



Minutes of the European Society of Biomechanics General Assembly

Boston – 8 July 2014

Meeting Chairman: Hans Van Oosterwyck, President

Meeting Secretary: Gwendolen Reilly, Secretary-General

1. Welcome of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General, Gwendolen Reilly, welcomed all participants attending the Assembly. Over one hundred people 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 Lisbon, Portugal, on 3 July 2012. The minutes were approved.

b. Matters arising

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

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

The President informed that two Council members (Hans Van Oosterwyck and Peter Zioupos) must retire after serving two terms and occupying different functions within the Council including being President, Vice-President and Treasurer.

The President also informed that one Council members did not stand for re-election (Anita Ignatius) and that one (Stephen Ferguson) was standing for re-election after serving successfully one term. The President indicated that the Council recommended his re-election for reason of continuity and because he had already served the Society including as our representative of the World Congress of Biomechanics organising committee.

The President presented the other candidates: Zahra Asgharpour, Maria-Grazia Ascenzi, Peter Augat, Sara Checa, Despina Deligianni, Markus Heller, Christian Hellmich, Bernardo Innocenti, Jacques Ohayon, Josue Sznitman, Mark Thompson, Philipp Thurner, Harry van Lenthe

The President asked members in good standing to vote. After ballot collection, votes were counted by João Folgado and Jorge Grasa

3. Council reports

3.1 Report from the President

3.1.1 Presidential Address

The President, Hans Van Oosterwyck, listed the main items of his Presidency:

- the membership continued to grow to reach close to 1000 members so far
- is financially healthy



- has successfully moved to hold annual congresses the first in an odd year being in Patras in Greece, 2013.
- continues with its extensive awards programme including a new mobility grant
- has improved the flow of information via monthly mailings
- continues its social media presence on LinkedIn and Facebook
- will launch a web portal for conference management to be first implemented for the ESB congress in Lyon 2016 in order to increase the visibility of ESB, standardize abstract management and reduce the administrative burden related to ESB membership and congress registration.
- will launch two new initiatives in Prague 2015 a corporate members session for our corporate sponsors and a new style of podium presentation to be termed 'perspectives talks' to be longer and with more overview than a typical project presentation and to be presented by group leaders. Senior researchers will be encouraged to submit an abstract together with a short CV for consideration for a perspectives talk which can be on any of the main congress topics and will be separately peer reviewed by the ESB council and the congress organizing committee.

A member of the assembly asked whether now that there is an annual congress there will also be an annual GA and the President replied that this is indeed the case. Although there was no GA at the Patras Congress the council's intention is to hold a GA at the Prague meeting 2015 and subsequent annual meetings.

3.1.2 New honorary member

The President proposed to appoint Prof. Yannis Missirlis as Honorary Member. The President presented the contribution of Prof. Missirlis to the biomechanics field and to European Biomechanics and the ESB.

The President asked for a formal vote of the General Assembly. The present members voted all in favor. Prof. Yannis Missirlis is an Honorary Member.

3.2. Report from the Secretary-General

Gwendolen Reilly reported.

The Secretary-General informed that an important number of applications had been received in the last two years and proposed to ratify 303 new members and noted that all those members had been screened and approved by the council. 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. The membership appears to have reduced slightly in 2014 but this is not due to a reduced number of applicants but because the ESB has implemented a new procedure to resign members who have not paid dues for the last two years.

3.3 Report from the Treasurer

William Taylor reported.

The total assets of the Society on 30th June 2014 are close to 177,000 Euro, with a considerable increase since 2012 and positive in the last 5 years, except for 2013 in which there was a negative balance because the income from the Patras conference was not received until 2014. Incomes come mostly from the membership fees and 25% profit share from the ESB2012 and 2013 Congress. Expenses are mostly related to the website maintenance, the awards and EAMBES membership. There will be no income from the world congress of



biomechanics, whereas expenses were incurred such as for the ESB social evening on 8th July so 2014 income is expected to be lower, and the overall balance for 2014 is expected to be negative.

The financial reports for 2012 and 2013 were submitted to the two Auditors Monique Donkerwolcke and Ulrich Simon. Both auditors reported that the financial reports of 2012 and 2013 were correct and in a good state. The Treasurer proposed to confirm the current auditors to continue to serve as auditors. The General Assembly unanimously approved Monique Donkerwolcke and Ulrich Simon as Auditors.

Jos Vander Sloten (member of the assembly) asked if there were any tax issues involved with the mobility award since it is a large sum of money but the Treasurer answered that as it only covers the student's expenses, it should be exempt from taxation – but that the situation will be checked and confirmed over the coming period. There is no honorarium or stipend involved.

3.4 Report on Awards

Peter Zioupos, Vice-President, reported on the Awards procedure and presented the recipients of the awards for this Congress.

- ESB SM Perren Award (8 candidates): Fulvia Taddei, from Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, Italy, sponsored by AO Foundation.
- ESB Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics (10 candidates): Carlos Borau Zamora, University of Zaragoza, Spain, sponsored by ESB.
- ESB Clinical Biomechanics Awards: the finalists were Boyko Gueorguiev (AO Institute, Davos, Switzerland, Cristina Falcinelli (Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli, Italy), Nikolaos Paschos (University of California Davis, USA), Marlene Mengoni (University of Leeds, UK), sponsored by Elsevier.
- ESB Student Awards (16 candidates): the finalist were Malte Steiner (University of Ulm, Germany), Mario Giorgi (Imperial College London, UK), Wouter Hoogkamer (KU Leuven, Belgium), Yann Guyot (University of Liege, Belgium), sponsored by Elsevier.
- ESB Travel Awards: the winners are Enrico Dall'Ara (UK), Darja Könnig (Germany), Flavia Libonati (Italy), Frederico Ribeiro (Portugal), Gaspare Pavei (Italy), George Adams (UK) Hajar Razi (Germany), Juri Steiner (Switzerland) Katie Ewing (Australia), Kaushik Mukherjee (India) Maren Freutel (Germany) Mario Giorgi (UK), Mathew Lyons (Ireland), Michael Takaza (Ireland), Myriam Cilla Hernández (Germany), Naiara Rodriguez-Florez (UK), Peter Varga (Germany), Ramy Fishler (Israel), Stefan Dudli (USA), Adrian Lai (Australia), all sponsored by ESB.
- Winners of the ESB student award and clinical biomechanics award will be announced at the ESB social event 8th July and all awardees will be honored at the WCB Banquet Wednesday, 9th July.
- Members were reminded that the call for nominations for the Huiskes medal is open, nomination deadline 15th October 2014. A decision will be made by 15th December 2014 to be awarded at the ESB congress 2015.
- Peter Zioupos thanked the members of his award committees for their hard work

3.5 Report from the Committees

3.5.1 Membership Committee

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

The goal of increasing the number of members by facilitating the payment of the membership fees (e.g. by integrating them within the meeting fees) is continuing to be very successful. The members were reminded



that the way this works is that when you attend a congress in year N as a member in good standing your fee is paid for the year N+1. Members that miss the congress can instead pay the fee on-line.

We are approaching 1000 members, therefore as an incentive for new biomechanicians to join so that we quickly reach 1000 the ESB is offering 5 years of free membership for the 1000th approved individual member (excluding corporate members).

One of the membership committee priorities has been to attract more corporate members and this task was successful with currently 9 corporate members in good standing (coming from 5 (only 3 in good standing), two years ago).

3.5.2 National Chapters

The aim of the national chapters is the 'promotion and dissemination of biomechanics research at the national level in countries where a national society does not exist'.

Two national chapters have been created since 2011; Italian and Spanish, they hold annual meetings and help to increase ESB membership.

3.5.3 Publication Committee

The Chair of Publication Committee, Maria Angele Perez-Anson, reported on the activities performed in the last two years.

The new ESB newsletter is now an e-mail only modern format with a brief piece of news and a link.

The website continues to be used actively and is constantly updated with news events calendar additions and posts. The members were reminded to let us know what additional features you would like to see.

Corporate members have been using their dedicated pages to announce product releases.

The 2012 Clinical Biomechanics Award paper had been published in the journal Clinical Biomechanics.

3.5.4 Student Committee

The Chair of the Student Committee, Hanna Issakson, reported on the activities performed in the last two years.

The number of student members was largely increased, with 271 current student members up from 219 at the last GA in July 2012.

The Student working committee – formed by Silke Wurst, Aurelie Carlier and Ali Sharifnezhad has been doing excellent work but some members have graduated or will be graduating shortly so expressions of interest for new student committee members are invited.

The ESB Facebook group has more than 134 student members and more than 114 full members. The LinkedIn group has 151 members. Job advertisements are available on these sites as well as directly on our webpages ESBiomech.org.

A student event was successfully held in Patras 2013 but there was no space in the schedule to have such an event at the WCB. Events are being prepared for Prague 2015.

The student committee manages the new ESB mobility award to promote exchange and collaboration between ESB researchers. The winners in 2013 were Michele Casanova who will travel from Switzerland to Australia and Ana Campos who is travelling from UK to Italy. The 2014 winners were announced for the first time as Valentina Danesi who will travel from Italy to the UK and Niklas König who will travel from Switzerland to Italy.



3.5.5 Meetings Committee

The Chair of Meeting Committee, Paulo Fernandes, reported that the ESB Congress in 2013 was held in Patras Greece and attended by 550 delegates.

The 21st ESB Congress will take place in Prague (Czech Republic) on 5th-8th July 2015 and will be organized by Zdenek Horak, Matej Daniel and their team.

Zdenek Horak and Matej Daniel gave a presentation of the venue and the keynote speakers, and invited all participants to attend the Congress.

The 22nd ESB congress 2016 will be held in Lyon, France, Congress Organizing Committee chair: David Mitton.

The 23rd ESB Congress had just been decided by the council and was announced for the first time at the GA to be held in Seville, Spain, Congress Organizing Committee chair Javier Martinez Reina.

Franz Burny (member of the assembly) reminded the members that the 22nd ESB in Lyon will also be the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the society.

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

The results were analyzed and presented at the closure by the President, the president informed the delegates that those who arrived late to the GA (in most cases because they had been required to stand by their posters at the WCB) had been given a ballot paper and their votes had been counted, proxy votes were also included for those that had sent a formal signed letter to the general secretary to request a proxy vote and named the proxy.

The four newly elected members of the Council were:

Stephen Ferguson (98 votes)

Sara Checa (60 votes)

Harry van Lenthe (56 votes)

Markus Heller (50 votes)

The next highest number of votes was 35.

5. Matters arising

None

6. 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

President

Secretary-General

DATE: Wednesday, 16 July, 2014