



Minutes of the meeting of the General Assembly of the ESM

Held at the Geneva ESM-EVBO 2017 meeting (<http://esm-evbo2017.org/>) and (<http://www.esmicro.eu>)

Location: Centre International de Conférences Genève (CICG)

Time: Wednesday 31st May 2017 from 17.30-19.00, in Room 3.

MINUTES

1. **Minutes of Pisa** EC/NR meeting were approved.
2. **ESM-EVBO 2017 Geneva**, (Prof. Beat Imhof).
Prof Imhof reported that about 350 registered participants attended the ESM-EVBO 2017 Congress. The scientific level is excellent and the budget is running well, he does not expect negative, rather positive outcome. If possible the Congress will contribute to ESM financially.
3. **Financial condition of ESM**, presented by Prof. Angela Shore, treasurer.
The accounts of the society and the treasurer's report were presented. The financial condition of the Society is solid, but more income would be needed to support meetings and young fellows and new initiatives. Such income could come from Conferences and by increasing of the membership fee. **The meeting voted unanimously to increase the membership fee to 20.00 Euro per year** [40 Euro for 2 years for personal members, 20 Euros per year for those coming via dual membership schemes]. It was decided to leave the student fee at 5 Euro as currently and no cost for emeritus and honorary members. **The general assembly requested that when this increase was relayed to the members that it was at the same time as the information about the additional benefits from being a member of ESM and reminding members of the reduced registration fees to the ESM-EVBO meeting in Maastricht 29th May to 1st June 2019.**

Election of a new treasurer. Prof. Angela Shore our treasurer stepped down at the general assembly meeting. In previous email correspondence the members of EC were happy to nominate Prof. Nicola Brown. The general membership was emailed to seek alternative nominations for the Treasurer position. No further nominations were received. **The general assembly voted unanimously to appoint Prof Nicola Brown as the new Treasurer.** The General Secretary thanked Prof Shore for her longstanding commitment to the society in her role as treasurer.

5. AWARDS

1. *The **Malpighi Award winner is Prof. Ralf Adams**, Max Planck Institute for Molecular Biomedicine, Department of Tissue Morphogenesis, and University of Münster, Faculty of Medicine, D-48149 Münster, Germany. Prof Imhof reported on the excellent standard of the nominated individuals, there were a great number to select from and excellent candidates and it was a difficult decision. The Award will be presented in the last day of the Congress.*
2. *Prof Koller reported the **Servier Award in Microcirculation** voting was split, and thus there are **two winners: Shengpeng Wang and Angela RM Kurz**. We have received several excellent applications and the grading was very tight. The Award will be presented in the last day of the Congress.*
3. *Prof Pohl, editor of JVR, reported that the jointly funded ESM JVR Award was now given to a person of standing in the field who contributed a great deal to advancing the field of microcirculation. It was previously given to a young investigator who had published an excellent paper in JVR and who was asked to arrange a symposium in a future ESM meeting. This proved to be too stressful and difficult for the young investigators so the criteria were changed prior to the Pisa meeting. **The 2017 JVR/ESM award was given to Christer Betsholtz, University of Uppsala, Sweden.***
4. *ESM Young Investigator and Poster Awards. The European Society of Microcirculation awarded 5 Young Investigator awards worth 400 EUR each and 5 Poster Awards worth 100 EUR each.
[Post meeting note. These awards were made to:
ESM Young Investigator Awards [400 euro]
Lothar Dieterich Switzerland, Stephan Huveneers Netherlands, Agnieska Jazwa Poland, Tamara Girbl, UK, Hao-Yu Sun, China
ESM Poster Awards [100 euros]
Gilles Pages, France, Jean-Luc Cracowski, France, Maria Bloksgaard Denmark
Kashish Manchanda, Germany, Adama Sidibe Switzerland]*
5. *ESM-EVBO will be awarding 3 poster prizes worth 200 EUR each, donated by the German Society of Microcirculation and Vascular Biology. www.gfmvb.com. (H. Morawietz).
[Post meeting note. These awards were made to: Emmanuela Bovo, Basel, Switzerland; Oliver Lyons, UK; Bernard van den Berg, Netherlands.*

The EC and GA approved the selection and winners of Awards.

6. **Website of ESM.** The ESM website is running well and membership payment can be made via the website (<http://www.esmicro.eu/>). It also has a fresh look with important information (Thanks to Prof F. Bari and Dr. J Tolnai, Univ. Szeged, HU). (Prof. F. Bari reported). The general assembly thanked Prof. Bari for his service and agreed to delete the

old website and update the names and emails of officers. The members were asked to send news, information and corrections for the website to the Prof Bari.

7. **Strategic Committee.** Prof Koller reported that before the Pisa meeting, the Chairs of the ESM strategy committee were Prof. Axel Pries and Prof Ed van Bavel. In Pisa Prof. Henning Morawietz and Prof. Richard Siow were elected to lead the Strategy Committee.

Suggestions of the SC was presented by Prof. H. Morawietz.

A Summer School was suggested for young researchers in the first 3 years of their research, small meetings among groups with similar interests, encouraging involvement of as many groups as possible and Universities.

These should be under the umbrella of ESM, by “accrediting” these activities.

Also, improving communications and networking were suggested including a quarterly newsletter, more prizes and travel awards. It was proposed that young investigators should join the organizing committees of future meetings.

The suggestions met with the approval of the general assembly.

It was agreed that within 2 months, after a short summary of the proposed activities had been created by the Prof Henning and Siow, that national societies would be contacted to suggest nominations for the three free places on the strategy committee.

The strategy committee proposals would also be placed on the website.

Strategy Chairs: Profs. Henning Morawietz and Richard Siow

Ex Officio, General Secretary: Akos Koller

Member 1:

Member 2:

Member 3:

Every 4 years, 3 members are elected by the ESM membership, serving for a period of 5 years.

ESM 2019 Conference. Prof Koller informed the general assembly that two bids had been received to host the ESM 2019 Conference. The Executive committee recommended to the GA the bid from Maastricht as it was more developed and aligned with our constitution to move the meetings around Europe. Dr. B. Houben presented the bid from Maastricht, NL. **The General assembly unanimously approved the bid from Maastricht and thus to appointed Dr. Boy Houben to be the President of ESM for 2017-2019.**

8. The **Editor of Journal of Vascular Research, Prof U. Pohl** has worked out a contract with **Karger Publisher** to continue our fruitful relationship with the Publisher. He laid out clear aims of a future relationship with the publisher including better visibility of ESM; improving the public profile of ESM and its journal, increasing the activity of ESM between biannual meetings and intensified interaction of JVR with its members. He described the package of one article with free colour per year, the JVR/ESM prize, free access to JVR, participation on the editorial board and free congress abstracts. The proposed 4 year contract from Karger was deemed to be unaffordable by the treasurer - and the EC and GA agreed with that - given that we would have to use our reserves to furnish it. After discussion the General Assembly voted to provide a mandate to the Officers of the Society to continue to negotiate a contract with Karger to reach a fruitful

relationship. **The votes were cast 12 Yes; 6 No. It was agreed therefore that Prof Koller will negotiate the relationship and potential contract of ESM with Karger, which - before finalizing - will be circulated to the membership for discussion.**

9. **The 11th World Congress Meeting 2018 Vancouver, Canada September 9-13, 2018** was reported upon. On behalf of the organizing committee, **Prof. Geraldine Clough** conveyed the call of Dr. Don Welsh Chair, LOC 11th World Congress for Microcirculation ESM drawing the attention for symposia applications for the WCM 2018. Application deadline for this call is May 30, 2017 and should be emailed to sbwelsh@wcm2018.org. The website can be found at www.wcm2018.org. The Facebook page is located at <https://www.facebook.com/2018WCM/> and the Twitter feed is @WCM2018. Please bookmark, like and follow to receive timely notifications and to spread the word! G. Meininger, Chair of International Liaison Committee reported and encouraged all of us to go to this meeting.
10. **The 12th WCM 2022 will be held in Beijing, China, in September 21-25** organized by **Prof Jing-Yan Han**, a decision of the ILCM, which was also enthusiastically supported by the EC and GA.

12. Secretary General. According to our bylaws, the Secretary General is elected for 6 years, which can be renewed for another term. Prof. Akos Koller will complete his 6 year term as General Secretary of the Society this year. Nominations for General Secretary were received from the German Society of Microcirculation for Prof H Morawietz and in addition Prof Koller would be prepared to be elected for another terms. After a short discussion led by Prof Imhof, a vote for the position of General Secretary took place. The result was as follows: Prof Koller 11 votes; Prof Henning 4 votes; 1 abstention. **Prof Koller was thus re-elected as General Secretary of the ESM.**

The meeting however noted that **revision to the constitution** would be useful, to perhaps enable a 2 year overlap of the incoming General Secretary with the current General Secretary by the creation of the position of General Secretary Elect and by a change to the Strategy committee to reduce the number of ex officio positions to one, the General Secretary, to enable the Strategy Committee to be more responsive. It was agreed that a review of the Constitution would take place that a revised Constitution would be drafted and circulated to all members for comment before voting took place.

11. Prof Koller reported that information from Prof Mariella Catalano about VAS -Vascular-Angiology Independent Research and Education-European Organisation which is interested in forming closer links with ESM particularly in training and clinical aspects of microcirculation research will be placed on the website.



Akos Koller
Secretary General