

**SECTION AND BOARD OF VASCULAR SURGERY****Council Meeting**

19th May 2025, 11h00 to 13h00 CET
Online Meeting – Zoom Platform

Minutes

Participants			
<u>Executive Committee</u>			
		SBVS Committees	
President	Nabil Chakfé (NC)	Examination Chairman	Mauro Gargiulo (MG)
Secretary General	Armando Mansilha (AM)	Examination Director	David McLain (DM)
Treasurer	Efthymios Avgerinos (EA)	CME Chairman	Mike Wyatt (MW)
		Office	Cristina Freitas

National Delegates

Belgium	Inge Fourneau	Portugal	Daniel Brandão
Czech Republic	Robert Staffa	Romania	Mihai Ionac
Czech Republic	Miroslav Špaček	Slovenia	Mladen Gasparini
Finland	Matti Laine	Slovenia	Vojko Flis
Germany	Werner Lang	Spain	Ramón Vila Coll
Greece	Athanasios Giannoukas	Sweden	Per Kjellin
Hungary	Gábor Menyhei	Sweden	David Lindstrom
Lithuania	Linas Velicka	Switzerland	Simone Hofer
Luxembourg	Dirk Grotemeyer	Switzerland	Sebastien Deglise
Portugal	Frederico Gonçalves	UK	Mike Wyatt

1. Welcome**Nabil Chakfé, Armando Mansilha**

- ✓ Professor Nabil Chakfé welcome to all Councillors.
 - Welcome the new delegate from Denmark - Cecilie Markvad Møller
- ✓ Apologies: Finland - Velipekka Suominen; Hungary - Zoltán Szeberin; Lithuania - Karolis Tijunaitis; Malta - Kevin Cassar; Norway - Øystein Rognerud and Beate Viddal

2. Minutes**Armando Mansilha**

- ✓ Minutes from last Council Meeting online on the 25th September 2024, were approved.

3. Secretary General Report**Armando Mansilha**

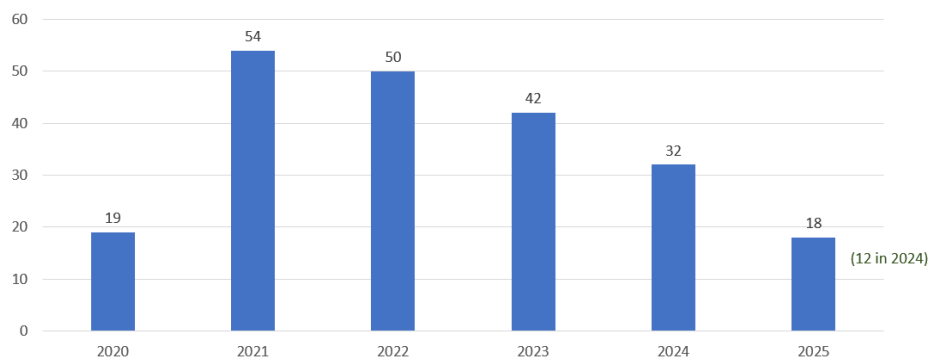
- ✓ Finances
 - Still pending payments from Brussels. Treasurer asked for a position to confirm all pending payments the Section as from Brussels.



- UEMS Brussels remains collecting management fees, not paying the CME fees which makes a huge difference in our balance. Nevertheless, if we need money for payments, Brussels proceed with payments to our bank account.
- It was reminded the Membership Fee of the National Societies:
 - Call for fee was sent together with the invitation for this Council - Councillors should forward to the National Society treasurers to be paid.

✓ CME

- Mike Wyatt will detail on his presentation, but Armando Mansilha remarked that Councillors should promote the applications for CME Credits on their National Societies.
- Just a short presentation on the number of applications in the last 6 years:



✓ FEBVS

- short resume about the FEBVS Examination 2025:
 - Maastricht
 - 08th March | in connection with European Vascular Course
 - Candidates = 27 | Failed = 3 | Failure rate = 89%
 - 7 Honours
 - Examiners = 40 and Observers = 1
 - Porto
 - 21st May | in connection with Porto Vascular Conference
 - Candidates = 15
 - Examiners = 29 and Observers = 1
 - Free registration for the Examiners to the Congress
 - Istanbul
 - 23rd September | in connection with ESVS
 - Candidacies
 - Open – 03.06.2025
 - Close – 25.06.2025



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- Councillors were asked to invite Consultants to be FEBVS Examiners.
 - new criteria and application forms at our website:
 - New Examiner | FEBVS title and 4 years as Consultant
 - Invited Examiner | > 10 years as Consultant and well recognized CV
- Application for Extraordinary Examiners – new award
 - FEBVS Gold Examiner – 20 Exams = Medal and Certificate
 - FEBVS Platinum Examiner – 30 Exams = Medal, Certificate and Special Gift
 - FEBVS Diamond Examiner – 40 Exams = Medal, Certificate and Special Gift

4. Finances

Efthymios Avgerinos

- Balance 31.12.2024 = 14.927,17€ and 2024/2023 = - 31.574,17€
- Accounts of the year 2024 were approved.
- Currently balance in our bank account (17.05.2025) = 5.079,99 €
- UEMS Brussels have a huge number of pending payments to our Section
- One of the main charges we have from Brussels is the year bond that is collected based on the income (and the major source of income is the FEBVS). It's not correct that Brussels removes money from our account based on the income and not in the balance.
- If we don't have the charges of UEMS Brussels, we would reach the breakeven every year.
- Treasurer in direct contact with the UEMS Finances to clarify all amounts they own us.

5. CME Activities

Mike Wyatt

- Remind of the New Members 2025 of SBVS CME Committee:
 - Mike Wyatt (UK) – Chairman
 - Efthymios Avgerinos (Greece)
 - Patricija Ivanova (Latvia)
 - Remain also - Armando Mansilha (Portugal) and Gábor Menyhei (Hungary)
- Delegates were encouraged to promote the Accreditation of Events. It would be good to have more events that mainly from ESVS.
- Was discussed the fact that purely national events cannot be accredited by EACCME. Main point is the language, not being English, but this would be useful and a good standard to have credits on national events too. Mike Wyatt is happy to open this issue with Brussels and propose this validation.
- Applications in 2024 = 32 (42 last year)
 - 1 was rejected
 - 15 were from ESVS
 - total of 397,5 CME Credits given
- Remind the times for Application:
 - 6 weeks for a complete and paid application
 - 5 weeks (with late fees) for a complete and paid application
 - 5 weeks for trusted providers



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- 4 weeks (with late fees) for trusted providers
- This is a real challenge in the processes, but it is a necessary step to remain competitive and in line with needs of providers.

6. FEBVS Examinations

Mauro Gargiulo, David McLain, Armando Mansilha

- David McLain presented the results of the FEBVS Maastricht 2025:
 - March - continuing the link with EVC
 - 27 candidates
 - 3 groups
 - 2 functioning STRESS machines
 - High scoring exam: Gold medal for 194,4 (max 208) and 7 Honours (90%+)
 - 3 Fails = 11%
 - Academic Viva - 0 fails
 - Open Technical - 2 fails
 - Endovascular – 1 fail
 - Next Examinations:
 - 21st May – Porto Vascular Conference
 - 23rd September – ESVS Annual Meeting in Istanbul

7. National Societies Presentations

National Delegates

- New point for the next Council Meetings.
- Were done 3 presentations – Greece, Portugal and UK.

Greece

Efthymios Avgerinos and Athanasios Giannoukas

- Vascular Surgery Curriculum in Greece – 2 years GS, 3 months Cardiac, 3 months Thoracic, 6 months ultrasound and 4 years Vascular Surgery
- Exit Vascular Exam (since September 2024) – 2 Examinations Centres (northern and southern Greece) – 100 MCQs and interview/case discussions with 3 Examiners
- FEBVS promotion in Greece:
 - it was asked to SBVS write a letter promoting the FEBVS to the National Regulatory Political and Scientific Authorities.
 - FEBVS is supported by the Hellenic Union as a desired qualification for practice
 - E-mail reminder/promotion 3 times a year (one in each occasion)
 - Text reminders (in Viber group)
 - Annual call/reminder for Examiners



- Proposal for consideration: a preparatory FEBVS Course organized in Greece during one of the major Vascular Meetings – LIVE Symposium or Annual Meeting – aiming to promote FEBVS in southeastern Europe and facilitate colleagues from this region to participate.
- No financial support is provided to the Examiners and candidates so far but is planned to cover the registration for 3 Candidates a year.
- EACCME promotion in Greece:
 - All Greek Vascular Seminars/Conferences are seeking EACCME
 - Some of these are cleared by the Panhellenic Medical Society as European CME Credits (ECMEC)
- Armando Mansilha confirmed that we can write the letter as requested for National Regulatory Political and Scientific Authorities. Regarding the preparatory courses, our Section cannot allow to avoid any conflict of interest. We are not against, but we cannot support.

Portugal

Frederico Gonçalves e Daniel Brandão

- The exit Exam of Vascular Surgery in Portugal:
 - 6 year training program = 1 year General Surgery, 2 month Intensive Care, 2-month Cardiothoracic Surgery, 3 months optional rotation (Plastic, Orthopaedic, other Vascular). 6 Full training centres + 3 partial training centres. Continued evaluation and annual exams with quantitative evaluation.
 - Admission: proof of complete training (includes continued evaluation) and Curriculum Vitae (60 pages, including procedure logbook following UEMS guidelines)
 - Oral Exam with 3 components: discussion of CV (1 hour) + Viva with case discussion (1 hour) + Theoretical viva (1 hour). 3 Examiners (2 fixed, 1 tutor), detailed evaluation grid for scoring.
 - Final score = $a+b+c/3$ | *a = 40% continued evaluation + 60% discussion of the CV score
- What is SPACV doing to promote the UEMS SBVS:
 - Applications for EACCME (including annual meeting)
 - Promotion of FEBVS via newsletters and social media with announcements and results of Portuguese members
 - Support to Candidates and Examiners – full financial support for the registration of Candidates members of SPACV and travel grant to Examiners (up to 500€).
- What is expected from SBVS and what we can do for SPACV
 - Potentiate the development of uniform criteria for reference centres across Europe in specific diseases (for instance AAA, Diabetic Foot, Complex Aortic Disease, Vascular Anomalies, ...)
- Armando Mansilha thanked SPACV for the support given and for the suggestion of Accredited Centres which is aligned with SBVS goals.

United Kingdom

Mike Wyatt and Michael Jenkins

- The Vascular Society has a very active Board which allows immediate actions. Ian Chetter is the President and Marcus Brooks is the Vice-President elected and Honorary Secretary.
- Regulations:
 - Recognised medical qualification (GMC/MCI)



- Qualified 6 years
- Evidence of clinical competence – defined in Intercollegiate Surgical Curriculum – for the award of CCT/CCST
- Three structured references
- 7 years to complete examination process
- Intercollegiate Specialty Examination in Vascular Surgery
 - Section 1 is a written test composed of two single best answer papers
 - Section 2 – Clinical Examination
 - Long Cases (x1 40 minutes clinical during which 2 volunteers will be seen)
 - Short Cases (x1 40 minutes during which 4 clinical scenarios will be discussed)
 - Oral Examinations (4 x 30 minutes) – case-based discussions on Aneurysms & Lower Limb, Endovascular & Miscellaneous, Emergency Vascular Surgery, Elective Vascular Surgery
- Promotion of UEMS SBVS
 - FEBVS not compulsory in UK
 - Reduced number of UK Examiners as previous requirements stipulated FEBVS to apply
 - FEBVS requirement or 10 years Consultant now for UK
 - E-mail sent to all members encouraging application to examine.
 - CME – CPD in UK applications to Royal Colleges
- Expectations from UEMS SBVS
 - Recruit new UK Examiners
 - Encourage attendance at ESVS/FEBVS events
 - Recommend that UK trainees also sit the FEBVS
 - Maintain strong links between SBVS and VSGBI

8. Executive Positions

Armando Mansilha

- ✓ In the next Council Meeting, September, we should elect the new President.
- ✓ Candidacies are open until end of August.

9. AOB

Armando Mansilha

- ✓ Next Council Meeting – 24th September, in Istanbul.