Draft Minutes of the GENERAL ASSEMBLY of EMS

Held as a virtual meeting on Tuesday August 24, 2021; 2:00-3:15pm local time.

Zoom meeting
https://zoom.us/j/95718642617?pwd=MUpDQVRzRVdJLzFSY01sUEpxQUpCdz09
ID: 957 1864 2617
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According to the Constitution, a General Assembly of all individual EMS members will 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.eurmicsoc.org.

Summary of the rules: All paid-up EMS members, including members of the Executive Board, 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 (100 EMS participants, including the EMS board and EMS members).

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

The EMS president welcome all participants, presented the agenda of the meeting and the current EMS Board members.
2. Approval of the minutes of the 2020 General Assembly held during the EMS virtual extension on August 27, 2020

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

Do you approve the minutes of the 2020 General Assembly?

1. Do you approve the minutes of the 2020 General Assembly? (Choix unique) *

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3. Report of the President, describing the activities of the Executive Board and the EMS in the period Sep. 2020 – Aug. 2021, José María Valpuesta

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

They include:

- Virtual Board Meeting (April 2021)
- Outstanding Paper Awards (see later) (Randi Holmestad, chair of the jury)
- EMC2024 (more details later)
- EMS extension (Microscopy Conference 2021) and three EMS supported events
• Scholarships (26 scholarships)
• EMS Extension 2022

No extension was planned for 2022 (due to IMC20). A call has been launched for its organisation; the president encourages the members to apply for extension 2022.

• Support by a PCO, professional congress organisers, (MCO) in the handling of the EMS financial matters

The need to consolidate the EMS finance administration through a stable EMS saving account

The ever-increasing workload of the EMS treasurer

An agreement with MCO is about to be signed for an account to be opened with them (owned by EMS)

• Postponement of IMC20 from 2022 to 2023

EMC will take place in 2024 in Copenhagen

• Website

A new modern website is about to be released

• 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 Severet 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.
4. **Report from the Treasurer, Christian Schöfer**

The EMS treasurer made an overview of 2020 budget and presented the current and provisional budget for 2021 and 2022.

In summary, 2020 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 € 48 151.87 was accrued.

- **Expenses**: EMS supported the virtual EMC with € 18 000 to reduce fees for young scientists (replacing scholarships). Only one supported meeting took place in presence mode (€ 750). Two board meetings, one GA and one GC took place. Costs for organization of virtual meetings, for professional secretarial support and for three Outstanding Paper Awards added up to € 35 516.58. Together with further costs (banking, web hosting, flyers etc.) EMS had total expenses of € 56 769.67. Thus, the annual balance for 2020 ended with a minus of € 8 617.80. The EMS bank closed our deposit account of € 70 258.44 and the amount was transferred to the giro account. As of December 31st, 2020, EMS had total assets of € 109 446.03.

Running 2021 Budget (as of July 26, 2021)

**Incomings**: The major revenues will again be accrued by the annual contributions of EMS members of the National Societies and of ECMA members. Invoices to National Societies, ECMA members and individual members had been sent out in March and April 2021, reminders to ECMA in July 2021 and reminders to national societies will be sent out in September latest. Further incomings will be accrued by individual member fees and job postings for non-EMS members. Together, incomings are expected to amount to € 47 700.

**Expenses**: EMS supports one extension meeting (MC2021) and sponsors 5 SE meetings (together € 5 250). EMS distributes 26 scholarships to young
colleagues to cover attendance fee for MC2021 (á € 190, together € 4 940). Further expenses will include the Outstanding Paper Awards (€ 3 000), board and GA meetings (this one and several online meetings), professional secretarial support and bank costs. Expenses are estimated to amount to € 47 700. It is thus calculated to end the year 2021 with a balanced budget.

Provisional 2022 Budget

Incomings: Major incomings will be accrued by the annual fees of EMS members of the national societies and of ECMA members. Together with interest rates of the savings account and advertising for non-EMS members, we can expect incomings of € 47 800.

Expenses: One EMS extension meeting can be supported due to postponement of IMC20 to 2023 (€ 1 500). EMS can further support up to 4 sponsored meetings (€ 3 000) and reserves € 3 600 for support of young scientists at meetings issued either as travel grant or for online attendance fees. Further expenses will include the Outstanding Paper Awards, costs for professional secretary, two board meetings and bank costs, amounting to a total of estimated € 41 700. It is thus calculated to end the year 2022 with a plus of € 6 100. The surplus is intended to be spent for travel scholarships to IMC20 in 2023.
The financial report of EMS treasurer was approved by all voting participants.

Do you approve the treasurer's report?

1. Do you approve the treasurer's report?
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Note: the risen Credits bar in 2020 is due to transfer of all savings to the giro account; note that Credits and Debits exclusively depict annual budget figures without overflows. Total includes overflows and shows figures at the end of the year; Savings in previous years depicts the part of the Total that was on the previous savings account.
5. **Report of the status of EMC2024 Copenhagen, Klaus Qvortrup**

Due to the pandemic situation EMC2020 to be in Copenhagen was postponed to 2024 and a short virtual meeting was organised to profit on the work already done by the organisers and scientist that wished to present their work. The organisers are currently working on the organisation of EMC2024 in Copenhagen.

6. **Outstanding Paper Award 2020.** Randi Hølimestad, 5 min talk of awardees

OPA 2021 jury members (judging on papers in 2020) were:

- Miran Ceh (Jožef Stefan Institute, Ljubljana, Slovenia)
- Juergen Plitzko (Max Planck Institute of Biochemistry, Martinsried, Germany)
- Florian Schur (IST Austria, Klosterneuburg, Austria)
- Iva Tolic (Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia)
- Maria Varela (Oak Ridge National Laboratory & University Complutense of Madrid, Madrid, Spain)

Chair: Randi Holmestad (NTNU, Trondheim, Norway)

The Chair of presented the OPA rules and jury members as well as the winners of 2020 OPAs, awarded on the following 3 categories:

**Instrumentation and Techniques**


**Materials Sciences**

Mathias Uller Rothmann, Judy S. Kim, Juliane Borchert, Kilian B. Lohmann, Colum M. O’Leary, Alex A. Sheader, Laura Clark, Henry J. Snaith, Michael B.

**Life Sciences**


The winners of each paper presented they work (5min presentation) and answer the questions from the audience. Congratulations to all!

They will receive the sum of € 1 000, a certificate and a glass plaque from the EMS.

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.

8. **Any further matter to be discussed**

No further questions.

9. **Closing of the meeting**

Virginie and José Maria said some words to all EMS members, thank all for being here and invited them to participate on the development/growing of the society.
Annexes:

- **Minutes of the previous GA (Virtual 2020):**

- **Report from the EMS Treasurer:**