



Meeting Minutes

Inaugural General Assembly of the Austrian Chapter of the European Society of Biomechanics

Location: Institute for Lightweight Design and Structural Biomechanics, Building BE 1st Floor, TU Wien, Getreidemarkt 9, 1060 Vienna

Date and Time: September 10 2015, 11:30 – 12:50

Present: Christian Hellmich (CH), Stefan Scheiner (SS), Werner Schmözl (WS), Dieter Pahr (DP), Emir Benca (EB), Alexaner Synek (AS), Philipp Thurner (PJT)

The General Assemble is opened (11:30 am)

1) **Welcome** (interim executive board – CH, WS, PJT)

2) **Introduction of attending members – professional and scientific roles**

3) **Quorum**

Since the national chapter currently only has 12 members the quorum as defined in the by-laws of the ESB are not fitting the purposes of the Austrian National Chapter. Therefore the assembly decides by unanimous vote that a quorum shall exist if two members of the executive board and two other members are present.

The text in the By-laws is to be amended as follows:

Article III: Meetings of Members - Quorum

At least two members of the executive board and two other members present at the meeting, shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum is not present at any meeting of members, a majority of the members present may adjourn the meeting from time to time without further notice.

4) **Election / confirmation of the executive board**

No other candidates were proposed for the executive board. A secret vote took place to vote for/against the interim executive board.

Ballot Result: in favour- 7 ; against – 0 ; abstention – 0

The executive board has therefore been confirmed and consists of: Christian Hellmich (CH), Werner Schmözl (WS) and Philipp Thurner (PJT)

Election of chapter president: CH proposes PJT – the majority of the board agrees (PJT abstains) – PJT agrees and becomes first president of the Austrian National Chapter of the European Society of Biomechanics

- 5) **Discussion and formulation of procedures with regards to membership in the executive board** – the general assembly decides unanimously that board members should be allowed to serve a maximum of 3 periods (of 2 years) but then have to pause board membership for at least 1 period before they can again stand in election for executive board membership.

The text in the By-laws is to be amended as follows:

Each Executive Board member shall hold office for no longer than 3 consecutive periods. After this, the Executive Board Member is not permitted to stand in elections for the consecutive period. Only after one period the member is again permitted to stand in elections for executive board membership.

- 6) **Discussion and formulation of a mission statement**

Lively discussion amongst all members and formulation of the following mission statement:

Enhanced cross-disciplinary exchange throughout Austria, on biomechanics and mechanics-related processes in biological systems

Public promotion of biomechanics as a tool to aid restoration and improvement of physiological function in health and disease

To foster Austria's role as a country of scientific, clinical and industrial excellence in the field of biomechanics

- 7) **Discussion and formulation of short- and mid-term goals of the chapter**

To “live” the mission statement, i.e. to have media appearances at least every two years – starting with a press release announcing the formation of the national chapter

To hold a biomechanics symposium (networking event) every two years (2017 Innsbruck, 2019, Vienna)

To bring the ESB annual congress to Vienna in 2019

Promotion of ESB Membership and participation within the national chapter

- 8) **Format and timing of future assemblies** (e.g. during ESB annual meeting or through organisation of national biomechanics symposium)

General assemblies at bi-annual biomechanics symposium (networking event) every two years (2017 Innsbruck, 2019 Vienna)

If no symposium is organised then general assembly during ESB annual meeting (except for years when ESB annual meeting is held jointly with the WCB).

- 9) **Introduction of ViCEM** – Vienna Centre for Engineering in Medicine –
announcement of inaugural event
CH introduces ViCEM – bringing together expertise in engineering (TU Wien)
and medicine (MUW) – fostering cross-disciplinary work – joint virtual
institute and perhaps at some point a joint “physical” institute.
Kick-off event planned for 2016.
- 10) **Vote for supporting ViCEM and inaugural event**
Vote for supporting ViCEM: unanimously accepted.
- 11) **Further agenda points** as proposed by members
None
- 12) **Any other business**
Announcement of scientific presentation of Prof. Werner Schmözl with title
“Cement augmentation for osteoporotic humerus fractures” after the general
assembly.

The General assembly is adjourned – 12:50 pm
