



Meeting of the EBSA Executive Committee, Rome, 21st January 2023

CNR, Piazzale Aldo Moro 7, Rome

Attending: Elena Pohl (President); Jesus Perez-Gil (Past President); Maria Sunnerhagen (Vice President); John Seddon (Secretary); Tony Wilkinson (Treasurer); Rob Gilbert (EBJ); Dejan Žikić; Nuno Santos; Primož Zihrl; Helmut Grubmüller (co-opted: future congresses); László Mátyus (co-opted: EBSA Webmaster); Anthony Watts (Co-opted: International Societies).

Attending online: Jacqueline Cherfils (Co-opted: Bursaries); Pierre-Emmanuel Milhiet (co-opted: EBSA Workshops Coordinator); Arwen Pearson; Ilpo Vattulainen (EBSA Newsgroup).

Apologies: Sarah Köster.

Guests: Mauro Dalla Serra (2025 EBSA Congress Chair); Attending for Item 13 at 14.00: Alberto Diaspro; Valentina Mussi; Giancarlo Ruocco; Velia Minicozzi.

Unedited Minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies (EP)

Elena Pohl welcomed the Committee and reported that Apologies were received from Sarah Köster. She proposed that Mauro Della Serra be Co-opted on the EBSA EC, as Chair of the 2025 EBSA Congress, and this was Approved with immediate effect.

2. Minutes of the EC meeting on 17 June 2022, and via Zoom on 29 June 2022 (JMS)

There was brief discussion of a number of issues covered in the Minutes, but no corrections were noted.

Both sets of Minutes were Approved and can now be put on the EBSA website.

Action: John and Laszlo

3. Treasurer's report (TW)

Tony Wilkinson summarized the Income and expenditure, and reported that expenditure has been lower than usual. In part this is because there has been no subvention yet to the Stockholm EBSA 2023 Congress (normally this amounts to €25K). He reported that there had been some issues with Barclays Bank, where EBSA funds are deposited. It appears they are putting additional measures in place to prevent money-laundering. He has supplied them with requested info on the EBSA Trustees, and this seems to have resolved things for now.

President	Prof. Elena Pohl, Unit for Physiology and Biophysics, University for Veterinary Medicine Vienna, Veterinaerplatz 1, A-1210 Vienna, Austria. ☎ +43 1 25077 4571, fax: +43 1 25077 4595, ✉ Elena.Pohl@vetmeduni.ac.at
Vice President	Prof. Maria Sunnerhagen, Department of Physics, Chemistry and Biology, IFM, Linköping University, SE-581 83 Linköping, Sweden. ☎ +46-13-28 66 82, ✉ maria.sunnerhagen@liu.se
Past President	Prof. Jesús Pérez Gil, Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of Complutense, C/ José Antonio Novais 12, 28040 Madrid, Spain. ☎ +34 91 394 4439, fax: +34 91 394 4672, ✉ jperezgi@ucm.es
Secretary	Prof. John M. Seddon, Department of Chemistry, Imperial College London, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2AZ, UK. ☎ +44 20 75945797, ✉ j.seddon@imperial.ac.uk
Treasurer	Prof. Anthony Wilkinson, Structural Biology Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, University of York, Biosciences Building, York, YO10 5YW, UK. ☎ +44 1904 328261, fax: +44 1904 328266, ✉ ajw@ysbl.york.ac.uk

Tony reviewed the Subscription status of the EBSA National Societies. Croatia and France are behind, and Israel has not paid for quite a few years. Anthony Watts commented that there are some difficult issues with the Croatian Society and the Croatian Summer School. It was pointed out that there are a number of Israeli speakers lined up for the Stockholm Congress, and Dejan noted that Israel has nominated a candidate for the EBSA Young Investigator Prize. Maria commented that all Societies listed on the EBSA website are currently eligible for bursaries, even if they have not paid their subscriptions. Anthony commented that IUPAB suspends societies who have not paid for more than 3 years. [The current IUPAB Statutes and Rules state : 'Any Adhering body that is three or more years in arrears at the date of a General Assembly shall be deprived of the right to vote at the General Assembly']. Arwen Pearson agreed that this makes sense. Elena proposed that the EBSA Constitution should be changed to be in line with IUPAB, and this was agreed.

Action: John to put proposal to modify the Constitution on the Agenda for the EBSA General Assembly in Stockholm.

4. EBJ (RG)

Rob summarized the situation with the journal. The Impact Factor of EBJ for 2021 was 2.095. Fewer than half the papers submitted are accepted. More submissions, and of higher quality, are needed. Some Special Issues are of too low quality. The publisher is concerned about the relatively low number of papers being published (the target is 80 papers per year). It is unclear what the impact of Covid has been, and the Vienna 2021 Congress did not give much of a boost to the number of papers submitted. We are in a risky situation at present. However, we don't need many more papers to move to a secure position. Rob suggests writing to all the Invited Speakers at the Stockholm Congress, inviting them to think about submitting an article to EBJ.

Action: Rob to write to all Invited Speakers at the 2023 Congress, inviting them to consider submitting an article to EBJ.

An effort should be made at the Congress to raise the profile of the journal. Arwen asked whether the journal will have an exhibition stand at the Stockholm Congress. Maria confirmed that Springer has stated their intention to have one, but she pointed out that this might focus on Nature journals in general rather than on EBJ. Rob will speak with the publisher to check.

Action: Rob to check with Springer-Nature that they will be promoting EBJ on their stand at the Congress. EBJ.

Anthony asked whether the suggested Special Issue in memory of Juan Carmelo Gómez-Fernandez is going ahead. Jesus Perez-Gil replied that it is, and he will check on its Progress.

Action: Jesus to check on the status of the special Issue for Juan Carmelo.

Jesus stated that the journal Impact Factor is a critical issue. Given that EBSA is supporting biophysics in Europe through EBJ, we need to promote the most cited papers from EBJ. Some journals provide news items on this. Helmut suggested that we could list the three most-cited papers on the EBSA website. Rob agreed that this is a good idea. Maria stated that we can highlight the papers on the EBSA website. Jesus stated that we should make people more aware of the link between EBJ and EBSA.

Action: Rob to liaise with Laszlo to list the three top-cited EBJ papers on the EBSA website, and to stress the link between EBJ and EBSA.

Ilpo Vattulainen stated that: 1) in many journals, e.g. community members (editorial board members, reviewing editors, board members, etc.) are required to publish in their own journal. This is a double-edged sword, and he is not sure that the EC would want to consider it; 2) Special issues focusing on review papers, e.g. state-of-the-art data analytics, simulation applications, etc., are heavily referenced. The challenge is to make such a comprehensive Special Issue. 3) Can we head hunt articles that with 100% certainty collect an impressive number of citations, such as the introduction article of the next Gromacs version, experimental methods (cf. Nat Methods), etc.

Maria suggested that we should talk with the Protein Society to see what measures they take to promote protein science, and what lessons we can learn from them.

Action: Maria

Anthony asked whether we are having a Presidents' and Secretaries' lunch in Stockholm? This should be timetabled, and normally includes a presentation from the EBSA President.

Action: Maria to find a suitable slot, and book a room and a buffet lunch (numbers attending to be confirmed later but typically 25 – 40).

Action: Elena to prepare a Powerpoint presentation for the Presidents' lunch in Stockholm (presentations from previous Congresses are available to use as templates)

Jesus suggested that we make a promotion video about EBJ and EBSA to use at Congresses and on social media.

Nuno stated that many journals have best-article prizes for young scientists, and that students are keen to publish in Q1 journals. Arwen agreed that this is a good idea. Laszlo stated that the prize should be to be an invited speaker at the next Congress. Rob agreed these are good ideas, but wondered how we communicate these opportunities. Jesus replied that the Biophysical Society has a session at their Annual Meeting on the best papers published in Biophysical Journal, and that we could do the same. Maria agreed, but said it would be best to wait until the 2025 Congress to introduce it. Nuno stated that it could be advertised at the 2023 Congress, and Rob confirmed that we could distribute flyers in Stockholm. Maria proposed that we should reach out first to the students' supervisors, and that she will do this in an email to Invited Speakers at Stockholm.

Action: Maria to communicate with Speakers about an EBSA/EBJ best-article prize for young scientists, for implementation in 2025.

Elena agreed with the previous suggestions. Anthony pointed out that we used to ask the EBSA Young Investigator Prize winner to write an article for EBJ. Laszlo asked whether we could make it a condition of being nominated for the Prize. Maria felt that this would be a hard condition to be met. John expressed a worry that we might get even fewer nominations than at present if such a condition were imposed.

5. **Encyclopedia of Biophysics, 2nd ed. (AW)**

Anthony gave an update on the status of the Encyclopedia. There was little new to report, but things are ongoing with bringing the 2nd Edition to completion.

6. **EBSA Website (LM) and Newsgroup (IV)**

Ilpo reminded the EC that it is planned to move the Newsgroup to Germany, with Arwen taking over responsibility from him. Anthony stated that the Newsgroup has been working very well, and on behalf of the EC, he thanked Ilpo for having done a really great job.

Laszlo reported that he has now uploaded all available previous Minutes from the EBSA EC meetings and General assemblies to the EBSA website. Anthony asked how many years is that, and John replied that electronic copies now go back 10 years, to 2013. Maria congratulated Laszlo on making a wonderful job of improving the website.

Anthony stated that he has a box of physical copies of EBSA papers going back even further than 2013. Laszlo confirmed that such papers go back to 2000 or even to 1997.

Anthony proposed that we should consider writing a history of EBSA, and posed the question as to when EBSA was founded. Elena considered it to be 1971, when the 1st European Biophysics Congress was held in Baden. Anthony suggested that we should extend Peter Bayley's history of the early days of EBSA (P. Bayley, *Eur Biophys J* (2007) 36 (Suppl 1): S1–S18) to bring it up to date. He also suggested that we should put together a Wiki page for EBSA. Maria stated that they will include some details of the history of EBSA at the Congress in Stockholm.

[Note added by John: the first General Assembly of EBSA was held in July 1984 during the IUPAB Congress in Bristol, with Anders Ehrenberg as the first EBSA President; *EBJ* also appeared as a journal in 1984, then became jointly-owned between EBSA and Springer Verlag in 1995-97, and then fully-owned by EBSA from 2000].

7. Requests for EBSA support and reports (PEM)

Pierre-Emmanuel Milhiet reported that there were no new requests for funding since the last EC meeting. He surmised that most people are aware that EBSA does not provide meeting support in our Congress year. He noted that we received a lot of requests last year.

Jesus commented that a joint Spanish-French-Portuguese Biophysics Meeting is planned for 5 – 7 June 2024 in San Sebastian, and the organizers would like to request support from EBSA. Elena encouraged them to submit a request to EBSA for funding.

Tony stated that we expect to receive bids to EBSA to fund a number of Satellite meetings this year. John commented that the Satellite organizers should submit requests for support to Pierre-Emmanuel [But see Item 10, where support for four Satellites has been approved by the EC].

Arwen asked whether support for crystallography meetings is within EBSA's remit, and on this being confirmed, she stated that she will prepare an application for support for a meeting to be held in July 2024.

8. Student Bursaries (JC)

Jacqueline Cherfils reported that four applications for visit bursaries had been reviewed in 2022 and a total of €4,850 awarded. Reports have been received from all of them. Anthony asked whether she could ask them to publish their work in *EBJ*, and Jacqueline replied that she can do so, and it will make them feel part of the European biophysics community.

Action: Jacqueline to ask visit bursary awardees to publish their work in *EBJ*.

Rob commented that there could be benefits to having visits co-funded, eg by EBSA and Instruct-ERIC or MOSBRI. Maria noted that we could tap into the MOSBRI call this Spring. Jacqueline stated that we should get in touch with these groups to discuss.

Action: Rob / Jacqueline to sound out Instruct-ERIC and MOSBRI.

Maria commented that EBSA is not getting very much exposure for the expenditure on visit bursaries. Jacqueline replied that we are supporting young people, and also two

labs in different countries. However she agreed that we need to consider how we can make it more visible and Pierre-Emmanuel agreed with this. Jesus agreed that this is an important activity of EBSA, and sends an important message to the community. We need to advertise this support activity, via the Website and the Newsgroup. Papers resulting from the supported visits should be highlighted.

There was an extensive discussion of the criteria to be used in assessing Travel Awards. Jacqueline suggested a number of changes to the application form, including adding a statement by the applicant or PI/supervisor that they commit to adhere to their national biophysics society (we need to take their word on this – it is too much work to check it). Rob suggested that applicants are asked for details of any other support they are seeking for the visit. Elena wondered whether we should only support unfunded scientists, but Jacqueline advised that it is difficult to ascertain which labs are rich and which are poor. She also proposed that we give the awardees a certificate signed by her and the EBSA President, confirming the award. She noted the format of the one-page report required from awardees after their visit is currently free-format. She suggested that a template might be helpful. Arwen proposed that the report should cover both the science and the impact of the support, and should go on the EBSA website. She stressed that these awards should be recognized as prestigious and an achievement. She noted that there are only a few other routes (COST STMs, Marie-Curie ITNs) to fund short term visits. She also suggested that there should be a call for applications, once or twice per year. Maria agreed that there should be a deadline once, or not more than twice per year, and commented that Instruct and MOSBRI are quite restricted in the areas they will support. Pierre-Emmanuel suggested that we set the same deadlines as are in place for Meetings support (decisions made in late January and late July). There was general support for this, and Ilpo commented that having deadlines should improve the quality of the supported applications, and allow us to focus funding on the highest quality applications. Arwen stressed that we want to make the bursaries more visible, to attract more applications, which should improve the quality. There was a lengthy and extensive discussion about the deadlines, and in the end it was agreed that we would introduce two deadlines per year, with the first deadline being one month after the Stockholm Congress, ie, on 31st August 2023, for visits between 15 October and 31 December 2023. There will be a moratorium on applications from 1st June. The working budget between now and the 1st June was agreed as €3K. The future twice-yearly deadlines are to be decided later to allow applications for visits at any time of year.

Action: Jacqueline to provide the new revised Visit Bursary form to Laszlo to put on the EBSA website, and to send him a statement for the website, and Ilpo/Arwen for the Newsgroup, informing about the moratorium, and the deadline of 31st August for applications after 1st June.

Laszlo asked advice from the Treasurer as to how much can be awarded per visit. Tony confirmed that last year we agreed a total of €13K to cover both Meetings support, and Visit Bursaries, and that Jacqueline and Pierre-Emmanuel can agree between them on the precise split.

9. Future EBSA Schools / Biophysics Courses (EP)

Jesus reported that the Spanish Society would like to try to resuscitate the Bilbao School, which has gone into hibernation with Felix Goni retiring. He proposed it could be linked to the Joint Spanish/French/Portuguese conference planned in San Sebastian in June 2024. Anthony commented that this time is close to the Kyoto Congress, so probably would not be supported by IUPAB. John asked if the emphasis of the school might move away from membranes, and Jesus suggested that it might cover more general biophysics. Anthony reported that the Membranes School has a long history, has always been over-subscribed, and has been generously supported by EBSA in the past.

However, €10K - €15K has become a problematic amount more recently for EBSA to fund. He noted that the Croatian Biophysics School is not happening at present, but that there is a GEM (French Membrane Group) Conference planned for 14-17 March 2023 in Autrans. He recommended that EBSA should organize a School in 2024, linking with other groups, somewhere cheap (as EBSA cannot afford to fund at the same level as before). Jesus replied that they might be able to collaborate with the Protein Society, although he pointed out that they would not wish to support a school on Membranes. Maria suggested an approach might be to link with protein-folding. Jesus replied that he will prepare a proposal, and Anthony noted that he will check with GEM

Action: Maria to check with the Protein Society about linking up with a joint workshop activity. Jesus to prepare a proposal for a workshop. Anthony to check with GEM.

10. **EBSA 2023 Congress in Stockholm (MS)**

Maria gave an overview of the plans for the EBSA 2023 Congress. The website is now live. Arwen and Jacqueline congratulated Maria on a wonderful website. There will be 8 - 10 Keynotes in total, and she reminded the EC that the Aula Magna (capacity 1,200) can be split in half for parallel sessions. Among the Invited Speakers, there is a good male-female split, and a good geographical split across Europe. The Earlybird deadline for registration is the 2nd May. She has prepared budgets based on 500, 800 or 1,000 paying participants. Elena asked whether a Public Lecture was planned for the congress. Maria responded that it was not, as Stockholm is rather empty of residents at that time of year.

There will be four Satellites: Protein Synthesis, Single Molecule, NMR Methods, and Bioenergetics, and she requested support from EBSA of €1K, €2K, €1K, and €2k respectively. These amounts were approved by the EC.

Helmut stated that he is comfortable with the budget, and Nuno commented that he thinks that the industrial sponsors will come good in the end, even though commitments have so far been a bit sluggish.

Anthony asked whether the EBSA General Assembly could be held on the Tuesday evening, and Maria confirmed that this is possible. He also asked whether the President's meeting can be held over lunch on the Tuesday, and this was also agreed by Maria. Anthony then asked whether there will be a Congress app, and Facebook / Twitter pages? Maria is not sure yet. He further asked about Wifi, and whether this would only be Eduroam, which not everyone has. Arwen confirmed that industry attendees and those from non-academic facilities will not have access to Eduroam. Maria will look into this.

Jesus asked about accommodation for students. Maria stated that they have 70 rooms available of which 50 are reserved for Bursary holders.

EBSA Bursary Panel

The student Bursary Panel members were previously agreed as:

- Jacqueline (Chair), Arwen, Primoz, and John

Maria confirmed that the Panel will receive a link to access the applications shortly after the 24th March deadline, and the selections should be completed in time to inform the successful awardees by 26th April, before the Early Bird Registration deadline of 2nd May.

EBSA/Avanti Award and Young Investigator Prize

The deadline for decisions by the Panels on the two EBSA Awards should be **the end of February.**

The Panel members were previously agreed as:

EBSA/Avanti Award: Laszlo (Chair), Elena, Jesus, and Rob

EBSA Young Investigator Award: Ilpo (Chair), Sarah, Nuno, and Dejan

There were four nominations for the EBSA/Avanti Award, and 5 nominations for the EBSA Young Investigator Prize. Maria asked whether Israel are eligible to nominate a candidate for the latter, given that they have not paid their subscription for a number of years. Helmut proposed that we suspend membership of any society that has not paid for 3 years, whereby they are unable to nominate candidates. John advised that we should not retroactively exclude Israel, but once the Constitution has been modified, Societies 3 years in arrears will no longer be able to nominate candidates. There was some disquiet expressed as to whether some candidates for the Young Investigator Prize were really too senior. Ilpo proposed that the eligibility requirement for the Young Investigator Prize should be the same as that specified for applying for an ERC Starter grant:

'Researchers with 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD, a scientific track record showing great promise and an excellent research proposal can be nominated. The PhD reference date is the certified date of the successful defence (and not award) of the PhD. Extensions of eligibility are possible in the case of maternity, paternity, long term illness, national service, clinical training, or due to a natural disaster or seeking asylum.'

Action: Award Panel chairs (Laszlo and Ilpo) to coordinate with the Panel members to reach a decision on the two awards by the end of February.

Action: John to provide Laszlo with a modified text for the EBSA website for future ref.

Summer Biophysics School

Anthony gave information about a pre-Congress Summer Biophysics school which will take place in Stockholm from 29 – 31 July, just before the main Congress. The maximum number of participants is 60, and it will break-even with a Registration Fee of €150. IUPAB has awarded €6K of support, and he requested €4,884 of support from EBSA. This was Approved by the EC, up to a maximum of €5K.

11. EBSA General Assembly in Stockholm (EP)

Elena reviewed the election process that will take place at the General Assembly in Stockholm (this follows the Constitution as Revised in 2021):

- The President, Past-President, and Managing Editor of EBJ are automatically appointed;
- The EC proposes election of candidates for Vice-President (Mauro della Serra), Treasurer (Tony Wilkinson), and Secretary (John Seddon);
- Up to six ordinary members can be elected.

In addition, up to a further six co-opted members can be appointed by the EC (this is usually done at the 2nd EC meeting, after the General Assembly).

Maria stated the view that we need to make space on the EC for younger scientists, and that we should have a re-election committee. Anthony noted that young scientists are sometimes too busy in their careers to commit the time to EBSA. Jesus noted that he will stand down in Stockholm, and he will try to identify a suitable female Spanish scientist who could stand for election to the EC.

12. IUPAB/ISC report (AW)

Anthony reported that IUPAB has a new website (<https://iupab.org/>), as well as a presence on social media (Facebook, Twitter). He gave a detailed summary of the recent support provided by IUPAB for Meetings and student Travel grants. He confirmed that the next IUPAB Congress will be held jointly with the Biophysical Society of Japan, in Kyoto, from 24 - 28 June 2024.

13. Future EBSA Congresses (EP)

EBSA 2025 Congress in Rome

Mauro Della Serra confirmed that the 15th EBSA Congress will be held at La Sapienza University, from Monday 30th June – Friday 4th July 2025, and gave an brief overview of the current plans. The main lecture theatre holds 900. It is hoped to hold the opening lecture, followed by a dinner, at the Parco della Musica. Based on 800 participants, the anticipated budget (vat must be paid) is:

- Income: €624K; Expenditure: €573K

Mauro will adjust the Registration Fees to be similar to those at Stockholm, but then the budget may need to be increased. Elena asked whether there will be the option of online participation, and Mauro confirmed that there will, with a €150 Registration Fee.

EBSA / IUPAB Joint 2027 Congress in Berlin

The 23rd IUPAB / 16th EBSA Joint Congress will be held in the Messe Berlin from 10th – 14th October 2027. Klaus Gerwert (Bochum) is the IUPAB Congress Chair, and Helmut confirmed that Prof Roland Netz, Berlin has agreed to serve as the EBSA Co-Chair. This news was warmly welcomed by the EBSA EC. The logistics will be overseen by Klaus Gerwert, and the science planning will be organised jointly between IUPAB and EBSA. Helmut will be a member of the Scientific Committee, which will be a single, joint committee. He asked EC members to send him their suggestions for suitable members of this committee. Arwen suggested adding Henry Chapman (DESY, Hamburg) to cover XFEL. Anthony commented that in the past IUPAB has not tended to be too closely involved with choosing the scientific topics. Helmut asked what IUPAB contribute financially. Anthony stated that IUPAB and EBSA provided €10K for the last IUPAB/EBSA congress in Edinburgh 2017, plus 60 Student Bursaries each, but IUPAB and EBSA typically contribute a €25K-30k subvention to their own congresses, plus €25K towards Student Bursaries. Helmut asked Anthony to send him the budget from Edinburgh 2017, for him to forward to Klaus and Roland.

Action: Anthony to forward budget from the Edinburgh 2017 Congress to Helmut.

Maria commented that the date in 2027 is very late for an EBSA Congress. Helmut agreed, but explained that we had no choice if we wished to hold a joint congress, as IUPAB had already firmly chosen those dates.

Roland Netz is happy to become EBSA President in 2027, and he should be Co-opted onto the EBSA EC within the next two years. Helmut noted that Sarah Koester has

decided to stand down from the EC this year, and he stated that he is happy to continue to be Co-opted onto the EC for the time being, at least until Roland Netz joins. Elena stated that it will be good if Klaus and Roland present themselves to the EBSA EC, and Helmut agreed that they should be invited to the EC meeting in Stockholm this summer.

Action: John to draft a letter of invitation for Elena to send to Klaus and Roland.

IUPAB have proposed a motto of "Applications of Biophysics for Health and Disease" for the Congress. Maria objected to the wording of this motto. Rob mentioned that the UK main biophysics funding agency (BBSRC) will not fund any applications that mention human disease. Arwen agreed that the motto was too narrow, and proposed instead "Biophysics – Science of the Future". Helmut asked whether there was a motto for the 2017 IUPAB/EBSA Joint Congress in Edinburgh, and Anthony confirmed that there was not.

Action: Helmut to feed back to Klaus the disquiet of the EBSA EC with regard to the proposed motto.

14. Any other business

Anthony reminded the EC that Biophysics Week is scheduled for 20 – 24 March 2023. Nuno and Dejan confirmed that their societies are both planning activities. Jesus stated that the Spanish society has activities (including one sponsored by Domino's Pizza!) which they could badge as EBSA events. Elena felt that EBSA itself should not organize anything.

Elena reported that the final budget for the 2021 EBSA Congress in Vienna showed a surplus of €8.5K, but that ongoing unavoidable legal costs of €9K in total means that the closing balance was slightly in deficit, at -€660. She noted that a reduction in vat to 10% had led to a saving of €30K.

Elena reported that she (as Manuel Prieto on behalf of EBSA did in the past) attended the recent Turkish Biophysical Society Meeting. There were mainly medical students presenting their work. Many of them are looking for internships in Europe. Although some talks were in English, most were in Turkish. Anthony commented that the Turkish society is keen to run an IUPAB or an EBSA Congress.

Maria asked whether Arbre could become an affiliated society with EBSA. This suggestion was strongly supported by Arwen. It was felt that a sub-set of the EC should investigate, and then it should be discussed at one of the EC meetings in Stockholm.

Action: Maria to liaise with a suitable subset of the EC to investigate possibilities of associating with Arbre.

Action: John to make this an Agenda item for the 1st or 2nd EC meeting in Stockholm.

The EC thanked Mauro and his team for their hospitality and for their hard work for the 2025 Congress, and also gave thanks to Helmut for securing a highly suitable EBSA Co-Chair for the 2027 IUPAB/EBSA Joint Congress in Berlin.

15. Next EC meetings: Monday 31st July, and Friday 4th August 2023, Stockholm, during the EBSA Congress.

The meeting closed at 17.00 CET.

16. Sub-Meeting of EBSA Trustees (AW, TW, RG and JMS)

This meeting was held following the end of the EC meeting, and the Trustees agreed that all proper procedures have been followed by the EC.
