

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR BIOMATERIALS
GENERAL MEETING

PARIS, 5th SEPTEMBER 1985

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Ladies and Gentlemen,

May I begin my report by welcoming you to the General Meeting of our Society. This meeting is one of our regular two yearly General Meetings where the officials of the Society report to the membership about the activities of the Society over the previous two years, where the new members of Council are elected and where any comments from the membership about the Society can be made.

I wish to start my report by looking at the Objects of the Society as laid down in Art. 4 of the Statutes where the Society undertakes to collaborate with other like minded societies, to promote scientific meetings and publications in our field, to establish specifications and standards and to encourage biomaterials activity in any other way it sees fit. I shall take these objectives and report to you on our activities under these various headings.

The European Society for Biomaterials has cooperated with a number of other Societies to organise scientific meetings since the last General Meeting held in Leuven, Belgium in September 1983, details of which are shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Conferences and Meetings organised or co-sponsored by the ESB.

Date	Location	Title	In co-operation with
April 84	Washington D.C.	2nd World Congress on Biomaterials	Soc. of Biomaterials Canadian Soc of Bio. Japanese Soc of Bio. Biomat'ls Gp of BES.
Sept 84	Davos	4th European Soc of Biomechanics	European Soc of Biomechanics.
June 85	Capri	2nd Int. Conf. on Polymers in Medicine.	

Sept 85	Paris	5th European Conf on Biomaterials	E S of Biomechanics. Biomat'ls Gp of BES.
April 86	Chester	Consensus Conf. on Definitions in Biomaterials.	
Sept 86	Bologna	10th Anniversary Mtg. of the ESB.	

As can be seen from the Table, the ESB is maintaining a policy of participating in, or organising, two major meetings each year. We believe that we can be most effective in this way, to co-sponsor or organise any more than two meetings each year would stretch our resources too far.

In addition to participating in the various meetings, the Council of the ESB has maintained a policy of publishing the work presented at the meetings whenever possible. To this end we have come to an arrangement with Elsevier Science Publishers that Proceedings of our conferences will be properly peer reviewed and published very quickly after each conference which we organise. Following the 4th European Conference on Biomaterials held two years ago in Leuven, a book "Biomaterials and Biomechanics 1983" edited by P Ducheyne, G Van der Perre and A E Aubert was published by Elsevier as volume 5 in our series "Advances in Biomaterials", a book which contained 80 papers in 8 Sections spread over 470 pages of copy. To persuade authors to write their papers, arrange for reviewing, edit the accepted papers and still manage to publish within 8 months of the Conference is an achievement of which reviewers, editors and publishers can be proud, and I would like to thank them for their efforts on behalf of the ESB. Members will know that the Proceedings of this Paris Conference are also to be published in the same series, and will be supplied to all people registered for the conference as part of the registration fee. This inclusion is a new venture for us, and will enable us to supply Proceedings at a very low price to our members present in Paris. May I make a plea now to those of you who are presenting papers to submit camera ready copy as soon as possible so that we can start the review process. If you have presented a paper but do not wish it to be published in the conference proceedings, please let us know as well, it will save a lot of chasing-up after the conference. We hope the book will be published in about six months time, it will be sent by post to each attendee. It was not possible to publish full, reviewed proceedings of the World Congress held in Washington, but a volume of long abstracts, the Transactions, was published at the conference and should be available via the American

Society of Biomaterials. The long abstracts of the Davos meeting were published by our colleagues in the European Society of Biomechanics, and I believe a full Proceedings volume is to be published. The Proceedings of the Capri Conference are also to be published in a special book, and plans are well afoot to publish the full Proceedings of the Bologna and the Chester meetings which will be held next year. I have continued the practice started by Gunte Heimke of writing a Newsletter to all members about twice a year and I hope that you find the contents interesting. If any Member would like to write anything in the Newsletter, or if any member has any other suggestion to make about the Newsletter, please let me know.

During the past two years the ESB has been active on the International front. We are part of the International Liaison Committee of the Biomaterials Societies of the world, and have attended their meetings in Washington and San Diego. At present, Peter Van Mullem our Treasurer/Membership Secretary is President of the ILC and I am Secretary of the ILC. Our major concern at the moment is the organisation of the 3rd World Congress on Biomaterials which will be held in Kyoto, Japan in 1988. There has been some movement on the European front as well, the Council of Europe has set up a Biomaterials Committee and we are attempting to ensure that we have a full voice in their deliberations. We continue to co-operate with the European Society for Biomechanics, who are co-sponsoring this meeting in Paris; next year we should have joined them for their meeting in Berlin, but we have pulled out of the arrangement for this one time in order to celebrate our 10th birthday in Italy, the country of our foundation. We hope that the ESB will be able to organise the 6th European Conference on Biomaterials in 1987 and that the European Society of Biomechanics will join with us in this meeting to re-establish the biennial conference cooperation between our societies.

I feel I must mention the official journal of our society, the Journal of Biomedical Materials Research. The subscription to the journal has been a part of the membership fee for the past two years, yet we still have trouble with late supply or no supply at all to our members. I visited the publishers in New York last April when I happened to be there and hoped that the difficulties had been sorted out. I am not convinced that this is the case since I am still getting letters of complaint from members. I have now written again to the publishers of the JBMR listing a number of our members who have told me they do not get the journal and hope that the problem will resolve itself in a few weeks. If the problem is not resolved satisfactorily, then the Council will consider changing to another journal, we would like to hear members views on this matter. One small

thing has been sorted out: if a member of the ESB wishes to be a member of the American Society of Biomaterials and does not wish to receive two copies of the JBMR, then the member can pay an administration fee of \$25 to the S of B, he or she will then be a full member of the S of B but the journal will be supplied via the ESB. While I am talking about the official journal of the society, the Council has found the presence of the European editor on the Council to be absolutely necessary and consequently will be proposing a change to our Byelaws to make the editor an ex-officio member of Council to save us the possible risk that the editor might not be elected to Council in the normal way or may change between elections.

May I finish my report today by thanking all the other members of Council for the immense amount of work they do for the Society on our behalf. Thanks to Pascal Christel who acts as secretary as well as one of the chief organisers of this Paris meeting. Thanks to Peter Van Mullem who acts as our Treasurer and Membership Secretary, a combination which was brought in two years ago and has worked so successfully that we are proposing some changes to the Byelaws to regularise the position. Thanks must be given to Hanns Plenk who has acted as European Assistant Editor of the JBMR, a job that I suspect took up too much of his time as he has felt it necessary to give it up having done a first class job for many years; the position of European Editor of the JBMR being taken over by David Williams. David is also primarily responsible for the Consensus Conference to be held in Chester next year. Antonio Ravaglioli is the Council member responsible for the Bologna conference also next year; thanks are due to both of them for their efforts so far and for the efforts they will put in over the next twelve months. In addition, the Council has been well supported by Berton Rahn, our vice-president, who in his capacity as a member of the Council of the European Society of Biomechanics was intimately involved in the successful Davos meeting; and by Gunte Heimke whose experience over many years service on the Council has been invaluable to it. Finally I must thank Peter Griss for his membership of the Council, even though it has been short as he has had to resign at this meeting due to pressure of work. Thanks are due to all Council members, and to their wives for the help and support given over the past years.

If any member has a question he or she would like to raise regarding the items I have reported upon will they please raise them now.

Thank you very much for your attention.

Report of the Treasurer. Period Aug. 21, 1983 - July 23, 1985

During the past 2 years-period the finances of the European Society for Biomaterials have suffered from the high rate of the dollar. For the 1985 collective subscription to the JBMR we charged ECU 53.- from each member. However, when for most members had to be paid, the equivalent of ECU 57.- had to be remitted. So ECU 4.- was at the expense of the administrative part of the membership fee, which was ECU 26.50.

Over the past 2 years we have spent approximately ECU 16.700.- to our collective subscription to the JBMR.

The next largest expenses regarded the Council meetings and representation on International Liaison Committee (ECU 5.930.-). With respect to the Council meetings, rent of meeting rooms, food and beverages and travel expenses, or parts thereof, were paid. With respect to representation on ILC, Drs van Mullem and Lee being President and Secretary resp., a minor part of their travel costs to attend the SB meeting at San Diego, Cal. was paid bij ESB.

Office expenses of Council members could be kept low, because some of us can mail without stating postages, others can call without being charged for it, etc.

Our main credits are the membership fees: approx. ECU 23.800.- but also the interest from our 3 reserve funds provide a significant amount of money: approx. ECU 1.875.-.

Last financial year was blessed by a large benefit of the 1983 Leuven Conference: approx. ECU 6.670.-.

Although the 1985 balance of our 4 bank accounts combined is at a discount of ECU 1.200.- when compared with the 1983 balance, it can be stated that finances of our Society are healthy. This is because over the past 2 years ECU 9.400.- could be added to our reserve funds, which more than compensates the discount mentioned.

To conclude: a kind request to all members. Please, remit your membership fee to the Society's US\$ account whenever you can. This protects the finances of the ESB from sudden rises of the \$ rate.

Membership ESB as per Aug. 22, 1985.

() as per March 27, 1985

Honorary members	2	(2)
Non-paying members	3	(3)
Senior members		
without journal	0	(0)
with journal	1	(1)
Ordinary members		
without journal	6	(5)
with journal	153	(141)
Total number of members	165	(152)

Austria	2
Belgium	10
DDR	2
FRG	36
France	30
Greece	2
Italy	18
Netherlands	18
Norway	2
Sweden	4
Switzerland	17
UK	12
USSR	2
Australia	1
Israel	2
Japan	1
USA	6
	165


DECLARATION BY THE COMMITTEE OF AUDITORS


We, the members of the Committee of Auditors, hereby declare that we have audited the books and documents of the European Society of Biomaterials over the period from August 21st, 1983 until July 23rd, 1985.

On the basis of our audit we are confident that an accurate record has been kept of the Society's finances and that the books closed on July 23rd, 1985 represent a true statement of the facts.

Paris, France, September 4th, 1985.

Signed by :


Prof. T. ALBREKTSSON
Sweden


Prof. U. GROSS
Germany


Dr. P. TRANQUILLI-LEALI
Italy