



Minutes of the First Dresden meeting of the EBSA Executive Committee

Location: ICCD Seminar Room No 5, Saturday July 18, 2015, 14.30 to 16.30.

Present: Manuel Prieto, Helmut Grubmüller, László Mátyus, John Seddon, Anthony Watts, José Carrascosa, André Matagne, Pavol Miskovsky, Rob Gilbert Ilpo Vattulainen, and Manuela Pereira.

1. Welcome and apologies (MPri)

Manuel welcomed the Committee and reported that Apologies were received from Tony Wilkinson, Cathy Royer (co-opted member) and Manuela Pereira (attending late)

2. Minutes of the last meeting of the EC (JMS)

The Minutes were accepted subject to minor corrections which were noted.

José informed the EC that ISE will meet on 2nd September and then the ISE constitution can be signed.

Anthony Watts and Gordon Roberts have met to discuss the 2nd edition of the Springer Encyclopedia of Biophysics, and they have started working on it.

Ilpo Vattulainen agreed to avoid clashing his Membranes meeting with the planned EBSA Membranes course which will take place in September 2016 in Montpellier.

The two COST Satellite meetings both took place.

Avanti have agreed to provide some sponsorship for the Congress and Walt Shaw and his wife will be attending.

The planning meeting for the IUPAB/EBSA 2017 Congress is confirmed for Friday 22nd January 2016 in Edinburgh. The EBSA EC, the British Biophysical Society Committee, and representatives from IUPAB and the IOP will meet to look at the venue and facilities.

3. Report of the Treasurer (TW)

The Report was summarized by JMS in the absence of TW.

For the year ending 31st March 2015, the income was €67,757 and the expenditure was €126,201. Nevertheless, EBSA's current financial position is healthy, with a current balance of €262,561. Income is dominated by the revenue of €59,858 from Springer, offset slightly by Editorial expenses of €14,331. Committee expenses were €21,836, although this included a carry-over of €6,800 from the previous year. Subscriptions came to €7,656. EBSA has contributed €76,162 to meetings / bursaries this year. The EBSA subscription statuses of the National Societies for the period 2009-2016 was reviewed. Denmark, Egypt, Norway all have a number of recent missing years of payment. The subscription is €2 per member. For any National Society that is struggling to pay their subscription, EBSA will consider reducing or waiving it.

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4. **Report on European Biophysics Journal (EBJ) progress (AW)**

AW reported that the number of papers submitted to EBJ was down, although the journal Impact Factor is steady. There have been some difficult issues which will be discussed at the EBJ lunch meeting later in the Congress. 190 papers have been received in the last year. The handover of the EBJ Managing Editor position to Rob Gilbert will be completed by the end of the year. The guaranteed payment from Springer to EBSA is currently €60K. Springer wanted to reduce it by 50% due to lower printed pages for EBJ, but a compromise of a cut by ~25% was agreed after negotiation, to soften the impact over a shorter period. Renegotiation of the Springer contract should commence in 2016 for 2017. AW also reported that he had gone to a meeting in Brussels on Open Access publishing earlier in the year.

5. **10th European Congress (HG)**

HG reported that there are 1,153 participants registered for the Dresden Congress, and that he will give a full report in the second EC meeting.

6. **Agenda of the General Assembly (JMS / LM)**

The Draft Agenda for the General Assembly was circulated to the EBSA EC for information.

7. **Proposals for new officers and members of the EC (MPri)**

The proposals for new officers and members of the EBSA EC to be put to the General Assembly was circulated to the EBSA EC for information.

8. **Member Societies (JMS)**

The request from the Iran society to join EBSA met with a muted response, given their geographical location, and the possibility was raised of offering them affiliated membership instead. After some discussion it was decided that the best option would be to defer making a decision until 2017, while we look into changing the EBSA constitution to introduce affiliate membership. In the meantime they can apply for student grants from EBSA. AW stated a willingness to visit Tehran.

9. **Proposal from Ukrainian Society for a meeting in Ukraine (MPri)**

It was felt that, for the time being, they should form a regional Biophysics grouping with neighbouring countries, which would not include the UK.

10. **Any other business relevant for the General Assembly (MPri)**

The EBSA newsgroup now has more than 1,000 members. It was noted that IUPAB have still not signed the contract for the Edinburgh 2017 Congress. The most recent IUPAB Newsletter has been circulated. A new template for the EBSA Young Investigator's nomination form was agreed, with minor modifications.

- #### 11. **Presentation on ARBRE** (Patrick England, Institut Pasteur, Paris; Tom Jowitt, Manchester)
- ARBRE (Association of Resources for Biophysical Research in Europe) was launched in 2014 to provide access to scientific instrumentation and training, as well as provision of expertise. The focus is on participation in methodological research driven by biology. It covers many relevant techniques such as NMR, SAXS and AFM. More than 70 laboratories have joined so far. There are 7 Working groups within ARBRE. They are keen to set up partnerships with EBSA and other national societies. They are involved with the COST application MOBIEU. The ARBRE website is hosted by INSTRUCT.

The meeting ended at 16.30.