Ethics of Reproductive Testing and Fetal Therapy SIG

We had a well-attended SIG and fruitful meeting on 15 July 2015 in Washington (minutes on the website), where ideas from the membership about the SIG were discussed. Main tasks for the SIG would be:

- Developing content for the ISPD website;
- Contributing ideas for the 2016 ISPD conference program;
- Developing a pre-congress course for the 2016 conference.

In the fall of 2015, the coordinators have drawn up a substantial pre-congress course (PCC) proposal on the ethics of fetal therapy (with input from the SIG fetal therapy) and found interesting speakers for it. The subject was chosen for two reasons: it emerged as a subject of interest with much support in the Washington SIG meeting and it allowed us in meaningful way to link up with another SIG (as we had successfully done with the SIG lab techniques in the 2015 PCC). It was quite disappointing that our plans were eventually rejected by the ISPD-board for reasons of economics: expected participation was feared to be too low. Apparently, it was not possible to see what the interest would be and then have a go or no-go.

We have made some suggestions for speakers for the main program in connection to our proposal for a PCC. It seemed though that there was less structural scope for input from the SIGs in the drafting of the program for this conference as compared with how it went in 2015?

Content for the website is still to be developed. We will need a working group from the SIG for that purpose and will discuss this at our meeting in Berlin.

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