

**Minutes of the 28th General Assembly
LATIN AMERICAN THYROID SOCIETY (LATS)
Held during the XIII LATS Congress**

On May, 2nd, 2009, at 17h50, in the city of Gramado, Brazil (room Lupicínio Rodrigues, at Serrano Hotel), members of the Latin American Thyroid Society joined at the General Assembly, chaired by LATS president, Dr. Guillermo Juvenal, LATS President-Elect Dr. Hans Graf, LATS secretary Ana María Masini-Repiso and LATS Treasurer Dr. Eduardo Tomimori.

Dr. Ana María Masini-Repiso opened the Session and presented the points for discussion at the General Assembly (GA).

1. Welcome message – Dr. Guillermo Juvenal

Dr. Guillermo Juvenal welcomed all LATS members present at the Assembly and thanked the work done by the LATS Executive Committee, the LATS Scientific Committee and the XIII LATS Meeting Local Organizing Committee

2. Project of the creation of the World Thyroid Federation (WTF)

Dr. Hugo Niepomniszczce presented the basis for the creation of the World Thyroid Federation (WTF), which were approved by the GA

3. Activities of the Program Organizing Committee (POC) for the 14th ITC, 11-16 September 2010, Paris, France

Dra. Denise Carvalho, one of the three members of the LATS POC for the 14th International Thyroid Congress (ITC), commented about the POC activities and the 14th ITC which will be held in September, 11th – 16th at Paris. The ITC programmed 32 Symposia, 32 Oral Sessions (6 speakers in each session), 24 Poster Debate Sessions (144 posters, each Session with the presentation of 6 posters) and 24 Meet the Expert Sessions. POC and Local Organizing Committee members can be just Session chairs. Speakers invited for the Satellite Symposia should make their registration for the ITC. There will be a second Meeting of the POC in Paris in 2009 to discuss about the international speakers at the 14th ITC.

4. Bylaws Changes Discussion - Dr. Hugo Niepomniszczce's proposal

Dr. Hugo's proposal of changing the by-laws regarding the composition of the Executive Committee, "No more than five members of each country can participate of the Executive Committee" was voted by the Assembly. The final score was 41 in favor against 40 not in favor. As any change in LATS by-laws must be approved by 2/3 of LATS members present at the Assembly, Hugo's proposition was rejected.

5. Bylaws Changes Discussion - Dr. Guillermo Juvenal's proposal

Dr. Guillermo Juvenal by-laws change proposal of "*Sec. 33. The LATS Prize - young investigator - will be awarded at each LATS Congress to 2 young members of the Society (less than 40 years of age) presenting an accepted paper at the Congress. The categories under which the prize will be given are: (1) clinical and (2) basic research. The young investigators must be the first author and must be present at the Congress.*" by: "Sec. 33. The LATS Prize - young investigator - will be awarded at each LATS Congress to 2 young members of the Society (less than 40 years of age)"

presenting an accepted paper at the Congress. The categories under which the prize will be given are: (1) clinical and (2) basic research. The young investigator must be the first author. The work must be presented by the candidate and have been performed entirely within Latin America. Investigators that have previously received the Prize are not eligible.”, was accepted by unanimity.

6. Bylaws Changes Discussion – Dr. Ana Luiza Maia’s proposal about the voting process regarding the LATS Direction:

IX - DIRECTION

Pre-Meeting Nominations

- (a) Three members of the Executive Committee will compose the “Electoral Committee”
- (b) Candidates for offices (President-elect, Secretary, Treasurer and Directors) shall submit the nominations by petition for elective office to the Electoral Committee at least *forty days* before the LATS Meeting. The President elect shall serve as vice-president and shall automatically become the president after two years following his or her election.
- (c) The Electoral Committee shall notify the membership of the proposed candidates for elective positions after receiving the nominating of at least two candidates for the offices of President-Elect, as well as candidates for any other offices and each director position available, at least *thirty days* before the LATS Meeting

Meeting Elections

- (d) From the first day of the Meeting until 12h00 of the day of the General Assembly, ballots will be provided just for active members on good standing with the Society. Ballots will be tabulated in advance of the business meeting by the Electoral Committee with the voting results announced at the General Assembly. LATS colleagues on good standing with LATS Society, can vote on-line for the candidates of elective positions just after receiving from the Electoral Committee the names of the proposed candidates.
- (e) The President, President-elect and Directors shall be elected for a two-year term.
- (f) The President and President-elect are not eligible for reelection. Directors are eligible for a more two-year term.
- (g) The Secretary should be elected for four years and is not eligible for reelection.
- (h) The Treasurer should be elected for four years and is not eligible for reelection.
- (i) Election to office shall require a plurality vote of the active members voting.

Dr. Ana Luiza Maia’s by-laws change proposal was accepted by unanimity.

7. Bylaws Changes Discussion - Dr. Eduardo Tomimori’s proposal

The Assembly voted that Dr. Eduardo Tomimori’s proposition “LATS active colleagues who have contributed for LATS Society during ten years or more and who are in good standing with the LATS Society, older than 70 years, are not obligated to pay LATS annual fees” should include the creation of a new LATS member category and should be presented in advance for the next LATS Assembly.

8. Specific points of LATS Task force activities - Dr. Laura Ward's proposal

The Assembly voted that Dr. Laura Ward's proposition to change in a regular manner the names of the Special LATS Committees should be presented in advance for the next LATS Meeting.

9. New LATS members' approval 2007 – 2009

All new members of LATS (Active and Associate) since May 2007 were approved by the Assembly by unanimity

10. LATS Finance Balance 2007 – 2009 - Dr. Eduardo Tomimori

LATS Finance Balance was approved without objection by the GA.

11. Election of LATS President, 2009 – 2011

The LATS President-Elect, Dr. Hans Graf was conducted to the position of LATS President, with approval of the LATS GA

12. Election of LATS President-Elect, 2009 – 2011

Dr. Hans Graf suggested the name of Dr. Marcos Abalovich, from Buenos Aires as LATS President-Elect for 2009-2011. Dr. Marcos Abalovich's name was approved by unanimity by the LATS GA.

13. Election of LATS Executive Committee 2009 – 2011

The following LATS members were approved by the General Assembly to be part of LATS Executive Committee 2009-2011

1. Claudia Pellizas - Córdoba, Argentina
2. Egberto Moura - Rio de Janeiro - Brasil
3. Erivelto Volpi - São Paulo - Brasil
4. Janete Cerutti - São Paulo - Brasil
5. Laura Ward, Campinas, Brasil
6. Mario Vaisman - Rio de Janeiro, Brasil
7. Mirta Corino - Buenos Aires, Argentina
8. José Luiz Novelli, Rosario, Argentina
9. Sonia Iorcansky, Buenos Aires, Argentina

14. Presentation of cities/countries to host the XIV LATS meeting in 2011

Dr. Luis Mauricio Hurtado López, an active LATS member of Mexico, presented the city of Chihuahua, Mexico as the city to hold the 14th LATS Meeting. LATS Secretary Ana Maria Masini-Repiso asked Dr. Luis Mauricio to send in a more detailed manner, the facilities of Chihuahua as (a) flight possibilities, (b) hotel prices, (c) LOC names and other items to be analyzed by the Executive Committee. As our by-law dictates, the Executive Committee may change the city if it is necessary for any reason. The Local Organizing Committee has to be approved by the LATS Executive Council.

15. Preliminary report of the XIII LATS Congress: Dr. Ana Luiza Maia

Dr. Ana Luiza Maia presented the most actualized numbers of the XIII LATS Meeting. The total number of attendees at the Meeting was of 1415 colleagues and then expectation was that the XIII LATS Meeting would give an operating profit of about 120.000,00 USD.

16. Report of the Scientific Committee: Dr. Hans Graf

Dr. Hans Graf reported on the main scientific activities of the XIII LATS Meeting. There were 7 Conferences (including the LATS Winner Prize), 6 Oral Sessions (3 Basic and 3 Clinic), 13 Symposia (Basic and Clinic), 5 Meet the Expert (MTE) Sessions, and as an innovation, two different Scientific Activities were added: Thyroid Debate (4) and Thyroid Poster Debate (4). 30 Travel Grants are going to be distributed, 22 for Oral Session Authors and 8 for the best Thyroid Poster Debate presentations, and 2 authors (Basic and Clinic) will receive the Merck Young Prize Investigator (One Clinic and other Basic)

17. Other issues

Dr. Eduardo Pretell, of Peru, presented the more recent advances of the ICCIDD, which were approved by unanimity by the Assembly.

As nothing else was proposed for discussion, LATS President Dr. Guillermo Juvenal finished the General Assembly, which minutes are signed by LATS President and by LATS Secretary.

Guillermo Juvenal
LATS President

Ana Maria Masini-Repiso
LATS Secretary