

Minutes
Board meeting #37
BioEM

Februari 28, 2025
9:00-11:00 (Brussels Time)
Online Zoom meeting

In attendance:


- Azadeh Peyman (AP)
- Florence Poulletier (FP)
- Anke Huss (AH)
- Francesca Apollonio (FA)
- Myles Capstick (MC)
- Lena Kranold (LK)
- Micaela Liberti (ML)
- Maxim Zhadobov (MZ)
- Sarah Loughran (SL)
- Akira Ushiyama (AU)




Left early:

- Wout Joseph (WJ) (09:48)

Invited for making notes: Melanie De Coster (MD)

1. Adoption of agenda
 1. ML added an item regarding the ratification of the decision to keep the board as it is and the replacement of the resigned board member (new number 7).
2. Minutes of the meeting #36
 1. FA requested a correction in the minutes regarding the resignation of board members and their replacement; ML's proposal was supported by FA.
 2. Minutes approved with adjustments. (Motion: MC, Second: FA)
3. Overview of the action of meeting #36
 1. Item 4.2: Meeting Committee (09/12/2024, next meeting TBD)
 - Complimentary membership offer details to be finalized by the Membership Committee after discussion in the Finance Committee meeting.
 - Registration page to be updated accordingly by ML, MC, and MD. ✓
 - Membership promotional text to be drafted by AP and shared with MC and ML + newsletter on 31/01/2025 (MD) ✓
 2. Item 4.3: Social Media Updates:
 - Reddit:
 - MD is to request Michal Cifra to update the name to BioEM. ✓
 3. Item 4.4: Education
 - STM: Proposal AP: Fixed number for high/middle income and low-income
 - To be discussed on the education committee (AH and FP)
 4. Item 5.1 BioEM 2025
 - Call for proposals
 - FA to share a list of proposed plenary speakers with the board for review.
 - FA to forward list of plenary speakers to MD. ✓
 - Abstract submission deadline to be extended by two weeks (new deadline: February 14, 2025). (MD for communication) ✓
 - FA: Ask plenary/tutorial/workshop to upload on Oxford abstracts
 5. Item 6: Resignation of board members and their replacement
 - AP will send the profile of the next candidate with the highest vote to the board members. ✓
 - Bylaws to be reviewed for correct procedure. ✓
 6. Item 7 Call for BioEM 2027

- To be sent out in February 2025. (MD) 
4. Updates from the committee
 1. Journal
 - Platform Issues: Transition to the new publishing system causing problems (editor assignment, missing articles, delays). TS to follow up with the editorial office.
 - Open Access & Promotion: Increase in open-access papers in 2024. Michal to lead a promotional campaign. TS to encourage open access for citation growth.
 - Submissions & Special Issues:
 - 16 papers accepted for 2025; submission numbers expected to rise
 - Two special issues planned, potential collaborations with IEEE and other societies
 - Discussion on regional special issues (China, Asia, Africa)
 - Need for structured roadmap and guest editor selection
 - Review Process: 10 papers in Exposure, only 2 in Biology (urgent need for more submissions).
 2. Meeting Committee
 - No updates.
 3. Communication Committee
 - Alex Legros Memorial Initiatives:
 - €200 donation to cancer research charity approved.
 - Memorial photo and one-minute silence at the conference.
 - Tribute from Frank Prato.
 - Special session dedicated to presenting Alex's scientific contribution.
 - Student travel support fund proposed; Treasurer (MC) to assess feasibility.
 - MD to announce travel support on the website.
 - MZ and Julien Modolo to be invited to the next communication committee meeting to discuss the legacy initiative.
 4. Education Committee
 - OZ to be invited to the next board meeting for a report.
 - ML to follow up on an Education Committee meeting.
 5. Membership Committee
 - Clarification needed on complimentary vs. regular applications.
 - This distinction should be included in the applications forwarded to the committee (MD).
 - Discussions held on speeding up processing the new membership applications. The committee will aim to turn round applications within three days from receiving.
 6. Awards Committee
 - D'Arsonval Award: 3 applications so far. FP to invite Lluís Mir (last winner) to serve as a judge. AP to contact last 4 winners to help decide (conflict check needed).
 - Young Scientist Award: 6 applications so far; decision by Awards Committee (FP) and President. Last 2 winners to be invited.
 - Pila Award: AP to follow up with Mrs. Pila
 7. Finance Committee
 - No updates.
 5. BioEM 2025
 1. The program is ready.
 2. Final speaker names to be uploaded on the website by MD.
 3. 10 reviewers assigned per submission.
 6. Election 2026 (Nomination Committee)
 1. AP confirmed that according to the bylaws, the President must organize the committee.
 2. Elections will take place in January 2026, and the new board will be announced at BioEM 2026 in Australia.
 3. ML appointed as the Election Officer.
 4. The nomination committee will include board members that can not be elected for another term (FP, AH, WJ and AP).
 7. Replacement of Resigned Board Member
 1. No replacement is needed (as per the bylaws the board is already consisted of 11 members).
 8. EMF portal
 1. AH provided an update on the future of the EMF Portal.

2. AP proposed organizing a discussion with the EMF Portal Director Dr. Sarah Drießen and inviting her to the board meeting in Rennes. (AP)
9. TPC and LOC documents
 1. Comments and feedback from the Meeting and Communications Committees have been incorporated.
 2. SL raised technical concerns about the website, to be discussed in the Communications Committee.
 3. MD to share updated documents with the board for review.
 4. Deadline for board members to submit feedback: one month after document distribution.
10. Review of decision and action list
 1. Item 4.3: Communication Committee
 - MD to announce travel support on Alex Legros memory on the website.
 - MZ and Julien Modolo to be invited to the next communication committee meeting to discuss Alex Legros legacy initiative.
 2. Item 4.4: Education Committee
 - OZ to be invited to the next board meeting for a report. 
 - ML to follow up on an Education Committee meeting.
 3. Item 4.5 Membership Committee
 - Clarification needed on complimentary vs. regular applications.
 - This distinction should be included in the applications forwarded to the committee (MD). 
 - The committee will decide on applications within three days.
 4. Item 4.6: Awards Committee
 - D'Arsonval Award: 3 applications so far. FP to invite Lluís Mir (last winner). AP to contact last 4 winners to help decide (conflict check needed).
 - Young Scientist Award: 6 applications so far; decision by Awards Committee (FP) and President. Last 2 winners to be invited.
 - Pila Award: AP to follow up with Mrs. Pila
 5. Item 5: BioEM 2025
 - Final speaker names to be uploaded on the website by MD.
 6. Item 8: EMF portal
 - AP proposed organizing a discussion with the EMF Director and inviting Dr. Sarah Drießen to the board meeting in Rennes. (AP)
 7. Item 9: TPC and LOC documents
 - MD to share updated documents with the board for review. 
 - Deadline for board members to submit feedback: one month after document distribution.
11. AOB and Adjournment
 1. Next meetings:
 - March 14, 2025 (1-hour meeting at 09:00)
 - May 9, 2025 (2-hour meeting at 09:00)