

MINUTES | ESSTS 23rd Board meeting, 10.11.25

Controversy session

- Participant candidate to replace Erica: Elia Abi-Joude. (Waive registration fees)
- Update 11.11: Nanette reached out → green light!

OCD symposium:

- Osman as back-up for 3rd slot
- He will focus on "clinical aspects"
- We offer waived registration.
- Inform Odile & Philippe that a 3rd speaker will be covering the clinical aspects.
- Consider Barbara Coffey as session chair.
- Decide later whether the OCD session gets a 15' extension.

TS-school

- NO online version in February
- Only hold 1 single TS-School in 2026, hybrid format.

ENIGMA-TS

- Ask Perry about future ENIGMA participation and discuss the possibility of her arranging funding/support of session logistics.

Reviewing committee

- Define selection criteria
- Post a "expression of interest" on the website and share the above criteria.

- Offer small gifts to reviewers at the end of the conference.
- Include a thank you slide in the abstract book and at the closing ceremony.
- Nanette to contact candidate reviewers. (Done. 11.11.25)

Sponsors

- Keep current sponsorship levels - no increase
- Diamond: € 30K, single slot available
- Contact Emalex to arrange 2nd meeting. (after Don's podcast has aired)
- Discuss the possibility of travel grants - an idea they initiated -. (in addition to MRTG)

Conference 2027

- Tammy is willing to assist Sara Sopena with some of the preparatory/scouting logistics
- (Sara was unaware that Vigo is the only "viable" candidacy)
- Contact Zsanett (and perhaps Peter Nagy) to enquire about interest in Budapest as host city.
- Contact Renata: same as above for Catania. (Both already contacted by Nanette 11-11-25)

→ Update 12.11: positive 1st reply from Zsanett, needs extra days to check with local colleagues etc.

Elections 2026

- Expressed interest (directly, or following encouragement-invitation by the board) / current state of affairs:
 - Elia → possibly for Chair (1st term)
 - Osman → Vice Chair (1st term)
 - Laavanya → Secretary or Treasurer (1st term)
 - Jolande → no definitive answer yet (1st term)
- Interest expressed by current board members:
 - Natalia → Chair (3rd term)
 - Christelle → Secretary -preferably- or Treasurer (2nd term)
- Everybody agrees that it's crucial to run candidacy and election periods with transparency and impartiality.
- The board cannot guarantee to any colleagues that were encouraged to run, that they will get elected.
- Elections are open to everyone (of pertinent scientific/clinical background) and interested parties can apply for the position they want.
- Candidates have the right to withdraw their candidacy, before the definitive list is communicated to ESSTS members.
- Candidacy submissions open within November 2025 and portal remains online until end of April - beginning of May.
- Anna will send a draft text (introduction, desired candidate profile, expected duties, etc) to the board

22nd Board meeting | Wednesday, 8 October 2025

- JF McGuire: definitive answer regarding availability in the next few days. (Possible family commitments/travel.)
- Yulia, OK from Board for "combo" format: if unavailable to travel due to her exam dates, she will deliver the talk virtually AND send a student/researcher/collaborator to co-present in person. Nanette will follow up.
- Erica: she should have updates within the next few weeks regarding availability (controversy session). Tammy to check in with her soon.
- Keynote plan B: If JFM unavailable, reach out to Barbara Coffey. Enquire about topic (overview-the last decades?) Kirsten will reach out.
- Philippe Domenech: he has confirmed availability (OCD symposium)
- Christelle to dig & scout for a 3rd speaker for the TS-pathophysiology session.
- Online meeting with LJ2026 hosts (Friday, 10th October) Topics to discuss: Are they considering a symposium/similar concept? (to organise it themselves) Do they have any sponsors in mind?
TS school: get them involved/ask for suggestions to promote locally (Hybrid format?)
- Meeting with Emalex on 15th September (Nanette & Anna): they would like to be considered for custom –higher– but unique (1 slot) sponsorship level, i.e. Diamond.
- Offer them as one of the Diamond-level privileges, a slot during breakfast/lunch/early evening cocktail (Thu) talk/discussion on Ecopipam.
- Podcast: Christelle will reach out to Don Gilbert (also George Karkanias?) regarding information that can be "openly" discussed on Ecopipam (from a legal & published-data perspective).
- Conference 2027: Spain (Vigo)? Let's wait for Sara Sopena (she reached out to ESSTS during the summer) to provide some "ground" information.
- Board elections: Nanette will reach out to Elia and Jolande. Christelle will ask Tammy whether Osman would be interested.
- Board elections: candidates can run for more than one positions.
- Possible to extend General Assembly duration (>30')
- Open call to join scientific/abstract-reviewing committee: at least 3 people necessary. Include call in upcoming newsletter
- Paper on neurodiversity: Kirsten will email Natalia to enquire about current state/updates.

Minutes ESSTS 21st meeting 08/09/25

Programme

- Let's add a pre meeting for people in ESSTS and MDS? via Zoom?
- J Leclerc: she can submit an abstract and/or outline her workshop suggestion but not run a training event with no evidence/data available currently.
- Difficult to run a separate BT beginner and **very** beginners' workshop; let's not do the very beginners session.
- TTAG will come back to us to tell us the day and the time slot they favour, including if they have selected a speaker for their meeting.
- OCD session: 2 or 3 presentations?
- Keynote talk still pending; reach out to Joseph McGuire?
- Posters: only poster rounds, not onstage presentations. 4 min/poster and run parallel sessions

Let's ask one of the OCD session speakers for TS school.

Let's meet soon to discuss board elections, and let's keep in touch!

Minutes 20th ESSTS Board meeting

- **Evaluation forms: “negative” feedback**

- 1 comment on missing the debate /controversy.
- 1 comment mentioning “Fragmented programme”.
- Not enough time to discuss the clinical cases.
- It would have been good to have plain coffee breaks without integrate sessions, such as posters.

Anna’s tasks

- We need to hire a person (paid help), with pre-defined tasks.
- Anna is preparing a guide/manual with all the tasks/job roles that are required a) to run the Society on a yearly basis and b) conference specific.
- We should aim for a contract for 4-5 months. Anna is looking for someone in Greece.
- Consequently, we need to secure adequate funds for that.
- We could initiate contact and discuss with Emalex now; offering the possibility of a symposium (during a breakfast or a lunch?)
- > (Nanette will send an email, following up on Anna’s “thank you” note to sponsors).

Topics

- JF Guire: for TTAG as well as for one or our sessions.
 - OCD session:
 - Why not Dr Odile Van Den Heuvel; Erica? 1 psychotherapist from her team? (Kirsten’s idea)
 - Iron and Tourette (Kirsten’s colleague): let’s check the literature.
- There’s a paper written by Chinese authors: we could have a zoom with them first and see if we can invite them (PMID: 39895224), **Christelle emails them.**
- Histamine (Christopher Pittenger): only if something is new? Maybe not.
 - Animal models (Marco Bortolato).
 - Controversy about complementary medicine: Tamara, and someone from China? Or just making the complementary medicine a topic by itself. Controversy about tics versus FTLBs (Erica? management of FND in children vs adults, or just about diagnosing functional tics).
 - Julie Leclerc has suggested another BT workshop session.
- > **let’s do a preliminary programme (Nanette and Christelle).**

- TTAG meeting: meeting at the beginning of September.

Let’s meet at the end of August.

Minutes 19th ESSTS board meeting

- Teachers' event was a success

We can advertise it in Slovenia, but someone will have to undertake local promotion.

- TS school: it went very well, although there were not a lot of participants... next time we should cancel it if there are < 10 participants.

The ADHD presentation by Sarah was really good: we can invite her for next year or do it ourselves if she is not available.

- BT sessions: positive feedback received. GREEN LIGHT: We can pay for 5 trainers next year (because they are doing the BT consultations for ESSTS), but not for additional guest trainers. Let's see what they want and then we can decide.
- TTAG meeting: empty room (due to parallel sessions???).
 - Their session should **not** be incorporated into the official scientific programme. TTAG would like us to invite J McGuire... He could be a keynote speaker for ESSTS.
 - TTAG pay for their registration but don't participate into the conference budget.
- ENIGMA: should we ask Perry to present her data next year again? IF there is new data. We could facilitate an ENIGMA meeting **before** the conference.
- Opening ceremony: good talk. Good to have questions afterwards.
- ADHD session
 - Great talk by Paul Gringras
 - Kerstin: nice overview but not "new" insights
 - We like the format with discussions at the end
- Open poster rounds: nice format of parallel presentations, **but not sure** if compatible with room setting in Ljubljana
 - "Best of" voting **only** for onstage presentations
- General assembly: nothing to say
- Clinical rounds: too many cases, not enough time for discussion. Nicely organized. We will **not** accept any cases **without** videos in the future. Session of 2h vs current 1,5, might be too long.
- TS-Underrepresented zones
 - John Vijay missed the point.
 - Let's pause this session.
 - We should only invite people who we know.

- Oral presentations: went ok.
- Neurodiversity talk: we missed the point/topic...
We should have included scientific content or led more the discussion.
- TS-Pathology session
 - Christos: we should ask him about his receipt of refund, that we need that for our books. Naïve approach.
 - Great session, otherwise, both speakers – Juan Carlos & Din Gilbert– were amazing.
- Best papers by K Black: fine, we should invite him next year
- Social event was a success, especially with the DJ/music element
- Food/cateriing was a hit.
It was good to have enough food after the opening ceremony.
- Catering quotes will be higher in Slovenia: should we increase per €10/person for the first dinner?
- Hybrid format: people were happy.
We should do it again depending on how much help will be provided next year.
- It is reasonable to ask for presentations beforehand (a few days).
Signing a code of conduct seems too much.

We should think about ideas and speakers for next conference.