

Minutes of the European Society of Biomechanics General Assembly

Seville – 3rd July 2017

Meeting Chairman: Stephen Ferguson, President

Meeting Secretary: M^aAngeles Pérez Ansón, Secretary-General

1. Welcome of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General, M^aAngeles Pérez, welcomed all participants attending the Assembly. Ninety-three members attended the General Assembly. The GA agenda was presented.

a. Approval of the previous GA minutes

The Secretary asked for approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Lyon, France, on 12th July 2016. The minutes were approved.

b. Matters arising

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

2. Council reports

2.1 Report from the President

The President, Stephen Ferguson (SF), listed the main items of his Presidency:

- Over 1100 members from diverse backgrounds
- High level of member commitment
- Financial health of society offers unique opportunities
- Mobility benefits us all
 - o Reject isolation and protection, embrace productive, cooperative and “mutually competitive” scientific exchanges
 - o Explore new venues for dissemination: Open access? Self-publishing?
 - o Increase the signal, decrease the noise: Should our society promote scientific challenges?

2.2. Report from the Secretary-General

- M^aAngeles Pérez Ansón (MAPA) reported.
- The Secretary-General informed that a substantial number of applications were received in the last year and proposed to ratify 257 new members (117 active and 140 students) 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 Society has 1110 members at this moment. The geographical distribution of our membership was presented: Austria, Sweden and Spain have increased their membership in the last year.



2.4. New Honorary Member

The President proposed to appoint Prof. Dr. sc. techn. Erich Schneider as Honorary Member. The President presented the contribution of Prof. Schneider to the biomechanics field and the ESB.

The President asked for a formal vote of the General Assembly. The present members voted all in favor. Prof. Erich Schneider is elected as Honorary Member.

2.3 Report from the Treasurer

Luca Cristofolini (LC) reported.

The total assets of the Society on 31st December 2016 were close to 150,000 Euro. Incomes came mostly from the membership fees and journal subscriptions. Expenses were mostly related to the website maintenance, the awards and EAMBES membership. The transfer of Lyon flat rate was done in January 2017. This is the reason of the negative balance of 2016. The number of members in good standing had increased (67%) with respect to previous year (57%). This year, in Seville, the conference system has a flat rate fee as in Lyon.

Finally, LC presented a positive balance estimation for next year. The financial report for 2016 was submitted to the two auditors Monique Donkerwolcke and Ulrich Simon. Both auditors reported that the financial report of 2016 was correct and in a good state. LC informed that the Society will need a new auditor for next year to replace Ulrich Simon. LC thanked Ulrich for all these years of work.

The treasurer asked for approval of the report. It was approved.

2.4 Report on Awards

Hanna Isaksson (HI), Vice-President, reported on the Awards procedure and presented the recipients of the awards for this Congress.

- Huiskes Medal: Prof. Lutz Claes (Ulm University, Germany) for his lifetime achievement in biomechanics.
- ESB Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics: Lorenzo Grassi of Lund University (Sweden), sponsored by ESB. Thesis title: Femoral strength prediction using finite element models – Validation of models based on CT and reconstructed DXA images against full-field strain measurements. Supervisors/advisors: Prof. Hanna Isaksson and Prof. Matti Ristinmaa
- New Runners up for the Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics: Vahid Arabi of Delft University of Technology (Thesis entitled: Multi-physics computational models of articular cartilage for estimation of its mechanical and physical properties) and Petri Tanska of University of Eastern Finland (Thesis entitled: Cell-tissue interactions and adaptation in cartilage – computational modelling of knee joint disorders).
- ESB Student Awards: the finalists were Ashley Torres, Tommaso Ristori, Pim Oomen and Edoardo Borgiani. The winner will be announced at the Congress Dinner.
- ESB Travel Awards (19): the winners are Maria Cristina Bisi (Italy), Katariina Myller (Finland), Gloria Casaroli (Italy), Marco Ferroni (Italy), Emiel Disseldorp (Netherlands), Matteo Zago (Italy), Nicole van Gestel (Netherlands), Ingmar Fleps (Switzerland), Andre Castro (UK), Emir Benca (Austria), Arne Feldmann (Switzerland), Justyna Niestrawska (Austria), Romane Blanchard (Australia), Daniele Bianchi (Italy), Melika Mohammadkhah (Ireland), Anna Gustafsson (Sweden), Pouyan Asgharzadeh (Germany), Ariane Scheuren (Switzerland), Morteza Amini (Austria).

HI thanked the members of her award committees for their hard work. Additionally, HI announced that the award submission is now integrated into online abstract submission on website (Student, Travel and Clinical



Biomechanics awards). There will be only one award submission per applicant and only one travel award per member. This year the quality of the Thesis Award was so high that we introduced the recognition of two runners-up.

Awards at WCT 2018 Dublin will be as follows:

- Application during abstract submission (Student, Travel and Clinical Biomechanics awards)
- Student award: there will be 4 finalists (as usual), but there will be 20 extra awards for reimbursement of the registration, which will be sponsored by WCB
- Travel award: there will be around 20 travel awards (ESB regular travel awards)

2.5 Reports from the Committees

2.5.1 Meeting Web Portal

The Chair of Meeting Web Portal Committee, Markus Heller (MH), reported that the goal of this Committee is to develop the ESB website for the management of the abstract submission and reviewing processes for the annual congresses. This year the Committee has been working really hard. We have managed review of over 600 abstracts, over 500 registrations. One of the main advantages of the system is its direct interlink with membership database. This year the programme presentation has been improved and is now integrated within the system.

This year, the presentations held in the main conference room have been recorded and disseminated. We believed that this is an improvement that will allow a wider dissemination of the scientific contents.

2.5.2 Membership Committee

The Chair of Membership Committee, Sara Checa (LC), was not able to attend, so MAPA reported on the activities carried out in the last year.

The payment of the membership fees has been simplified. 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. MAPA reminded that attending the congress pays the yearly fee but enrollment of new members is not automatic; they need to apply online.

We have now 7 corporate members in good standing.

2.5.3 External Affairs

The Chair of the External Affairs Committee, David Mitton (DM), informed about the activities of the national chapters.

The Italian Chapter had carried out many activities: restyling of the web-site (www.esb-ita.it), creation of an annual newsletter and the twitter account @esb_ita, 7th Meeting (Rome, 28-29 September 2017). They will organize a session on “Theoretical and Applied Biomechanics for Cardiovascular Problems” in the meeting of the Italian Association of Theoretical and Applied Mechanics (Salerno, 4-7 September 2017), and they already planned the 8th Meeting (Milan, June 2018) jointly organized with the Italian National Group of Bioengineering.

The Spanish Chapter has been directly involved in the organization of ESB 2017. The Spanish Network of Research in Biomechanics was extended one more year and funded the travel cost for many participants. A new Executive Board has been elected during their GA (1st July).



The Austrian Chapter will have their GA on September 15th 2017 in Innsbruck. And they have already started the preparations of ESB 2019.

DM informed about the agreements signed with affiliated societies (Hellenic Society of Biomechanics, Portuguese Society for Biomechanics, Société de Biomécanique and Polish Society of Biomechanics), and a new agreement with the German Society of Biomechanics is in progress.

2.5.4 Student Committee

The Chair of the Student Committee, Jérôme Noailly (JN) reported about the activities organized.

Previous student working committee – formed by Ali Sharifnezhad, Yash Agarwal, Zahra Asgharpour and Edoardo Borgiani - did an excellent job. Most of them have graduated, so a new student committee is now working. It is formed by Laura Baumgartner, Miguel Angel Ariza Gracia and Edoardo Borgiani.

The ESB Facebook group has more than 475 student members and more than 135 full members. The LinkedIn group has 192 members. Job advertisements are available on these sites as well as directly on our webpages ESBiomech.org.

In Seville, JN and ESB local organizers organized the student evening at Restaurant La Raza and Tuesday Lunch Workshop about “Get prepared to apply to competitive postdoctoral fellowships”. The workshop will be a panel debate and discussion.

The student committee manages the ESB mobility award to promote exchange and collaboration between ESB researchers. The 2017 winner was Karen Mys who will travel from Belgium to Switzerland.

2.5.5 Publication Committee

The Chair of Publication Committee, Mark Thompson (MT), reported on the activities performed in the last year.

The ESB monthly mailing is regularly sent with the latest news from the society including upcoming deadlines (awards, congress registration, endorsed meetings, etc.), updated information on the web page through the calendar, posts and news sections. ESB members were invited to suggest new entries.

A twitter account was just created [@ESBiomech](https://twitter.com/ESBiomech), follow us!

MT informed about the creation of the new open access journal, International Biomechanics (from Taylor & Frances), which is an affiliated journal of the ESB. There are two ESB members on the editorial board and all the ESB members receive a 50% reduction in publication fees.

2.5.6 Meetings Committee

The Chair of Meeting Committee, Harry van Lenthe (HvL), reported that the ESB has endorsed 7 meetings since July 2016: First ESB-ITA Thematic Symposium (Palermo, Italy), MNF2016 (Milan, Italy), EORS2016 (Bologna, Italy) CMBBE2016 (Tel Aviv, Israel), 3D Printing in Healthcare (Amsterdam, Netherlands), icSPORTS2016 (Porto, Portugal) and Barcelona VPH Summer School 2017 (Barcelona, Spain). And there are 5 more upcoming events which will be also endorsed: HRV2017 (Shrivenham, UK), ICCB2017 (Compiègne, France), ECCOMAS Thematic conference “Multiscale Problems in Biomechanics and Mechanobiology” (Vienna, Austria), 3D Printing & Bio-printing in Healthcare (Dusseldorf, Germany) and icSPORT2017 (Madeira, Portugal).

The Call for Bids for ESB2021 will open in Autumn 2017.

The 24th ESB Congress will be held in Dublin within the World Congress of Biomechanics, 8th to 12th July 2018. A presentation is done by Daniel Kelly and Fergal O’Brien.

The 25th ESB Congress will be held in Vienna. Dieter Pahr briefly presents the congress.

Finally, we would like to announce that the 26th ESB Congress will be held in Milano (Italy).



4. Matters arising

None

5. Closure

The President thanked all members for attending and contributing to the Assembly.

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

Signed

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

President

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

Secretary-General

DATE: Monday, 3rd July, 2017