

EUNOS Research Committee Report, June 2015 – Sept. 2017

For the EUNOS Council

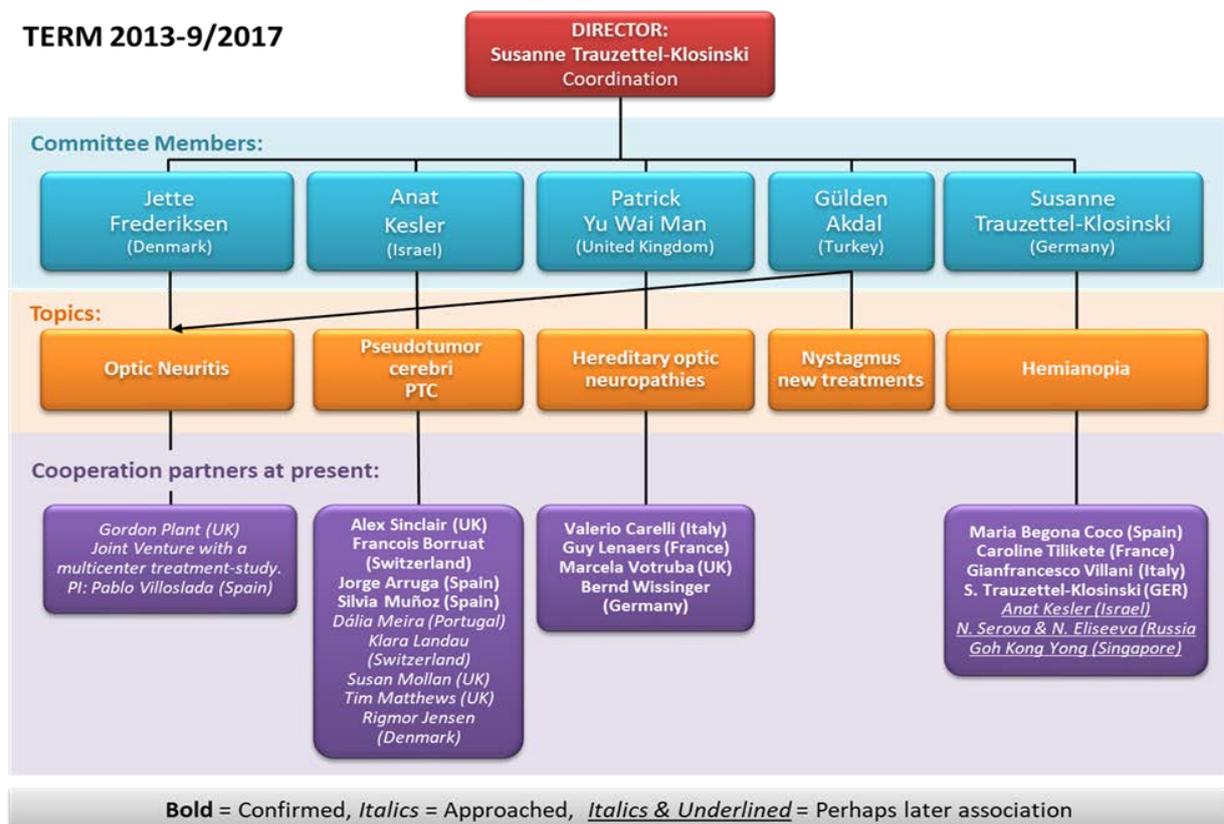
Members of the committee:

Gülden Akdal, Jette Frederiksen, Anat Kesler (AK), Susanne Trauzettel-Klosinski (STK), Patrick Yu-Wai-Man (PYWM)

Achieved Goals

Starting in June 2013 we gave the committee a new structure with five committee members, each of whom being responsible for a specific topic. This was continued during the period 2015-2017.

The following graph shows the members, networks and current activities of the Research Committee at the beginning of the current period (June 2015).



For colleagues interested in cooperating in one of the projects, please contact: susanne.trauzettel-klosinski@uni-tuebingen.de

June 11th, 2015

Meetings

The EUNOS Research Committee met twice in between the EUNOS main meetings: Baltimore April 2017 (during the NANOS meeting) and London May 2017 – combined with a joint meeting with board members of the European Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation (ESLRR). In her functions as Research Director of EUNOS and Vice President of ESLRR, STK had organized this joint meeting in order to build new networks between the two societies. We developed a lot of ideas for future cooperations (see minutes of the meeting).

Additionally, PYWM participated in a collaborative Meeting of the United Mitochondrial Disease Foundation (UMDF) in Washington (17-20 June, 2015). We provided a summary of the minutes of the EUNOS Research Committee meetings, which showed all the activities. For the Budapest Meeting, the first Research Symposium by EUNOS Research Committee has been organized by JF.

When we look at the mission statement of 2015, we can state that we achieved the goals:

MISSION STATEMENT 2015

- To establish networks between clinical and basic science research groups - **done**
- To promote cross-border European collaborations - **done**
- To enhance recruitment of patients with both rare and common disease - **done**
- To plan and perform multicenter clinical trials - **started**
- To strengthen European Neuro-Ophth. Research - **ongoing**
- To improve funding for research networks - **started**
- To make EUNOS a major international platform for international collaborative research - **ongoing**

At the end of the two year period we can state that we now have a well-established Research Committee with five different sub-groups dedicated to a specific topic. For each of the topics cooperation partners have been recruited and intensive networks between these colleagues have been developed. Several grant applications were submitted and, independently of the funding, the cooperation partners already exchanged data and knowledge.

Future Plannings

During the London meeting we updated the structure of the Committee in order to broaden the remit of the individual themes to allow more research projects to be developed over the next EUNOS research cycle:

- Optic Neuritis and Imaging
- Acquired Optic Neuropathies – including PTC, excluding ON
- Genetic Eye Diseases
- Eye Movements and Strabismus – including pediatrics
- Visual Rehabilitation and Psychophysics

Additionally, we plan a rotation of some of the members and the function of advisory members, which will be discussed at the Budapest Meeting. STK will leave this committee after 4 years and as Research Director after 6 years. She would continue to support the Research Committee as advisory member in the future, if this function will be established.

EUNOS Research Committee Funds

From 6/2015-9/ 2017 we spent 3122. 69 € for two meetings (Washington, London). The detailed list of expenses is shown in the attachment. The remaining money is 1938.95 €. This will be needed for further EUNOS Research Committee meetings.

Altogether, the EUNOS Research Committee had a successful, fruitful cooperation and a lot of future activities have been initiated. I thank all members and cooperation partners.

Tübingen, September 6th, 2017

Susanne Trauzettel-Klosinski
Director of the EUNOS Research Committee