



NASCE Business Meeting

Official Minutes

Face-to-Face Meeting | 27 February 2026

Meeting	NASCE Business Meeting (Face-to-Face)
Date	27 February 2026

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chair welcomed all participants and thanked them for attending the meeting. Participants were provided with updates on previous and forthcoming NASCE scientific meetings, activities within NASCE-accredited centres, and matters relating to the organisation's governance and future development.

2. Report on the Previous Scientific Meeting

An overview of the previous NASCE Scientific Meeting was presented. The Training the Trainers Course was organised in collaboration with ORSI Academy and was fully booked.

The scientific programme covered several topics related to simulation and medical education, including proficiency-based progression, simulation-based education, coaching, robotic surgery, non-technical skills, crisis management, and collaboration with external organisations.

An update was also provided on the NASCE White Paper on simulation and training towards 2050. The document has been drafted and is currently under review.

A total of 98 participants attended the meeting, with approximately 50% representing NASCE-accredited centres. Overall feedback was positive, particularly regarding the quality of the presentations and the opportunities for networking. Suggestions for future meetings included providing additional networking time, increasing content related to Artificial Intelligence, and strengthening engagement with industry partners.

3. Future Scientific Meeting – Trondheim, Norway

Information was presented regarding the forthcoming NASCE Scientific Meeting in Trondheim, Norway, hosted by the Norwegian National Research Center for Minimally Invasive Diagnostics and Therapy.

The Training the Trainers Course was scheduled for 3–4 June 2026, followed by the Scientific Meeting on 5–6 June 2026. The theme of the meeting was announced as “Facing Today’s Challenges and Forging Tomorrow’s Excellence.”

Preparations for the meeting were ongoing. It was agreed that the Trondheim meeting website would be promoted through NASCE communication channels and that work would continue on finalising the scientific programme.

4. Presentations from NASCE-Accredited Centres

Several NASCE-accredited centres presented their recent activities, projects, and developments.

A presentation on innovation in surgical training introduced an interdisciplinary hackathon focusing on Artificial Intelligence-supported education and automated feedback.

The Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) presented developments in robotic surgery, 3D printing, simulation, innovation, and public engagement activities.

The GastroCheck Project was also presented. The project involves the development of a gastroscopy simulator incorporating automated assessment metrics to support training and objective evaluation.

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki presented its extensive training programmes and ongoing activities in Artificial Intelligence, Virtual Reality environments, and research.

The presentations highlighted the diversity of activities taking place within NASCE-accredited centres and demonstrated opportunities for further collaboration and exchange of expertise between centres.

5. Strategic Discussion

A strategic discussion was held regarding NASCE’s priorities and future development. Participants discussed the importance of increasing attendance at NASCE activities and encouraging greater participation from trainees and junior members.

The need to strengthen relationships with industry partners was also discussed, particularly with regard to developing sustainable models for collaboration and sponsorship. Artificial Intelligence was identified as an increasingly important area for NASCE, and participants supported expanding AI-related content within future educational and scientific activities.

The discussion also highlighted the importance of strengthening collaboration between NASCE-accredited centres and other organisations, while improving communication and engagement across the NASCE network.

6. Adaptive Training and Virtual Reality

During the afternoon session, Dr Dilek presented preliminary work on adaptive training, which has become an important focus within her institution’s educational research programme.

Building on several years of work in serious gaming and virtual reality education, the project aims to develop adaptive learning environments that respond to learners’ physiological stress levels in real time. The prototype presented combines a Virtual Reality Advanced Life Support (ALS) training scenario with wearable sensors measuring electrodermal activity (EDA).

The system continuously monitors learners' stress levels and automatically provides supportive guidance when predefined stress thresholds are exceeded. Initial testing involving 30 participants demonstrated the feasibility of integrating physiological monitoring into simulation-based education.

The project highlighted the potential for developing more personalised training pathways that adapt to individual learners while supporting learning and reducing cognitive overload.

7. ORSI Update and American College of Surgeons Accreditation

An update was provided on behalf of ORSI, focusing on developments implemented during the previous year in response to feedback received through NASCE accreditation activities.

Particular attention was given to ORSI's recent accreditation by the American College of Surgeons, which was presented as an important step towards increasing the centre's international visibility and strengthening opportunities for global collaboration.

ORSI has also introduced revised procedures for collecting participant demographic information, updated its course evaluation forms, and established monthly review meetings to monitor educational quality and identify opportunities for continuous improvement.

A discussion followed regarding accreditation by the American College of Surgeons. Representatives from Stockholm noted that their centre has maintained this accreditation for many years and shared their experience regarding the evolution of the accreditation process. Participants discussed the value of external accreditation in supporting quality assurance, international recognition, and continuous educational improvement.

8. PART Project – Patient Participation in Acute Care

Professor Lee Fälldin from Stockholm presented an overview of the PART project, Patient Participation in Acute Care Reflection and Team Training.

The project focuses on strengthening patient participation in acute care settings through simulation-based interprofessional education. It brings together students from different healthcare disciplines, including medicine, nursing, physiotherapy, and occupational therapy.

The initiative aims to promote collaboration between healthcare professionals while ensuring that patient participation remains an important component of acute care education and team training.

9. Train-the-Trainer Course Feedback

The meeting reviewed feedback from the recent NASCE Train-the-Trainer Course. Overall evaluations were highly positive, with participants expressing satisfaction with the organisation of the course, the learning environment, the expertise of the faculty, and the practical exercises.

The discussion identified opportunities to further develop future editions of the course. Participants considered the introduction of more interactive e-learning materials, additional opportunities to practise debriefing techniques, and greater adaptation of course content according to participants' previous experience and level of expertise.

It was agreed to explore the development of interactive pre-course learning materials, review the participant registration process to better understand participants' backgrounds and experience levels, and consider greater involvement of local faculty members in future Train-the-Trainer programmes.

10. Keynote Lecture – The Role of Simulated Participants in Healthcare Education

The keynote lecture was delivered by Claire Mulhall from the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) and focused on the role of simulated participants in healthcare education.

The presentation explored the evolution of simulated participant methodology and highlighted their increasing contribution as educators and partners in education, as well as their involvement in research and curriculum development.

The speaker reviewed different approaches used internationally, including simulated patients, standardised patients, and simulated participants. She emphasised the importance of authenticity, consistency, and educational impact when incorporating simulated participants into healthcare education. Particular attention was given to their role in creating psychologically safe learning environments in which learners can practise communication, clinical reasoning, and professional skills.

An overview of the RCSI simulated participant programme was presented, including recruitment, training, quality assurance, and continuing professional development. The programme places particular emphasis on diversity, inclusion, realism, and structured feedback. Simulated participants are trained not only to portray clinical scenarios realistically but also to provide constructive feedback to support learner reflection and development.

The lecture also presented educational innovations involving hybrid simulation, in which simulated participants are combined with wearable technologies and task trainers to create integrated clinical learning experiences. Examples included projects related to valvular heart disease and the incorporation of realistic clinical findings into patient encounters to strengthen learners' confidence and clinical decision-making.

Another innovation presented was the use of sequential simulation for teaching difficult conversations. Through this approach, students follow a patient journey across several encounters, including diagnosis, treatment, follow-up, and end-of-life discussions. This allows learners to develop communication skills, empathy, professionalism, and patient-centred care throughout a longitudinal clinical scenario.

The speaker emphasised that human interaction remains one of the highest-fidelity elements available in simulation-based education. Simulated participants provide emotional realism, authenticity, and opportunities for meaningful reflection that cannot easily be replicated through technology alone.

The lecture concluded by highlighting the importance of continued collaboration, innovation, and research in the use of simulated participants across healthcare education programmes. The audience thanked Claire Mulhall for an engaging and informative presentation, and a discussion followed regarding potential opportunities for future collaboration between NASCE-accredited centres.

11. UEMS Congress 2026

The meeting continued with a presentation from the UEMS Secretariat regarding the first UEMS Congress, which will take place from 27 to 31 May 2026 in Leuven, Belgium.

The Secretariat explained that the Congress aims to showcase the activities and achievements of UEMS Sections, Boards, Committees, and affiliated bodies. It was also highlighted that the Congress will provide an important opportunity for networking, exchange of knowledge, and collaboration within the European medical community.

The proposed NASCE session, entitled “Simulation-Based Training: In Addition to or Instead of Clinical Training? The UEMS NASCE Perspective and Practice,” was discussed. NASCE members were asked to confirm the speakers and finalise the structure and content of the session.

12. Sponsorship Opportunities

The UEMS Secretariat requested the support of NASCE members in identifying potential sponsors for the UEMS Congress. Members were invited to share relevant contacts from companies and organisations working in simulation-based education, medical education, healthcare training, and related fields. These contacts could subsequently be approached regarding potential sponsorship opportunities.

13. Collaboration with SESAM

An update was provided regarding ongoing discussions between NASCE and SESAM. Participants discussed potential areas for future collaboration between the two organisations, particularly in relation to accreditation processes and educational activities.

Members expressed an interest in continuing these discussions and exploring opportunities that could provide mutual benefits to both organisations and their respective networks.

14. Treasurer’s Report

The Treasurer presented the financial report and provided an overview of NASCE’s current financial situation.

Membership fee collection was reported to be satisfactory, and NASCE’s financial reserves remained stable. The Executive Committee also confirmed that the reimbursement to the Geneva Training Centre, which had previously been approved, should now be processed.

15. Governance and Organisational Structure

A detailed discussion took place regarding NASCE’s governance and operational structure. Participants highlighted the importance of maintaining regular communication between meetings and ensuring that decisions and agreed actions are followed up appropriately.

It was agreed that regular online meetings should be introduced to improve communication, coordination, and decision-making within NASCE. Meetings were proposed to take place approximately every six weeks.

16. Format of the NASCE Business Meeting

Participants reviewed the current format and purpose of the NASCE Business Meeting.

It was agreed that future Business Meetings should place greater emphasis on governance, organisational matters, finances, accreditation, membership, and other business-related topics. Scientific presentations could instead be incorporated into the NASCE Scientific Meeting programme.

This distinction would allow the Business Meeting to focus more effectively on the operational and strategic matters of the organisation.

17. Membership and Accredited Centre Survey

The Executive Committee discussed the importance of obtaining structured feedback from NASCE-accredited centres.

It was agreed that a survey should be distributed to all accredited centres to assess member satisfaction, identify their expectations and priorities, and gather suggestions regarding possible improvements to NASCE activities and services. The results of the survey could subsequently be used to support future planning and organisational development.

18. Accreditation Activities

An update was provided regarding ongoing accreditation and reaccreditation activities. Several new centres had expressed an interest in joining NASCE and were in the process of preparing the required documentation.

The importance of maintaining communication with prospective centres and supporting them throughout the accreditation process was highlighted.

19. Elections and Appointments

The participants discussed the current positions within the NASCE Executive Committee. The mandate of the Secretary was renewed by consensus.

No permanent Treasurer was appointed during the meeting, and it was agreed that the existing interim arrangements would remain in place until a suitable candidate could be identified.

20. Revision of the NASCE Statutes

Participants discussed the need to review the existing NASCE Statutes to ensure that they remain aligned with the organisation's current structure and operational requirements.

It was agreed that the Statutes should be reviewed and updated, with particular attention given to governance structures, roles and responsibilities, decision-making processes, and financial policies. The revised Statutes would subsequently be presented for further discussion and approval in accordance with the appropriate NASCE procedures.

21. Agreed Actions and Follow-Up

It was agreed that the Trondheim Scientific Meeting would continue to be promoted through NASCE communication channels and that the scientific programme would be finalised.

Regular Board and Executive Committee meetings would be scheduled, with an indicative frequency of approximately every six weeks, to support coordination and follow-up of NASCE activities.

Work on the NASCE 2050 White Paper would continue, including further review and development of the document. NASCE would also explore ways to improve engagement among accredited centres and members, strengthen industry partnerships and sponsorship models, and encourage greater participation from junior members and trainees.

Further actions included exploring interactive pre-course materials for the Train-the-Trainer programme, reviewing participant registration processes, considering greater involvement of local

faculty, distributing a survey to accredited centres, progressing the approved reimbursement to the Geneva Training Centre, reviewing the NASCE Statutes, and continuing discussions with SESAM.

22. Closing of the Meeting

The Chair thanked all presenters, organisers, representatives of NASCE-accredited centres, and participants for their active participation and constructive contributions throughout the meeting.

The importance of continued collaboration, regular communication, increased engagement across the NASCE network, and appropriate follow-up of the agreed actions was reiterated. The meeting was then formally closed.