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Dear EMS member,

During the past few months two EMS Extensions, Microscience 2010 and Scandem 2010 took place in London and Stockholm, respectively. Both meetings were truly international, not only in the list of invited speakers but also in attracting attendees from many European countries and beyond. In London the EMS lectures were presented by Sir John Meurig Thomas (University of Cambridge, UK): „The Genius of Michael Faraday“ and Wolfgang Baumeister (Technical University of Munich, Germany): „Cryo-electron microscopy: From molecules to systems“ while Stockholm hosted EMS lecturers Niels de Jonge (Vanderbilt University Medical Center, USA): „Imaging Tagged Proteins in Eukaryotic Cells in Liquid with STEM“ and Martin Hÿtch (Université de Toulouse, France): „Measuring strain in electronics devices by dark-field electron holography“. Both meetings also incorporated an extensive exhibition and educational workshops. In total, EMS provided 16 scholarships for young researchers to attend these meetings (9 at Microscience, 7 at Scandem).

At the Extension in London, the annual EMS General Assembly (GA) was held on Tuesday June 28. This GA covered the classic themes, such as reports from the President and Treasurer, but also a status report from the chair of EMC 2012, which will be hosted by the RMS and EMAG at the ExCeL site in September 2012. The EMC 2012 Organizing Committee is keen to ensure that the traditionally strong electron microscopy/physical sciences element of an EMC meeting is augmented by an equally good programme covering life sciences, light microscopy, scanning probe techniques and others, and will proactively seek to promote all of these disciplines. They are seeking co-operation with a number of related scientific societies, to ensure that the EMC 2012 message is spread far and wide. The successful Learning Zone, known from Mi-

croscience will be incorporated. A First Announcement and EMC 2012 give-away bracelets have been distributed and there was an EMC 2012 booth for visitors of Microscience to obtain further information and express interest. Unfortunately, no quorum was reached at the GA so the decisions, essentially accepting these reports, were postponed to a round of e-voting later during the year.

Four applications for an EMS Extension in 2011 have reached the Board by the deadline of June 30, 2010. In the following weeks a decision on which meeting qualifies and is nominated will be made and all members will be informed as soon as possible so they can make preparations to attend a multinational microscopy meeting in Europe in 2011.

In the mean time a new concept for the Yearbook has been configured, leaving

out the extensive membership list, which is now available on-line to all members, societies and corporate members (<http://ems.ua.ac.be/>). Instead, more attention will be paid to reports from meetings, scholarships, EMS lecture notes and special announcements from the societies. As a result, the new Yearbook will be distributed in the first quarter of the coming year. Possibilities for a parallel electronic version are also being investigated.

During the past few weeks, extra information on the EMS supported Prague bid for IMC18 in 2014 has been forwarded to all European national and regional societies. The venue for the IMC18 meeting will be selected at the IFSM General Assembly during IMC17 in Rio de Janeiro (19–24 September). EMS reiterates our strong desire for an IMC to be hosted in Europe and thus kindly requests all societies to ensure a full delegation at the IFSM GA in Rio.

EMS wishes everyone a refreshing holiday.

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