



ESP General Assembly

18th ESP Congress, Barcelona

August 27, 2019

EC Members:

Santi Nonell (President), *Rex Tyrrell* (Past-President), *Franz Trautinger* (President-elect), *Francesco Ghatti* (Treasurer), *Adelaide Almeida* (Officer), *Pal Selbo* (Officer), *Massimo Trotta* (Officer).

Kristian Berg (Auditor), *Vivienne Reeves* (Auditor)

Chair

Santi Nonell

Minutes

Francesca Giuntini

(by remote connection)

Agenda

1. Overview of ESP Activities: Santi Nonell
2. Preliminary Report on 18th ESP Congress: Santi Nonell
3. Finance and Membership: Francesco Ghetti (Auditors: Kristian Berg, Vivienne Reeve)
4. Education & Training Committee report: Massimo Trotta
5. Photobiology School report: Kristian Berg
6. Photochemical & Photobiological Sciences report: Rex Tyrrell
7. ESP Comprehensive Book Series report: Massimo Trotta
8. Communication Workgroup: Pål Selbo
9. Hand-over of Presidency
10. Results of EC election & presentation of EC 2019-2021: Franz Trautinger
11. Main aims of Strategy Plans for 2019-2021: Franz Trautinger
12. Venue of 19th ESP Congress 2021: Franz Trautinger
13. Any other business

Minutes

Agenda item: <u>Overview of ESP Activities</u>	Presenter: <i>Santi Nonell</i>
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Account of the activities carried out in the term past was given to the members:

- A very successful ESP-IUPB Congress in Barcelona
- Continued co-ownership of Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences
- New titles published in the Comprehensive Series in Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences
- Continuation and strengthening of the activities for the education and training of the next generation of photobiologists (via the Photobiology School and other initiatives)
- Awarding of Fellowships and Prizes
- Enhancement of ESP profile and outreach via the social media platforms.

The EC also aimed at enhancing the synergies between ESP members, between the Society and sister Societies, between ESP and industry and with policy makers.

Agenda item: <u>Preliminary Report on 18th ESP</u>	Presenter: <i>Santi Nonell</i>
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Discussion:

The Congress (ongoing at the time of the AGM) has been very successful joint effort of ESP and IUPB. It attracted 733 delegates from 49 Countries. The content was organised in 66 symposia, 2 of which were sponsored by the industry. There was a total of 751 scientific communications (including plenary and keynote lectures, invited lectures, oral communications and posters). The work was divided in the 6 broad topics Photodynamic Therapy, Human Photobiology and Photomedicine, Physical and Chemical Photobiology, Photosensory Biology, Plant Photobiology, Environmental Photobiology.

Agenda item: Finance and Membership

Presenter: *Francesco Ghetti*

Discussion:

The financial situation of the Society over the years (2000-2019) was presented to the Members; this included the shares held in investments and in the Society bank account. An overview of the main items of expenses and income in 2017 and 2018 was shown. Auditor's report done by Kristian Berg and Vivienne Reeve; it confirmed that the accounts were in order. Slide with declaration was shown.

The number of members has increased in 2019 from 2018, and it is in line with the average number in congress years.

Agenda item: Education & Training Committee report

Presenter: *Massimo Trotta*

Discussion:

The members of the Education and Training Committee are presented to the Members in the Assembly. The activities referring to the ETC are listed. In the last term, 18 Fellowships to attend congresses were awarded out of 22 applications. A list of the target conference is presented. Seven scientists who recently completed their PhD obtained the ESP Supplement to the PhD degree, indicating a growing interest in the younger scientists' community for this title. During the Congress, two candidates were awarded the Young Investigator Award (i.e., Pilar Acedo from the University College of London and Matteo Gratteri from the University of Utah). 67 Fellowship were awarded for the participation to the ongoing ESP-IUPB Congress in 2019. An overview of the gender balance and geographical spread of the awardees is shown.

The members are reminded of the ESP initiative entitled to Giulio Jori (the Giulio Jori Scholarship), which is intended to foster research exchanges between members and is funded by donations. The endowment is slowly building up and members are encouraged to contribute.

Agenda item: Photobiology School report

Presenter: Kristian Berg

Discussion:

The 4th edition of the ESP School took place in Brixen in 2018. The invaluable work of the local organiser Giorgia Miolo was acknowledged. The School aims at providing a basis of knowledge in photobiology, and the most important aspects of the field covered by the curriculum are shown to the Members of the Assembly.

The 2018 edition School was attended by 51 students from 13 countries. The number of participants is increasing. Most attendees are from European Countries. The variety of

background of the students is shown. The next edition will take place between in June 2020. Details are on the ESP website.

Agenda item: Report on Photochemical & Photobiological Sciences **Presenter:** Rex Tyrrell

Discussion:

An overview of the types of articles published in PPS is presented. The workflow of the manuscript in terms of handling time and the current acceptance/rejection rate are presented. The latter included the details of papers rejected with and without review. Pie charts illustrating the share of papers by topic and by geographical location of the authors are shown to the Members. From 2017 the journal published a number of themed issues, which were quite successful. The members of the Editorial Board are presented: a new Board member (Dr Celine Frochot) joined the Board in 2019.

Agenda item: Comprehensive Series in Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences **Presenter:** Massimo Trotta

Discussion:

The Editors of the Series are presented to the Members of the Assembly. Two forthcoming book titles are shown (edited by Watson and Griffiths and by Fusi and Romano). An overview of the sales of the books and of the chapters download of all the volumes published is shown. Members are reminded that the Series Editors are welcoming suggestions for new titles.

Agenda item: Communication Workgroup Report **Presenter:** Pål Selbo

Discussion:

The details of the social media platforms for the Society are presented to the members. The number of followers is growing and members are encouraged to participate to the newsfeed on all the platforms. The website address is also shown. The website was renewed at the end of last term. An overview of the cost for maintaining the website is shown, together with the number of visits it receive. Members are reminded that information on activities of the Society (including awards and fellowships) are available on the website. Members of the workgroup are presented.

Agenda item: Results of EC election & presentation of EC **Presenter** Franz Trautinger

Discussion:

On behalf of the EC and of the whole Society, Franz Trautinger thanks Santi Nonell for all the hard work during his Presidency and for the organisation of the ongoing Congress.

The composition of the new EC is as follows:

Franz Trautinger - President

Amparo Faustino - President elect

Santi Nonell - Past President

Francesca Giuntini - Secretary

Giorgia Miolo - Treasurer
Francesco Ghetti - Officer
Éva Hideg - Officer
Virginie Lhaiubet-Vallet - Officer
Massimo Trotta - Officer
Kristian Berg - Auditor
Vivienne Reeve - Auditor

Agenda item: *Main aims of Strategy Plans for 2019-2021* **Presenter:** *Franz Trautinger*

Discussion:

The EC aims at continuing and strengthening all the successful activities of the Society, namely

- To increase the number of members and the benefits for the members.
- To organise and run the next edition of the Congress in 2021
- To continue the output of scientific work in photobiology via the Journal and the Book Series
- To organise and run the next edition of the School for Photobiology in 2020
- To continue the support of early career photobiologists by awarding fellowships and scholarships
- To increase the profile of the Society and its outreach to the wider public (via social platforms).
- Continue the cooperation with sister Societies, industry and sponsors.

Agenda item: *Venue of the 19th ESP Congress* **Presenter:** *Franz Trautinger*

Discussion:

The Congress of 2021 will be held in Austria. At present the choice falls between two venues: Graz (host: Peter Wolf) or Salzburg (host: Kristjan Plaetzer). Both venues are excellently connected and easy to reach. The choice will be made in the near future and it will be announced ASAP.

Agenda item: *AOB*

Discussion:

No further business
