

Minutes

General Assembly

BioEM Society

June 20 2022

12:00-13:30 (UTC+9)

Agenda

1. Opening: Welcome by the President and presentation of the agenda (2 min)
2. Approval and modifications of the agenda (3 min)
3. Proposal of changes to the Bylaws and Approval (5 min)
4. First report of the President and Approval (10 min)
5. Report of the Treasurer (15 minutes)
 - a. Report of the Treasurer
 - b. Election of the Auditors
 - c. Approval of the current financial statements
 - d. Proposal and Approval of the 2022/2023 budget.
6. Report of the TPC chairs (10 min)
7. Bioelectromagnetics Journal: report of the Editor in Chief (10 min)
8. Appointment of new Editor in Chief for Bioelectromagnetics Journal (10 min)
9. Any other business (5 min)

All presentation slides are attached for information.

1. Opening: Welcome by the President and presentation of the Agenda

2. Approval and modifications of the agenda

Number 6 on the agenda: "Report of the TPC chairs" can be removed as it was already presented this morning at the opening ceremony (slides are attached for information).

3. Proposal of changes to the Bylaws and Approval (Slide #3)

Proposed change to Article 4.2.b of the BioEM AoA

- No questions
- Approve
 - o Move: Niels Kuster
 - o Second: René De Seze

Proposed change to article 7.8 of the BioEM By-Laws

- No questions
- Approve
 - o Move: Gunnhild Oftedal
 - o Second: René De Seze

4. First report of the President and Approval (Slides #1-15)

Please refer to the president's slides attached.

- No questions
- Approve

- Move: Niels Kuster
- Second: Mats-Olof Mattsson

5. Report of the Treasurer (Slides #15-#26)

Please refer to the treasurer's slides attached.

a. Report of the Treasurer

- Investment plan (Slide #18)
 - No questions
 - Approve
 - Move: Micaela Liberti
 - Second: René De Seze
- Membership fee proposal (Slide #19)
 - Question online: Is there a different payment for BEMS and EBEA?
 - About the Journal
 - Old € 70
 - New € 75
 - Niels Kuster: No, this is because of the currency exchange from Dollar to Euro. We only have BioEM, there is no separation between BEMS and EBEA anymore.
- Question: What are low-income countries? How can you define budget? What is the risk of reduced turnover?
 - Niels Kuster: We will use the criteria set by the World Bank (<https://data.worldbank.org/country/XM>). The list isn't ready yet. But we hope to attract more people to the meetings because of this list. We assume that the budget is balanced.
- Approve
 - Move: Gunnhild Oftedal
 - Second: Micaela Liberti

b. Election of the Auditors (Slide #26)

- No questions
- Approve
 - Move: Micaela Liberti
 - Second: Gunnhild Oftedal

c. Approval of the current financial statements (Slide #24)

- No questions
- Approve
 - Move: René De Seze
 - Second: Micaela Liberti

d. Proposal and Approval of the 2022/2023 budget (Slides #20-#21)

- Question: Do we continue with a hybrid version
 - Azadeh Peyman: For next year (BioEM 2023) the plan is to have a physical only meeting. This doesn't mean that it is not possible for future conferences in the coming years to adapt the hybrid model again if needed.
- Question: Why not? Doesn't the profit come from the hybrid registrations?
 - LOC: No, we still don't know. It depends on the registration.
 - TBD

- Approve
 - Move: Theodoros Samaras
 - Second: Gunnhild Oftedal
- e. Bank account signatory rights (Slide #25)**
 - No questions
 - Approve
 - Move: Gunnhild Oftedal
 - Second: Lluís M. Mir

6. Report of the TPC chairs

Removed

7. Bioelectromagnetics Journal: report of the Editor in Chief

Please refer to James Lin slides attached

8. Appointment of new Editor in Chief for Bioelectromagnetics Journal

Please refer to Theo Samaras slides attached

9. Any other business

- BioEM2024
 - 2 intentions for a bid
 - California
 - Greece
 - Full proposals are expected in September 2022
- Journal:
 - Question: Shouldn't we encourage to go in the direction of open access?
 - Interesting comment, this will be discussed with the new editor-in-chief and treasurer.

10. List of decisions made:

- a) Approval of proposed change to Article 4.2.b of the BioEM AoA (Slide #3)
- b) Approval of Proposed change to article 7.8 of the BioEM By-Laws (Slide #3)
- c) Approval of president's report (Slides #1-15)
- d) Approval of treasurer's investment plan (Slide #18)
- e) Approval of proposed membership fee for 2023 (Slide #19)
- f) Approval of proposed budget for 2022/2023 (Slides #20-21)
- g) Approval of the financial statement (Slide #24)
- h) Approval of bank account signatory rights (Slide 25)
- i) Approval of the proposed auditors (Slide #26)

Attachments:

Presentation slides by the president

Presentation slides from TPC

Presentation slides from Treasurer

Presentation slides from outgoing EiC (James Lin)

Presentation slides from new EiC (Theo Samaras)



BioEM

1st General Assembly
20 june 2022

Agenda of General Assembly

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 2. Election of the Auditors
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Proposal of changes to the AoA and Bylaws + Approval

- Proposed change to Article 4.2.b of the BioEM AoA :

Emeritus Members: Any person who has been a Full Member for at least one calendar year, but has become emeritus or retired at his/her own institution. Emeritus Members have all the rights and privileges of a Full Member, except that he/she cannot vote in the General Assembly or hold office.

Change to

“Emeritus Members: Any person who has been a Full Member for at least one calendar year, but has become emeritus or retired at his/her own institution. Emeritus Members have all the rights and privileges of a Full Member, except that he/she cannot vote in the General Assembly or hold office. **Associate Members cannot obtain the Emeritus category.**”

- Proposed change to article 7.8 of the BioEM By-Laws:

“By vote of the Board, expenses, if any, may be allowed for attendance at each regular or special meeting of the Board.”

Change to:

“**The expenses, if any, for attendance at each regular or special meeting of the Board by the Board members will be included as a separate item of the yearly budget.**”



First Report of the president
Luc Martens

Welcome

- A new society, a new logo



- Thanks to René De Seze, Vitas Anderson and Jonathan Farrugia for your proposals
 - No winner but some good Belgian chocolates for your efforts
- Thanks a lot to the professional designers of the team of Niels Kuster for the final design

A new society

- 8 meetings since the election of the board
- Start of new society
 - Committees
 - Bioelectromagnetics journal and editor in chief
 - The contracts
 - Logo, temporary website and platform
 - BioEM2022 follow up, BioEM2023 budget and call for BioEM2024
 - Amendments to the Bylaws
 - Budget discussion

The BioEM board

- Luc Martens, President
- Azadeh Peyman, President Elect and Executive Secretary
- Niels Kuster, Treasurer
- Anke Huss
- Bennett Ibey
- Wout Joseph
- Rich Nuccitelli
- Lucas Portelli
- Florence Poulletier
- Olga Zeni
- Frank Prato

The Committees

- Membership (Azadeh Peyman, Lucas Portelli, Olga Zeni, Rich Nuccitelli)
- Awards (Florence Pouletier, Anke Huss, Wout Joseph, Bennett Ibey)
- Journal (Rich Nuccitelli, Frank Prato, Niels Kuster, Luc Martens)
- Communication (Luc Martens, Azadeh Peymann, Olga Zeni, Lucas Portelli)
- Finance (Niels Kuster, Bennett Ibey, Luc Martens, Azadeh Peyman)
- Education (Olga Zeni, Frank Prato, Rich Nuccitelli, Florence Pouletier)

Activities in the Committees (1)

- Membership committee
 - Transfer of BEMS and EBFA membership to BioEM membership
 - Approving new members
- Awards committee
 - Decision on student award prices
 - Discussion on the awards for next year
- Journal committee
 - Transfer contract of Wiley with BEMS to BioEM
 - Selection of a new editor-in-chief

Activities in the Committees (2)

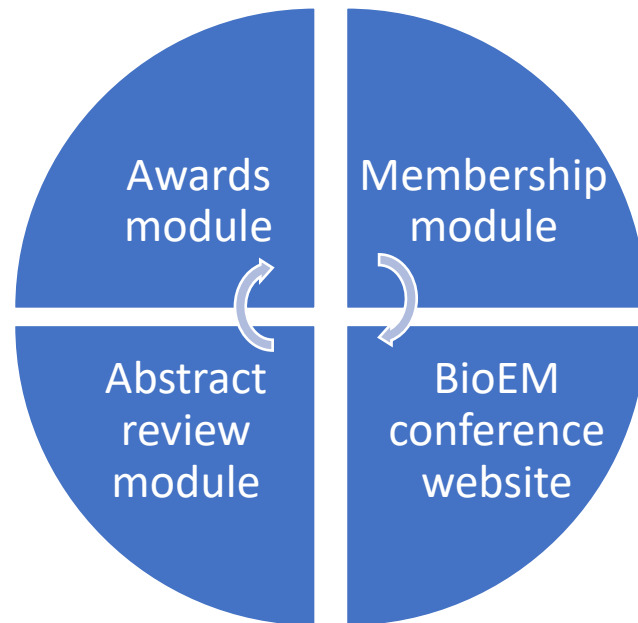
- Communication committee
 - Logo design
 - Temporary website implementation
 - Requirements for a new BioEM website platform
- Finance committee
 - Discussion on membership fee
 - Budget plan for 2022-2023
- Education committee
 - Erice School initiative: preparing of Memorandum of Understanding
 - Discussion of proposal for student exchange

Contracts

- Lawson contract for services
 - Signed on May 20, 2022, term until 31 December 2022
 - Services for the conference:
 - Abstract review support
 - Program and abstract book
 - Additional service
 - Implementation of temporary website
- Assets transfer agreement (BEMS to BioEM)
 - Under review
- Contract with Wiley for the Bioelectromagnetics journal
 - Under review, can only be signed when Assets transfer agreement is signed
- Agreement to involve Melanie De Coster for management of the process of implementation of the website platform (see further)

Website

- We have a temporary website
 - www.bioem.org (every new member and “EBEA only” member will get an email to set up an account and profile, BEMS members can use their existing credentials and if they were member in 2021 they will get access to all member only content)
- New website platform under development



Business plans for BioEM

- How will we invest the current assets and the money received from membership and conferences
- The board discussed several options
 - Investments in shares and warrants (see Treasurer' report)
 - Membership fee
 - Journal fee and open access sponsoring
 - Student education and exchange
 - Sponsoring of the annual conference

Decisions (numbers see report treasurer)

- Membership fee
 - Very low fee for members from low income countries
- Journal fee and open access sponsoring
 - Journal fee included in membership fee for low income countries
- Student education and exchange
 - Decided to support exchanges for 5 students Membership fee
- Sponsoring of the annual conference
 - Idea: Conference fee acceptably low, very low fee for students
 - Budget should be breakeven with 300 participants (taking into account sponsorship of the society)
 - Society sponsors
 - Provision of the website template
 - Plenary speakers
 - Awards
 - Contribution of Lawson to the conference
 - Student support



Report of the Treasurer
Niels Kuster

BioEM - Treasurer's Report General Assembly, June 20, 2022



■ Niels Kuster, IT'IS Foundation



What Happened



- BioEM bank account established
- EBEA approved transfer on the meeting of xxxx
- EBEA has transferred its assets (102'093)
 - BEMS outstanding (~2000) to be expected in the next days
 - BEMS has not yet transferred its assets
 - some delays (95% expected in the next weeks, the remaining funds in fall)
- Auditor Company proposed on the meeting of 19.6.2022
- investment plan proposed by the board to the GA BoD Meeting of 20220531

Investment Plan



■ The board (BoD 20220531) decided to propose the following investment plan to the GA investment fund: ambition

- 250'000 Euro asap
- 250'000 Euro on end of september

■ ZKB Ambition

- 40 % - 85 % in shares
- 15 % - 60 % in bonds and other

Membership Fee Proposal (Needs Approval)

Membership	old fees (EUR)	BioEM (EUR)
Full Member (High Income*)	100	100
Full Member (Low & Middle Income*) incl. Journal Subscription	-	35
Associate Member (High Income*)	100	100
Students	25	25
Emeritus	25	25
Honorary	0	0
Option: Journal Subscription	70	75
Option: support of students	any	any

*The World Bank

BioEM Treasurer's Report Budget 2022 (status 20.06.2022, EUR)

Income	2022-6	Budget	Expenses	2022-6	Budget
Membership (200*EUR 0)	0	0	Support of BioEM2023	0	0
Journal Subscription (20*75)	0	0	Support for Conferences	0	0
BioEM Meeting BioEM2021*	0	0	Student Exchange (5 x 2000)	0	0
Sponsoring	0	0	Awards	0	2.000
Profit Sharing Wiley	0	80.000	BoD&GA Meeting Expenses (lunch,etc.)	0	3.000
	0	15.000	BoD Travel Support	0	0
Editorial Support	0	10.000	Editor in Chief Expenses	0	15.000
Gain on Investment (4%/year)	0	0	Webpage (Old + New)	12.995	80.000
Other income			Admin (accounting, audit, etc.)	95	1.000
			Bank & Paypal Charges	24	200
			Legal Expenses / Insurances	1.081	5.000
			Exchange Rate Diff.		
Total	0	105.000		14.195	106.200
Extraordinary Income	0		Extraordinary Expenses	0	0
Total incl. extraordinary	0	105.000		14.195	106.200
Profit / Loss				-14.195	-1.200

*Prepayment of \$12'000 could not returned

BioEM General Assembly, 20220620



BioEM Treasurer's Report Budget 2023 (status 20.06.2022, EUR)

Income		Budget	Expenses		Budget
Membership (200*EUR 100)	0	20.000	Support of BioEM2023	0	32.000
Journal Subscription (20*75)	0	1.500	Support for Conferences	0	0
BioEM Meeting BioEM2022 (Y5+4mio)	0	60.000	Student Exchange (5 x 2000)	0	10.000
Sponsoring	0	0	Awards	0	6.000
Profit Sharing Wiley	0	80.000	BoD&GA Meeting Expenses (lunch,etc.)	0	1.000
			BoD Travel Support	0	0
Editorial Support	0	15.000	Editor in Chief Expenses	0	25.000
Gain on Investment (4%/year)	0	20.000	Webpage (Maintenance)	0	25.000
				0	
Other income	0	0	Admin (accounting, audit, etc.)	0	5000
					'000
			Bank & Paypal Charges	0	200
			Legal Expenses / Insurances	0	1.000
			Exchange Rate Diff.		
Total	0	196.500		0	132.200
Extraordinary Income	0		Extraordinary Expenses	0	0
Total incl. extraordinary	0	196.500		0	132.200
Profit / Loss				0	64.300

*Profit of Y5mio plus prepayment of Y4mio
 BioEM General Assembly, 20220620



BioEM Treasurer's Report - details on expenses

	2022-6 EUR
Expenses	
Insurances - liability - directors & officers	1,081
Webpage/Conference - Lawson Health Research (USD 12,999)	12,994
Other Admin ^[1] - Notary cost (for bank account access) Azadeh Peyman(GBP 109)	95

BioEM Treasurer's Report

ZKB Bank Account EUR		EUR
19.04.2022	Transfer from EBEA account	50.000
04.05.2022	AXA liability insurance	-148
04.05.2022	AXA directors & officers insurance	-933
06.05.2022	Azadeh Peyman - notary expenses	-129
31.05.2022	Bank expenses	-24
07.06.2022	Prepayment BioEM2023 - University Oxford	-16.678
17.06.2022	Transfer from EBEA account	52.023
Total		84.111

BioEM - Bank Account Signatory Rights



■ Authorized to view account, set-up, sign off and release payments:

- Azadeh Peyman (president elect)
- Niels Kuster (treasurer)
- Luc Martens (president)
- jointly, i.e. two need to authorize any payment

■ Authorized to view account and set-up payments:

- Jacqueline C. Pieper, CFO IT'IS Foundation
- Rebekka Akrong, accountant IT'IS Foundation, responsible for BioEM accounting

■ no authority to release payments

BioEM - Election of Auditor

■ Articles of Association - clause 8 - Auditors

- The General Assembly shall approve an independent auditing company as Auditors of the Society

■ By-laws - Specifications to clause 8 - Auditor

- The Board shall submit a proposal for an independent auditing company to the General Assembly
- The Auditors shall audit the financial statements of the Society every year and prepare the Auditor's report addressed to the General Assembly. During the year, the Auditors may check the accounts of the Society on a random basis

■ Requirements

- must be familiar with Swiss law and Swiss accounting rules

■ Proposal

- Signer Consulting AG, Zürich (www.signerconsulting.ch)
- initial cost: EUR 200 - 400
- annual cost: EUR 1,250 - 1,550

- EY, Zurich, minimum annual cost: EUR 7,700



BioEM

Report of the TPC chairs

Wout Joseph



BioEM 2022



June 19-24, NAGOYA, JAPAN | Hybrid event

Welcome

from the Technical Program Committee

Bennett Ibey, Wout Joseph

SPECIAL SESSIONS

4 plenary talks

- EM exposure risks for persons with implants: A neglected population?
- What about 5G? – Biological effects of millimetre waves – research base, safety standards, and knowledge gaps
- Transient changes in membrane hydration of liposome exposed to nanosecond electric pulses detected by wide-field Coherent anti-Stokes Raman microscopy
- The MOBI-Kids study: association between wireless phone use in childhood and adolescence and brain tumours

2 Tutorials

- Bioelectromagnetics research and its theoretical bases: How to reduce confusion and improve scientific progress
- oxidative stress and methods to reduce confusion

SPECIAL SESSIONS

6 workshops

- **Tresholds for the nervous system**
- **EMF risk communication – Lessons learned and future cooperation**
- **Monitoring of EMF exposures in real daily lives**
- **2B or not 2B: revisited; The IARC decision on RF exposure**
- **New cellular and tissue models**
- **What we learned in half a century bioelectromagnetics**

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

□ 14 platform sessions

▪ 84 presentations

□ 2 student flash poster sessions

▪ 37 presentations

□ 2 regular poster sessions

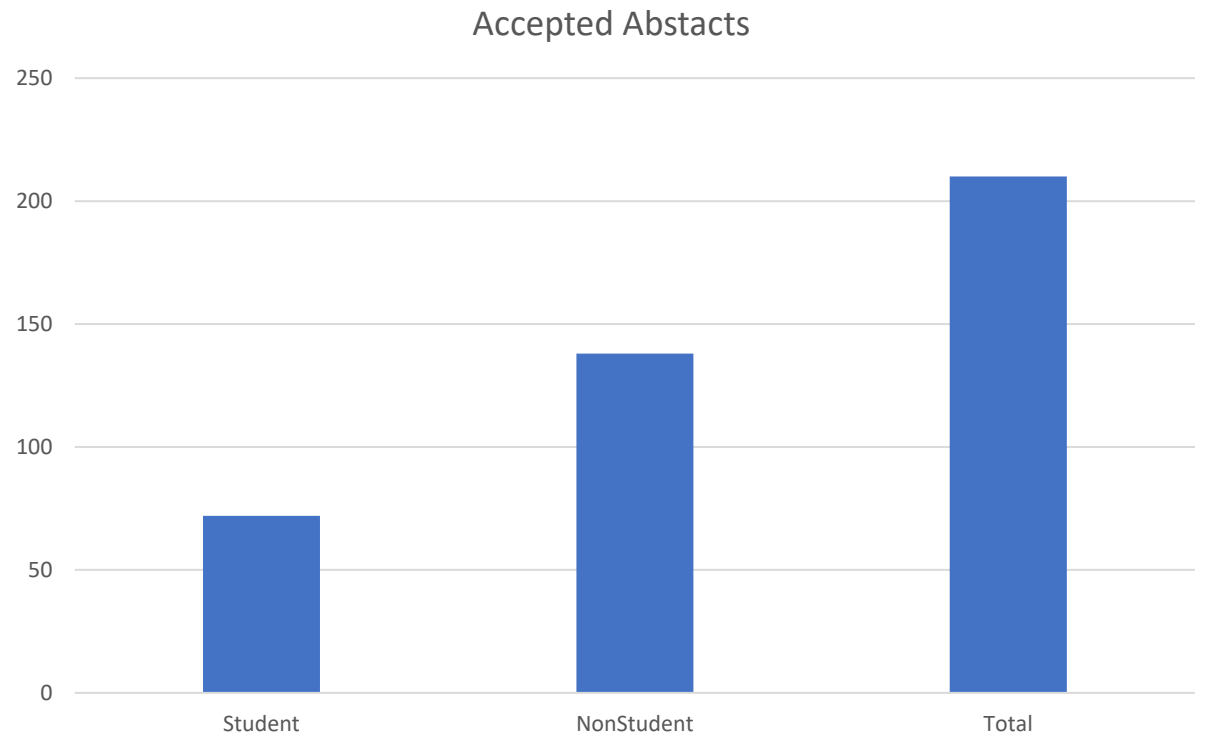
▪ 128 posters

TOPICS

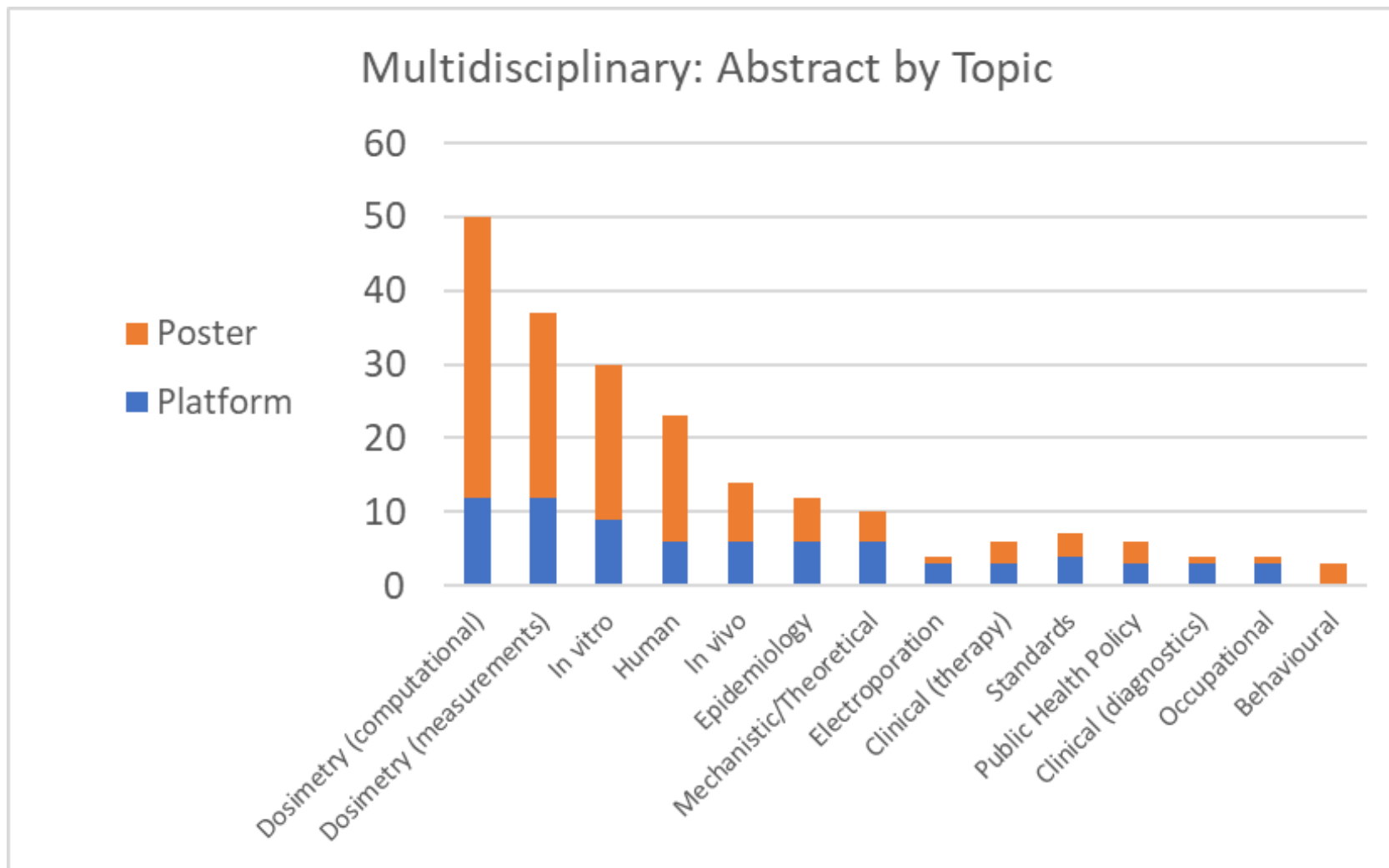
- Dosimetry
- clinical
- electroporation
- in vivo
- epidemiology
- Human studies
- in vitro
- standards
- occupational and public health
- Mechanistic/Theoretical

TECHNICAL PROGRAM

- 226 submitted abstracts for BioEM 2022
 - 7 rejected, 9 withdrawn, 210 accepted
 - 72 student papers -> 43% increase wrt 2021

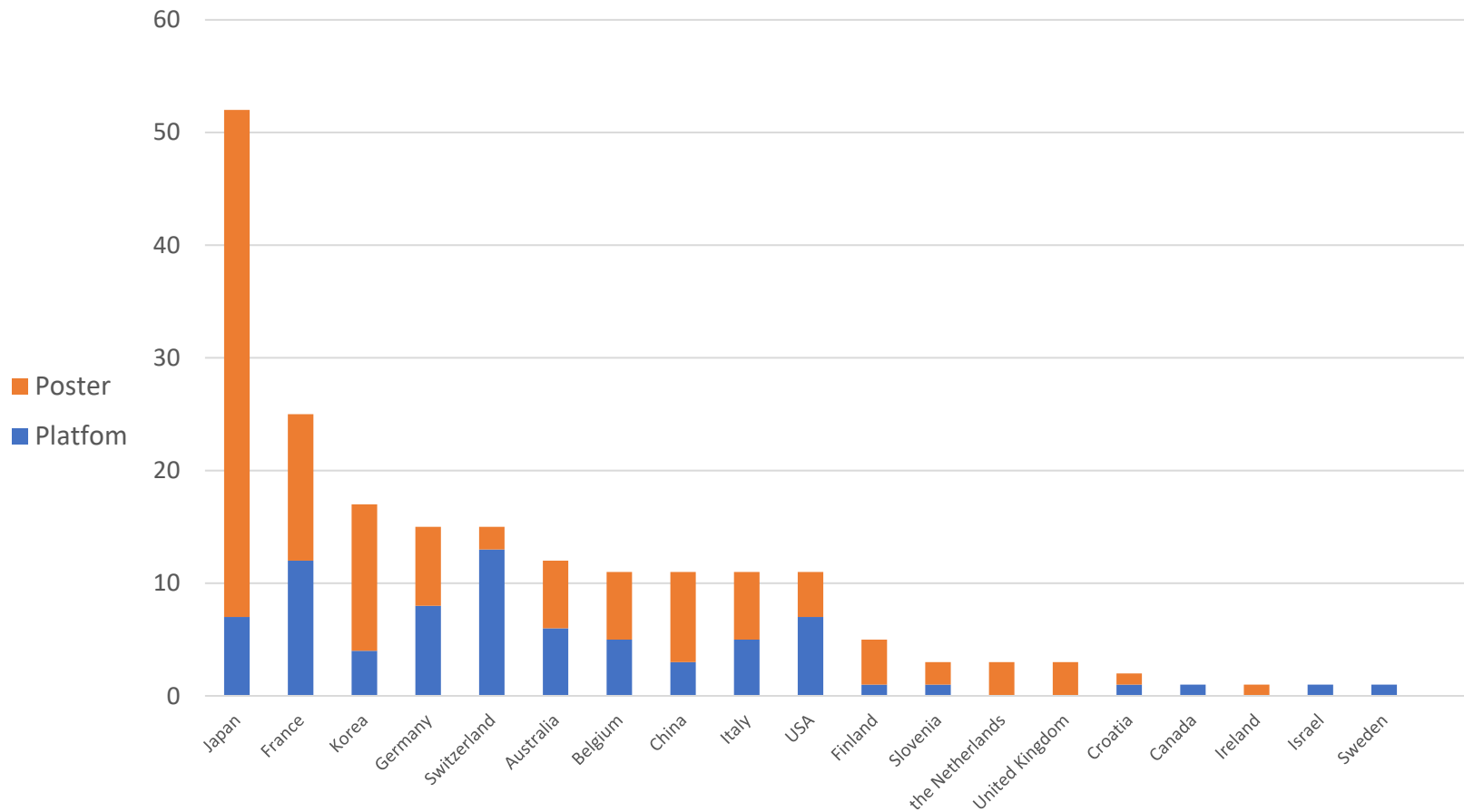


TECHNICAL PROGRAM



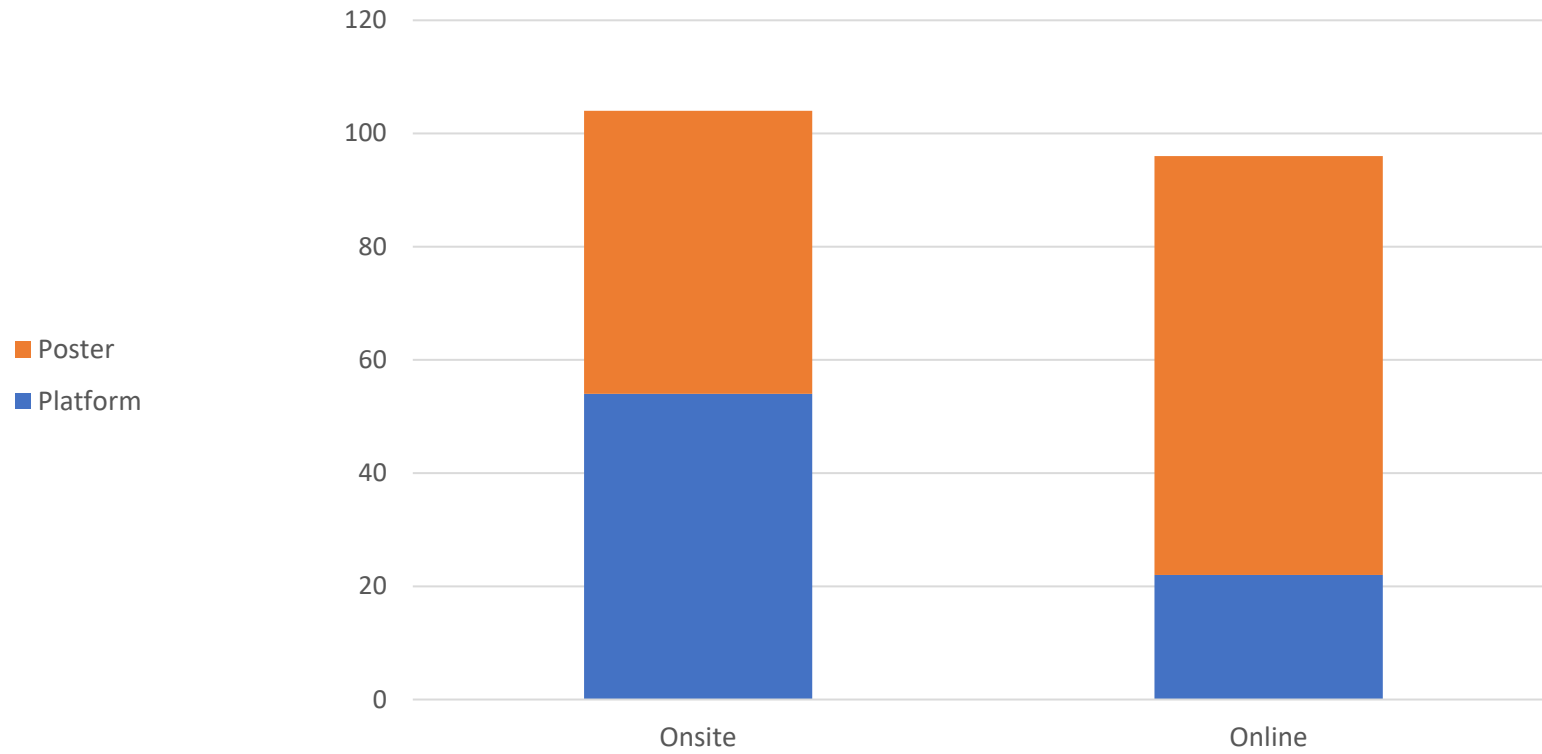
TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Multinational: Abstract by Country



TECHNICAL PROGRAM

Onsite vs Online Presentations



TECHNICAL PROGRAM

❑ Unique challenges

❑ Hybrid conference as result of Covid and the impact on

❑ Invited speakers

❑ Presentation format

❑ Attendees

❑ Timezone...

❑ Acknowledgements

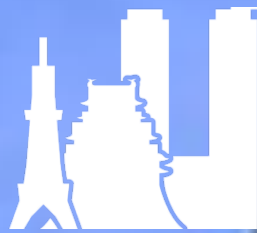
❑ **Astrid Chamson-Reig** from Lawson for assistance and patience with the arrangements of this “unusual” conference format

❑ LOC for all the aspects related to in-person and online conference → **Daisuke and Kaisuke: special thanks from TPC**

❑ 131 Reviewers, thanks!



BioEM 2022



Enjoy BioEM 2022 in Nagoya or online!!!!





Bioelectromagnetics Journal: report of the Editor in
Chief

James Lin

Bioelectromagnetics journal

- Thanks James Lin for being editor-in-chief for all these years



**2021 MOST INFLUENTIAL BIOELECTROMAGNETICS
JOURNAL PAPER BY CITATION AWARD**

**Jie Tong, Lijun Sun, Bin Zhu, Yun Fan,
Xingfeng Ma, Liyin Yu, and Jianbao Zhang.**

**“Pulsed electromagnetic fields promote the
proliferation and differentiation of osteoblasts by
reinforcing intracellular calcium transients.”**

Bioelectromagnetics 38: 541-549, 2017

<https://doi.org/10.1002/bem.22076>

Bioelectromagnetics Journal

Manuscripts Published in 2021 Vol. 42 (#1-8)

Article Type	Number
Regular Articles	44
Reviews	6
Erratum	1
Letters	3
Editorials	2
Commentary	1
TOTAL	57



Current Impact Factor 2.010

Bioelectromagnetics

Journal Statistics

Prior 12
Months

Avg. days from submission to first decision	46.9
Avg. Reviewing turnaround time (days) - Original	19.1
Avg. Reviewing turnaround time (days) - Revision	17.7
Avg. Time to Assign Reviewing (days) - Original	16.6
Avg. Time to Assign Reviewing (days) - Revision	7.6
Avg. days from submission to final decision	53.3
Manuscript Accept Ratio	31%

Total Pending Manuscripts: 34 (As of 6/14/22)

2021 Manuscripts Received by Type

5

<i>Article Type</i>	<i>Total Number</i>
Research Articles	118
Reviews	19
Brief Communications	9
Commentaries	2
Editorials	2
TOTAL	150

<i>FIELD or RADIATION TYPE</i>	<i>2021 MS Number</i>
EF (Electric Field)	8
ELF	9
ELF MF	13
MF (Magnetic Field)	10
PEMF	9
RF/MW	56
SMF	18
TMS/ECT	9
<i>OTHERS (IR,US, X-RAY)</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>No EMF</i>	<i>6</i>
TOTAL	150

<i>STUDY SUBJECT OR TYPE</i>	<i>Number</i>
Animal	41
Human/Epi	17
In Vitro	31
Application	11
Plant and Seed	7
SAR/Dosimetry	9
Exposure	7
Review	19
Mechanism	4
Others	4
TOTAL	150

Country of Origin (# Manuscripts)

China	36
Turkey	19
India, USA	12 each
Iran	10
South Korea	6
Egypt, France, Russia	5 each
Germany, Poland	4 each
Brazil, Greece, United Kingdom	3 each
Armenia, Australia, Japan, Slovakia	2 each
Belgium, Canada, Chile, Cuba, Iraq, Italy, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Romania, South Africa, Spain, Trinidad & Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine	1 each
33 Countries in 2021	

2019 (164)
2020 (219)
2021 (150)
Received
Manuscripts

Countries
(38)/(44)/(33)

THANK YOU





BioEM

Appointment of new Editor in Chief for
Bioelectromagnetics Journal

The new editor-in-chief

- After a careful selection process of 4 candidates with zoom interviews by the journal committee under guidance of Rich Nuccitelli:



- Theo Samaras

BIO ELECTRO MAGNETICS



BEMS

Changing of the Guard

Theodoros Samaras

theosama@auth.gr

Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

**Thank you
Prof. James Lin!**

**Thank you
Journal Committee and BoD!**

- Vision
- Environment
- Mission

The vision of every EiC?

- Expand readership ?
- Increase impact factor ?
- Expand authorship ?
- Publish solid science ?



Let's dream big! Strike a balance !

Pressure on authors: 'Publish or perish'



Pressure on reviewers: 'A gentle reminder...'

PEER REVIEW

Why skepticism is essential

Donna Laframboise

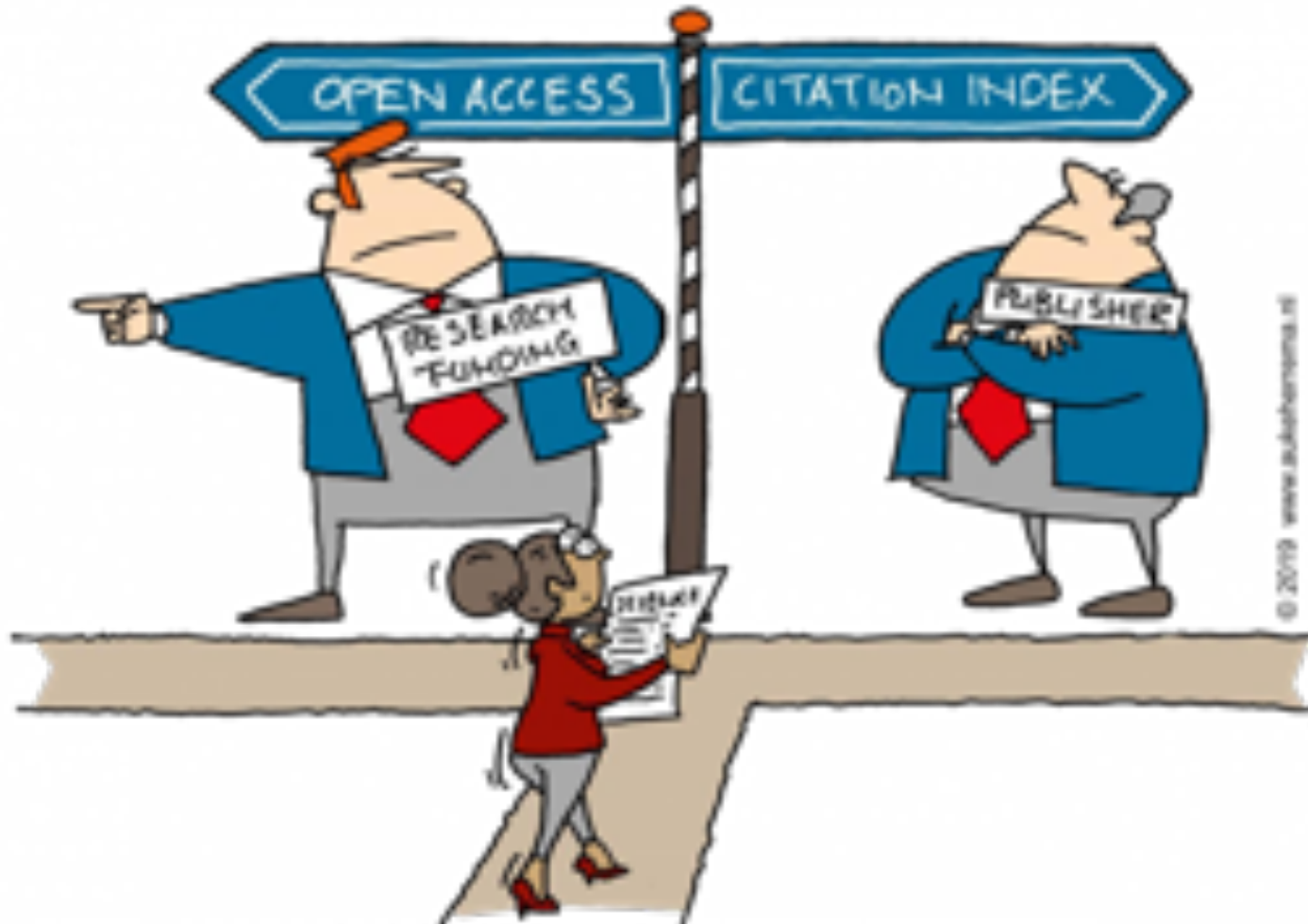
Well, it looks ok
from here



Open access publishing



Open access publishing



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'New kids on the block'



IEEE Access[®]

Multidisciplinary :: Rapid Review :: Open Access Journal



- Increase visibility of journal
 - social media, science news outlets, graphical abstract
- Commission reviews on both theoretical and applied research
 - animal magnetic orientation, dielectrophoresis
- Commission tutorial papers
 - statistics, dosimetry, experimental setups
- Approach active members of other societies
 - medical applications, neurosciences
- Open access of specific papers
 - most cited every year, tutorials, reviews

- Attract research results of funded projects
 - open access
- Increase special issues
 - topical research, workshops
- 'Meet your journal' session at BioEM
 - acknowledge outstanding papers, editors and reviewers
- Decrease peer-review time cycle but keep quality
 - choice of appropriate editors/reviewers
- Mobilize younger members of BioEM
 - authors, editors, reviewers

Without YOU we cannot make it work!
Please, give us all YOUR support!
Thank YOU!



Any Other Business