



## Nordic Neuromodulation Society (NNS)

*Nordic Neuromodulation Society's 2nd Annual Meeting and General Assembly*

*10<sup>th</sup> June 2015, Fairmont QE Hotel, Montreal, Canada*

### 1) **Webpage**

The NNS webpage is now running and fully functional. It can be found at

<http://nordicneuro.org>

Members are encouraged to supply useful links to the Links section at

<http://nordicneuro.org/resources/links.html>

and useful documents for the Documents section at

<http://nordicneuro.org/resources/documents.html>

The ambition is to make the homepage *the* place to find useful information for people working with neuromodulation in the Nordic region.

Please do contribute with your resources by sending links and documents (.pdf only) to

[neuro@kaare.org](mailto:neuro@kaare.org)

### 2) **Forums**

The NNS has a full set of functioning forums that can be found at

<http://nordicneuro.org/forum/index.php>

...the problem is that if they are to make any sense, members need to start using them, which is not the case presently.

#### a) *Forum usage*

The meeting participants found the forums a good idea and pledged to start using them.

#### b) *Forum registration*

The two important facts of registration was repeated:

- I need to approve each registration manually, which may mean a short delay.
- Due to massive spambot attempts, members should register with the *full name* (as in eg. "Kaare Meier") so I can easily tell them apart from the robot names.

c) *Forums mechanism of action*

It turned out that many members are not so familiar with forums. I presented a short crash course on the use that received positive feedback.

The entire presentation can be found at

<http://nordicneuro.org/documents/nns/Forum%20introduction.pdf>

d) *Nurses' forum*

The Nurse forum is moderated by Eva Leljevahl (SE). She will work to propagate the use of the forum as a tool to promote nurse collaboration and exchange of experience across the region.

Thank you, Eva!

The forum can be found at

<http://nordicneuro.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=3>

e) *Scientific forums*

Per Almqvist (SE) has kindly agreed to handle the scientific part of the forums. A warm thank you to Per!

The Scientific forums are

- Case Reports
- Scientific Collaboration
- Essential Reads
- Publishing Central

### 3) **The purpose of the NNS**

I have been trying to figure out what you, the NNS members, want from your organization. The annual meetings remain a well-attended event but it is my personal belief that the organization holds much more potential than that.

a) I contacted the president of 3 other major chapters to ask about their experiences. They unanimously reported that they found it very difficult to keep members involved (and even to keep members from leaving the INS).

b) One chapter president, Michel Prud'Homme, kindly agreed to come to the meeting to give a very interesting talk about the experiences of the Canadian Neuromodulation Society and the challenges they face.

c) Meeting participant expressed great interest in the communication tools provided by the forums. The potential is great, provided they are used.

An updated list of forums are attached here

MEMBER FORUMS (CLOSED AREA)		TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
	<b>Ask your peers</b> Have a tricky case or another situation where you'd like to get advice or suggestions from your Nordic colleagues? This is where you can ask them! Moderators: Kari Sulkko, peralm, hanseric, AWahlstedt, Kliment Gatzinsky	2	5	<b>Re: Cluster Headache, SPG sti...</b> by hanseric  Tue Mar 17, 2015 12:13 pm
	<b>Nurses' forum</b> A forum for nurses working in neuromodulation Moderator: eva_lejjevahl	2	2	<b>Welcome to our own forum!!</b> by eva_lejjevahl  Mon Mar 16, 2015 8:19 pm
	<b>Case reports</b> A place to report interesting, remarkable, or educative cases. Moderator: peralm	1	1	<b>Sticky: Welcome to the Case R...</b> by Kaare Meier  Sun Nov 30, 2014 10:44 am
	<b>Events calendar and Exchange Program</b> What's going on of relevance to our members (meetings, courses, symposia, etc.)? Look at the Sticky thread to see upcoming events and post your own suggestions! Moderator: Frederiksen	3	3	<b>Sticky: Event Calendar</b> by Frederiksen  Tue Jan 06, 2015 12:40 pm
	<b>Scientific collaboration and scientific options</b> A place for announcements, suggestions, and discussions on scientific projects in the Nordic region. Also hosting the list of relevant scientific expertise and equipment available in the Nordic region. Moderators: peralm, Anne-Li Lind	0	0	No posts
	<b>Essential reads</b> Is there a paper you think everyone must read? Post description and link here - and check the Sticky thread for our Science Editor's picks! Moderators: peralm, Bengt Linderth	1	1	<b>Sticky: Welcome to the Essent...</b> by Kaare Meier  Wed Nov 19, 2014 8:08 pm
	<b>Publishing central / library (file host)</b> Do you have a document, image, etc. that is relevant for others? Share it here, but don't forget to think about future publishing rights... Moderators: peralm, Bengt Linderth	0	0	No posts
	<b>Nordic Neuromodulation Society</b> Anything about your organization. Suggestions, discussions, criticism, you name it. Bring it on! Moderator: Kaare Meier	1	7	<b>Re: Vote: NNS logo contest!</b> by Kaare Meier  Mon Dec 22, 2014 10:56 am
	<b>Nordic Neuromodulation Society meetings</b> Anything about past or future meetings in the NNS. News, suggestions from members, etc. Moderator: Kaare Meier	1	2	<b>Re: Sticky: NNS annual meetin...</b> by Kaare Meier  Sun Apr 05, 2015 7:35 pm
	<b>Nordic Neuromodulation Society board, forums &amp; web page</b> Give your feedback about the board/forums and the web page. Anything you like, need, or would like to suggest? Moderator: Kaare Meier	1	2	<b>Re: Adding links to the homep...</b> by Kaare Meier  Tue Jan 06, 2015 3:10 pm
	<b>Test (Member forums)</b> A place for testing out forum functions (= the sandbox...). Do not make important posts here.	0	0	No posts

#### 4) NNS finances (Kari Sulkko, FI)

The NNS is in a surprisingly good financial state after the inaugural meeting. Despite being attended by over twice as many participants as budgeted, the NNS was able to net a surplus of about €2.000.

This was made possible thanks to the excellent collaboration with the industry sponsors, and we thank them for their help.

The running costs of the NNS is currently €50 per year. It covers the hosting of the webpage and the forum; since I made both using free tools, the only cost is the host.

#### 5) 2016 meeting (Anders Wählstedt)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual NNS meeting will be held in early September 2016 in Uppsala, Sweden.

##### a) Economy

The concept from the 2014 meeting will be kept: Keeping costs down by using public facilities instead of expensive congress centers, and relying primarily on Nordic speakers

Furthermore we will maintain a low participation fee and ask industry sponsors to pay a flat rate per day for a booth in the meeting area.

This approach was applauded by both potential participants and industry representatives.

##### b) Schedule

Meeting welcome reception and dinner will be Thursday evening, followed by full meeting program Friday.

Saturday will be a half-day program followed by lunch for those interested – in essence the same schedule as the 2014 meeting.

c) *Public Event*

It was agreed that the NNS would make a public awareness event immediately prior to the 2016 meeting, inspired by the one held before this year's INS meeting. The event will take place Thursday afternoon.

6) **Other items**

a) *Membership fees*

Members would generally appreciate a lower membership fee from the INS in exchange for electronic journal subscription only.

This was debated at the INS board meeting Thursday evening and will depend on negotiations with the new publishing contract for the journal.

Additionally, members found it acceptable to be billed automatically with credit card, if such a solution existed.

b) *Exchange visits*

Members were much in favor of organizing exchange visits, both scientific exchanges and particularly clinical exchanges like hospital visits etc.

Mads Frederiksen (DK), who manages the Calendar Forum, agreed to manage this. Thank you, Mads! See the relevant forum at

<http://nordicneuro.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=11>

for details.

c) *Nordic / German joint meeting*

German neuromodulation president Jan Vesper suggested a Nordic / German joint meeting in late 2016. This suggestion was favorably received by the meeting participants, and I have informed Jan of this.

d) *Information level*

The meeting participants were satisfied with the current level of information from the NNS.

e) *Membership status*

The NNS currently has 43 paying members, placing us as a medium-sized chapter. Table provided as illustration.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
1	<b>Membership by Chapter</b>													
2	Chapter	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	jun-15	Montreal Congress Registrants	Total Members
3	Total	617	599	1098	1205	1229	0	0	0	0	0	42156	0	0
4	North America	338	297	604	624	538	708	712	914	1013	957	988	60	1048
5	Germany	47	48	67	70	76	63	72	74	96	100	91	6	97
6	UK & Ireland	55	56	64	64	71	75	100	66	97	72	75	5	80
7	Japan	21	39	44	48	54	62	62	61	65	61	64	5	69
8	Italy	41	40	40	22	22	30	90	80	67	47	51	17	68
9	INS (Non-Chapter Members)	35	29	93	71	75	25	105	38	108	34	31	25	56
10	Benelux	55	43	57	58	86	41	106	43	62	40	42	13	55
11	Canada	4	4	17	38	64	28	36	36	32	38	30	13	43
12	<b>NORDIC</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>43</b>
13	Australia/New Zealand	23	24	21	27	34	26	29	17	26	21	30	2	32
14	Brazil	1	2	20	21	23	23	32	11	36	11	19	13	32
15	China	0	0	0	0	25	34	10	23	30	29	30	2	32
16	Korea	0	0	0	56	38	0	1	26	22	14	23	5	28
17	Switzerland	0	0	0	0	0	22	49	20	28	12	21	5	26
18	South Africa	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0	24
19	Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	19	4	23
20	Spain	3	3	37	23	37	13	25	9	50	12	10	12	22
21	Argentina	0	0	0	0	0	23	34	29	30	12	15	1	16

f) *INS Board Meeting*

The meeting participants did not have any particular issues they wanted to have discussed at the INS Board Meeting.



Kaare Meier, NNS Chairman

Aarhus, Denmark

1<sup>st</sup> July 2015