Dear EMS members,

Let me first salute you in my role of President of our Society and on behalf of all the Members of the Executive Board, who from this moment are working in the support of the European Microscopy community. This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has tested our resilience and despite the numerous problems we have faced and are going to face in the months to come, the EMS has reacted by working hard in maintaining its activities. A virtual EMC meeting has taken place during November 24-26 2020, thanks to the great effort of the Nordic Microscopic Society, and the rest of the EMS activities are maintained as you can read below.

EMS Executive Board meeting, Council meeting and EMS General Assembly

As mentioned on the last issue, due to COVID 19, this year EMS Board and Council meetings and EMS General Assembly (AG) took place by videoconference. Many aspects of the society and different decisions were taken.

During the EMS General Assembly, attended by over 160 members that included individual and national societies’ affiliated members. The presidential and financial reports were approved. Klaus Qvortrup delivered a short report on EMC2020.

The General Assembly also approved the new EMS Executive Board, which is in office starting on September 2020 till September 2024. The new elected 11 members of this new Executive Board includes: the President: José Maria Valpuesta (Madrid, Spain), the Secretary: Virginie Serin (Toulouse, France), the Treasurer: Christian Schöfer (Vienna, Austria), the ECMA representative: Kornelia WEIDEMANN (Germany), the EMC Chair: Klaus QVORTRUP (Denmark), Board Members: Cristiano Albonetti (Bologna, Italy), Lucy Collinson (London, UK), Randi Holmestad (Trondheim, Norway), Agnes Kittel (Budapest, Hungary), Saso Sturm (Ljubljana, Slovenia), Servet Turan (Eskişehir, Turkey), Igor Weber (Zagreb, Croatia). Finally, ex-officio member of the Executive Board includes the Past-president: Josef Zweck (Regensburg, Germany).

Leaving members were also acknowledged, Serap Arbak, Thierry Epicier, Stefan Kuypers, Peter Nellist, Rod Shipley, Roger Wepf, who received a glass plaque as a gesture of gratitude for their contribution to the society.

The EMS Outstanding Paper Awards and EM Awards were presented during the virtual AG, the plaques and certificates should be given to the winners.

You may find the video of the meeting at the EMS website: https://www.eurmicsoc.org/en/organisation/general-assembly/video2020/

EMS Sponsored Events

For the coming year, applications for sponsored events for the first half of the year (January till June 2021) have been received and are now under review by the Board. The results will soon be revealed to the EMS members.

EMS Yearbook

In the coming weeks and months, material for the 2020 EMS Yearbook will be gathered at the secretarial office, including reports from EMS activities and reports from the affiliated national societies. If you have organized or are aware of a particular event in the past year, which you feel is relevant for the European Microscopy Community to commemorate with a short report in the Yearbook (awards, special anniversaries, …), please give us a note or send us a short text with one or two pictures, so we can include it if space permits (in case we receive too many requests, some can be placed on the corresponding pages of the website).

EMS Outstanding Paper Awards

Beginning of December, the call for 2020 EMS Outstanding Paper Award will be made public to all members and we look forward to receiving many excellent nominations to be awarded at the next EMS extension in 2021.

EMC2020/2024

Due to the pandemic situation this year, the EMC has been postponed to 2024 and a virtual EMC2020 was held on November 24-26. The virtual meeting provided an opportunity for Early Career Scientists who submitted their work to present it at the virtual International Meeting this year. Information on this meeting is available at www.emc2020.eu and also on the next EMS newsletter.

Closing this newsletter, we would like to thank the now Past-president Dr. Josef Zweck for his invaluable contributions to the society as President.

We invite you to visit the EMS webpage: www.eurmicsoc.org/en/ which is daily updated to efficiently provide you with information from our community.

Any suggestions and ideas for future newsletters are welcome at sec@eurmmicsoc.org

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