

1. Opening of the meeting, excuses

Present:

Lena Claesson-Welsh (President)
Mauro Siragusa (Secretary)
Judith Sluimer (Treasurer)
Kari Alitalo
Hellmut Augustin
Graeme Birdsey
Paola Campagnolo
Agnieszka Jaźwa-Kusior
Friedemann Kiefer
Justin Mason
Gilles Pagès
Jaap Van Buul
Fiona Wilkinson
Beata Wojciak-Stothard
Karina Yaniv

Excused:

Józef Dulak
Guido De Meyer
Massimo Santoro

2. Approval minutes of last Council meeting

Decision: Approved

3. Ratification of election for the Council and President-elect

Lena presents the results of the elections.

Kari wonders whether it is reasonable to have two new Council members from Finland. It is agreed that it has happened in previous Council configurations and represents the members' choice and as such should be accepted.

Gilles comments on the loss of representation for France. It is pointed out that more engagement is needed in France, as reflected also from the lack of French participants to the EVBO/ESM summer school.

Decisions

- The Council ratifies the choices of the members for Council members and president-elect.
- It is agreed that EVBO members from Italy, France, Poland, Belgium and other not represented countries should be involved in future EVBO subcommittees.
- Members from the countries not represented in the Council will be invited to nominate themselves for the next EVBO Council elections.

4. Schedule seminar series for the fall; new seminar committee members

As the seminar series will continue in Fall, new speakers must be selected as soon as possible.

Decisions

- EVBO election nominees will be invited to contribute to the seminar series until a new committee is formed within the Council.
- Schedule (Appendix 3) is approved.
- Support from Hellmut's team in Heidelberg continues.

5. EVBO/ESMSummer school update (Mauro)

A total of 103 participants from 15 countries. Forty-nine abstracts were submitted and 22 selected for presentation as flash talks. The Programme is presented. Five awards will be distributed (€200, all sponsored by EVBO – 3 chosen by organizers and 2 by students).

Comments

The Council thanks Mauro and the organizing committee (Paola, Fiona, Jaap, Graeme and Henning Morawietz) for the impressive organization and Programme.

6. Ratification of audit (Judith)

Decision

Ratified and to be brought up at general meeting.

7. Plan for new council sub-committee organization (Lena).

The suggested organization is presented (Appendix 4) and discussed.

Paola: New ideas for media team to consider, e.g. repost members publication on social media platform.

Justin: publication highlight – more publication could be highlighted as it was often hard to choose only one from several excellent publications.

Paola/Fiona: twitter, facebook and Instagram (to be established) should always post the same content.

Hellmut: to make the webpage more interactive, the 15 most interesting papers of the last year could be listed on a dedicated space so that the community may comment on them.

Hellmut: An EVBO scientific advisory board including more mature/established people who are truly able to advise is great, otherwise it will not be helpful.

Kari: advisory boards are normally not very active in other contexts.

Decision lies with the new council and president-elect.

8. GM agenda

Decision

Approved

9. Other matters:

- Final minor amendments of the board regulations are approved.
- Mauro reports that members are requesting the recordings of the seminars after the 14 days period they are available for. Keeping the seminar files is not approved by the Council.

10. All exiting Council members are thanked by Lena for their service and commitment. Beata, Graeme, Justin and Agnieszka wish the very best and express their gratitude.

11. Next council meeting

Doodle will be sent out by Lena.