



ESP General Assembly

17th ESP Congress, Pisa

September 7, 2017

EC Members:

Rex Tyrrell (President), *Santi Nonell* (President-Elect; PPS Editor-in-Chief, Photobiology), *Lesley Rhodes* (Past-President), *Francesco Ghetti* (Treasurer), *Francesca Giuntini* (Secretary), *Fabienne Dumoulin* (Officer), *Patricia Vicendo* (Officer), *Pål Selbo* (Officer), *Massimo Trotta* (Officer)

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

ESP Members in attendance: ca. 90

Chair

Rex Tyrrell

Minutes

Francesca Giuntini

Agenda

1. Summary report on 2015-17 Term: Rex Tyrrell
2. Treasurer report: Francesco Ghetti
3. Auditors report: Kristian Berg
4. Education & Training Committee report: Lesley Rhodes
5. Photobiology School report: Kristian Berg
6. Photochemical & Photobiological Sciences report: Santi Nonell
7. ESP Comprehensive Book Series report: Massimo Trotta
8. Preliminary report on 17th ESP Congress: Francesco Ghetti
9. Results of EC election & presentation of EC 2017-2019: Santi Nonell
10. Main aims of Strategy Plans for 2017-2019: Santi Nonell
11. Venue of 18th ESP Congress 2019: Santi Nonell
12. Any other business

Minutes

Agenda item: <u>Summary Report on 2015-17 Term</u>	Presenter: <i>Rex Tyrrell</i>
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The President welcomes all ESP members to the AGM. The members of the EC during the biennium 2015-2017 are introduced:

Rex Tyrrell (RT), President
Santi Nonell (SN), President-Elect
Lesley Rhodes (LR), Past President
Francesco Ghetti (FGh), Treasurer
Francesca Giuntini (FGi), Secretary
Fabienne Dumoulin (FD), Officer
Pål Selbo (PS), Officer
Patricia Vicendo (PV), Officer
Massimo Trotta (MT), Officer

Reports on the activities carried out in the term past (see slides).

The activities of the Education and Training Committee continued. A further edition of the School took place in 2016. The organisation of the Congress was one of the main goals of the term and a lot of work was dedicated to it. The congress was successful and Francesco Ghetti did a phenomenal job for the organisation. He was helped by local people but he drove the whole process by himself, so we all should thank him.

This meeting has been very successful and it helped to continue relationships with sister societies. We are trying to formalise these relationships. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the president of the IUPB could not be present. Representatives of the ASP were present, and also representatives from MEPSA The Australasian Society which has a large section of photobiology were present but not “formally”.

2 years ago, we decided to run joint congress with IUPB: and a strategy to organise a congress logistically and financially viable has been developed

We continued to award various prizes and added more. The Arnold Rikli Prize is now under the patronage of ESP,. This is an important prize in the area of photobiology and ESP was invited to sit on the board that oversees the logistics.

In 2015 the Scientific Advisory Board was renewed. The Board is crucial for the activities of the Society and plays a key role in the scientific organisation of the congress and suggestions for symposia and keynotes.

Agenda item: Treasurer report

Presenter: *Francesco Ghetti*

Discussion:

The report starts with a slide illustrating the figures of the accounts. A graph is shown with the distribution of expense items. The expenses of the ETC in a congress year such as this one are included with the congress expenses. A bar chart with various incomes is shown: these are mainly deriving from membership and congress fees. There is a new item: the donations. In the membership renewal, we added an option to include donations towards the Giulio Jori Fellowship. Norwegian and Italian photobiology societies gave money and John Spike’s wife donated too.

A slide was shown with an overview of finances (bank account and investment) since 2000. The “treasure of the Society” is stable and we try to invest the money so that we can have a buffer to fund our various activities.

Expenses and incomes are close to balanced. Membership numbers are shown. In 2017 members are actually increasing but the figures shown have not been updated.

Agenda item: Auditors report

Presenter: *Kristian Berg*

Discussion:

Auditor’s report done by Kristian Berg and Vivienne Reeve. All the accounts were in order. Slide with declaration shown.

Agenda item: Education & Training Committee report

Presenter: Lesley Rhodes

Discussion:

Members and affiliated members of the ETC are shown. The number of members increased to reflect the increased number of activities promoted by the committee. These activities include the fellowships to attend congresses, the Young Investigator Award, the Giulio Jori Fellowship, the Arnold Rikli prize, the ESP supplement to PhD degree, an input in the Photobiology School and a workshop at the ESP congress.

We aim at awarding as many fellowships as possible to encourage participation of young members in our congresses. 56 fellowships were awarded this year for ESP in Pisa and 15 in 2016 to attend many other conferences.

We received 3 applicants for the Young Investigator Award: Ilaria Testa was chosen for her outstanding qualifications. Ilaria gave the Congress opening keynote lecture.

The Giulio Jori Fellowship was awarded to Justina Labuz, who will go to Glasgow. This fellowship was established to boost the career of young scientists but also to foster collaborations between groups.

A slide is shown with the Terms of References of the Giulio Jori Awards: LR reminds members that input of members is greatly appreciated and invites members to donate.

3 people applied and obtained the ESP supplement to PhD (Dr. Anne Von Koschembhar, Dr. Fabrizio Palumbo, Dr. Ester Boiz-Garriga). Some eligibility criteria apply but they are all available on the website.

No questions were received from the audience.

Agenda item: <u>Photobiology School report</u>	Presenter: Kristian Berg
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Discussion:

The 3rd edition of the ESP School took place in Brixen in 2016. The reason for choosing Brixen is that the University of Padova has a venue there. Giorgia Miolo is the Local Organiser now. Brixen is cosy but large enough to offer attractive venues for food and entertainment. The School aims at providing a basis of knowledge in photobiology, and the most important aspects of the field are covered (shown in slide). An overview of the programme is displayed on a slide. The School has a busy agenda. Some of the sessions are compulsory and must be attended and some special topics are included that are optional/ may be of interest to some. We have social activities too. There is a poster session with a prize awarded (that is sponsored by the RSC). There is an exam that students need to take if they intend to apply for the ESP supplement to the PhD. An attendance certificate is given and a further certificate is given to those who are successful in the exam.

The 2016 School was attended by 41 students: mostly from Europe, but some from other parts of the world. 34 students took the exam and 31 passed. The next edition will take place between the 11th and the 18th June 2018. Details are on the ESP website.

Agenda item: <u>Report on Photochemical & Photobiological Sciences and Book Series</u>	Presenter: Santi Nonell
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Discussion:

Santi Nonell has been Editor in Chief of PPS from beginning of 2016 and will remain until end of 2017.

PPS is the members' journal, so members are encouraged to submit papers to PPS, to read and cite works published in PPS. These 3 actions are aimed at raising the IF of the journal. All members should try and enhance the journal because it is beneficial to the society.

The journal publishes full-length papers, perspectives, technical notes and communications. Currently the journal has a 60% rejection rate. We handled 190 papers last year. 36 rejected without review because they were out of scope. Handling time is about 60 days (primary handling, before it gets back to the authors). Most popular topic last year was vitamin D, followed by PDT and the other areas (see pie chart in appendix). The topics are varied and ideally there should be an even distribution of topics from all the areas of photobiology. Approximately a third of the contributions are from Europe followed by Asia and South America.

PPS has themed issues to direct the attention of the readers to specific topics. In 2016 the proceedings from the Cordoba Congress (ICP) were published. In 2017 two special issues were published, one on the benefits of UV radiation and one on the proceedings of the joint congress of Italian and French societies.

In 2016 two new associate editors were appointed: Prue Hart and Mauricio Baptista. Two stepped down in 2017: Rosalie Crouch and Choon-Hwan Lee. We are grateful to these two colleagues for the hard work and their commitment. Two new associate editors were appointed: Gareth Jenkins and Ellen Bruzell.

The books of the Comprehensive Series in Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences are published through RSC. Series editors are Lesley Rhodes, Evelyne Sage, and Massimo Trotta.

In 2015 a book on photodynamic medicine and one on surface photobiology was published, in 2016 two volumes were published on singlet oxygen. A few titles are in preparation: the use of light in forensic science (expected publication in December 2017) and microalgae hydrogen production. Members are encouraged to send proposals and suggestions for new titles to the series editors.

Agenda item: Results of EC election & presentation of EC

Presenter Santi Nonell

Discussion:

On behalf of the EC and of the whole Society, SN thanks RT for his kind words and all the hard work. RT has been part of ESP and photobiology since start of his career, and his contribution to the Society is a long-standing one. The results of the recent elections are shown (see slides).

Two new members of the EC are Adelaide Almeida (officer) and Franz Trautinger (president elect). Patricia Vicendo is no longer in the EC and she is thanked for her work. Two officers who have not been elected were encouraged to come forward in the future.

The composition of the new EC is as follows:

Santi Nonell - President

Franz Trautinger-President elect
Rex Tyrrell-Past President
Francesca Giuntini - Secretary
Francesco Ghetti - Treasurer
Adelaide Almeida - Officer
Fabienne Dumoulin - Officer
Massimo Trotta - Officer
Pål Selbo - Officer
Kristian Berg - Auditor
Vivienne Reeve - Auditor

Agenda item: *Main aims of Strategy Plans for 2015-2017*

Presenter: Santi Nonell

Discussion:

The main goal for the new term is to increase the value of ESP membership.

We asked ourselves what could we do to attract new members. There are a number of successful activities promoted by the ESP, and all the EC needs to give continuation to these.

These activities/events are: the congress, our journal and the book series, the photobiology school, the awards and fellowships, and the outreach.

ESP will continue to devote a large amount of resources to young members.

We need to increase synergies and we need to implement solid strategies to do this. There is plenty of potential for that:

- 1) Synergies between members: we would like to foster co-applications to project by consortia of members and we are working on how we can do it.
- 2) Synergies with other societies, based in countries in Europe and in other continents too. We will strengthen the good relationships we already have and increase collaborations.
- 3) We will aim at increasing our collaboration/contact with industries: we are glad to see industrialists participating this congress and becoming members.

We will also explore pathways to synergise with policymakers. This has not been explored so far, but we are keen to start.

The new EC will meet tomorrow(EC) and again in 3 months.

Agenda item: *Venue of the 18th ESP Congress*

Presenter: Santi Nonell

Discussion:

The congress in 2019 congress will be held in Barcelona. There are a few novelties: firstly, the congress was brought back one week. This was done to allow people that have parenting commitments to attend.

The other novelty is that the congress will jointly with IUPB. The Congress of IUPB is run every 5 years so we decided to team up with the aim of attracting a high number of delegates. A brief presentation of the host city is shown. Barcelona is a great venue for sightseeing and for social

life, but at the same time it gives opportunities for networking because it is contained. Barcelona is easy to reach (the main airport is well connected to locations worldwide and is well linked to the city). There is a smaller airport in Girona too, which is 100 km away. Barcelona offers a variety of accommodations. The organising committee aims at providing delegates with a ticket for public transport. In the name of the OC, we look forward to welcome all in Barcelona.

Agenda item: Preliminary report from the 16th ESP Congress **Presenter:** Francesco Ghetti

Discussion:

FGshows the preliminary report from the congress 2015 (see further detail in slide compilation, appendix). A pie chart with the participants divided by countries is shown. Each of the 5 continents is represented. FGh: update on participants (370) by countries. See slide attached.

Agenda item: AOB

Discussion:

No further business

Appendix
