guidelines for the most common and important dermatological conditions. The Swedish Society of Dermatology and Venereology announced that they have



Over 50 enthusiastic dermatologists from Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Estonia, Lithuania, Poland and Rumania participated in the NDA's 4<sup>th</sup> Nordic Course on Skin Surgery in Copenhagen this November.

a new board since May this year. Katarina Lundqvist is the new President. Several new education and research scholarships have been launched within the society, which also has a very good economy. The national website has recently been updated and a new and very appreciated magazine has also been created for all members. The Icelandic Dermatological Society, which recently celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, now has 20 members (18 active dermatologists). They are also expecting

one new member soon (a returning dermatologist from the USA). New elections will be held next year with Elisabet Reykdal Jóhannesdóttir staying on as President for one more year.

The NDA board will meet again in Copenhagen on March 31, 2017 and we will certainly keep you all posted on all progress and development. Until then, we wish you happy holidays and a fantastic start to 2017!

Make sure to be updated; bookmark our website: [www.nordicdermatology.com](http://www.nordicdermatology.com)

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