

Dear EMS Member,

The Executive Board of the European Microscopy Society (EMS) wishes you and your family all the best in the coming year. The past year was a very exciting one for our society with the organization of the successful 13th European Microscopy Congress as successor to the well-known EUREM series and the election of a new Executive Board. In continuation of the dynamics that started with the transformation of CESEM into EMS the future of the society was discussed at the General Assembly in Antwerp on 26 August 2004. It is clear that if the society wants to live up to its goals within the ever-changing framework of today's science and research this existing dynamics must be steered into some well-defined concrete action points.

Following its election in Antwerp, the new Executive Board has met in Aachen on 5 October 2004, to discuss the outcome of the last General Assembly. At this meeting several action points have been taken up including defining clear criteria for EMS extensions, supported events and scholarships, preparing adjustments of the constitution and by-laws, the development of e-voting, on-line abstract submission, offering a financial insurance to congress organizers, and last but not least, improving the contacts with corporate members etc.

In the meantime and after the organization of EMC 2004 in Antwerp, EMS continues to support several local as well as regional microscopy events in 2005 throughout Europe. This support usually takes the form of financial aid to allow the local organizers to invite international speakers of high scientific calibre, but also practical help in the organization of the event can be provided. In some of these events EMS members will enjoy a reduced registration fee. For this sponsoring, a distinction is made between an EMS extension, which needs to be a multi-national meeting including a commercial exhibition, and other EMS sponsored events. The detailed regulations and extended information for both types of sponsoring can be found at the EMS website www.euremicsoc.org. In 2005 the following events will be sponsored by EMS (note, links to the respective websites are available at the EMS website):

- EMS extension:
Dreiländertagung Microscopy Conference, 28 August – 2 September 2005,

Davos, Switzerland (Swiss, German and Austrian societies)

- Sponsored events:
Proteomics in situ: Imaging proteins at work, 27 – 30 April 2005, Noordwijkerhout, The Netherlands
- XII International Conference on Electron Microscopy of Solids (EM'2005), 5 – 9 June 2005, Kazimierz Dolny, Poland
- EMAG-NANO2005, 31 August - 2 September 2005, Leeds, UK
- Quantitative Electron Microscopy 2005 (QEM2005): European school on advanced TEM measurements techniques for materials science, 25 September – 7 October 2005, St. Aygulf, France

As no official bids for the next EMC meeting were presented in Antwerp, and in order to allow the next organizer to start preparation in time, the Executive Board decided to actively contact potential EMC 2008 organizers based on available information. To this end, the Executive Board decided to organize EMC 2008 in Aachen with Dr. Joachim Mayer of the RWTH Aachen acting as the president. By the time this Newsletter is printed, a "declaration of intent" between EMS, the local organizers, the German Society for Electron Microscopy (DGE), and IFSM, has been signed.

In parallel with these action points the EMS server has been moved from the Institute of the former secretary, Eddie Wisse, to that of the new secretary, Nick Schryvers, where regular updates are posted. In addition to the automatic mailing to all members of the present Newsletter, we expect new applications for the benefit of our members to be installed in the near future.

It is with deep sadness that we have to tell you that Eduard Kellenberger, one of the pioneers of electron microscopy, died on 13 December 2004, at age 85. Being a physicist turned into a biologist - an amalgam eventually termed "biophysics" - he spent his early career as a scientist to customize first-generation electron microscopes and develop preparation procedures to investigate the supramolecular organization of biological matter, for example, the molecular architecture of bacteria and bacteriophage. While all of his technical as well as methodical advancements to biological electron microscopy were at the forefront, he also



was one of the founding fathers of "molecular biology", and in turn, of the European Molecular Biology Organization (EMBO) and the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg. In Switzerland, after having built a world-class biophysics laboratory at the University of Geneva, he was called to the University of Basel to help designing and building the "Basel Biozentrum", a saga which has since been replicated many times. All things considered, Eduard Kellenberger has been among the most effective and influential architects of biological electron microscopy, molecular biology and biophysics - he will remain in our memories for many years to come ...



Eduard Kellenberger



Boris Matienko

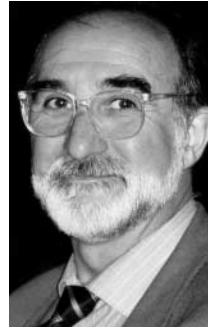
EMS also deeply regrets that on 26 November 2004 acad. Prof. Boris Matienko, President of the Moldavian Electron Microscopy Society and Head of the department of Plant structure and ultrastructure of the Institute of Plant Physiology of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Moldova, died at the age of

75. We remember Prof. Matienco as a scientist continuously aiming for the improvement of microscopy in his country and we like to express our sympathy and support to his family, friends and colleagues.

To close this first newsletter edited by the new Executive Board, we like to thank the members of the former board and, especially, the former president José Carrascosa and secretary Eddie Wisse for all the time and effort they



Eddie Wisse



Jose Carrascosa

have put into this exciting endeavour aimed at moving the EMS into a pole position from where we can now look into the future with confidence and enthusiasm to move microscopy to new frontiers in the 21st century.

Yours truly,

Ueli Aebi
President EMS

Nick Schryvers
Secretary EMS