

## Future activities

Proposals and decisions regarding future activities in ESCIF have also been affected by the “loss” of one person’s manpower in the Executive over the past year. The following activities are, for the most, in the very early stages of planning.

### Follow – up from the “Strategy meeting”

The main ideas that came forward during the meeting in October last year will be presented in more detail in a special session on Friday morning of the Congress. A major issue that was raised was the wish to improve communication within ESCIF: between the Executive and member organisations (and vice versa) and between the member organisations themselves. Further efforts will be put into improving the ESCIF website and Facebook page. Other areas that came forward were “Risk and trends for the future”, “ESCIF brand” and “Implementation”.

### Ageing well project

The Ageing Well Project is a collaboration project between some ESCIF member organisations. ESCIF has supported the project by allocating some funds and by having a representative in the working group.

Very little progress has been made with this project since the project group’s last meeting in Vienna. The major hurdles are, as always, funding and manpower. Plans are currently being discussed to open a special section on ageing with SCI on the ESCIF website. ESCIF is particularly grateful to Joy Sinclair who has offered to assist.

### Possible collaboration with Manfred Sauer Stiftung

The spinal cord injury association in Germany, Fördergemeinschaft der Querschnittgelähmten has opened an office at the Manfred Sauer Stiftung in Lobbach and, thanks to support from MSS, has employed a Managing Director for a two-year period. When the ESCIF executive visited Lobbach in October informal discussions were initiated concerning a joint project between the German organisation and ESCIF on mentoring.

### ISCoS scientific meeting in Dublin

The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Meeting of ISCoS will be held in Dublin in October. ESCIF has submitted a workshop proposal together with Spinal Injuries Ireland and will be heading up a consumer meeting with participants from United States and Canada. It is planned that Jane Horsewell and Gunilla Åhrén attend the meeting.

### HeSCoS meeting

ESCIF's Vice President, Gunilla Åhrén, has been invited to be the keynote speaker at the Greek Spinal Cord Society's meeting later this year in Thessaloniki. Gunilla has been asked to speak on the topic "The role of peer support in the rehabilitation process".

### NISCI

Jane is participating as ethics advisor in the EU project *Nogo Inhibition in Spinal Cord Injury* (NISCI). The project is a multicentre collaboration headed by the University Hospital Balgrist, Zurich. The project website [www.nisci-2020.eu](http://www.nisci-2020.eu) gives further details of the project.