



ESACT GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2017

Tuesday, May 16th, 2017, 13:00-14:30

Location:

Auditorium C, SwissTech Convention Center, Lausanne, Switzerland

On Friday, July 1st 2016 the ESACT General Assembly took place in Auditorium C, SwissTech Convention Center with the following agenda:

- Welcome & Chairman's Report	HJ Hauser	13:00-13:10
- ESACT Finances: Treasurer's Report	N Borth	13:10-13:15
- Secretary's Report	Y Genzel	13:15-13:30
- ESACT courses	F Godia	13:30-13:35
- Barcelona 2015 Report	F Godia	13:35-13:45
- Update 2017 Meeting (Lausanne)	M Stettler	13:45-13:55
- Intro 2019 ESACT Meeting	M Andersen	13:55-14:00
- ESACT Frontiers	Frontiers	14:00-14:15
- Announcement XC Elections 2017	Y Genzel	14:15-14:20
- Members' Comments/Suggestions & Conclusion		14:20-14:30

MINUTES

May, 16. 2017

Meeting room: Auditorium C, SwissTech Convention Center, Lausanne, Switzerland

Meeting Chairs: Hansjörg Hauser

Meeting Secretary: Yvonne Genzel

Participants: Nicole Borth, Paula Alves, Niall Barron, Michael Betenbaugh, Véronique Chotteau, Isabelle Knott, Matthieu Stettler, Mikael Andersen and approximately 76 members of ESACT.

13:00 - START OF MEETING

1. Welcome & Chairman's report

The chairman (HJ Hauser) welcomed all members.
HH gave a short summary of his time as a chairman (see slides).

Question by Leda Castilho: if society is so healthy, could the conference fees be reduced? There was a time where there were some grants to apply for....

Nicole Borth, Paula Alves and Yvonne Genzel thanked Hansjörg Hauser for his long dedication to ESACT as a chairman.

2. ESACT Finances: Treasurer's report

The treasurer stated that all finances were fine. New bank accounts were installed to be on the safe side in case the Deutsche Bank gets into problems. However, it is not easy to open many more accounts.

No further issues to be mentioned. Tax declaration is ongoing. ESACT grants are running.

Questions:

Leda Castilho: There was a time where there were some grants to apply also for senior scientists...

Stefanos Grammatikos: It is to be noted, that not all meetings were making a surplus. So, it looks like a healthy budget, but it is there to buffer unexpected events in the meetings as well.

What is a healthy limit of people to attend the meetings?



Francesc Godia: The meetings are not there for making profit. The difficulty for each chair is really to break even. There are so many unexpected issues to consider.

Paula Alves: The idea is to keep the number of participants at the current number of around 1000. Not more.

3. Secretary's report

The secretary explained the changes on the homepage...(see slides)

Together with the administrative assistance and an external company (IUdeation), the ESACT homepage was updated. There are now forms to apply for grants, courses or new membership and there is a new format for the newsletter. Numbers for membership and grants were presented. It is to be noted that active membership numbers are given. This means, that these members are actively paying their membership fees. We still have many people who do not continue to pay their fee. This should now be much easier, as it is on a two or 4 years basis now.

Antonio Roldao was thanked for his long contributions to ESACT as ESACT Admin help. This work will now be completely taken over by Els van den Berg as admin assistance.

4. ESACT courses

Francesc Godia gave a short summary on the courses (see slides).

5. Barcelona 2015 report

Francesc Godia gave a short summary on the final outcome of Barcelona (see slides).

6. Update ESACT2017 meeting in Lausanne

Matthieu Stettler presented briefly an update of the ESACT2017 meeting (see slides).

More than 400 abstracts, 378 posters, 1078 participants.

Options: print abstracts for a little fee.

Questions:

USB stick with posters to give to participants?

7. Introduction Copenhagen 2019

Mikael Andersen gave a short introduction on the current planning for the Copenhagen meeting (see slides).

8. ESACT Frontiers activities

Mercedes Segura gave a short summary on the Frontiers activities and explained the renewal of the group of this year (see slides).

9. Announcement XC elections & honorary member voting

Yvonne Genzel presented the outcome of the election and voting (see slides).

All active members were informed via newsletter to vote on the new homepage. Candidates short CV and motivation statements were uploaded at the ESACT web page.

Announcement of Election Results (electronic votes)

Participation: 98 members voted out of 252 eligible members (39%).

RESULTS from election:

Regular Members (elected by the members):

Véronique Chotteau

Alan Dickson

Stefanos Grammatikos

Frances Gòdia

Kerstin Otte

Officers (nominated by the previous Executive Committee):

Paula Alves (Chairperson)



Hitto Kaufmann (Vice-Chairman)
Nicole Borth (Secretary)
Niall Barron (Treasurer)

M. Andersen (Meeting Chairman 2017)

The proposal of the XC for a new honorary member: Terry Papoutsakis was accepted by the members.

Yvonne Genzel thanked: (i) all the candidates for coming forward and showing interest in contributing to ESACT matters, (ii) the previous Executive Committee for their dedication.

10. Members' comments/suggestions & conclusion

Roland Wagner: He is not happy with the development of the society. Before it was 400 members and the numbers are currently still not looking good.

P- Alves/ N. Borth/ Y. Genzel: This is because of making a difference between members that pay their fee or not! The new homepage, the grants & frontiers should activate more people to be more active in the society. But point is taken and further activities will be continuously tackling this point.

14:30 PM – End OF MEETING