



## **European Society for Biomaterials**

General Assembly Sunday 1 October 2006, Cité du Congress, Nantes, France

### **Minutes**

#### **1 Confirmation of Agenda**

James Kirkpatrick (President of ESB) welcomed the attendees to the General Assembly. The agenda was confirmed by the attendees.

#### **2 President's Report – James Kirkpatrick**

The President's report will be presented covering two activities - Internal Interactions and External Interactions. The expanding membership of the society is to be discussed by Antonio Merolli in the Treasurer's Report. This year the Finnish Society for Biomaterials has now joined an associated society to ESB.

Pedro Granja has been working on the new web site. Thanks were expressed to Antonio Merolli, Pedro Granja and José Paulo Periera. The teething problems being sorted out, hope to be up and running in full form. On line payment of membership fees will be up and working in the near future and certainly in time for the payment of 2007 fees.

New Honorary Members of ESB were installed at the dinner the previous evening: Charles Baquey, Bordeaux, France; William Bonfield, Cambridge, UK; Adam Curtis, Glasgow, UK; Clements van Blitterswijk, Twente, The Netherlands; Hanns Plenk, Vienna, Austria; Peter Revell, London, UK.

There has been a highly successful Young Scientists forum on the evening of Saturday 30 September. Thanks were expressed to Peter Dubruel, Jan Schrooten and Lucy di Silvio for the organisation of the YSF event. There was speed networking with 7 industrial companies. The next YSF event will be at Brighton. It should be noted that 50% of attendees at Nantes were students, which gives an idea of the lively state of the society.

#### **Best Oral and Best Poster Students Prizes**

Thanks were expressed to the Judges. For Oral Prizes the Session Chairs were the judges. Poster Professors William Bonfield, Josep Planell, Etienne Schacht, John Hunt, Dirk Grijpma, Clemens van Blitterswijk, Michel Vert, Minna Kellomäki,

Oral Prizes were given to:

Floyd Karp, USA for "Investigation of the Foreign Body Response with an Implanted Biosensor by *In Situ* Application of Electrical Impedance Spectroscopy"

Nadia Poilane, Japan for “Well defined surface preparation with phospholipid polymers for highly sensitive immunoassays”

Gowsihan Poologasundarampillai, UK for “Non-Destructive Quantitative 3D Analysis of Connectivity and Permeability of Porous Scaffolds”

Jeroen van den Beucken, The Netherlands for “Functionalization of multilayered DNA-coatings with bone morphogenetic protein 2 (BMP-2)”

The Poster Prize winners were:

Joanne Convery, UK for “Methods of Analysis of nanoparticulate coatings on Biomaterials”

Michael Keeney, Ireland for “Development of Hierarchies in Scaffold Architecture”

Ryoko Iwata, Japan for “Covalent Immobilization of Antibody on Well-Defined Block Copolymer Brushes”

Ionut Topala, Turkey for “Hemocompatibility of the PET Films Modified by DBD Treatments”

European Doctoral Awards were developed in the last year and are covered in greater detail in Secretary’s Report, Four new awardees were Dr Cristina C. Barrias, University of Porto, Portugal; Christopher L. Camiré, Lund University, Sweden; Dr Anna Maria Piras, University of Porto, Portugal; Dr Francesca Signori, University of Pisa, Italy.

Next ESB conferences will be Brighton 9-12 September 2007. In 2008 it is the 8<sup>th</sup> World Biomaterials Congress in Amsterdam, thus as world congress year no ESB Conference. To host future ESB Conferences, we had multiple applications and after a bidding process described on the ESB website the decisions of the ESB Council are 2009, Swiss Society will host in Montreax, Switzerland, while in 2010 the conference will be Turku, Finland.

World Congress Executive committee has been appointed, Ambassadors from various of the constituent societies of IUS-BSE have also been appointed. Very Important - 1 month remains to suggest symposia for the world congress deadline is 30 October 2006. The chosen symposia will be made know in the call for abstracts. Abstracts will be submitted to the symposia.

There was an ESB Symposium at International congresses at World Biomechanics Conference in August 2006 in Munich KET and Damian Lacoix (Secretary of European Society of Biomechanics) organised a combined ESB/ESB session.

There will be an ESB symposium at EFORT (European Federation of National Associations in Orthopedics and Traumatology) in Florence May 2007 Antonio Merolli will be ESB Representative, KET will be another speaker.

IUS-BSE (International Union of Societies in Biomaterials Science and Engineering) James Kirkpatrick, Gino Ambrosio and Joost de Bruijn are the representatives. They attended the meeting in Pittsburgh in April 2006. There is a College of Fellows made up by current Fellows of the College of Biomaterials Science and Engineering. World Congress reported. Website is up and activated. The Congress has had a booth and representative at this meeting in Nantes.

The society has input into establishing a new European Technology Platform on Nanomedicine. Has formed the basis of a White Paper on Strategic Research Agenda on Nanomedicine.

In May there was a joint ESB-China Congress in Suzhou (near Shanghai) organised by Prof Zhang XingDong of Chengdu University and Chairman of the Chinese Society for Biomaterials. In 2008 there will be the next ESB-China meeting in Barcelona run by Josep Planell.

Thanks should be expressed to the Organisers, Sponsors, Reviewers and to the Delegates making the conference that we all have enjoyed.

No questions were raised from the floor.

### **3 Treasurer and Membership Secretary's Report – Antonio Merolli**

In 1999 the Society had multiple bank accounts and had accumulated a large balance. This is not acceptable for a scientific society. We have reorganised the accounts and now have 2 accounts, one international which can be moved from country to country and one national to receive creditcard transfers. We have spent money on professional secretariat, the website and on prizes. We have continued to overspend and are aiming to get to 1-2 years running costs, compared to the current balance. The increased expenditure has been on more Prizes and Travel Grants.

Rachel Williams and Pentti Tengvall are the Auditors and they have looked at the accounts and thanked AM for clear and well presented accounts.

In 2005 had an expenditure of €78,899.72 which included that we gave out 2 loans to conference organisers and paid for the journal subscriptions for the members of the Society. Also as 2004 was World Biomaterials Congress there were no presentations for the George Winter and Jean Leray Prizes thus in 2005 paid for two years of George Winter and Jean Leray awards. The income was €41,885.16 including the return of €10,000 from Sorrento which left €97,355.04 at the end of the year.

Expenditure so far in 2006 is €45,672.51 and the income has also been €45,672.51 therefore in 2006 still have nearly €100,000 in the bank, loan of €10,000 should be repaid by Nantes. The amount paid for Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine in the dollar prices remained constant while Euro rose against the Dollar thus have reduced costs on journal.

The accounts were presented to the General Assembly and the vote to accept the Accounts was most of the meeting to accept the accounts with 1 against and 1 abstention (Antonio Merolli).

#### Questions on Accounts

From Geoff Richards – why only loaning €10,000 per conference, with high balance of the Society Accounts.

Antonio Merolli replied the loan to the Conference provide safety net for the Conference Organisers and allow them to pay for things before their start to get any payments.

Elizabeth Tanner – Conference organisers aim for balance in their accounts.

Matteo Santin – costs of organisation loan is used to pay deposit for rooms, conference dinner reservations prior to income from delegates fees. Matteo Santin suggests that the value of the loan should be reviewed in line with inflation.

James Kirkpatrick – when the Council is choosing sites for future conference organisers looking at experience with organising conference. This is to ensure that the conference organisers have the skills to produce a good conference.

Josep Planell – The issue that Geoff Richards raised is interesting. This Society has always been fairly hands off with conference organisers.

James Kirkpatrick – There are legal consequences of Society underwriting the conference, who would be responsible for any financial failures of the conferences.

0 against, 1 absension (AM) and rest for

The membership is from (in order of number of member per country UK, Italy, Germany, France, Portugal, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain, The Netherlands, Finland, Japan, Poland, Ireland, USA, Greece, Denmark, Turkey, Australia, Israel, Norway, Argentina, Austria, Canada, Czech Republic, Egypt, Ira, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Romania, Singapore, Slovak Republic and Taiwan. These include three new countries. The members are split into 7 Honorary, 132 Full, 30 Junior, 5 Senior, 213 Laboratory and 11 Corporate. In 2005 web site did not work well. The reorganisation of the website and membership secretariat new has resulted in applications are being received every week, the collection of fees has improved and delivery of journal. The Council and the members of the Society have communication via [esb@siot.it](mailto:esb@siot.it) (the Secretariat from the Italian Orthopaedics and Traumatology Society based in Rome).

#### **4 Secretary's Report – Elizabeth Tanner**

Activities have included the endorsing of conferences throughout Europe in the last year. The web site is now based in Porto run by Pedro Granja. It has been updated and is more active. The membership area should be up and running in the near future.

The European Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering Doctoral Award (EBTEDA) has been launched this year. The system is now on the ESB website and was presented to the Young Scientists Forum the previous day. Four EBTEDA were awarded to: Dr Cristina Barrias (Porto, Portugal), Dr Christopher L. Camiré (Lund, Sweden), Dr Anna M. Piras (Pisa, Italy) and Dr Francesca Signori (Pisa, Italy). The requirements briefly are to complete a PhD subject to the rules of whichever University the candidate has been registered. The candidate also has to present their work in two or more European languages and to have presented their work at an ESB Conference or World Biomaterials Congress. They also have to have spent at least three months in a laboratory in another European laboratory than the country where they are registered for the PhD.

No questions were raised from the floor.

#### **5 Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine**

William Bonfield not able to be present at the Conference, therefore Josep Planell presented the Journal Report. The impact factor has increased from 1.128 to 1.248, Impact factor is evaluated from data in 2003 & 2004 and the Journal went into Medline in 2004. Downloads increased from 2000 per month to about 6000 per month since going into Medline. Number of citations for 2005 is just below Biomaterials and Dental Research. Present situation is that Bill Bonfield will step down in December 2006, there are currently two co-editors Josep Planell and Serena Best. Main issues to be done by end of year are to bring in 2 new Associate Editors, one from US. The journal will renew and increase editorial board, bringing younger scientists. Since online submission number of submissions has increase by factor of 3.4-4.0 which even with the increased page allowance will lead to an increase in the rejection rate. The new Editors will increase the database of referees. Publishing will be accelerated therefore decreasing time to publication. Electronic publication has been discussed

Best paper in journal in 2005 given to Jan-Thorsten Schantz, Arthur Brandwood, Dietmar Werner Hutmacher, Hwei Ling Khor and Katharina Bittner for their paper "Osteogenic

differentiation of mesenchymal progenitor cells in computer designed fibrin-polymer-ceramic scaffolds manufactured by fused deposition modelling” published in Volume 16 pp. 807-819

No questions were raised from the floor.

## **5 Future Conferences**

### **5a) Brighton 2007 – Matteo Santin representing Brighton**

This conference will take place 9-13 September 2007 in the Royal Pavilion which was built for George IV (when Prince Regent) based around the Dome and Corn Exchange. Over 1000 seats in main lecture theatre and >500 seats and >300 seat sessions. Topics will include Tissue engineering, tissue reconstruction and tissue regeneration. Abstract deadline is 31 January 2007. Will also host some joint meetings including Polymers in Medicine and Surgery (PIMS) as successor to Bill Bonfield’s meeting in Cambridge in 2005 run in collaboration with Brighton University group. Young Scientists to form the centre of the meeting. The Conference organisers are looking forward to welcoming everyone in Brighton in 2007.

## **6 AOB**

European PhDs question– Q to Prof Tanner 2 European languages does it need to include the language of the country where the people spent their 3+ months. Answer - No.

Closing Ceremony - 814 delegates at the Nantes ESB Conference from 40 countries in 5 continents: Europe, North America, South America, Asia and Australia. The countries concerned were: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Hungary, India, Iraq, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Marocco, Mexico, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Scotland, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, Turkey, United Kingdom and USA

ESB travel awards were made to Sergio Bertazzo, Brazil; Eva Filova, Czech Republic; Bhaskara Balaji Avvri India; Asha Mathew India; Hyung Woo Choi, Korea; Kalina Batko, Poland; George Stan, Romania; Liana Codruta Tamas, Romania; Ovidiu Fodor, Romania; Christian Schmidt, South Africa; Ionut Topala, Turkey and Nihal Vrana, Turkey