



First Meeting of the EBSA Executive Committee

Saturday 20th July 2019. Location: Room Monaco, Congress Centre Madrid

Present: Anthony Watts (President), Jesús Pérez-Gil (Vice President), Helmut Grubmüller (Past President), Elena Pohl (co-opted: organiser of the 2021 EBSA Congress), John Seddon (Secretary), Tony Wilkinson (Treasurer), André Matagne (Bursaries), Mauro dalla Serra (IUPAB cross-representative), José Carrascosa (ISE), Jacqueline Cherfils, László Mátyus (co-opted: EBSA Webmaster), Pierre Emmanuel Milhiet (co-opted: EBSA Workshops Coordinator), Ilpo Vattulainen (co-opted: EBSA Newsgroup).

Minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies (AW)

Tony Watts welcomed the Committee and reported that Apologies were received from Rob Gilbert (EBJ) and Pavol Miškovsky.

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

Following noting a few minor corrections, the Minutes were Approved and can now be put on the EBSA website.

Action: John and Laszlo

3. Treasurer's report (TW)

Tony Wilkinson made a presentation of the current state of EBSA finances, and reported that the balance was €180K at 17th July 2019. However this sum is expected to be reduced to approximately €120K after a number of payments due have been paid. He mentioned that the Charity Commission wish to see policy documents relating to the running of EBSA, and that we should aim to produce these. We also need to upgrade the EBSA Constitution to reflect the current position.

Action: Tony Wilkinson and John

Tony reminded the EC that the Springer contract needs to be renegotiated soon (in mid-2020 and finalized by 1st May 2021).

Action: Tony Wilkinson, Tony Watts and Rob Gilbert

In terms of subscriptions to EBSA, Norway has not paid for many years and is suspended until such time as it resumes paying.

4. Report on European Biophysics Journal (RG)

In Rob Gilbert's absence, this item was postponed until the Second EC meeting on the 24th July.

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5. **12th EBSA Congress (JP-G)**

Jesus joined the EC meeting at 15.15 and gave a brief update on the Madrid Congress. As of today there are 985 registered participants, and the Congress is on budget, when the €25,000 subvention from EBSA is included. A dinner for the EC is planned for Tuesday evening 23rd July. The location for the Congress banquet is confirmed as Golf Club Olivar de la Hinojosa at 20.30 on Wednesday 24th July.

Jesus stated that the involvement of IUPAP was very helpful in terms of putting together an excellent scientific programme for the Madrid Congress.

He noted that EBSA are giving out 25 Poster Prizes of €100 each, to be selected by the Session Chairs.

The EC gave its thanks to Jesus and his co-organizers for all their hard work in putting together the Madrid Congress.

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

The EC approved the Agenda for the EBSA General Assembly.

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

The proposed Officers, Members and new Members of the EC are listed in the Agenda of the General Assembly.

8. **Member Societies (AW)**

We will request approval from the General Assembly to admit the Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Section of Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology as a full member of EBSA.

Discussions are still ongoing with the Latvian and Estonian societies, but they are not yet ready to request entry as Full Members of EBSA. There will be another Baltic Biophysics Conference in 2020 to include them with Lithuania, following the first one in 2018.

9. **Any other business relevant for the General Assembly (AW)**

Tony briefly reiterated other topics to be mentioned at the General Assembly, such as the EBSA website, newsgroup, EBSA support and other activities, IUPAB Adherence, and EBSA Schools, Courses, and future Congresses.

10. **Any other business**

Tony Watts mentioned that his Admin. Assistant (Claudia Cassidy) has put together a dynamic Excel spreadsheet to help future EBSA Congress organizers, based on previous documents from previous EBSA congresses (the first being London, 2007) and this will be discussed at the Second EC meeting. He noted that the 2023 EBSA Congress must not clash with the IUPAB meeting in Kyoto, scheduled for June 2023.

Tony Watts noted that the EBSA accounts are coming under ever closer scrutiny. He has drawn up a draft document (circulated as hard copy) establishing the policy to be followed for expenses for members of the EBSA EC, to be discussed at the Second EC meeting.