

## Dear colleagues,

After a lot of communication between the EMS secretarial office and the MCO company that will soon take over the secretarial support, the new EMS website has been launched on September 22. We have worked hard not only to obtain a modern look and feel but also to include several new functionalities. Amongst those is the use of forms for an automatic upload of new jobs, new meetings and courses (the latter now in two separate groups) and the possibility to also upload your CV if you are looking for a job in the field of microscopy. In the future, for all these applications, you will first have to login into the membership area, but of course the provided information will be visible to all internal and external users. This procedure will be active as soon as the membership area is connected to the database, which will also be upgraded. As you can see at the bottom of the front page, we welcome your comments and suggestions on the new site.

At the EMS General Assembly that took place at the MCM2015 meeting in Eger, Hungary, several important matters were discussed. First of all, since the membership fees have not been increased for nearly 14 years, the Board suggests to raising the membership fees from 5 to 7 euro. Since membership fees are to be decided by the General Council, consisting of representatives of each local society, this will be put to a vote at the General Council meeting at EMC 2016 in Lyon.

In the mean time, we are very pleased to welcoming the new Romanian Electron Microscopy Society (SREM), headed by Dr. Bogdan Stefan Vasile, President, University Polytechnica, Bucharest, as a new en-bloc society. The delegates at the General Assembly also listened to a short report on the preparations of EMC 2016 in Lyon, which are well under way. It is suggested by the EMS Executive Board to initiate the organization of two "EMS strategic sessions" on Sunday afternoon, one on "microscopy lab management" and one on "big data management for microscopy".

In the coming weeks several calls will be launched. As every year the call for the annual Outstanding Paper Awards will be launched with nominations expected by January 15, 2016. Since 2016 is an EMC year, we will also call for nominations for the prestigious quadrennial European Microscopy Award (EMAward), sponsored by JEOL, by January 31, 2016. The third call is for proposals for organizing EMC 2020 and the last call will be for candidates for at least 6 free positions that will be available in the EMS Board starting September 2016, among which the one of President and Secretary. This call will be sent to local societies and the nominations are gathered by the EMS Board at the 2016 spring meeting.

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