



European Microscopy Society

EMS

www.euremicsoc.org

DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE EMS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Held at the [16th Multinational Congress on Microscopy \(MCM\)](#) on **Wednesday September 7th 2022 at 12:45 pm local time**, room A, Best Western Premier Hotel International Brno (Brno, Czech Republic).

For those who were not able to attend in person, the meeting was also held virtually: <https://cesnet.zoom.us/j/92429848039?pwd=UXBoWVQ2bGU3OWd1d3oxVDUvUzVSdz09>

Meeting ID: 924 2984 8039

Passcode: 576704

According to the Constitution, a General Assembly of all individual EMS members should be held at least once a year. The EMS is a European Society with over 5.000 members. It is important that EMS members gather, discuss and determine the framework in which they communicate and cooperate. For details on the Constitution, see the EMS website: <http://www.euremicsoc.org>.

Summary of the rules: All paid-up EMS members, including the Executive Board, and the Board members have one vote. A quorum of 50 members is needed. The General Assembly will be chaired by the President of EMS. Decisions of the General Assembly are taken by a simple majority of votes (except for changes of the statutes). Two representatives of ECMA (European Corporate Member Assembly) have voting rights in the General Assembly.

The Quorum has been reached: 94 EMS participants, including the EMS board and EMS members (70 members onsite + 24 members online).

1. Welcome and confirmation of the agenda of the General Assembly

The EMS president welcomed all participants, presented the agenda of the meeting and the current EMS Board members.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 2021 General Assembly (vote)

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



Permanent Secretariat: Marina Vita, MCO Congrès, Marseille, France + 33 4 9509 3800,
sec@euremicsoc.org



The minutes from the last meeting were sent by the EMS Board to all EMS members in advance as stated in the constitution. The minutes should have been revised by the members and the modifications if needed should have been sent to the EMS president/secretary. No remarks were received until the GA date.

No additional comments on the minutes from 2021.

Vote: Do you approve the minutes of the 2021 General Assembly?

The minutes from the last General Assembly were approved by all voting participants.

3. Report of the President, describing the activities of the Executive Board and the EMS in the period Sep. 2021 – Aug. 2022, José María Valpuesta

The EMS president presented all the different activities that EMS has performed last year and the ongoing ones and thanked the different Board members in charge of the different activities.

They include:

- Board Meetings (2022): Bologna (April), Brno (September)
- EMS extension: PICO (April), 16MCM (September)
- EMS supported events: 2 in 2021, and 8 in 2022
- EMS OPAs (Life Sciences: **Rhian Jones**, Gabriel Bragagnolo, Rocío Arranz and Juan Reguera; Materials Sciences: **Daniel Wolf**, Sebastian Schneider, Ulrich K. Rößler, András Kovács, Marcus Schmidt, Rafal E. Dunin-Borkowski, Bernd Büchner, Bernd Rellinghaus and Axel Lubk; Instrumentation and technique development: **Emma Silvester**, Benjamin Vollmer, Vojtěch Pražák, Daven Vasishtan, Emily A. Machala, Catherine Whittle, Susan Black, Jonathan Bath, Andrew J. Turberfield, Kay Grünewald and Lindsay A. Baker)
- Scholarships (16 scholarships granted to students from 7 different countries)
- EMC2024
- Support by a PCO, professional congress organisers, (MCO) in the handling of the EMS financial matters. The need to consolidate the EMS finance administration

President EMS

José María Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



through a stable EMS saving account. The ever-increasing workload of the EMS treasurer. An agreement with MCO was signed last year and it is running well.

- Website: A new modern website is about to be released. Lucy Collinson in charge of this task.

The president invited the EMS members for feedback.

- Change in the bylaws: Some changes have to be considered, among others the existence of virtual meetings, which were not contemplated before the Pandemia.
- Yearbook and Newsletters

They are sent to you on regular bases. They are organised by Virginie and Servet together with Wileys.

- Honorary Members: This status is being considered. EMS Board wishes to recompensate members that have contributed with the field of Microscopy and EMS in the past and are now retired.

The proposal: Free membership for senior retired scientist, on demand at sec@euremicsoc.org, renewed every two years on demand, (required a personal email and mail address, and a document justifying their status) in the diffusion list of EMS, yearbook sent, advantages of a regular member (announcements, reduced fees for EMC and EMS extensions). Starting from January 2023.

Vote: Do you approve the honorary membership status?

The proposal was approved by all voting participants.

4. Report from the Treasurer, Christian Schöfer (vote)

The EMS treasurer made an overview of 2021 budget and presented the current and provisional budget for 2022 and 2023.

In summary, 2021 Budget:

- **Incomings:** The majority of incomings came from contributions of the National Societies and ECMA members with further incomings from individual members, interest rates and from job postings for non-EMS members. In summary, the amount of € 76 982.80 was accrued.

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



- **Expenses:** In summary, an amount of € 58 519.45 was debited/ used. Thus, the annual balance for 2021 ended with a plus of € 18 463.35. The majority coming from EMS extension (1), supported meetings (2), scholarships (24), board meetings (2), GA (1), GC (1), secretarial support, OPAs, etc.
The annual balance for 2021 ended with a plus € 18 463.35, which will be used for scholarships for 2023 and 2024.
Total assets for 2020-2021 of € 151 069.38 as of Dec 31, 2021 were confirmed.

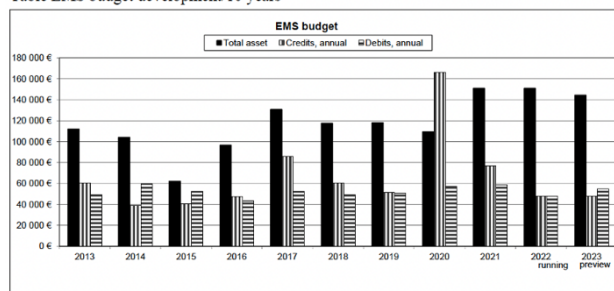
Budget 2022, running (as of August 9, 2022)

- **Incomings:** Together, incomings are expected to amount to € 48 000. The majority of incomes coming from memberships from ECMAs, National Societies, Individual memberships, posts from non-members.
- **Expenses:** estimated to amount to € 48 000. It is thus calculated to end the year 2022 with a balanced budget. Representing: EMS extension (2), supported meetings (8), scholarships (16), board meetings (2), GA (1), secretarial support, OPAs, etc.
In balance, the budget remains stable.
The relations with MCO remain well. Adaptation period for financial support achieved on 2022.

Budget 2023, proposal

- **Incomings:** Major incomings will be accrued by annual memberships from ECMAs, National Societies, Individual memberships, posts from non-members. Expected incomings of € 48 000.
- **Expenses:** No EMS extension will be held in 2023. EMS will support up to 6 EMS SE, 20 travel grants for Busan (€ 800 each), OPAs, secretarial support, 2 board meetings, 1 GA, with an estimated global cost of € 54 650.
Thus, the year 2023 is calculated with a minus of € 6 650.

Table EMS budget development/10 years



Annotation: in 2020 the savings were merged with the giro account (Credits); note that Credits and Debits depict annual budget figures without overflow; Total includes overflows and shows figures at the end of the year.

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at





The society has survived COVID.

Questions: increasing the travel grants, but also increasing the travel costs, if so, the EMS will increase the amount of money per scholarship, but decrease the amount of scholarships.

The treasurer tries to have a stable distribution between the scholarships and the events support.

Having a new executive board in the next years and having the need to have a professional financial handling of the society. MCO is managing the finances of the EMS. The treasurer is in tight contact with the professional PCO.

Vote: Do you approve the treasurer's report?

The financial report of EMS treasurer was approved by all voting participants.

5. Report of the status of EMC2024 Copenhagen, Klaus Qvortrup

EMC 2024 will take place at Copenhagen, Denmark on 24-26 august 2024.

MCI is the PCO in charge of the organisation of the congress.

All contracts between the different parties were signed. **(Jose will scan and send the signed contract for archive)**

The Venue, Bella Center (exhibition floorplan), city, accommodation, provisional budget (incomes, expenses), and key dates were presented.

All compagnies were invited to book their booth. We hope all members to be there.

- Key dates:

2021

Sept: RMS steps down the organisation of EMC2024

2022

March: MCI agrees to organize EMC2024

June: Signing of: SCANDEM-MCI, SCANDEM-EMS, MCI-Bella Centre contracts.

EMS decided that EMC2024 will be held as physical conference only

July: First circular (info, flyers, posters)

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



European Microscopy Society

EMS

www.euremicsoc.org

Aug-Sep: Set up an International Scientific Advisory Board

September: www.emc2024.eu go live

September: Set up a Scientific Programme Committee

October: Call for session suggestions

2023

February: Have an outline of the scientific programme and scope of sessions

April: List of Keynote Speakers and Chairpersons in place

June: List of Invited Speakers in place

November: Start selling exhibition space to ECMA members

December: Release exhibition space to non-ECMA members

June: Publication of Call for Papers

June: Open online abstract Submission

2024

20 March: Deadline for oral abstracts

17 April: Deadline for poster abstracts - abstracts after this date considered late breaking posters

4 May: Deadline for decision on oral abstracts from session organisers

1 June: Deadline for scientific imaging competition entries

1 June: Notification of decision to oral/poster abstract contributors

15 June: Deadline for late breaking poster submission

6 July: Early bird registration deadline

6 July: Final Programme released

27 July: Online registration deadline

6. Changes in the EMS constitution

The documents with the current statutes and bylaws and those with the proposed changes were sent to you on August 1 2022.

Over the last months the executive board has been analyzing the current EMS statutes and bylaws and have found a few points that we feel should be changed, either because we believe they are obsolete or because they are unrealistic. Igor Weber

The most important proposed changes have to do with:

- Change of the quorum needed at a General Assembly to make valid decisions (from 50 to 30)

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



Permanent Secretariat: Marina Vita, MCO Congrès, Marseille, France + 33 4 9509 3800,
sec@euremicsoc.org



European Microscopy Society

EMS

www.euremicsoc.org

- The inclusion of "EMS sponsored events" or "EMS patronaged events" in the EMS bylaws. These figures have been used by EMS over the years, although properly described in the EMS web pages, they are not defined in the bylaws.

Vote: Do you approve the proposed changes of the statutes and bylaws ?

The changes in the bylaws were approved by all voting participants.

7. Prospect on EMS activities and future meetings

EMS supports meetings and scientists on the field of Microscopy and are opened for any kind of initiatives.

- EMS GA 2023 at IMC20 in Busan, Korea. Virginie Serin presented the meeting and the key dates for the conference in Busan.

8. Any further matter to be discussed

To be dealt with in 2023:

- The 25th anniversary of the EMS
- Applications for candidacy to EMC 2028
- Nominations for the EMS awards
- Renewal of the EMS board

Question about the probably problems for Busan conference? No decisions have been made so far, but Virginie will inform the members if there are any news.

An executive board will be held in the autumn, all additional information will be sent to the EMS members.

9. Closing of the meeting

Virginie and José-Maria said some words to all EMS members, thanked all for being here and invited them to participate on the development/growing of the society. The president congratulated the board members for their implication in the society.

President EMS

José Maria Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



Permanent Secretariat: Marina Vita, MCO Congrès, Marseille, France + 33 4 9509 3800,
sec@euremicsoc.org



European Microscopy Society

EMS

www.euremicsoc.org

José María Valpuesta
EMS President

Virginie Serin
EMS Secretary

Annexes: **shall they be included since they are already in the agenda?**

[- Minutes of the previous GA \(Virtual 2020\)](#)

[- Report from the EMS Treasurer](#)

[- EMS Constitution modifications](#)

President EMS

José María Valpuesta
Centro Nacional de Biotecnología
Darwin 3
28049 Madrid,
Spain
(+34) 91 585 4690
jmv@cnb.csic.es

Secretary EMS

Virginie Serin
CEMES - CNRS
Centre d'Élaboration de Matériaux et
d'Études Structurales (UPR 8011)
Toulouse, France
(+33) 5 62 257867
sec@euremicsoc.org

Treasurer EMS

Christian Schöfer
Center for Anatomy & Cell Biology
Medical University of Vienna
Vienna,
Austria
(+43)14 0160 37713
christian.schoefer@meduniwien.ac.at



Permanent Secretariat: Marina Vita, MCO Congrès, Marseille, France + 33 4 9509 3800,
sec@euremicsoc.org