



**Society in Europe for Simulation  
Applied to Medicine**

## Newsletter Spring 2012

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**Promoting Simulation in Medical Education**

**Since 1994**



### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear SESAM-Members,

you are now reading the first issue of the Newsletter for 2012. I am very happy that we are able once again to produce a newsletter for all members. In recent years, Ramawad Soobrah (Ritish) edited several Newletters, providing important information on what was going on in our Society. Unfortunately Ritish has had to retire from his role as editor due to his workload. We owe Ritish many THANKS for all his great work. We were very happy when Heinz Bruppacher who has already been in the Newsletter-team volunteered to follow as editor and thank him for taking on the role! We have agreed to broaden the scope of this position to that of 'information management' and Heinz will now also deal with the daily flow of information through our website ([www.sesam-web.org](http://www.sesam-web.org)) and through facebook (SESAM - Society for Simulation Applied to Medicine).

Very soon we are to meet again for the Annual Meeting, the most important yearly event for SESAM. All preparations are following schedule, and last week, Mother Nature did a thorough wash of Stavanger. No details are left behind! This year, we have upgraded the website function and have introduced a new system for abstract administration, membership administration and conference registration. Despite some minor bug fixing that inevitably follows implementing a new system, we do now for the first time have our own well functioning system that is tailored our needs and is, we hope, a good investment for the future. It is great to see the enthusiasm shown in the number of submitted abstracts and

registered attendants! This year, 35 reviewers have read, rated, accepted and sent their feedback for 204 abstracts! A great thank-you to all authors and reviewers!

Prior to the conference this year, a group of international experts in the field of patient safety and simulation will meet in a consensus conference at Utstein Abbey to define the most important points where simulation can improve patient safety. As with previous Utstein meetings, the results from this meeting will form the basis for an international consensus statement on the current understanding of simulation in healthcare for improved patient safety and for that to inform future direction for this field. The output of this meeting will be presented at the opening of the conference so those of you who are attending will be the first to hear!

I really look forward to seeing you in Stavanger in short time!

Best wishes,

Helge, the President

## THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

### President

Name: **Helge Lorenzen**

Affiliation: SAFER, Stavanger, Norway.

Why I am engaged in SESAM? When entering SESAM the first time I met a lot of enthusiastic and clever colleagues, eager to share their knowledge and experience. SESAM was a platform offering the possibility to meet during the Annual Meeting and the SESAM supported meetings. Now I am happy to be in position to maintain and advance the society even further. In addition, this provides me the possibility to interact with even more of the great people who are the SESAM members.



## Vice-President



Name: **Nikki Maran**

Affiliation: Scottish Clinical Simulation Centre, Larbert, Scotland

Why I am engaged in SESAM? As one of the 'veterans' of simulation, I have witnessed a tremendous evolution in the science and application of simulation over the last 10 years. I think that SESAM offers us a great opportunity to share that knowledge with colleagues from differing disciplines, professions and cultures across Europe and further afield. I hope that we can work to establish common standards and goals in the years ahead.

## Past President

Name: **Peter Dieckmann**

Affiliation: Danish Institute for Medical Simulation (DIMS), Capital Region of Denmark, Copenhagen University Hospital in Herlev

Why I am engaged in SESAM? I believe that sharing ideas and collaborating on the matter of advancing simulation in health care is important to utilize its potentials for citizens to the full extend. I like that SESAM brings together such a variety of people and allows for an exchange across borders and disciplines. This community in my eyes is worth support and effort.



## Secretary



Name: **Ralf Krage**

Affiliation: VU University Medical Center, Dept. Anesthesiology, ADAM Simulation Center, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

Why I am engaged in SESAM? I believe that simulation is an extremely powerful educational tool that can and should change healthcare education substantially. SESAM is a society with very enthusiastic members that could play an important role on that mission. As the secretary of SESAM I will help this society to move forward in strengthening its position within healthcare becoming a leading, multidisciplinary and highly enjoyable network for healthcare professionals.

## Treasurer

Name: **Rainer Gaupp**

Affiliation: EduSim, Therwil, Switzerland

Why I am engaged in SESAM? For me, SESAM stands for an active network of simulation specialists with valuable networking and an open spirit for research and practice discussions. I believe that simulation in healthcare education can facilitate learning processes and helps to improve patient safety. I joined the EC because it allows me to be an active part in the growing community of simulation enthusiasts and gives me the chance to help promoting simulation.



## APPOINTED OFFICE BEARERS

## Administrator



Name: **Kristin Sólveig Kristjánsdóttir**

Affiliation: Medical student at the University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Denmark. Part-time employee at SESAM.

Why I am engaged in SESAM? I am fascinated by the impact simulation has on patient outcomes and its ability to promote interprofessional teamwork. As the junior on this team I have learned a lot and find the world of simulation increasingly appealing .

## Information Manager / Newsletter Editor

Name: **Heinz Bruppacher**

Affiliation: Department of Anaesthesia, Bürgerspital Solothurn, Switzerland and University of Basel, Switzerland

Why I am engaged in SESAM? Simulation is an effective educational tool for training procedural skills and for team training, ultimately improving patient care and safety. SESAM is an important networking platform for educators to promote the use of simulation - across Europe, and across professions and disciplines.





**NEWS FROM SESAM**

Over the past months, the new executive committee have been busily discussing and re-evaluating the path SESAM will be taking for the upcoming years. We asked you, our members about your opinion and we would like to thank all of you who sent us back your feedback! We have now made several changes in the management of the communication with the SESAM members. We have completely renewed our software to allow more efficient management of members' information and administration so the e-mail glitches of past years should now be consigned to history.

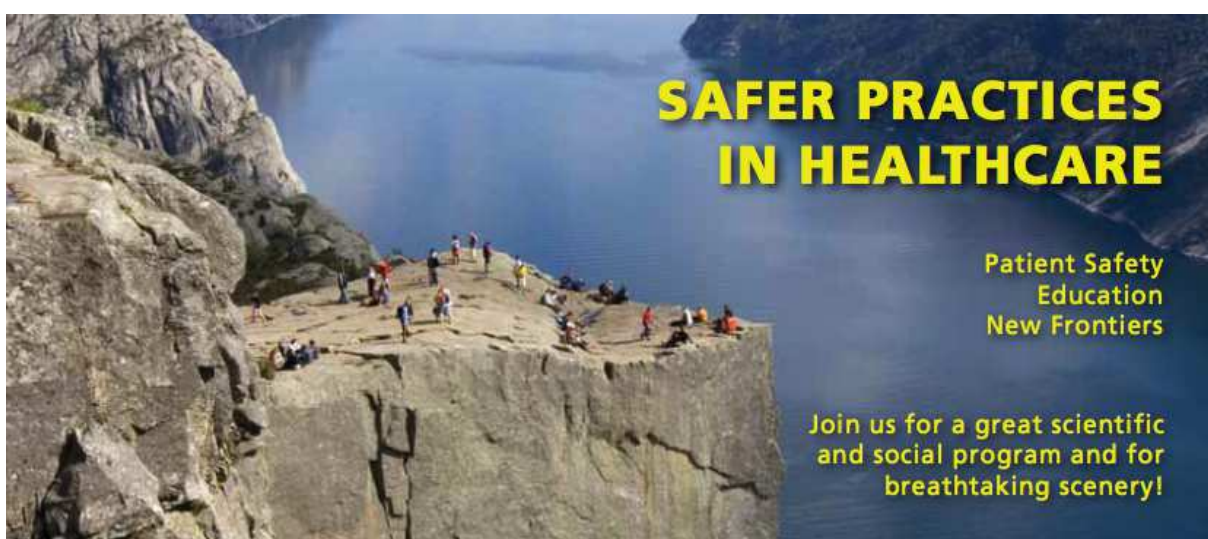
In updating our communication processes, we have decided to use new media including facebook, twitter, and LinkedIn. We are initially focusing our activity on facebook and would invite our members to join up and start discussions on our facebook page or just send us your opinion! The vast majority of members providing feedback in the survey seem to value the newsletter so we will continue to publish this with selected information about our society, news from other simulation and education societies, and news from international and national meetings. All of our members are warmly invited to send us reports from meetings and other simulation-related news.

*Heinz Bruppacher, the Newsletter Editor*

**SESAM ANNUAL MEETING 2012 IN STAVANGER, NORWAY**

We are very happy to present you the complete program for the SESAM2012 conference! Please follow this link to our website where you can download the complete program.

[http://sesam2012.net/wp-content/uploads/Conference-program-SESAM-2012\\_final.pdf](http://sesam2012.net/wp-content/uploads/Conference-program-SESAM-2012_final.pdf)



## REPORTS FROM PAST MEETINGS

### II Paediatric Simulation Days Hannover (Germany) 29.-31. Oct. 2011

#### REPORT

As presented during last years at SESAM- and IPSSW-Meetings (International Pediatric Simulation Symposia and Workshops) the EXPRESS-Study-group (**Ex**amining **P**ediatric **R**esuscitation **E**ducation using **S**imulation and **S**cripting) worked since 2007 on a new debriefing tool for the PALS-course (Pediatric Advanced Life Support) of AHA American Heart Association. During the same period video-based-introduction showing clinical cases for scenario-training has been implemented.

The aim of the meeting was to test the new setting the first time in Europe. Worldwide release of Provider- and Instructor materials was on 12th Oct. 2011. Following the IPSSW 2011 meeting at Toulouse/France on 26th and 27th of October 2011 a PALS- and a EPLS-course (European Paediatric Life Support) have been organized at Hannover/Hannover.

The instructors were from AHA and ERC European Resuscitation Council, coming from Spain, Germany, Netherlands, USA and Canada. Observers with TuePass-Certification were admitted. It was the worldwide first PALS-AHA-course after official release. The course was located in a Simulation Center with life-like indoor- and outdoor-scenarios. Gaumard Simulation manikins of baby and child with table-PC have been used. The instructors used the new course setting. The day after in another Simulation Center the European course has been experimentally modified on two practical scenario stations like the American course.

During both courses instructors of both continents created a joined faculty following the formal rules of both course systems.

The global number of both courses were 42 participants. Participants came from all areas, disciplines and professions of the field of paediatric emergency.

Strong points positively underlined by instructors and participants:

- lifelike environments enhanced perception of realism
- video-introduction with real clinical cases into scenarios drives the team faster into a scenario field more real
- video about bad and good setting of team performance had a strong impact leading faster to good team performance during course
- the structured 10-minutes debriefing tool is a step ahead compared with classical resuscitation courses and is bridging to more complex simulation training. The tool is easy to learn by experienced instructors.
- Cooperation between international instructors and of different teaching systems is enriching teaching experience. Convertibility of instructors between teaching systems should be more and more facilitated.

During following 6 months the new principles have been adopted in all Paediatric Life Support courses dealt in both Centers at Hannover reaching a high level of implementation involving always new faculty members. The results are enthusiastic instructors and participants.

*Further reading and information:*

[www.provinz.bz.it/se/PaedNotMed](http://www.provinz.bz.it/se/PaedNotMed)



Picture: PALS-AHA-COURSE in Johanniter Simulation Area



[www.mh-hannover.de/paedsim.html](http://www.mh-hannover.de/paedsim.html) – [www.provinz.bz.it/se/paednotmed](http://www.provinz.bz.it/se/paednotmed)

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## Report from the third SESAM supported Pre-Hospital working meeting

**Title:** “Pre-Hospital Simulators – get connected”

**Date:** March 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

**Host:** Swiss Institute of Emergency Medicine (SIRMED), Nottwil/Switzerland

**Attendees:** Kai Kranz (Switzerland), Robert Lichtveld (Netherlands), Sascha Langewand (Germany), Thomas Lynge Andersen (Denmark), Thomas Werner Lindner (Norway), Vitor Almeida (Portugal), Rainer Gaupp (Switzerland), Jonathan Smart (United Kingdom)



### The meeting

Under the umbrella of SESAM, a group of representatives from the field of pre-hospital emergency medicine from several European countries met at the beginning of March 2012 in Nottwil, Switzerland to discuss the idea of raising up a European network for pre-hospital simulation. During the one and half day meeting it became clear that all participants considered a network as highly useful and by the end of the meeting six strategic aims as well as a masterplan for the founding of a SESAM Pre-Hospital Special Interest Group (PH-SIG) have been developed. The masterplan includes a merger with a similar group which already met two times prior this meeting in the England to bundle the efforts.

### Agenda

The meeting started with a personal introduction of each attendee and a brief explanation of the national or regional EMS – system and the education of the EMS staff. The group considered this agenda item as very important and interesting because the different systems in Europe were not known very good among each other. The attendees ascertained similar problems at their systems, especially regarding the collaboration between the different stakeholders in pre-hospital emergency care.

After the introduction Jonathan Smart who was the representative from a similar group around Prof. Andy Newton reported from the activities of this group. They met two times prior to this meeting at the Headquarter of South East Cost Ambulance NHS in Banstead, UK. Jonathan explained





that the primary goal has been to collect content for the SESAM Annual Meeting in Stavanger. Furthermore they discussed a European pre-hospital network as well to help the group establish after SESAM and to help develop simulation expertise amongst European pre-hospital healthcare professionals. The group around Andy Newton signaled openness for a collaboration or a merger with this group.

Next the participants worked on a kind of SWOT analysis. On the basis of this results the following six results have been developed. These aims should route the activities and should give the PH-SIG its identity.

- Raise awareness of the need for simulation in pre-hospital care with the intention of improving patient care.
- Create and maintain an interprofessional forum dedicated to pre-hospital simulation.
- To facilitate research dedicated to the use of simulation in pre-hospital care.
- To help to ensure the promotion of quality assurance in the use of simulation for pre-hospital care.
- To be open to work in collaboration with third parties with the aim of improving technologies and techniques with simulation in pre-hospital care.
- To help to promote and support the highest levels of educational excellence for simulation in pre-hospital care.

All participants emphasized the necessity of an appropriate structure to keep the process going. However at this time the setup of a long-term governance structure would not make sense because the possible fusion with the “Newton group” is pending. At the end of the discussion the participants recommended the setup of a long-term governance structure when the fusion is executed. Until then two persons should temporarily be appointed as representatives. Therefore the group designated Kai Kranz as chair and Vitor Almeida as co-chair of the PH-SIG. Furthermore other persons made them available to get in charge with specific tasks.

Based on the explanation from Jonathan Smart the day before and the developed strategic aims, the group ascertained that the purpose of both group are much the same. Therefore all participants agreed for a combination of both groups to bundle the efforts. The designated chair of the PH-SIG received the order to contact Andy Newton.

At the end of the meeting the group set the cornerstones for the upcoming months to guide the further process. With the SESAM Annual Meeting and the fusion with the group around Andy Newton the two main activities have been prescribed.



- Presentation of the PH-SIG meeting at the SESAM general assembly held on Friday, June 15th 2012.
- Being present at the program slot “European pre-hospital network” on Saturday June 16th 2012 to make the idea of the PH-SIG more public.

#### Evaluation

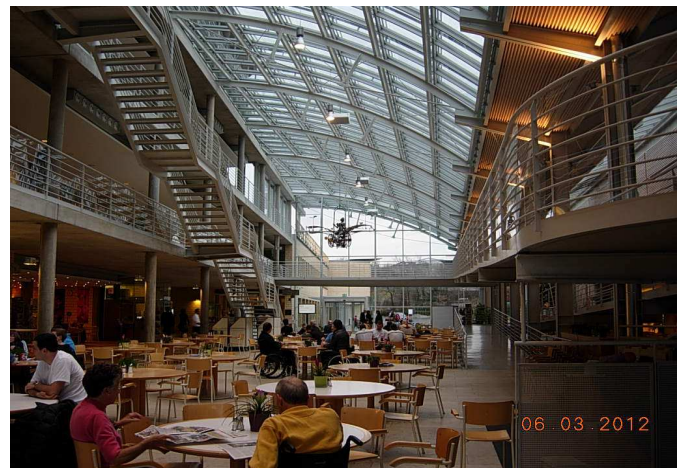
The meeting has been evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Aims and objectives achieved
- Operating process
- Meeting organization



The attendees expressed that their personally set aims and objectives have been achieved. Also those which have been set by the group at the beginning of the meeting. The operating process has been evaluated as very efficient because the group took some very important steps at the first meeting. Three points have been detected as the main reasons for this effectiveness.

- Everybody's belief in the idea of a PH-SIG.
- Everybody's readiness to make a contribution to gain a result.
- The methodologies to work on the agenda items used during the meeting (plenary session, working groups, models, brain storming, etc.).



The meeting organisation was evaluated by a post meeting online questioner. In summary all attendees expressed that the meeting met their expectations and they appraised that the meeting was well organised (agenda, venue, food, etc.).

Contact PH-SIG:

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## TOP-5 LITERATURE

CHECK IT OUT @ <http://www.sesam-web.org/literature-top-5s>

SESAM asked experts in the field of simulation in health care to make recommendations for "must read" articles, books, chapters, etc. You will see the Top 5 recommendations in different topic areas as well as the reasons for considering the work as relevant. For some topics more than one expert has provided recommendations and all recommendations are the responsibility of the authors alone. We would be really keen to hear what you think of this resource so please could we ask any of you who have used the lists to rate how useful you found them using a quick survey monkey feedback which is available by following this link.

If you have any questions, please use [contact@sesam-web.org](mailto:contact@sesam-web.org)

We specifically thank the experts who made the recommendations.

## UPCOMING MEETINGS

There are a lot of events going on around the world – directly or loosely related to simulation. To check out a more detailed list, please check our SESAM website at: <http://www.sesam-web.org/calendar.html>.

Please do send information about interesting events to [contact@sesam-web.org](mailto:contact@sesam-web.org) – the idea is to make this a living document and archive for those, interested in simulation.

## SESAM MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Reduced registration fees for the annual SESAM congress
- Eligibility to benefit from a SESAM grant supporting simulation meetings across Europe
- SESAM Newsletter including:
  - Updates from the Executive Committee
  - Selected News from Members
  - Reports from Simulation Meetings in Europe and worldwide
- Selection of key references for described topic in Simulation in Healthcare by field-experts („Top 5 literature“)
- Collection of online links related to simulation-based education (<http://www.sesam-web.org/event/dolink/famid/205937>)
- SESAM and SSH offer a combined membership including the subscription and online access to our journal “Simulation in Healthcare”.

*On behalf of SESAM, Yours sincerely,*

*Heinz Bruppacher, the Newsletter Editor*

*Email: [contact@sesam-web.org](mailto:contact@sesam-web.org)*

