



European Society for Biomaterials General Assembly

10th September 2009

Lausanne, Switzerland

Minutes

1. Confirmation of Agenda

Agreed

2. President's Report (LA)

ESB has been involved in various EU initiatives including nano-medicine platforms. Members of the Society, L. Ambrosio, J. Kirkpatrick, J. Planell, M. Santin attended several meetings with the European Commission and others to foster new initiatives in biomaterials science.

ESB has one new Affiliated Society - the Hellenic Society for Biomaterials and two in the progress of applying to be affiliated - Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering Society of Slovenia and Biomaterials & Tissue Engineering Society of Turkey. We have one new sister society, the European Orthopaedic Research Society, EORS, (www.eors.eu), with in progress an application from the International Society for Ceramics in Medicine.

A plaque was presented to ESB by the Hellenic Society for Biomaterials.

ESB has endorsed the following conferences:

Italian Society for Biomaterials Congress, Pavia, 15-19 June, 2009.

10th Advanced Summer Course in Cell-Materials Interactions - Self-assembly: from Nature to Clinics, Porto, 22-26 June 2009.

ESF-EMBO Symposium on "Biological Surfaces and Interfaces", 27 June - 2 July 2009, Hotel Eden Roc, Sant Feliu de Guixols, Spain.

Tissue and Cell Engineering Society Conference, 8-10 July 2009, Glasgow, Scotland.

15th International Biomedical Science and Technology Symposium (BIOMED2009), August 16th-19th, 2009, Güzelyurt, Turkey.

THERMEC 2009 – August 26-29, 2009, Berlin, Germany

International Bone-Tissue Engineering Congress, Hannover, 8-11 October 2009, Germany.

2nd International Congress on Biohydrogels – Via Reggio, Italy November 10-15, 2009.

Workshop on Stem Cells for Bone Regeneration, European Science Foundation & European Orthopaedic Research Society, Bologna, Italy 7-10 October 2009.

UK Society for Biomaterials, Glasgow, 1-2 July 2010, Scotland

BIOSPINE 3 – 3rd Congress of Biotechnologies for Spinal Surgery, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, September 1-4, 2010.

There have been or will be ESB Sessions at the following International Conferences:

10th EFORT Congress, 3-6 June 2009 Vienna, Austria

International Bone-Tissue-Engineering Congress, Hannover, Germany, 8-11 October 2009.

World Conference on Regenerative Medicine, Leipzig, Germany, October 29-31, 2009.

Future ESB Conferences are:

2nd Chinese-European Symposium on Biomaterials in Regenerative Medicine, 16-20 November 2009, Barcelona, Spain

ESB 2010 – 11-15 Sept. 2010 - Tampere – Finland

ESB 2011 – 4-9 Sept 2011 - Dublin – Ireland and

9th WBC – 1-5 June 2012 – Chengdu – China.

Members of ESB were reminded that nominations for the Jean Leray and George Winter Awards for 2010 close on 31st December 2009 and should be sent to Mario Barbosa at the University of Porto, Portugal.

3. Treasurer's Report (PDG)

A new bank account has been opened in Portugal, due to the change in nationality of the Treasurer. Thus currently the society has 2 bank accounts, Millennium BCP Bank in Porto used for the current Treasurer business (bank transfers, etc) and Deutsch Bank in Rome still used for on line payments. ESB membership as of 31st July 2009 is 692 members compared to 612 in 2007. Of these 469 are laboratory members and 169 are full members with small numbers of the other types of members. There are 33 countries with 135 from UK, 102 from Italy, 90 from Germany and 62 from France.

The accounts for 2008 were expenditure of €48,666.88 of the major one being payment for Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine of €25,175.00, others being for biomat.net sponsorship (€2,500), website management (€6,000), WBC tea shirts (€6,724) the remainder being plaques, student prizes etc. The income was €21,925.77 consisting of membership fees and bank interest. Giving a balance of €48,133.42 on 31/12/2008. It should be noted that the 2008 George Winter and Jean Leray prizes are paid in 2009. It should also be noted that the return of the loan from 2007 conference has not been received as yet.

The state for 2009 as of 31/8/2009 is expenditure of €18,621.00 including biomat.net sponsorship (€2,500), website management (€6,000), website redesign (€4,000), and €4,000 for student prizes and travel awards for 2009 conference. What has still to be paid includes Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine and 2008 and 2009 George Winter and Jean Leray prizes. Income is €54,927.41 consisting of €33,792.84 in fees, €10,000 in return of loans from each of the 2007 ESB Conference and the 2008 World Biomaterials Congress and then bank fees. This gives a current balance of €84,419.83, however it is estimated that €25,000 will be paid to Springer for the journal, plus prizes, plus expenses in running the society.

Payments are received by a variety of methods 1 cheque, 85 on-line payments of €14,356 costing €646.17 and 69 Bank Transfers of €19,183.84 at zero cost. It needs to be considered if on line payments should continue as they are expensive and bank transfer can be done on-line.

The opinion of the Society was taken whether on line payments should be retained. There were a significant number of members who wish to continue to pay on-line and this method will therefore be retained.

Given the balance of the society's budget it was agreed that there was no need to increase the fees which have remained constant for more than the last 10 years.

A new website has been developed with increased functionality and it will be easier to change and update. The previous one was developed some years ago and was made using proprietary software so it is difficult to change. The new website members area including a reminder when the next payment is required, it also makes application for membership easier and renewal easier.

Also as part of the new website Society e-mail addresses have been generated and these include:

President - president@eubiomaterials.eu

Secretary - secretary@eubiomaterials.eu

Treasurer - treasurer@eubiomaterials.eu

Young Scientists Forum - ysf@eubiomaterials.eu

And when officers of the Society change the e-mails will then go to the new officer.

Auditors' Report

Dr Rachel Williams (Liverpool, UK) and Professor Penti Tengvall (Linkjeping, Sweden) have checked the books and balances. To the best of their knowledge the balance and accounts are accurate. A signed statement to this effect was given the Secretary of the Society for the Minutes of the Society.

4. Secretary's Report (KET)

Changes to Bye Laws

Over the last year the ESB Byelaws have been reviewed and edited. Certain changes were made which can be summarised as:

The wording (English Language)

Change from "General Meeting" to "General Assembly"

Requires Students to provide proof of status

E-mail notification of renewal rather than by post

Treasurer rather than Secretary holds list of members

Change in publisher for Materials in Medicine

All non-student laboratory members are eligible to be elected on to ESB Council (previously only "Head of Lab")

The new version of the ByeLaws was circulated to the membership of the Society along with a detailed explanation. The motion to adopt these changes was put to the General Assembly, the motion was seconded by Professor Ulrich Gross, Berlin. A reminder was given that although all delegates are invited to the General Assembly only ESB "Members in good standing" are eligible to vote. Of the members voting there were no votes against and no abstentions so the motion was carried by acclamation.

ESB Elections

Nominations were requested earlier in the year and 10 candidates were nominated and indicated their willingness to stand by submitting a one page CV. Ballot papers and the CVs were e-mailed out by the Secretary of the Society. The completed ballot papers were sent to Prof Elizabeth Tanner who checked that all ballot papers were from fully paid up members of the Society. There were a couple of people who thought had not paid and these ballot papers were discarded. The identifying labels were removed or obliterated and then sent to Dr Sanjukta Deb at King's College, London who counted them. The results in alphabetical order was:

Prof Luigi Ambrosio = 128 votes

Dr Antonietta Gatti = 25

Dr Dirk Grijpma = 108

Prof Vasif Hasrici = 45

Prof John Hunt = 53

Prof M Mikhalosky = 16

Prof Geoff Richards = 39

Prof Julio San Roman = 113

Dr Matteo Santin = 102

Dr Roberto Chiesa = 78

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Thus Gino Ambrosio and Dirk Grijpma were re-elected to Council and Julio San Roman, Matteo Santin and Roberto Chiesa were elected to Council. The new members of Council were congratulated on their election and invited to the next Council meeting on Friday 11th September for the official handover to the new Council.

The New ESB Council therefore is:

Prof Luigi Ambrosio (Italy)

Dr Roberto Chiesa (Italy)

Dr Lucy Di Silvio (UK)

Dr Michael Doser (Germany)

Dr Pedro Granja (Portugal)

Prof Dirk Grijpma (Netherlands)

Prof Julio San Roman (Spain)

Prof Etienne Schacht (Belgium)

Dr Matteo Santin (UK)

Prof Dr James Kirkpartick (Germany) *ex officio* as Immediate Past President

The new Council will meet on Friday 11th September to define the new posts in Council.

Post meeting note – the new Council posts are:

Executive Group

President (Luigi Ambrosio)

Vice President (Etienne Schacht)

Secretary (Lucy Di Silvio)

Treasurer (Pedro Granja)

Education Committee

a) Chairman (Etienne Schacht),

b) Vice Chairman (Dirk Grijpma)

c) Secretary (Lucy Di Silvio),

Current Members: Cristina Longinotti, Gino Ambrosio (*ex officio*), Peter Dubruel

The President of the Society is *ex officio* member of this committee

Contacts with other societies

Industrial Liaison (Michael Doser)

Young Scientist Forum liaison (Matteo Santin)

Liaison with Sister Societies (Dirk Grijpma)

Editors of Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine (Josep Planell and Serena Best)

5. JMS:MiM Editor in Chief's Report (JAP/SMB)

In the last year members of the Editorial Board of Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine were asked if they wanted to remain on the Board. Thereafter some new members

were invited to join. These are: Prof. Mario Barbosa (Portugal), Dr. Pierre Layrolle (France), Prof. Ivan Martin, Prof. Antonio Merolli (Italy), Dr. Véronique Migonney (France), Prof. Bruce Milthorpe (Australia), Prof. Paulo Netti (Italy), Prof. John Nicholson (UK), Prof. Abhay Pandit (Ireland), Prof. Julio San Roman (Spain), Prof. Elizabeth Tanner (UK), Prof. Pekka Valittu, Prof. Xingdong Zhang (China).

The Mission Statement of the Journal has changed from “*Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine publishes refereed papers on the science and technology of biomaterials and their applications as medical or dental implants, prostheses and devices, and of biological materials. Coverage spans a wide range of topics from basic science to clinical applications, around the theme of materials in medicine and dentistry. The central element is the structure, properties and applications of natural materials as well as the metals, ceramics, polymers and composites used in orthopaedic, maxillo-facial, cardiovascular, neurological, ophthalmic and dental applications. Special biomedical topics include cell-biomaterial interactions, biocompatibility, tissue biomechanics, deformation, fracture, creep, fatigue, in vivo implantation, degradation, X-ray and electron microscope characterization, surface analysis, metallurgical processing, powder processing, polymer and composite fabrication, prosthesis biomechanics and clinical trials.*” To “*The Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine publishes refereed papers providing significant progress in the application of biomaterials and tissue engineering constructs as medical or dental implants, prostheses and devices. Coverage spans a wide range of topics from basic science to clinical applications, around the theme of materials in medicine and dentistry. The central element is the development of synthetic and natural materials used in orthopaedic, maxillofacial, cardiovascular, neurological, ophthalmic and dental applications. Special biomedical topics include biomaterial synthesis and characterisation, biocompatibility studies, nanomedicine, tissue engineering constructs and cell substrates, regenerative medicine, computer modelling and other advanced experimental methodologies*”

The Issue line-ups are now:

- Biomaterials Synthesis and Characterisation
- Engineering and Nano-Engineering Approaches for Medical Devices
- Drug Delivery Systems
- Biocompatibility Studies
- Tissue Engineering Constructs and Cell Substrates
- Clinical Applications of Biomaterials

And the journal is now divided into sections covering these areas. There has been a change of reference style, so that now the title of the paper is included. There will be a “Cover photo” of the year competition and invited review papers (starting from 2010), including possibly ones from the winners of the Jean Leray and George Winter prizes. The appointment of a new Associate Editor with links to both the ESB and the American Society for Biomaterials is in progress. There was a Reception and highlighted events at the ESB conference the reception being an innovation for 2009 conference.

The best paper for 2008 was awarded to “Biofunctionalized poly(ethyl glycol)-block copoly(epsilon caprolactone) nanofibers for tissue engineering”, by Dirk Grafahrend, Julia Lliexia Clavert, Jochen Salber, Paul D Dalton, Martin Möller and Doris Klee from RWTH Aachen, Germany and University of Southampton, UK.

6. Award of EDAs, Travel Awards and Poster Prizes (ES)

European Doctoral Awards in Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering (EDAs) were presented to Dr Ahmed Ballo, Dr Mihaela Hamcerencu.

ESB Oral Awards were still in progress and were presented at the Closing Ceremony

Post meeting note – these were awarded to Susana Guerreiro (Portugal), Oliver Mahony (UK), Arnaud Tourvieille de Labrouhe (Switzerland), Janine Fischer (Germany) and Sarra de Valence (Switzerland).

ESB Poster Awards were given to Yoke Chin Chai (Belgium), Markus Niepal (Germany), Sidónio Freitas (Portugal), Srinivas Madduri (Switzerland) and Thomas Barber (UK)

Rudi Cimdins ESB Travel Awards were presented to Balan Vera (Romania), Edi Tanase Constantin (Romania), Elena Kovaleva (Russia), Goutam Thakur (India), Luciana Bostan, (Romania), S. Manju (India), Rishi Paliwal (India), Shivani Rai (India), Teodora Zecheru (Romania), Victor Palarie (Moldova), Viola B. Morris (India) and Si Yuen Lee (Malaysia)

7. AOB

Professor Luigi Ambrosio presented plaques to Professor Josep Planell and Professor Liz Tanner in recognition of their time as Vice President and Secretary of ESB since 2005.