



Ueli Aebi
EMS President



Nick Schryvers
EMS Secretary

EMS Newsletter 21, February 2008

Dear EMS member,

Let us begin this newsletter by wishing you all the best for the 2008 with lots of new encounters, many fruitful projects and much exciting science.

For the first half of 2008 the following three meetings have been selected as EMS sponsored events: (1) "Scandem 2008", June 2-4, Lyngby, Denmark; (2) "EM'2008 - XIII International Conference on Electron Microscopy", June 8-11, Cracow - Zakopane, Poland; and (3) the "EMBO practical course on Developmental Imaging", June 23-30, Oeiras, Portugal. EMS sponsors these events by providing financial support for the invitation of one or two internationally recognized scientists. Please remember the deadline of March 31, 2008, for applications for sponsored events for the second half of 2008. Also, the deadline for applications for the next EMS extension is June 30, 2008. This extension will take place in 2009 and is the follow-up of the 8MCM meeting in Prague in June 2007. More details on these events and eligibility criteria for EMS sponsoring can be found at www.euremicsoc.org under "Meetings".

EMC 2008 is now approaching rapidly. The website www.emc2008.de is being updated regularly and on-line abstract submission, registration and accommodation pages are available.

Registration and accommodation are handled by a local PCO assisting the local organizing committee, while the abstract submission procedure is a commercial product developed by Eveni in close collaboration with EMS and EMC 2008, with the intention to reuse this product for future EMC meetings and EMS extensions. Next to allowing swift abstract submission, it also handles refereeing and grading of abstracts by assigned chairs. For the abstract layout a template is available that has been provided by the Springer publishing company who will also print the proceedings, again with the intention to continue this proceedings setup for coming EMS meetings. In the meantime the program has been finalized so that abstracts can be submitted for a particular session. Also, a poster has been distributed via the previous Imaging & Microscopy issue, so we hope that all our microscopy labs have put this poster on display in a prominent location. Please be reminded that the abstract submission deadline is March 15 and will be adhered to very strictly.

Exhibitors interested in presenting their material at EMC 2008 are urged to

contact the congress congress secretariat Mrs. Stefanie Stadler (gfe@rwth-aachen.de, Tel.: +49 241 80 24345, Fax: +49 241 80 22313) as soon as possible. ECMA members, i.e. the commercial members of EMS, are offered substantial benefits. To take advantage of these conditions, companies can still become ECMA member for 2008. At present, EMS counts 34 ECMA members, an approximate 25% increase over last year's number!

Please remember to inform us of any other future microscopy meetings you are organizing so that we can regularly update our members by bulk-mail and put these meetings on the EMS website. Also, do check out the "events" page to see if your meeting is properly listed. As you may have noticed, the past few weeks several groups have posted new job offers on the EMS website, one of the most often visited pages of our website.

At the EMS secretary's office we are working on a more elaborate membership administration system. It takes advantage of the University of Antwerp's Infrastructure and Communication Technology services which are in the process of setting up a new interface allowing local offices to insert, delete and change membership entries directly over the internet while assuring all necessary security and privacy issues. We hope that this

interface will be ready by the end of January 2008, so that we can scrutinize the new system for the 2008 updates. This would allow the local societies to directly tap into the centralized EMS database which, no doubt, contains more information than most local databases.

Before closing, let us repeat that, at EMC 2008, the quadrennial FEI-awards (one in Life Sciences and one in Materials Sciences/Physics) will be presented. Applications for these prestigious awards are due April 1, 2008. Potential candidates may be proposed by a local microscopy society, a group of scientists, or an individual scientist. Applications should be sent to the EMS Secretary by regular mail. More details on the procedures can be found on the EMS website www.eur-micsoc.org under the header "funding".

In memory of Nicolas Boisset

The Société Française des Microscopies is very sorry to announce the death of Dr. Nicolas Boisset, its 2008 President and esteemed colleague, that occurred on January 4th in Paris.

Nicolas Boisset graduated with a degree in Pharmacy from the University of Tours (France), and went on to do a PhD thesis under the supervision of Pr. Jean Lamy. He was interested in the structure of human α -macroglobulins and of the



hemocyanins from arthropods. Nicolas was one of the pioneers in the use of cryo-electron microscopy and 3D reconstruction in France, as applied to the structural investigation of macromolecular systems. After his PhD thesis in 1990, he did post-doctoral work in the USA, with Joachim Frank, further increasing his understanding of these techniques. This was the beginning of a long collaboration between the two groups, which lasted until his death. Back in Tours, Nicolas was appointed as research associate in the National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS) in Jean Lamy's research group. He devoted most of his research effort to the investigation of respiratory pigments of invertebrates and other macromolecular complexes. In the year 2000, he moved to Paris, at the University of Paris 7 – Denis Diderot (IMPMC), where he set up his own research group. He was promoted director of research at the CNRS in 2003.

Nicolas, together with his collaborators, has authored over fifty publications in international journals. His major interest, and major impact on the French and international scientific community is in the field of cryo-electron microscopy and high resolution 3D reconstruction of single particles. As such, he was an outstanding ambassador of the French electron microscopy community around the world and has been involved, among others, in the European Network "3D Electron Microscopy".

As teaching has always been one of his major concerns, he has participated in numerous international schools and workshops devoted to electron microscopy.

All his collaborators and friends keep fond memories of his human qualities and his scientific aura.

Nicolas Boisset passed away on the 4th of January 2008.

Contact:

Prof. Dr. D. Schryvers, Ph.D.
Electron Microscopy for Materials Science (EMAT)
Department of Physics
University of Antwerp, Belgium
Tel.: +32 3 2653247
Fax: +32 3 2653257
nick.schryvers@ua.ac.be