

Minutes of the EPA General Council

17th February 2016, 8:30-9:15 pm, Bad Hofgastein, Austria

28 EPA members are present.

- 1) The EPA past president Werner Nau (WN) welcomes the members of the EPA and thanks the organizers of the Central European Conference on Photochemistry (CECP) for hosting the General Council. He explains that he is stepping in for the EPA president David Worrall who is attending a long planned business trip to Chile.
- 2) WN reminds the audience that the current venue and the early date for the General Council was decided because the IUPAC meeting on photochemistry is taking place in Asia this year and it is unlikely that many EPA members will attend. The CECP is the largest photochemistry conference in Europe this year.
- 3) WN shows the current composition of the EC: Maurizio D'Auria (MDA), Olga Fedorova (OF), Alexandre Fürstenberg (AF), John Gilchrist (JC), Roberto Improta (RI), Werner Nau (WN), Julia Pérez-Prieto (JPP), and David Worrall (DW).
- 4) EPA activities: WN explains that a large part of the summary of EPA activities for the past two years was given by AF as an introduction to the Prize ceremony a few hours earlier.
- 5) Membership: the new membership database on the website is online and up-to-date. AF has worked to make it much easier to update and maintain. EPA currently has 418 members.
- 6) Finances: WN presents the financial report prepared by the EPA Treasurer. The assets of EPA (2014: CHF 97'356; 2015: CHF 96'892) have been stable in Swiss Francs, although the EUR/CHF exchange rate has been fluctuating substantially. Income due to membership and PPS royalties has also been stable. The society has spent a little bit less than what it has received in 2014 and in 2015. The finances are healthy and the membership fee is kept at its current value. The financial report and the accounting has been inspected and approved by the auditors Hugh Burrows and Clémence Allain. The General Council gives a unanimous discharge to the Treasurer.
- 7) WN explains that there is nothing substantial to be added about PPS, the society-owned journal. The aim is to reach an impact factor of 4. The objective is still far away, but PPS is competing well with other journals in the field. Dario Bassani took over from Frans de Schryver as the editor-in-chief in 2015. He involved the associated editors more than his predecessor and asks for the support of the community to submit good papers and reviews to the journal.
- 8) Elections: the EC proposes Julia Pérez-Prieto as the next president of EPA. JPP presents her objectives as EPA president for the coming two years and asks for support of the community. She thanks Werner Nau, Olga Fedorova and John Gilchrist, who are leaving the EC, for their dedication to the Society and presents the proposed composition for the new EC:

Maurizio D'Auria (Italy)	Newsletter editor
Alexandre Fürstenberg (Switzerland)	Treasurer
Roberto Improta (Italy)	New information technologies
Julia Pérez-Prieto (Spain)	President
David Worrall (United Kingdom)	Past president and PPS matters

She adds that in future terms, one or two new positions should be filled in the EC and nominations are welcome.

The General Council elects Julia Pérez-Prieto and the new EC by acclamation.

- 9) Alberto Credi asks whether the presidents of the national associations can be asked about who is in the EC. WN explains that there should be no national bias as to who acts on the EC. A diversity of nationalities on the EC is encouraged, but the EC mainly needs people who are ready to actually get some work done for EPA rather than just being a representative of their country.
- 10) AF asks the GC for a special round of applause for Werner Nau who is now leaving the EC after 10 years of service during which he has spared no efforts for our community.

February 2016

Alexandre Fürstenberg

