

## **Nordic Residents in Urology (NRU)**

The Nordic Residents in Urology (NRU) is the official resident-group of NUF. The board consists of two representatives from Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland and an Icelandic representative elected from among the urologists-in-training. NRU aims to facilitate collaboration and networking between the Nordic residents. From the beginning, the NRU board committed to arranging biennial courses for Nordic urology residents and the residents day at the biennial conference of the Scandinavian Association of Urology.

The last 2 years have been busy and a time where old members have stepped down and new members have joined the board. After the biennial NUF congress in Malmö, 2015, Mikkel Fode (Denmark) decided to step down after serving as chairman from the time the NRU group was formed in 2012. Mikkel has served the NRU group well and has been a driving force in defining the work of the NRU. Other members that have stepped down include Teemu Murtola (Finland), Ylva Hüge and Hjalmar Svensson (Sweden). We thank them for their work and commitment to the NRU group.

Peter Østergren (Denmark) joined as a new member of the board and was elected new chairman during a board meeting in Copenhagen on March 2016. At this meeting we also had time to discuss the future of the NRU and new ventures we wanted to engage in. These include being a more active voice on Social Media (SoMe) on behalf of NUF and organizing structured short term exchange programs for Nordic residents to other departments in the Scandinavian countries. We aim at being able to offer such opportunities both in Denmark and Norway by the end of this year (2017). In time the goal is to have structured exchange programs to urology departments in all the Nordic countries so residents can come and observe/ be active participators at other Nordic departments.

In January 2017 we hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> course for Nordic Residents in Tampere, Finland. Teemu Murtola (Finland) was the local host. The title of the course was “360 degrees around prostate cancer” and was a 2 days symposium. The course was well attended with residents from all the Nordic countries and we also had the pleasure of hosting some of our Baltic colleagues. Overall, the sessions were interactive and we received great feedback from the participants.

Our next planned event is the *Resident's day* during the 31<sup>st</sup> biennial Conference of the NUF (<http://www.nuf2017.nu/content/scientific-program-doctors>). The scientific program will cover two topics: “Stem cells in Urology” and “The Upper Urinary Tract”. We are excited about the scientific program and proud to have both Nordic and International speakers for this session.

Other endeavors have been advocating SoMe to Nordic Urology. This remains an area that requires further work. However, SoMe plays an increasingly important role in both knowledge exchange and professional networking. Our first step has been changing our facebook group name from *Nordic Residents in Urology* to *Nordisk Urologisk Forening / Scandinavian Association of*

*Urology*. With 243 current members this is a great forum to make contact to colleagues from the other Nordic countries, debate current issues and advertise upcoming events. In this way, we hope that the learning and collaboration opportunities of Nordic residents and Nordic urologists will be further improved.

**Current NRU board members:**

Peter Østergren, Chairman (Denmark)

Pernille Skjold Kingo (Denmark)

Henriette Veiby Holm (Norway)

Carl Fredrik Knobloch (Norway)

Karl Erlingur Oddason (Iceland)

Ville Saari (Finland)

Jukka Kuokkanen (Finland)

Katarina Tomic (Sweden)

Maria Hermann (Sweden)

**Peter Østergren, Copenhagen 18.05.2017**