



Minutes of the European Society of Biomechanics General Assembly

Lisbon – 3 July 2012

Meeting Chairman: Damien Lacroix, President

Meeting Secretary: Gabriele Dubini, Secretary-General

1. Welcome of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General, Gabriele Dubini, welcomed all participants attending the Assembly. One hundred and forty six members attended the General Assembly.

a. Approval of the previous GA minutes

The Secretary asked for approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Edinburgh, United Kingdom, on 7 July 2010. The minutes were approved.

b. Matters arising

The proposed agenda was approved, without any request for additional matters to be discussed.

2. Council reports – Part I

2.1 Report from the President

2.1.1 Presidential Address

The President, Damien Lacroix, listed the main items of his Presidency:

- the membership continued to grow to reach 850 members so far
- has a new website with added security
- has a new electronic newsletter
- has a LinkedIn group
- provides students with a sense of belonging (Facebook, student events)
- introduced inclusion of ESB fees within congress fees
- introduced new awards (Huiskes Medal and Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics) and increased travel awards
- has two National Chapters (Italy and Spain) and two affiliated societies (German and Hellenic)
- is highly active within EAMBES.

The President announced that the 2014 annual meeting will take place in Boston, USA, jointly with the 7th World Conference of Biomechanics on 6-11 July 2014. The President also summarized benefits for ESB members negotiated with the Chair of the 2014 WCB, Prof. Roger Kamm.



2.1.2 New honorary member

The President proposed to appoint Prof. Monique Donkerwolcke as Honorary Member. The President presented the contribution of Monique Donkerwolcke to the biomechanics field and to the ESB in particular.

The President asked for a formal vote of the General Assembly. The present members voted all in favor except one abstention. Prof. Monique Donkerwolcke is an Honorary Member.

2.2. Report from the Secretary-General

Gabriele Dubini reported.

The Secretary-General informed that an important number of applications had been received in the last two years and proposed to ratify 262 new members. The list of new members was presented in a previous email and the Secretary-General asked for a formal vote. The present members voted unanimously in favor.

The Secretary-General presented the evolution of the membership in time and per country. The membership has kept increasing steadily over the last two years.

3. Election of new members of Council – Candidate presentation and ballot

The President informed that two Council members (Damien Lacroix and Jose-Manuel García Aznar) must retire after serving two terms and occupying different functions within the Council including being President, Vice-President and Secretary-General.

The President also informed that two Council members did not stand for re-election (Gabriele Dubini and Dominique Pioletti) and that two (William R. Taylor and Gwendolen Reilly) were standing for re-election after serving successfully one term. The President indicated that the Council recommended their re-election for reason of continuity and because they had already served the Society.

The President presented the other candidates: Luca Cristofolini, Paulo Rui Alves Fernandes, Thomas Franz, Amit Gefen, David A. Hoey, Cathy Holt, Hanna E. Isaksson, Dennis Wilhelm Janssen, Fergal J. O'Brien, Maria Ángeles Pérez Ansón, Manuela Teresa Raimondi, Philipp Thurner, and Ivanka Petkova Veneva.

The President asked members in good standing to vote. After ballot collection, votes were counted by Franz Burny and Yash Agarwal.

4. Council reports – Part II

4.1 Report from the Treasurer

Hans Van Oosterwyck reported.

The total assets of the Society on 31 December 2011 are close to 130,000 Euro, with a significant increase since 2008 and positive in the last 5 years. Incomes come mostly from the membership fees and 25% profit share from the ESB2010 Congress. Expenses are mostly related to the new web implementations (public and admin), the awards, the EAMBES membership and secretarial support for the Treasurer. The budget for 2012 should be positive by about 4,000 Euro.

The Treasurer also indicated that the percentage of members in arrear is now 37% and is increasing.

The financial reports for 2010 and 2011 were submitted to the two Auditors Monique Donkerwolcke and Ulrich Simon. Both auditors reported that the financial reports of 2010 and 2011 were in a good state. The Treasurer proposed to confirm current auditors to serve again as auditors. The General Assembly unanimously approved Monique Donkerwolcke and Ulrich Simon as Auditors.



Marco Viceconti expressed his concern on having an excessive cash reserve and recommended the next Council a one-off investment useful to the Society. Hans Van Oosterwyck replied that a discussion on this issue is already under way in the Council and mentioned the recent spending initiatives of the Council (e.g. the new Awards and the professionalization of the Society management) and concluded reminding that profit might be lower in the future. Damien Lacroix underlined that congresses are now annual and will generate higher expenses for the ESB.

4.2 Report on Awards

Jose Manuel García-Aznar, Vice-President, reported on the Awards procedure and presented the recipients of the awards for this Congress.

- Huiskes Medal for Biomechanics: Professor Georg Bergmann, Julius Wolff Institut, Charité, Berlin, sponsored by ESB
- ESB SM Perren Award (14 candidates): Stephen D. Thorpe, from Trinity College Dublin, Ireland, sponsored by AO Foundation
- ESB Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics (22 candidates): Sandra Loerakker, Technische Universiteit Eindhoven, sponsored by ESB
- ESB Clinical Biomechanics Awards: the finalists were Alina Levchuk (Zurich, Switzerland, Kevin Moerman (Dublin, Ireland, and Amsterdam, The Netherlands), Philip Damm (Berlin, Germany), Leen Lenaerts (Leuven, Belgium), sponsored by Elsevier
- ESB Student Awards (20 candidates): the finalist were Aurélie Carlier (Leuven, Belgium), Daria Cosentino (London, UK, and Milan, Italy), Johan Kerkhofs (Leuven, Belgium), Sabrina Y. Jauch (Hamburg, Germany), sponsored by Elsevier
- ESB Travel Awards: the winners are Alexandra Carriero, Imperial College London, UK; Diego Gallo, Politecnico di Torino, Italy; Leen Lenaerts, K.U. Leuven, Belgium; Russell Tucker, University of Oxford, UK; Angelo Karunaratne, Queen Mary University of London, UK; Annelie Rehmer, TUHH Hamburg University of Technology, Germany; Loes Derikx, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, The Netherlands; Alexander Thomas White, University of Sheffield, UK; Hanifeh Khayyeri, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland; Anne Vrancken, Radboud University Nijmegen Medical Centre, The Netherlands; Pawel Tomaszewski, University of Groningen, The Netherlands; Joan Lobo, Institut Guttmann, Spain; Sabrina Y. Jauch, TUHH Hamburg University of Technology, Germany, totally sponsored by ESB so far
- ESB Poster Award, sponsored by Bertec.

Awardees will be honored at the ESB Banquet Tuesday, 3 July.

4.3 EAMBES Committee

The Chair of the EAMBES Committee, Stephen Ferguson, reported on the activities carried out in the last two years.

Activities of the EAMBES Committee were the dissemination of information from EAMBES. Reports from the EAMBES were edited and condensed for inclusion in the spring ESB newsletter. Newsletter entries generally summarized the EAMBES general assembly and elections plus the lobbying activities of EAMBES towards building the funding bridge for translation research, similar to FDA initiatives in the US. The EAMBES section of the ESB webpage has been continuously updated with the latest news items.

Future activities will include a survey of ESB members on current and future lobbying activities of EAMBES and will aim at strengthening the link between ESB and EAMBES through active participation.



4.4 Liaison Committee

The Chair of Liaison Committee, Anita Ignatius, reported on the activities carried out in the last two years.

The Italian National Chapter and the Spanish Chapter were created in 2011. The members of their Executive Boards are Francesca Di Puccio (Pisa, President), Luca Cristofolini (Bologna) and Fulvia Taddei (Bologna) and Maria Ángeles Pérez Ansón, (Zaragoza, President) José Antonio Sanz Herrera (Seville) and Jérôme Noailly (Barcelona), respectively. The Executive Boards of both Chapters submitted detailed reports to the Council. Both Chapters organized a General Assembly according to the ESB By-laws.

The Chapter section in the ESB website was updated and linked to the websites of the National Chapters.

The German Society for Biomechanics (DGfB) and the Hellenic Society for Biomechanics signed an agreement to become affiliated Societies of the ESB.

Motivations for affiliation to the ESB include mutual information, announcements on the ESB website, linked websites, organization of endorsed meetings.

4.5 Membership Committee

The Chair of Membership Committee, Dominique Pioletti, reported on the activities carried out in the last two years.

The goal of increasing the number of members was (and is currently) pursued by facilitating the payment of the membership fees (e.g. by integrating them within the meeting fees) and offering high-quality meetings. On the contrary attracting new corporate members turned out rather a difficult task.

Dominique Pioletti also commented about the nationality of the ESB members. ESB is still a European society, but some Countries are somehow underrepresented.

4.6 Publication Committee

The Chair of Publication Committee, Gwendolen Reilly, reported on the activities performed in the last two years.

The new ESB website – created with the professional services of Cook and Kaye and volunteer services of Lutz Dürselen – is up and running since March 2012. It offers more advanced and innovative on-line services.

The new ESB Newsletter is embedded in the website. It requires reduced time for formatting, so that the Publication Committee could concentrate on contents. Corporate member should take advantages of pages for announcements.

Feedbacks from membership would be greatly appreciated.

Gwendolen Reilly also informed that the 2010 S.M. Perren Award paper had been published in the Journal of Biomechanics.

4.7 Education and Student Committee

The Chair of the Education and Student Committee, William Taylor, reported on the activities performed in the last two years.

The number of student members was largely increased, with 113 new members since the last GA in June 2010. The Education & Student working committee – formed by Arzu Tasci, Alessandra Carriero, Silke Wüst and Ali Sharifdad did an excellent work.



The ESB Facebook account has more than 100 student members and more than 65 full members. It is now directly accessible from the ESB website.

An ESB LinkedIn account is also now available (30 members) for search of jobs and events and professional networking.

A number of events were prepared for this Congress. As already done at the ESB2010 Congress in Edinburgh – at that time by Prof. Marco Viceconti (University of Sheffield, former ESB President) – in Lisbon a presentation on matters directly related to student affairs was given by Dr. Roland Keibel (Stryker, Switzerland). A very successful event was the Students Dinner (barbecue and live music) on Monday, 2 July.

4.8 Endorsed Meetings and next ESB Congress

The Chair of Meeting Committee, Peter Zioupos, presented the list of endorsed meetings in the last two years where ESB members got a discount in registration fees.

Peter Zioupos informed that the next ESB Congress will take place in Patras (Greece) on 25-28 August 2013 and will be organized by Yannis Missirlis.

Yannis Missirlis gave a presentation of the venue and the organization committee, and invited all participants to attend the Congress.

5. Election of new members of Council – Announcements of the ballot results

The results were analyzed and presented at the closure by the President.

The six newly elected members of the Council were:

Gwendolen Reilly (120 votes)

William R. Taylor (119 votes)

Paulo Rui Alves Fernandes (84 votes)

Hanna E. Isaksson (72 votes)

Luca Cristofolini (67 votes)

Maria Ángeles Pérez Ansón (59 votes).

6. Matters arising

Keita Ito asked about the bids for the 2015 ESB Congress. The President informed that the call for bids was opened on 22 February 2012 by mass mailing to membership and that the Council received three, very strong bids.

7. Closure

The President thanked all members for attending and contributing to the Assembly. He thanked the Council for working with him over his two-terms on the Council and wished the Society a bright future.

As no other matters arose, the President closed the meeting.



Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. A. ...', written over a horizontal line.

President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gabriele Dubini', written over a horizontal line.

Secretary-General

DATE: Thursday, 5 July, 2012