Dear SSG-member!

We hope that you all are fine and that you have had a nice summer!

After the last board meeting, we have decided to cancel the next plenary meeting in Copenhagen next year. This is mainly due to the difficult financial situation for SSG. We have arranged plenary meetings every second year until now and these meetings are expensive and very time-consuming. We have also got input from some of our members that there are several other meetings to participate in for the sarcoma community, and that the WGM is much more useful. We will discuss this matter further on the next WGM in Malmö in December and decide about potential future plenary meetings. At the next WGM meeting we will also have election for new members of the board.

We have also sent out a survey about the WGM meetings in Malmö and if you want to change anything to get the most out of these meetings. We have got a lot of comments on how we could improve the meetings. Some of the examples are to have more scientific discussions on controversial matters than organizational challenges, more focus on specific diagnoses and problems, discussion on the indication of immune therapy, access to email lists of attendees before the meeting for WGM leaders, furthermore there is no need to invite foreign lecturers to these meetings, presentation of ongoing PhD projects. A mixture is important, but the working groups are the best part of the meeting. In summary, most members agree that the meetings are good as they are, but the working group sessions are the most appreciated parts. Some have also suggested that we should start the meeting on the first day after lunch so that it will be possible to travel the same morning. It has also been proposed that the Visceral Session could be a working group meeting and not a general session. We will try to take some of these ideas into consideration when we plan the next meeting. In September a meeting will be arranged with the subcommittee leaders to plan the WGM meeting in more detail and to discuss how SSG could work in the future.

Unfortunately, we must inform you that, due to the difficult financial situation, it will be difficult for Eva-Mari to be able to continue to work as administrative support for SSG in the future if not further financial support could be found. The board is trying to find a solution but would very much appreciate any possible suggestions or ideas!

We will update you with further details after our meeting with the board and sub-committee chairs!

On behalf of the board, Christina Linder Stragliotto and Eva-Mari Olofsson

