

Financial Report 2017 / Preview 2018

In 2017 – the first year under the new Section management of Matthias Girke and Georg Soldner – the Medical Section launched three new multi-year projects: interprofessional development of generally practicable therapy concepts for common medical questions, including corresponding research and publication within five focus areas ('CARE Projects'), development of an online textbook on Anthroposophic Medicine ('Anthromedics Project') and a new edition of Rudolf Steiner's first medical course ('GA 312 Project'). Johannes Weinzirl was hired as a research assistant with a 25% position at the beginning of 2017 to work on the last two projects mentioned above. The archive project begun in autumn 2014 to catalogue the Medical Section's archives from its founding until today was completed in May 2017. Upon completion of this work Dorit Dirlam left us. She carried out this project with untiring commitment and we are very grateful for this overview of our archived documents. In July 2017 François Bonhôte joined us and took over responsibility for our conference organization in October 2017; Mathias Hofmann, who has been exemplary in filling out and structuring this area over the past five years, has since dedicated himself to setting up a central office for individual professional groups within the *International Coordination of Anthroposophic Medicine (IKAM)* and setting up cloud-supported communication portals for the Anthromedics and CARE projects as part of a 70% position. In addition, he is currently designing the new address database for the Medical Section (see below). Our International Postgraduate Medical Training (IPMT), which was established in 2002, was successfully continued in a total of 17 countries in 2017. Despite the 13% higher personnel costs compared to 2016 due to the new areas of responsibility mentioned above, the contribution of the General Anthroposophical Society (AAG) to the budget of the Medical Section was reduced from just under 8% (150 TCHF) in 2016 to just over 6% (108 TCHF) in 2017. A good one third of the remaining 94% of the total expenditure of 1766 TCHF was financed by the Medical Section (conference revenues, publications, lecture fees, etc.) and contributions from institutions and professional associations, and almost two thirds by support from partners, foundations and individual donors.

Let us look at the different fields of work in detail. The expenses and income of the eurythmy therapy training at the Goetheanum and the two-year 'International eurythmy therapy training for doctors and medical students', which was newly established with a modular structure in February 2017, as well as the Teach-the-Teacher training and the IPMT since 2014 are summarized under 'Training and further education'. While the eurythmy therapy training courses were cost-covering and the surpluses of the Teach-the-Teacher training flowed into the development of a new instructor website, we were only able to acquire insufficient funds for the 17 IPMT training weeks conducted around the world, resulting in a deficit of around 48 TCHF at the end of the year. A minus of a similar amount had to be booked for IKAM. We were able to compensate for the steadily growing additional expenditure for coordination work arising from the worldwide expansion of Anthroposophic Medicine by generating additional income, but the deficit already existing in 2016 could only be reduced slightly.

It was very pleasing for us that the target base amount for the basic financing of the Medical Section was almost achieved this year with 495 TCHF and that the personnel and material costs

required for the Medical Section to operate, which are not to be accounted for via projects, conferences or training activities, were fully offset. All in all, our conference activities in 2017 were once again self-sustaining, in particular also due to our successful annual conference on the subject of 'Warmth' attended by over 800 participants from 43 countries, the surplus of which made up for other conferences which had slightly negative results.

An important result of the work of the training group of the Medical Section is the development and adoption of an International Framework Curriculum and Accreditation Guidelines for further training as Anthroposophic Physician in the period from Sept. 2016 to Sept. 2017. Together with other steps, this has made it possible for Anthroposophic Medicine, as a complementary, integrative approach to medicine, to start a dialogue with the WHO.

The budget of the Medical Section for 2018 is slightly lower than the final budget of 2017. Firstly, only 14 IPMT weeks will be carried out in 2018 instead of the 17 modules in 2017, as we were able to complete the 5-year cycles in several countries in 2017. Furthermore, no further financing had to be planned for the completed archives project. An additional expense of 20 TCHF is budgeted in 2018 to establish a new address database, as our old system is now no longer viable. Since Doris Witter, who has managed our office so competently and lovingly in recent years, will be retiring in 2018, a new person had to be found for this task and a familiarization period accompanied by Doris Witter had to be budgeted. Other than that, the work of the Medical Section will continue on the same scale as in 2017.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all foundations, institutions, medicinal product manufacturers, associations and private donors once again for their many years of support, and also those who supported our work for the first time in 2017!

Stefan Langhammer