

Minutes of the EPA General Council

16th July, 2012, 18:45-19:30

Coimbra

- 1) The EPA president Eric Vauthey (E.V.) welcomes the members of the EPA and thanks the organisers of the XXIVth IUPAC Symposium on Photochemistry for hosting the General Council.
- 2) E.V. clarifies that the members of the Executive Committee (EC) are not representatives of their country but rather EPA members ready to invest a substantial time to perform a well-defined task for the society, such as e.g. Newsletter Editor or Web manager. Having EC members from many different countries is however encouraged.
- 3) E.V. informs that EC has been meeting twice a year over the past two years.
- 4) EPA Newsletter: E.V. informs that the June 2012 issue was late and unfortunately his letter inviting the members to the Coimbra Meeting did not arrive on time. EPA members should check the validity of their address and send corrections to the Treasurer.
- 5) Technical notes: E.V. stresses the importance of this type of contributions. John Gilchrist gives some information about these technical notes and a new prize consisting of 500€ for the best Technical Note written by a PhD student or a postdoc. He specifies that at least ten technical notes are required for the prize to be awarded. A first note written Valerio Voliani is presented as an example.
- 6) EPA PhD Prize: there were eight nominees in 2008/2009 and the winner was Anne Kotiaho, whereas in 2010/2011 there were ten nominees and the winner is Karl Börjesson from Chalmers University of Technology.
- 7) The 2011 impact factor of PPS is 2.6. Electronic access to the Journal is provided to all EPA members. E.V. encourages all EPA members to submit some of their best works to the Journal to further increase its visibility.
- 8) EPA-PPS Prize: the prize is awarded to the article published in PPS by an EPA member during the three years preceding the year of the award, which received the largest number of citations during two consecutive years. This year, the laureate of the EPA-PPS prize is Mike Heilemann, from University of Frankfurt.
- 9) EPA flyers were presented at several conferences over the past two years. A reduced registration fee for EPA members was proposed at the past IUPAC Symposia on Photochemistry and at the IPC in Toledo. A small financial support was allocated to a few photochemistry conferences for PhD travel grants.
- 10) Membership: the EPA has 454 members. E.V. adds that it would be desirable to receive the fees at the beginning of the year. Guillermo Orellana informed on the difficulties to do so for the Spanish members; the money cannot be transferred before mid-July.
- 11) Finances: E.V. presents the financial report in the absence of Silvio Canonica, the EPA Treasurer. The asset of the EPA by the end of 2011 amounts to 88'688 CHF. This asset in CHF with the fee in Euros has somehow suffered from an unfavourable exchange rate over the past

year. In 2011, the society has spent more than it has received, because of the decreasing number of members and the smaller royalties (due to a previous overpayment) received from PPS. However, the situation is not dramatic (the asset has been close to stable in Euros) and the membership fee is kept at 35 Euros for regular members and at 15 Euros for students. The financial report has been inspected and approved by the auditors Hugh Burrows and René Williams.

- 12) Sarah Ruthven, managing Editor of the RSC Publishing Company gives a short presentation on the present status of PPS. The following points are highlighted: highest impact factor for a photochemistry journal; no page charge and free use of colour where it scientifically enhances the paper; scientifically trained staff; quick acceptance and online submission; presence on the Internet with a blog and free download of the top ten most accessed articles.
- 13) Elections: E.V. thanks Bo Albinsson, Silvio Canonica and Dimitra Markovitsi, who leave the EC for their work and dedication to the Society, and presents the proposition for the new EC:

Werner Nau (Germany, President)
Maurizio D`Auria (Italy, Editor in Chief EPA Newsletter)
Olga Fedorova (Russia, Public Relations)
Alexandre Fürstenberg (Switzerland, Treasurer)
John Gilchrist (UK, Industry-liaison)
Roberto Improta (Italy, New technologies of information)
Julia Pérez Prieto (Spain, Associate Editor EPA Newsletter)
Eric Vauthey (Switzerland, Past President and PPS matter)
David Worrall (UK, Website Manager)

Werner Nau, presents his objectives as EPA President for the two coming years

E.V. asks the EPA members to express their opinion on the proposed EC candidates. Following a proposition from Silvia Braslavsky, the new EC is elected by acclamation.

Valencia, July 31, 2012



Julia Pérez Prieto