

EMS Newsletter 28, October 2009

Dear EMS member,



Paul Midgley,
EMS President



Nick Schryvers,
EMS Secretary

Although the previous EMS newsletter was published not so very long ago, many important matters have evolved since then. First of all, the MC2009 congress, joining the 9th Multinational Congress on Microscopy and the Dreiländertagung, was organized in Graz, Austria, from August 30 till September 4, 2009. The conference was a great success, not only by counting the large number of attendants, in particular young researchers, but also judging from the many outstanding lectures and posters presenting the newest results in the field of microscopy. Also, plenary and invited lectures dedicated to the 100^d birthday of Otto Scherzer and referring to the 50th anniversary of the famous Feynman lecture "There's plenty of room at the bottom" were very much appreciated. The success and the increasing importance of these large regional meetings in different parts of Europe are becoming more and more clear. At Graz, already several hosts for similar future joint meetings were decided, which we believe is a very promising trend.

As this meeting was also the 2009 EMS Extension, three activities were organized by the EMS. On Tuesday evening, the Executive Board met to discuss several urgent matters, but mainly to prepare for the General Council and General Assembly meetings in the following days. Following a decision of the 2008 General Assembly in Aachen, 23 representatives of 17 national and regional societies, including ECMA, gathered at a special

General Council on Wednesday, where they followed closely the presentations of the three candidates for a European bid for the organization of IMC 2014, the 18th international Microscopy conference to be organized under the auspices of IFSM. The Board was very pleased to have received three well-considered and carefully prepared bids, one from the Czech Society for Prague, one from an alliance between the Portuguese and Spanish societies for Lisbon and one from the Turkish society for Istanbul. All three bids were previously screened by an ad-hoc committee of the EMS Board and received suggestions to improve their application. At the start of the meeting it was decided that if one candidate would receive more than half the number of votes after the first round, then that bid would be supported by EMS. After a single voting round, the Prague bid did indeed reach this threshold and so that immediately ended the procedure. The result of this vote was confirmed at the General Assembly on Thursday and the EMS Board is very pleased to be able to announce that it will support the Prague bid for IMC 2014 as much as possible. In Rio, a Czech delegation will present Prague as the best destination for IMC 2014, we urge European national and regional societies to ensure their presence during the IFSM General Assembly and

very much hope that their representatives vote for the European candidate.

Further, at the EMS General Assembly in Graz, the installation of our new Treasurer Christian Schöfer was officially approved, the accounts for 2004–2008 were accepted by the auditors as well as the report from the President and the budget proposals for 2009 and 2010. For the coming year, applications for sponsored events for the first half of the year (January till June 2010) have been received (deadline September 30) and are now under review by the Board. Also, contacts with two potential candidate meetings to become the EMS Extension for 2010 are underway.

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