



Second Meeting of the EBSA Executive Committee, Stockholm

Friday 4th August 2023. Location: Kungstegen, Floor 7, Aula Magna

Present: Maria Sunnerhagen (President); Elena Pohl (Past President); Mauro Dalla Serra (Vice President); John Seddon (Secretary); Tony Wilkinson (Treasurer); Rob Gilbert (EBJ); Arwen Pearson; Nuno Santos; Dejan Žikić; Aitzibar Cortajarena

Guests: László Mátyus; Pierre-Emmanuel Milhiet; Anthony Watts; Helmut Grubmüller; Jennifer Pesanelli (Biophysical Society)

Draft Minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies (MS)

Maria welcomed the Committee and noted that Apologies were received from Coralie Bompard. She congratulated Aitzibar and Coralie for their election to the EC. She proposed that László Mátyus, Pierre-Emmanuel Milhiet, Anthony Watts, and Helmut Grubmüller be Co-opted onto the EC, as EBSA Webmaster, EBSA Workshops Coordinator, IUPAB, and Future Congresses, respectively, and this was unanimously approved.

2. Report on 14th EBSA Congress (MS)

Due to a lack of time, Maria proposed delaying this item until the January EC meeting.

3. Encyclopedia of Biophysics, 2nd ed. (AW)

Tony reported that the Encyclopedia is now approximately 50% complete.

4. EBSA Website (LM) and Newsgroup (AP)

László reported that there have been some issues with the EBSA Website, in particular with certain browsers, but that this will be fixed soon.

Arwen has taken over the Newsgroup from Ipo and is working on it. She will email all Congress participants via MKON to invite them to sign up to the Newsgroup.

Maria stated that we should get MKON to send an evaluation questionnaire to the participants.

Action: Arwen to invite Congress participants to sign up to the EBSA Newsgroup.

Action: Maria to ask MKON to send round an evaluation questionnaire.

President

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5. Requests for EBSA support and reports (PEM)

Pierre-Emmanuel stated that, given the limited funds available, it would be helpful to agree the amounts available for Workshop Support, and for Student Visit Bursaries, separately.

There have so far been 4 requests for meetings support for 2024. A request for €9.6K from the German Biophysical Society for a meeting in Druebeck in May 2024 was not approved. Neither was a request for €5K from the Czech Biophysical Society for a meeting in Brno in September 2024. A request for €4K towards a joint Spanish, French and Portuguese Conference and Satellite workshop in San Sebastian in June 2024 was approved. Support was requested towards a Sinaia Life Science Summer School, estimated to cost €9K, to be held in the University of Bucharest in September 2024. Funding of €4.5K was approved, although it was noted that the number of planned PIs (15) and students (15) attending was rather low.

It was agreed that the €13K per year (€26K per two-year cycle), previously agreed for Workshops and Visit Bursaries, should be divided into €7K for workshops (€14K per two-year cycle) and €6K per year (€12K per two-year cycle) for Visit Bursaries.

Going forward, Pierre-Emmanuel proposes to assess Workshop requests at three points in the year: 31st January, 31st May, and 30th September, with the first evaluation at 30th September 2023.

Maria commented that we should think about organizing a practical course in Hamburg (local contact Arwen), in collaboration with MOSBRI and ARBRE.

6. Student Bursaries (NS)

Nuno proposed a new text for the online application form for an EBSA Bursary for a working visit. The changes were agreed with minor amendments.

7. Future EBSA Schools / Biophysics Courses (MS or AW)

This item was postponed until the January 2024 EC meeting due to a lack of time.

8. Next EBSA Congresses (MS)

- 15th EBSA Congress, La Sapienza, Rome, 30 June - 4 July 2025 (**MDS**)
- 16th IUPAB/EBSA joint Congress, Berlin, 17 - 21 October 2027 (**HG**)
- Future Congresses

These items were postponed until the January 2024 EC meeting due to a lack of time.

9. Co-opted members of the EC (MS)

The Co-opted members are as listed above under Item 1.

10. Any other business

The two Agenda items were postponed until the January 2024 EC meeting.

Maria made the following observations:

- She commits herself to engage with the National Societies.
- She will set up an EBJ Support Working Group, together with Rob.
- Each EC member should have a defined task.
- EBSA needs an Ethical Code of Conduct.

She invited Jennifer Pesanelli (Executive Officer of the Biophysical Society) to give an informal presentation on how the BPS had gone about this. Jennifer explained that a

Task Force was set up, which reviewed their ethics policies, and created a Code of Conduct and an Ethics Guidelines document, which outline all the procedures. She is happy to provide EBSA with guidance, and is willing for EBSA to draw upon the material contained in the BPS Codes to produce its own documents.

Action: Maria will appoint an EC member to take this forward.

- 11. Next EC meeting:** This was agreed to be in Hamburg, hosted by Arwen, and most likely on Saturday 20th January 2024.
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