



## Minutes of the European Society of Biomechanics General Assembly

Online (Milan) – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021

Meeting Chairman: Harry van Lenthe, President

Meeting Secretary: David Mitton, Secretary-General

### 1. Welcome by the Secretary General

The Secretary-General, David Mitton, welcomed all participants attending the General Assembly. 202 members attended the General Assembly.

#### a. Approval of the previous GA minutes

The Secretary-General asked for approval of the minutes of the previous General Assembly, held in Vienna, Austria, on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019. The minutes were sent to members via e-mail on 09/06/2021. No comments received. The minutes were approved.

#### b. Approval of the election of the Council new members (electronic vote in 2020)

The Secretary General informed the delegates with the following six candidates receiving the most votes.

- Aurélie Carlier
- Michele Conti
- Ilse Jonkers
- David Mitton
- Jérôme Noailly
- Mark Thompson

These results should be ratified by the General Assembly, so the Secretary General asked for their approval. The General Assembly approved the results and the (re-)election of the six candidates.

#### c. Approval of new members

The Secretary General sent to ESB members via e-mail on 09/06/2021 the list of the 319 new members (86 active, 232 students and 1 corporate) since the last General Assembly in Vienna.

A block ratification of all new members was approved by the General Assembly.

#### d. Matters arising

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



## 2. Council reports

### 2.1 Presidential Address

The president, Harry van Lenthe, congratulated the Milan team for the excellent congress, organised online for the first time. The first feedbacks have been very positive, in particular regarding scientific quality of the presentations, the chat for questions and the recording of the presentations allowing views after the sessions.

The president underlined that the scientific environment of the ESB is changing. He invites the ESB members to provide their thoughts in making the ESB future-proof.

### 2.2 Report from the Treasurer

The treasurer (Jérôme Noailly, JN) reported.

JN presented the financial report for 2019 and 2020. The total assets of the Society on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 were 198 672.06 Euros. Incomes resulted mostly from membership fees in 2020 due to the cancellation of the 2020 congress. Expenses were mostly related to the awards, website maintenance, and webinar platform. Finally, JN presented the budget estimates for 2021 (total incomes 8 636 euros, total expenses 13 530 euros with a balance estimate for 2021 of - 4 894 euros). The financial report for 2019 was submitted to the two auditors Monique Donckerwolke and Paulo Fernandes who scrutinised the report in detail. Both auditors reported that the financial report of 2019 was correct and in a good state. The financial report 2020 will be submitted to the auditors in July 2021.

The treasurer asked the membership for approval of the 2019 report. It was approved.

### 2.3 Report from the Committees

#### 2.3.1 Diversity-Inclusion and Membership Committee

The chair of the Diversity-Inclusion and Membership Committee, Mark Thompson (MT), reported on the gender profile of the membership and of competitive awards. A tendency towards parity could be observed for the students and seems to draw a positive trend. MT presented the geographical distribution of membership and for new members since July 2020. MT cited current corporate members and highlighted the new corporate member (Bertec).

MT further explained the advantages for the members from low and lower middle income countries. Here, upon explicit request (Diversity-Inclusion and Membership committee chair or Treasurer) members affiliated to an institution that resides in a low and lower middle income country as defined by the world bank can obtain up to 80% reduction in membership fees.

#### 2.3.2 Education and Student Committee

The chair of the education and student committee, Aurélie Carlier (AC), provided an overview of the members of the committee and mentioned their activities in the previous year. In relation to social media, the following numbers on membership/followers were provided: Facebook ESBiomech: 156; Facebook ESBiomech. Students: 130; LinkedIn: 210; Twitter: 1244. AC further highlighted the committee's engagement to develop the seminar series (7 already organised with around 50 participants) and received already over 2000 views on the ESB YouTube channel. Finally, AC presented the Mobility Award 2020 winner:



- Morteza Rasouligandomani from Universitat de Pompeu Fabra, Spain to Politecnico di Milano, Italy, for a project entitled “*Spine 3D Patient-Specific Finite Element Models to Understand Proximal Junction Failure in Post Orthopedic Spine Surgery*“.

AC mentioned that the Student event 2021 organised online the night before was a success.

### 2.3.3 Publication Committee

The chair of the publication committee, Michele Conti (MC), reported on the activities carried out in the previous year, which included the summer and autumn newsletters as well as focussed monthly mailings on important matters. MC pointed out the clean-up in the webpage and the weekly news update. MC announced two new actions, a map of ESB network and a call for online pictures. MC closed this report by informing the membership about the publication of the ESB2020 Clinical Biomechanics award by H. Kainz et al. in the Clinical Biomechanics Journal.

### 2.3.4 Scientific Communication Committee

The chair of the scientific communication committee, Ilse Jonkers (IJ), reminded the GA on the ESB YouTube channel and informed that keynote and award lectures for ESB 2021 will be uploaded after the congress. IJ presented 4 opportunities to increase scientific communication. Two will be organised in the next months: an online thematic journal club, and PhD presentation videos. The call for the online thematic journal club will be included in the autumn newsletter. The idea is to submit a short-video (max 3-5 min) on published paper, followed by a ‘meet the author session’ in a break-out room where more profound discussion on the papers take place. For the PhD presentation video, all candidates of the ‘Best PhD thesis’ award will be invited to contribute a video.

### 2.3.5 Meeting Webportal Committee

The chair of the webportal committee, Dieter Pahr (DP), underlined that Conftool was used for the online conference 2021 (Milan) and will be used in ESB 2022 in Porto.

DP reminded the membership regarding the criteria for Perspective Talks (PTs) (equilibrium between tracks) and suggested to submit a PT again next year in case the PT was not selected this year. DP closed the report noting that the submission deadline for PTs is 30 November 2021.

### 2.3.6 Meetings and External Affairs Committee

The chair of the meetings and external affairs committee, Enrico Dall'Ara (EDA), reviewed key activities in the national chapters from Spain, Italy and Austria highlighting the online scientific meeting of the Austrian chapter in November 2020. EDA reported two new memoranda of understanding signed, one with the Virtual Physiological Institute and the second with the Australian and New Zealand Society of Biomechanics (ANZSB).

With respect to ESB endorsed meetings EDA noted that a total of 11 such meetings were endorsed since ESB 2019 in Vienna, noting a selection of (upcoming) meetings.

EDA presented the future call for bids for ESB 2025, going out by the 1<sup>st</sup> October with a deadline for a concise, 4 pages bid due on 15 December 2021. A selection of bids to be taken forward to the second stage will be completed by 30 January 2022, where full bids by 1 to 2 selected pre-bids are to be



submitted by 30<sup>th</sup> April with subsequent presentation during the next ESB conference (Porto, June 2022).

EDA then proceeded to the matter of future ESB meetings, reminding the membership about the previously selected bids for ESB 2022 (Porto), ESB 2023 (Maastricht), ESB 2024 (Edinburgh). A short video gave an overview of the ESB 2022 in Porto.

## 2.4 Report on Awards

Markus Heller (MH), Vice-President of the ESB, reported on the awards procedures and presented the recipients of the awards for the 2021 congress:

- Huiskes Medal: Prof. Marco Viceconti (University of Bologna), for his lifetime achievement in Biomechanics
- Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics: Guillaume Durandau (University of Twente, The Netherlands) PhD title: "Towards the next Generation in Human-machine-interfacing: Controlling Wearable Robots via Neuromusculoskeletal Modelling".

Runners up for Best Doctoral Thesis in Biomechanics:

Immaculada Llop Harillo (Universitat Jaume I, Spain) "Methods for the Design and Evaluation of Anthropometric Artificial Hands"

Max L. Olander (MIT, USA) "Computational Processing and Modeling of Intravascular Images Precisely Couple Arterial Morphology and Biomechanics"

- Poster awards

ESB – ITA poster award: Giannitelli, Sara Maria

ESB poster awards:

Themes	Winners
Cardiovascular Mechanics	Berti, Francesca
Cell and Molecular	Dannhauser, David
Musculoskeletal and Orthopaedics	Cristofolini, Luca
Tissue Biomechanics	Walle, Matthias
Locomotion and Rehabilitation	Zago, Matteo
Emerging Biomechanics	Karagöz, Zeynep
Other Topics in Biomechanics	Nambiar, Malavika Harikrishnan

- Student Award finalists:

Winners:

Karol Calò, In vivo aortic hemodynamics analysis combining complex networks theory and 4D flow MRI



Anna Corti, A finite element -agent-based coupled model of restenosis: linking tissue damage to cellular dynamics

Runners up:

Katia Capellini, An image-based CFD and RBF mesh morphing approach: an alternative for standard FSI technique

Gabriele Nasello, Mechano-driven regeneration predicts bone ingrowth in large animal model based on scaffold implantation site

MH thanked all members of the respective award committees for their hard and most essential work in the evaluations for the awards.

### **3. Matters Arising**

It was asked whether ESB 2022 in Porto will be 100% onsite. A hybrid format is planned by the local organisers.

A question was raised regarding not combining ESB and World Congress of Biomechanics in 2022. It was mentioned that ESB is combined with the WCB when WCB is held in Europe or when special agreements are in place with the WCB (e.g. WCB 2014 Boston).

### **4. Closure**

The president thanked all members for attending and their contribution to the General Assembly.

As no other matters arose at this point, the President closed the meeting.

Signed

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President

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Secretary-General

Date: Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2021