Collegium Oto–Rhino–Laryngologicum
Amicitiae Sacrum
Founded in 1926

General Secretary
Prof. Antti A. Mäkitie

Helsinki, December 19th, 2025

Dear Members and Friends of the Collegium ORL Amicitiae Sacrum

This is the CORLAS Annual Report 2025, accompanied with warm greetings to all our members and friends and their families.

The Annual Meeting was once again the highlight of the CORLAS year. This marked the third time our society met in Sweden. The previous meetings, also held in Stockholm, took place in 1934 and 1976. This year the meeting in Stockholm was arranged at the Swedish Society of Medicine's building, constructed between 1904 and 1906, and considered one of the most important pioneering works of National Romanticism in Sweden.

As the upcoming Annual Meeting in Groningen in 2026 will mark the 100-year anniversary, it was a great pleasure for all of us to experience the record-high attendance at the Stockholm meeting. Both the number of attending members (170) and the number of submitted abstracts (150) were the highest during the past decade that I have served the society as the General Secretary. This strong engagement is a promising sign for the future of CORLAS, and we anticipate the attendance at the centennial meeting next year to be even higher.

As the General Secretary of our society, and on behalf of both the Board and the entire membership, I would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Swedish CORLAS Group and the local organizing committee and its leaders, namely the Congress President Lars Olaf Cardell and Vice President Matti Anniko. The preparatory work was meticulous and highly successful, resulting in the record attendance.

Within this report, you will find the Minutes of the Board Meeting and the General Assembly 2025, as well as the Financial Report. Notes regarding the Annual Meeting 2025, including the scientific meeting, social programme, and post congress tour, are also included.

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BOARD MEETING

Location and time: Hotel At Six, Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 23rd, 2025 at 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Present: President **Lars Olaf Cardell**
Vice President **Matti Anniko**
General Secretary **Antti Mäkitie**
Second Secretary **Jay Rubinstein** and past 2nd Secr. **D. Bradley Welling**
Treasurer **Sandro Stöckli (via Zoom)**
Councillor **Koichi Omori**
Councillor **Mariela Torrente**
Councillor **Barbara Wollenberg**
President Elect **Myrthe de Wildt-Hol**
Vice President Elect **Pim van Dijk**
Past President **Wolf-Dieter Baumgartner**
Credentials Committee: **Allen Ryan, René Leemans, Valerie Lund**

Minutes

1. Introduction: General Secretary welcomed the Board.

2. The Annual Report 2024 was approved without changes.

3. Commemoration of deceased members: Michael Paparella, USA, Nov. 20, 2024; Yasuya Nomura, Japan, Dec. 3, 2024; Søren Vesterhauge, Denmark, Dec. 25, 2024; George Gates, USA, Feb. 8, 2025; Joseph B. Nadol, Jr., USA, Aug. 2, 2025

4. Membership status 2025: total 635 members; honorary 295, senior 158, regular 182.

5. New national Chairs: Jay Rubinstein is the new Chair of the US Group after D. Bradley Welling and Badr Eldin Mostafa is the new Chair of the Egypt Group after M. Nasser Kotby.

6. Status of the Board Member Positions: Jay Rubinstein will be the 2nd Secretary (since May 2025--) after D. Bradley Welling. D. Bradley Welling received the CORLAS medal as a token of our appreciation for his efforts and work in the Board during the past years (see photo below). For the period 2025-2026 Myrthe de Wildt – Hol (Groningen) will serve as the CORLAS President and Pim van Dijk (Groningen) as the Vice President.

7. General Secretary position: Antti Mäkitie has served as the General Secretary since 2015 including a few extra years following an earlier Board decision related to challenges with the secretarial assistance provided by GUARANT International. Two applications were received for the General Secretary position, and both candidates delivered five-minute presentations. The Board subsequently discussed the applications and conducted a vote. Barbara Wollenberg (München) was elected as the next CORLAS General Secretary, and her term will begin after the Annual Meeting 2026 in Groningen. She will then also appoint the new Treasurer succeeding Sandro Stöckli who currently holds the position.

8. Recommendation for New Members: The President of the Credentials Committee, Allen Ryan, presented the Jury's review of the 24 received membership applications. Following this review, a proposal recommending 18 applicants as the new member candidates was presented for discussion:

- Agrawal Nishant USA
- Almuhawas Fida Saudi Arabia
- Andersen Steven A. W. Denmark
- Bowl Michael UK
- Chien Wade W USA
- de Almeida John R Canada
- Khariwala Samir S USA
- Kivekäs Ilkka Finland
- Lechner Matt UK
- Mehta Nishchay UK
- Moneir Waleed Egypt
- Prisman Eitan Canada
- Reitsma Sietze The Netherlands
- Song Jae Jin Korea
- Teaima Ahmed Egypt
- Urik Milan Slovak Republic
- Wolter Nikolaus Canada

  Zelenik Karol Slovak Republic

9. CORLAS Prizes: The Shambaugh Prize is awarded every other year by the CORLAS Board to a member who has made outstanding contributions in the field of Otology and related basic research. The 2nd Secretary Jay Rubinstein informed the Board that the Shambaugh Prize 2025 recipient is prof. Richard Smith.

   The James B. Snow Jr. Award for Tinnitus Research recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions to our understanding and treatment of tinnitus. The recipient of this award will be announced at the Members' Dinner.

10. Treasurer Sandro Stöckli presented the Financial Report for 2024-2025 (see below). CORLAS is financially stable but with no reserves. The online fee collection has improved, but still only 50% of fees are paid. The annual membership fee was suggested to remain at 100 Euros.

11. Report Regarding the Secretarial Assistance by GUARANT International was discussed.

12. The Annual Meeting 2025 was discussed. During the past 11 years we now have a record number of both attending members and abstracts. Total attendance 240, 170 attending members, 22 guests, and 48 accompanying persons. The programme includes 150 abstracts – 2 withdrawals (75 oral à 8 mins, 73 'Great ideas, short talks' à 3 mins) and 2 keynotes. Twenty-four new members as presenters and 22 guests. Nine oral sessions (1 AI, 2 Otology, 1 Vestibular, 2 Head & Neck, 1 Rhinology, 1 Airway, 1 'Future'), 3 symposia (CI, Hearing + Gene Therapy, CRS).

13. The plans for the 100thAnnual Meeting 2026 (Groningen, Aug 24-26) were discussed. President of the congress will be Prof. Myrthe de Wildt-Hol (Groningen) and the Vice President will be Prof. Pim van Dijk (Groningen). It was decided that we will write an article describing the past 25 years of CORLAS activities to be published in Acta Oto-Laryngologica. It is characteristic to the Annual Meetings that the average age of presenting members is between 50-60 years. The scientific programme is based on the received abstracts, and the scientific committee of the congress does not limit or dictate the field of the abstracts. Typically, also unpublished results are presented and discussed.

14. Plans for the future Annual Meetings were discussed: The IFOS Congress will be held on Sept. 9-13, 2026, in Istanbul, and it was discussed that due to the almost overlapping dates with the CORLAS 100th Anniversary Meeting, we will not organize a CORLAS lunch at IFOS but possibly a CORLAS session in the scientific programme. The 2027 Annual Meeting will be arranged in Melbourne, 2028 in Taipei, and 2029 in Warsaw. The following IFOS will be in 2030. For the year 2031 we have received a BID from the Italian Group.

15. Editor-in-Chief of Acta Oto-Laryngologica, prof. Matti Anniko informed the Board that the D-line for papers from the Annual Meeting 2024 will be Nov. 1st.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY (CORLAS Business Meeting)

Location and time: Svenska Läkaresällskapet (Swedish Society of Medicine), Stockholm, Sweden, Aug. 25, 2025, at 4:10 – 5:10 PM
Present: 90 members

Minutes:

1. General Secretary welcomed all members.
2. Annual Report 2024 was approved.
3. Deceased members were commemorated (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
4. The membership status was presented (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
5. The list of new national Chairs was presented (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
6. Status of Board Member positions was presented (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
7. The members were informed that the CORLAS General Secretary starting after the Annual Meeting 2026 will be Prof. Barbara Wollenberg (Münich)
8. The list from the Credentials Committee and the Board regarding the proposal of 18 new CORLAS members (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting) was presented and approved by the General Assembly.
9. Chairs of the national groups are invited to contact the General Secretary regarding proposals for new member candidates by mid-May 2026 at the latest.
10. The Treasurer Sandro Stöckli presented the Financial Report for 2024-2025 (see below).
11. The financial report was approved by the General Assembly. The Board was granted discharge. The annual fee for the regular and senior members remains at 100 Euros.
12. The annual fees are now collected on-line. Still a considerable number of members (around 50%) do not pay their fees. This issue was discussed. Regarding the non-paying members it was again agreed that the same actions as earlier will be taken: two reminders will be sent by Guarant Int'l by email, then the member will be contacted by email, then the National Chair will be contacted, and if there is no successful outcome, then a discontinuation of the membership will take place.
13. General Secretary informed the GA about the Secretarial Assistance by GUARANT International (Prague, Czech Republic). It was also discussed again that according to the current GDPR, we are not allowed to have a list of members on our website. However, a note is included in the annual fee invoice where the member can allow her/his name and address to be added in list of members on our website. So, the aim is to have this list on the website in the near future.
14. The programme and arrangement details of the Annual Meeting 2025 were presented (see the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
15. The plans and arrangements for the Annual Meeting 2026 (CORLAS 100th Anniversary, August 24-26, in Groningen) were presented by President Elect Myrthe de Wildt-Hol.
16. The plans regarding the future Annual Meetings were discussed (see also the Minutes of the Board Meeting).
17. The members were informed about the submission D-line (Nov 1) of the Annual Meeting 2025 papers to the CORLAS Supplement of Acta Oto-Laryngologica.
18. Other issues: Discussion of the Editorial published in the ACTA Otorhinolaryngologica Italica 2025;45:73-74 by Ferlito et al. It was concluded that the paper is based on old and outdated concepts of the authors who are either not CORLAS members (except one) or haven't attended the Annual Meetings during the past two decades. The age limit for a new member to be elected is a guarantee for dynamic and active persons to be elected. The current average age of the

members presenting at the meetings is between 50-60 years. The programme reflects freedom of science as it is based on the abstracts received from the participating members and not regulated by the Board or the Organizing committee. Also, unpublished results are typically discussed.

19. Closure of the General Assembly.



SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

The scientific programme consisted of 150 abstracts (2 withdrawals) and 2 keynote presentations. Seventy-five of these were oral (à 8 mins), and 73 were titled 'Great ideas, short talks' (à 3 mins) with an option to present a poster as well. Twenty-four new members presented their inaugural paper, and additionally there were 22 guests. The nine oral sessions covered these fields: Artificial Intelligence, Otology (2 sessions), Vestibular, Head & Neck (2 sessions), Rhinology, Airway, and 'Future'. The three symposia discussed Cochlear Implants, Hearing + Gene Therapy, and Chronic Rhinosinusitis.

Monday (Aug. 25th)

At the **Opening Ceremony**, welcoming addresses were delivered by the Congress President, Lars Olaf Cardell, and the CORLAS General Secretary, Antti Mäkitie.

The Second Secretary, Jay T. Rubinstein, then introduced the Shambaugh Prize recipient, Professor Richard J. Smith, who has made fundamental contributions to otology through gene identification, development of cost-effective genetic testing, and characterization of phenotypes associated with genetic hearing loss.

The Vice President, Matti Anniko, chaired the first keynote presentation, given by Thomas Perlmann, Member of the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute, and General Secretary of the Nobel Committee in Stockholm. His talk, titled ***"The Nobel Algorithm: Truth, Politics, and the Art of Selection"***, inspired lively discussion.

Ann Hermansson chaired the second keynote presentation, given by Hans Herz, Professor of Biomedical Technology at the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm. His talk, titled ***"High-Spatial-Resolution Laboratory X-Ray Imaging: Towards Next-Generation Pathology and Radiology",*** provided both foundational knowledge and an interdisciplinary perspective on the field.

The 1st Scientific Session chaired by Konstantina M. Stankovic and Romain Kania was titled "***Ctrl+Alt+Research; AI takes the lead***" and included papers presenting current views and applications of these technologies.

Session 2 on "***Head and Neck Surgery 2.0: Nodes, Robots, and New Realities***" was chaired by Dale Brown and Manuel Berna-Sprekelsen. Results on sentinel node technique, imaging methods, and robotic systems were presented.

Session 3 chaired by Linda Marklund was a miscellaneous collection of 19 papers presented under the title ***"Big Ideas, Short Talks I"*** Presenters were given three minutes to present their research, with the additional option of displaying a poster outside the auditorium. This new format was well received, and the timetable was smoothly moderated. Hopefully, this format will be continued at future Annual Meetings.

Session 4 was a symposium on "***CRS Reloaded – New Mechanisms, New Medicines, New Mindsets***" and was chaired by Philippe Gevaert and Marie Lundberg (Guest). Evolving treatment goals, future of surgery in the ear of biologics, new therapeutic possibilities, and recent trial results were discussed in the area of chronic rhinosinusitis, both with and without nasal polyps.

Session 5 was also a symposium and titled "***Rewiring Hearing: Gene Therapy and Inner Ear Innovation***". The chairs were Yehoash Raphael and Barbara Canlon. Five papers focusing on various aspects of inner ear gene therapy were presented and discussed.

The scientific programme of the Day 1 was then followed by the **General Assembly** and later by the **Members' Dinner** in the evening.

Tuesday (Aug. 26th)

The programme started with the **Session 6**, titled "***Big Ideas, Short Talks II***", which was chaired by Ann Hermansson and focused on otology. In total, 21 papers were presented, each with a three-minute time slot. The session included both basic and clinical research, making it a truly translational session.

Session 7 chaired by Christian von Buchwald and Eben Rosenthal was titled '***The Edge of Innovation: Healing the Head and Neck'*.** Topics discussed included robotic surgery, surgical salvage in HPV-related oropharyngeal cancer, adjuvant everolimus in advanced-stage HNSCC, the use of mesenchymal stem cells for the treatment of xerostomia, and a novel approach to intraoperative nerve monitoring in schwannoma surgery.

Session 8, titled "***Big Ideas Short Talks III***" focused on Head and Neck topics and was moderated by Cherie-Ann Nathan. A total of 15 papers were presented, each with a three-minute time slot.

Session 9, titled "***Big Ideas Short Talks IV***" included 11 papers, ad focused on cochlear implants. The session was chaired by Antti Aarnisalo.

Session 10, titled "***Unraveling Ear Disease: Genetic Drivers and Structural Defenses***" was chaired by Claes Möller and Ann Hermansson. The six papers presented covered both basic and translational research.

Session 11, titled **"*Otology*"** was chaired by Marcos Goycoolea and Sten Hellström. It included five presentations covering hearing loss and dementia, rare causative genes in syndromic hearing loss, Michel-type deformity of the inner ear, facial nerve stimulation in otosclerosis patients with cochlear implants, and the role of vasculature of the internal auditory canal in the functional surgery of vestibular schwannoma.

Session 12, titled **"*CI in the Real World: Syndromes, Side Effects, and Cognitive Impact*"** was chaired by P. Ashley Wackym and Hans-Peter Zenner. Ten presentations discussed recent developments in cochlear implant surgery and outcomes.

Wednesday (Aug. 27th)

Session 13, titled "***Silent Voices and Sleepless Nights: Rebuilding Airway Function***" was chaired by Koichi Omori and Jussi Jero. The six papers presented covered various aspects of laryngeal lesions and sleep apnea.

Session 14, titled **"*Big Ideas, Short Talks V*"** was chaired by Lars Olaf Cardell. It featured a miscellaneous set of 11 papers, primarily on sinonasal and other topics, with each presentation allotted a three-minute time slot.

Session 15, titled "***Signals from the Labyrinth: Hearing and Balance in Focus***" was chaired by Måns Magnusson and D. Bradley Welling. The nine papers presented focused primarily on clinical studies on vestibulopathies, with a few addressing aspects of cochlear implantation.

Session 16, titled **"*Smell, Sight, and Survival: High-Stakes Rhinology*"** was chaired by Matti Anniko and Markus Rautiainen. The four papers focused on clinical questions related to sinonasal conditions.

Session 17, titled **"*Vision for the Future from the CORLAS Experience*"** was chaired by Barbara Wollenberg and Shakeel Saeed. The seven papers presented comprised a mix of clinical and translational research, highlighting developments with the potential to drive significant progress in the field of Otorhinolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery in the future.

SOCIAL PROGRAMME

The social programme of the congress was carefully and thoughtfully planned. The aim was to showcase Swedish tradition, style, culinary experiences, and to provide opportunities for relaxed togetherness in a variety of settings. The overarching goal was to encourage members to make new acquaintances, reconnect with accompanying persons and families, friends, and guests, and to continue scientific discussions beyond the formal congress programme.

During the congress days, several optional tours were available for members and accompanying persons, including a visit to the Nobel Prize Museum; a guided tour of Stockholm's Old Town (the city's medieval heart); a guided bus tour of Stockholm with a visit to the Vasa Museum (home to the remarkably well-preserved 17th-century warship *Vasa*); a visit to the Skansen open-air museum; and a visit to the ABBA Museum. Everyone could also attend the "Morning run with the professors" early in the morning.

On Sunday, August 24, the Family Tour was an unforgettable pre-meeting excursion through Stockholm's archipelago. We embarked on a journey aboard the M/S *Gustafsberg VII*, a beautifully preserved 1912 vessel that combines old-world charm with modern comfort. We glided past thousands of idyllic islands, rugged coastlines, and picturesque seaside villages while enjoying a lunch featuring classic Nordic flavors, followed later by Swedish *fika* with freshly brewed coffee and traditional baked treats. And of course, while in Sweden, a couple of table songs were presented by the local organizing committee—this being a cherished tradition—while enjoying herring and schnapps.

On Sunday evening, the get-together reception was held at "the Sällskapet", that is one of Sweden's oldest and most distinguished gentlemen's clubs. Since 1870, the Sällskapet has been a gathering place for tradition and camaraderie, with H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf as its first honorary member. The Congress President welcomed us with a speech describing the history of the club, and we enjoyed live music and a lovely buffet while meeting and reconnecting with CORLAS members, accompanying persons, and guests from all over the world.

On **Monday Aug 25th** the Members' Dinner was arranged at the Posthuset, a historic landmark, originally built between 1903 and 1906 in a grand neo-Renaissance style to serve as Stockholm's main post office. Posthuset is an architectural masterpiece, blending monumental proportions with intricate details that reflect Sweden's early 20th-century elegance.

The General Secretary welcomed the members and emphasized firstly the team work in CORLAS including the significant group of accompanying persons in this matter. The second issue highlighted was the freedom of science i.e 'looking for the truth', which is reflected in the fact that the congress programme and themes are based on abstracts submitted by members rather than being directed for example by the organizing committee or the Board. This issue forms a responsibility area for CORLAS. Thirdly, the General Secretary underscored the tradition to organize the congress in a single auditorium, providing an opportunity to attend presentations across different sectors of the ORL field, and then to share the latest insights with one's own community upon returning home – illustrating the interdisciplinary nature of our functions in CORLAS. He also encouraged members to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the social programme to connect, network, and foster future collaborations. Finally, he reiterated the importance of open communication between the members and national Chairpersons with the General Secretary regarding any ideas or suggestions.

Shambaugh Prize winner Prof. Richard Smith gave a speech in which he talked about his background and research.

Prof. Pim van Dijk was awarded the James B. Snow Jr. MD Tinnitus Research Award. He is the Professor of Audiology at the University of Groningen. He is an auditory neurophysiologist with experience in clinical, translational and basic auditory research. He has performed research on tinnitus ranging from fundamental neurophysiology to clinical trials. His work exemplifies the rigorous techniques that will be needed to develop effective treatments for tinnitus

Dan Bagger-Sjöbäck told us about the background and history of the CORLAS tie explaining how the previous model (with blue and red variants) – and the scarves were designed in 1990's in collaboration with the House of Amanda Christensen (founded 1885). The current tie and the and the CORLAS pin were launched in 2017 when Sandro Stöckli oversaw the process in Switzerland.

In total, 24 new members were welcomed into the society. Each had the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves before receiving a CORLAS badge and the History book.

Meanwhile, during the accompanying persons' dinner, Monika Cardell and Outi Mäkitie delivered speeches. Attendees had the chance to reconnect with old acquaintances and forge new friendships while enjoying the meal.

On **Tuesday Aug 26th**, a Cultural Evening was held at Stockholm City Hall – the same magnificent venue that each year hosts the Nobel Prize Banquet in the presence of the Swedish Royal Family, the Nobel Prize Committee, and the Nobel Laureates with their guests. The evening was hosted by the City of Stockholm and Region Stockholm and included a welcoming address by the Second Vice-Chairman of the City Council.

The programme also featured a vocal performance by a male quartet drawn from Orphei Drängar, one of Sweden's most renowned and historically significant choirs. Founded in 1853 in Uppsala, Orphei Drängar is internationally recognized for its artistic excellence and for its central role in the Nordic male choral tradition.

The quartet presented a refined selection of Swedish choral music, including '*Uti vår hage*' by Hugo Alfvén, '*Vila vid denna källa*' by Carl Michael Bellman, '*Till Österland*' by Gunnar Hedin, '*Under rönn och syren*' by Oskar Palm, the traditional song '*Hej dunkom'* in an arrangement by August Svedbom, and '*I månans skimmer*' by August Söderman. One of the quartet's singers was the son of Lars Olaf and Monika Cardell.

On **Wednesday, August 27th**, after three days of congress sessions, the Gala Dinner took place at Operaterrassen, located within the prestigious Operakällaren. This iconic venue offers breathtaking views of Stockholm Palace. Guests enjoyed world-class cuisine accompanied by live jazz music.

The Second Secretary, Jay Rubinstein, announced the recipient of the Benjamins Prize for the best presentation of the year, awarded to a young researcher. This prize is funded by a donation from the Dutch group, and the jury consists of the President of the Congress, the Vice-President, and the CORLAS General Secretary. This year's recipient was Theodore McRackan, MD, from the Medical University of South Carolina. The title of his presentation was "*Enhancing Pre-Cochlear Implant Counseling Using the Cochlear Implant Quality of Life (CIQOL) Instrument Suite*."

The General Secretary thanked the organizing committee for their successful work. The scientific programme was once again highly stimulating. While the main topics of the sessions remain similar from year to year, there are always new findings and perspectives that stimulate active reflection among the members. Each annual meeting has its own unique characteristics, making it both distinctive and memorable.

The General Secretary described the Swedes as a population that values recognizing and honoring people from other countries—the Nobel Prize being a prime example. In a similar spirit, the local committee embraced this approach while preparing the congress, aiming to ensure that members and guests experienced the best aspects of their visit to Stockholm. The General Secretary and his wife, Outi, then thanked the "King and Queen," Lars Olaf and Monika Cardell, as well as Matti Anniko, and presented them with gifts from the CORLAS Society as a token of appreciation for their contributions. At the end of the dinner, the President of the forthcoming year and the 100th Anniversary Annual Meeting, Professor Myrthe de Wildt-Hol, warmly welcomed everyone to Groningen in August 2026.

POST-CONGRESS TOUR

The three-day Post-Congress Tour took us to Gotland and its UNESCO-listed Hanseatic town of Visby. Gotland, Sweden's largest island, is surrounded by the Baltic Sea, which shapes its striking and diverse landscape. The island features dramatic limestone cliffs, rugged sea stacks (rauks), and expansive coastal meadows. Its porous bedrock creates a unique, dry environment that supports sparse pine forests and vibrant wildflower fields. Rich in Viking history, distinctive natural scenery, and local delicacies, Gotland offered the perfect blend of culture and relaxation.

On **Thursday Aug 28th** we took a bus transfer from the conference hotel in Stockholm to the Nynäshamn ferry terminal. Lunch was enjoyed on the ferry while admiring the beautiful see and archipelago, and after arriving in Visby, we checked in at the Wisby Börs Hotel in the heart of the old town. This was a beautifully restored 13th-century warehouse, now a boutique hotel, with blending historic character and elegant interiors.

A guided city walk followed, including a toast to the World Heritage site ("*Skål för Världsarvet"*), and visit to the 800-year-old cathedral, before dinner at Restaurant Bolaget. A French-inspired menu with pairing wine was served.

On **Friday, August 29th**, some participants went for a morning run around the city wall. After breakfast, a bus took us southeast for a tour of the island. We stopped at a local brewery to enjoy a glass of "Gotlands drycka."

The main activity before noon was cycling through a beautiful rural area with traditional farmhouses. After lunch, we continued cycling to a coastal nature reserve at Folhammar Raukfält, where we observed the *raukar*—limestone formations containing fossil cores.

In the afternoon, seaside outdoor coffee (*fika*) was served at "Bruna Dörren i Ljugarn." We then returned to Visby by bus to visit the Gotland Museum (founded 1875) and to attend an academic history lecture. The museum is the island's main cultural and historical museum. It presents Gotland's rich heritage from prehistoric times through the Viking Age and the medieval Hanseatic period, with outstanding collections of picture stones, archaeological findings, and medieval art that illustrate the island's unique role in Baltic history.

A rustic delicious dinner was served at the Restaurant Bistra Haven with exciting entertainment.

On **Saturday, August 30th**, after breakfast, we participated in an activity called the Gotlandic Pentathlon in Almedalen. This playful competition allowed everyone to contribute to the team effort.

Before departure, we had time to explore Visby by foot before a bus took us to the ferry terminal for the return journey to Nynäshamn. From there, a bus transfer brought us back to Stockholm in the evening.

IMPORTANT DATES

The Chairmen of the national groups are invited to contact the General Secretary **by mid-May 2026,** at the latest, to propose new member candidates. These individuals will then be officially invited to send their applications to the Jury by mid-June 2026 at the latest.

The Annual Meeting 2026 (CORLAS 100th Anniversary) will take place in Groningen, the Netherlands, during Aug 24-26, 2026. Family Tour is organized on Aug 23. Post-Conference Tour will take place during Aug 27–29. Please, visit the congress website www.corlas2026.org for further information.



This turbulent year is approaching its final days. Outi and I wish you all a peaceful holiday season and a Fruitful New Year filled with health and happiness. May 2026 bring peace to the conflicts around the world.

We look forward to seeing you all in Groningen in 2026 to celebrate the CORLAS 100th Anniversary.

Helsinki, December 19th, 2025

Antti Mäkitie
General Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT (by prof. Sandro Stöckli 8/2025)

Accounting overview as of 31.12.2024

		EUR
	31.12.2023	**31. 12. 2024**
Income statement		
Income (revenue)		
Initial deposit of cash and materials	128 885,75	0,00
Membership Fee	35 405,00	29 330,00
Sale of the merchandising	870,00	495,00
Exchange gains	4 855,46	1 562,67
Total Income	170 016,21	31 387,67
	31.12.2023	**31. 12. 2024**
Expenditure (costs)		
Service Guarant Int.	12 922,20	10 087,67
Service Guarant Int., year 2022	0	4 534,16
Bank charges	762,48	437,44
Web services	565,20	360,00
Mailchimp fee	670,05	738,87
Gifts to Conference Committee	0	285,58
Medals + DHL	2 035,47	8 668,37
Contribution to the CORLAS 2024	15 000,00	15 000,00
Write-off receivable for unpaid ties and badges	0	250,00
Bookkeeping	606,14	576,53
Exchange losses	601,59	0,00
Total Expenses	33163,13	40 938,62
Difference (loss)	136 853,08	-9 550,95

Accounting overview as of 31.12.2024

	EUR
	31. 12. 2024
Balance sheet	
Assets	
Inventories (ties, badges)	1 990,86
Cash (on bank account)	118 811,10
Receivables	0,00
Total Assets	120 801,96
Liabilities and equity	
Liabilities	0,00
Equity	120 801,96
Total liabilities and equity	120 801,96

Accounting overview at 31.7.2025

Accounted for the fixed exchange rate prevailing on 2.1.2025

Income statement

Příjmy (výnosy)	EUR
Membership Fee	8 900,00
Sale of the merchandising	0,00
Exchange gains	0,00
Total Income	8 900,00
Výdaje (náklady)	
Service Guarant Int.	6 948,84
Bank charges	0,00
Web service	360,00
Mailchimp fee for 1Q/2025	188,31
Contribution to the CORLAS 2025	15 000,00
Exchange losses	0,00
Total Expenses	22 497,15
Difference	-13 597,15