



# NEWSLETTER

of the

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR BIOMATERIALS

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Berlin, December 16th 1991

Dear Member,

According to the Statutes and Byelaws of our society the General Assembly renewed its council in Chester and elected Drs.S.Downes, C.van Blitterswijk, P.Giusti and M.A.Barbosa as new council members. The council elected U.Gross for President, M.Jozefowicz for Vice-President, S.Downes as Secretary, C.van Blitterswijk for Treasurer and Membership Secretary, and D.F.Williams as Editor of the official ESB journal "Materials in Medicine". We thank the leaving council members G.de Lange, A.J.C.Lee, B.Rahn and A.Ravaglioli for devoting their time and work for the society.

The development of the society was positive in the last year. The activity of the society in strengthening Biomaterials Science was well documented by the organization or sponsoring of successful scientific meetings. The increase in membership to over 300 members is a very positive sign of renewal and expansion of the ESB. There is even more room for specific activities e.g. in facilitating the cooperative scientific work in research and development and in academic education. The next steps for the future development of the society will be a major issue of the next council meeting in February 1992, and suggestions for further activities of the society are welcome and should be directed to one of the council members.

In September this year the 2nd Consensus Conference on Definitions in Biomaterials and the 9th European Conference on Biomaterials were held in Chester and attracted more than 300 participants which indicates a general interest in the scientific content of these conferences. The Proceedings of the 9th European Conference on Biomaterials and the results of the 2nd Consensus Conference on Definitions in Biomaterials will be made available in the next months. We thank D.F.Williams, Liverpool, who mainly organised these conferences.

The editors of our official journal "Materials in Medicine" gave a positive opinion on the development of the journal. The publisher, Chapman and Hall, has offered to publish 6 issues per year, beginning with 1992. This offer was accepted by the council and the General Assembly and therefore the membership fees will be slightly increased but the administrative part of the membership fees will be kept constant. All members are invited to publish in "Materials in Medicine", a section of the Journal of Materials Science, which is being distributed worldwide. In order to receive

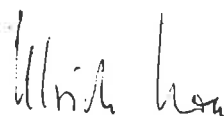
"Materials in Medicine" on time ,please, pay your membership fees now.

For the first time, a representative of the Commission of the European Communities, from the Directorate General for Science, Research and Development, Joint Research Centre, G. Clarotti, Rue de la Loi 200, B 1049 Brussels, Belgium, was attending a conference of our society to give some information on the support of research by his institution in the program BRITE EURAM II. Detailed information on this program will be available from G. Clarotti.

The European Society for Biomaterials is in charge to organise the Fourth World Biomaterials Congress April 24-28, 1992, in the International Congress Center in Berlin. The representatives of the Societies working together in the International Liaison Committee, the Canadian Biomaterials Society, the Japanese Society for Biomaterials and the Society for Biomaterials (USA) just met in Paris with our representatives and with the program and organizing committees' chairmen in order to prepare the scientific program. 780 abstracts have been sent for blind review to two independent experts, and the result is very promising, namely the acceptance of 296 abstracts for oral presentation and of 400 abstracts for poster presentation. This tremendous work was organised by the former President, P. Christel. The program will also contain a plenary lecture, two panel discussions and eleven workshops devoted to hot topics in biomaterials. Themes of the workshops are: Synthetic Ligaments, Biomaterials and Tissues Interactions, Small Diameter Vascular Prosthesis, Uncemented Hip and Knee Prosthesis, Coated Dental Implants, Biosensors and Implantable Electronic Components, Heart Valves, Intraocular Devices and Contact Lenses, Testing and Approval of Biomaterials, Implants and Devices, New Bone Cements, Bioactive Materials. The panel discussions are dedicated to Ethical Issues in Biomaterials Research and Practice, and to Bioderived Materials. Furthermore, a Technical Exhibition will present pertinent items for research, development and clinical application of biomaterials and implant systems. The fees for attending the congress are very modest for members of the constituent societies, who are registering early. You are kindly invited to attend this congress, to present your work in basic or applied research and to find new ideas and new personal acquaintances with persons coming from all over the world. Besides, Berlin and its surroundings will offer exciting places to visit in our rapidly changing world.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

sincerely yours



Ulrich Gross