Successes

- Intensive networking
- E-Portfolio installed and performed variably well (some hiccups)
- Better understanding of boundaries of responsibility and competence
- Improved communication with UEMS Office
- Improved collaboration from committee and Division members
Posts of Treasurer and Webmaster proved difficult to allocate credibly (posts run by proxy): New appointments should solve the problem – Paul Ridgway and Joseph Weerts to the rescue.

UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination due in June 2016 in Naples in conjunction with the 20th ESS Conference was cancelled because of insufficient number of candidates (-ve financial repercussions).
Events in 2015/16 so far:

- Participation in the CESMA Workshops in Brussels on the 11th and 12th December 2015 and in Bucharest on the 6th and 7th May 2016

- Show of interest from Romania re: recognition of FEBS and Adoption of EBSQ General Surgery

- UEMS – EBSQ General Surgery Exam in conjunction with the ICOSET in Belfast on the 11th and 12th May 2016

- Meeting of the Division of General Surgery on 12th May 2016. Not enough time to present the minutes.
<table>
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<th>Year</th>
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## Candidates for EBSQ Gen Surgery by year

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*Note: # indicates no data available.*
Adoption of an electronic version for the MCQ part of the Examination - ?
Reduction in expenditure

Possible utilisation of Domus Medica Europea for Examination purposes
- Possible because our candidate numbers are relatively small (cannot be more than 36)

Insistence on Quality Assurance - not simply sporadic CESMA Assessments

Increase the potential for Quality Improvement

Extending the area of recognition and adoption of the FEBS

Continued extension of Transferrable Competencies

Centralize accountancy and audit at the Domus Medica Europea
Where can we improve?

- We are not succeeding in convincing the National Authorities, Heads of Department and Trainees graduating in Europe, of the importance and utility of the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Examination.

- Most of our candidates are surgeons working in Europe but who graduated outside Europe. Only a small proportion have had undergraduate and postgraduate training in Europe.
Reasons for these failures

- Euro-scepticism
- Neo-nationalism
- Defeatist attitudes
- Mutual recognition of qualifications and free movement of professionals seen as a disincentive
- Determination of ‘local authorities’ to retain total control of career structure, advancement and allocation of posts.
Proposed phases for further adoption of the EBSQ (in part wishful thinking)

Phases:

1. Consolidating the structure and process of the Exam

2. National Authorities to recognize the EBSQ General Surgery

3. National authorities to adopt the EBSQ in conjunction/addition to their National Exit Exam

4. National Authorities to abandon their National Exit Exam in favour of the European one.

5. Convergence with the Bologna Process three cycles, with the development of a separate rail in the Third Cycle (i.e. the one leading to a Doctorate), adapted for the longer period of Postgraduate Surgical Training
Source of Income so far is only from Examination fees

The profit/loss balance still in the positive, but there might be some erosion into the assets after refunds for exam.

Profit/loss details have been presented at the Division Meeting. Balance on 8th of January 2016: €15,313.70

2016 Exam fees not yet transferred to Division account

Division of General Surgery compliant with Section of Surgery policies.
Krakow: December 2017 in conjunction with the ESS Conference

Again ?Beirut in 2017

Should we consider the Domus Medica as a venue for the UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam and UEMS Division of General Surgery meeting (still in collaboration with the ESS as a body)?

The possible introduction of the totally Electronic format for the EBSQ General Surgery Examination might influence the decision.

Later exams will be held in conjunction with the ESS Conference once yearly.

The MFA of countries where examiners come from gave negative advice for travel to Beirut: No exam in Beirut, certainly for this year.
With the 2017 UEMS EBSQ General Surgery Exam whichever the venue.
Any Questions?