

**Protocol of the General Assembly
of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS)
held at the 25th ECIS Conference
Main Building of the Technical University of Berlin, Hall 104
Straße des 17 Juni 135, 10623 Berlin, Germany
17:30 – 19:30, Tuesday, 6 September 2011**

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Minutes of 24th ECIS Conference: <http://www.ecis-web.eu/report-1.htm>
3. ECIS Annual Conference:
 - a. ECIS 2011 Berlin: Account of the organization by Reinhard Miller.
 - b. ECIS 2012 Malmö (2–7 September): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - c. ECIS 2013 Sofia (1–6 September): Announcements by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - d. Future Conferences: Proposals and presentations:
 1. ECIS 2014 Bordeaux
 2. ECIS 2014 Israel
 3. ECIS 2015 York
4. ECIS Student Meeting:
 - a. Report on 2011 ECIS Student Meeting
 - b. Proposal for 2013 ECIS Student Meeting
 - c. Proposal for 2015 ECIS Student Meeting
5. Changes in the Statutes of ECIS
6. Elections: Election of Vice President of ECIS
7. Awards
8. Financial Report
9. Overbeek Foundation
10. AOB (new logo)
11. Closing

MINUTES

1. Opening: Andrew Howe (AH), the President of ECIS, acts as the chairmen and opens the meeting. He sincerely thanks Reinhard Miller and his team for the perfect organization and the wonderful meeting. He presents the Agenda of the meeting, which has been dispatched to the participants in advance, and which is as follows:

2. Minutes: The General Assembly (GA) accepts the minutes of the last GA in Prague unanimously.

3. ECIS Annual Conference:

a. ECIS 2011 Berlin, 4-9 September:

Reinhard Miller provides a detailed account of the organization, including the organizing committee; international advisory board; participants and exhibition; scientific program; some statistics; conference venue; finances and sponsoring. The conference includes 6 plenary lectures (3 of which were associated with Prizes); 25 keynote lectures; 157 oral contributions; 470 posters; total – 658 presentations. The attendance has been beyond the expectations, with 706 valid registrations, including 279 students. 658 people finally attended the conference. The registration rate shows sharp maxima in the days of the first and second registration deadlines.

b. ECIS 2012 Malmö–Lund, 2-7 September:

Thomas Arnebrant (Malmö University, Sweden), member of the Local Organizing Committee, provides detailed information on the organization of the 26th ECIS conference, including information for the cities of Malmö and Lund, and the Øresund region; the nearby located world-leading materials research centre consisting of the European Spallation Source (ESS), a super-microscope, and the next generation synchrotron source Max IV. The conference venue will be the conference center Slagthuset in Malmö, which is located 200 m from the main railway station. Different accommodation options are available. The conference topics will include:

1. Interfacial phenomena and structures
2. Surfactants, lipids and self-assembly
3. Colloids and colloidal stability
4. Polymers, biopolymers and polyelectrolytes
5. Hydration phenomena
6. Nanostructured materials
7. Biocolloids/interfaces
8. Soft matter formulations
9. Neutrons and synchrotron radiation revealing colloidal and interfacial structure and dynamics

The names of the plenary speakers, scientific and local committee members were announced. The important dates will be as follows (preliminary information):

Webpage open	January 1, 2012
Early bird deadline	June 10, 2012

Abstract deadline	April 23, 2012
Notification	May 15, 2012
Late registration	Aug 20, 2012

H.-J. Butt asks whether facilities for nursing children will be available during the conference in Malmö. Victor Starov asks about the expected fees for regular participants and students. H. Möhwald and Th. Zemb ask whether the opinion of the scientific committee members has been consulted when determining the plenary speakers. Thomas Arnebrant gives explanations on all raised issues.

c. ECIS 2013 Sofia, 1-6 September:

Elena Mileva (Institute of Physical Chemistry, Sofia, Bulgaria), member of the Local Organizing Committee, provides detailed information on the organization plans for the 27th ECIS conference. Three options for conference venue are considered: (i) the Congress Centre of Hotel Kempinski-Zografski; (ii) the Conference Centre of Hotel Sheraton-Balkan, and (iii) National Palace of Culture. The lodging facilities; transport possibilities and options for conference dinner are presented. The conference fee is expected to be about 450 EUR with a reduced fee of 250 EUR for students. Paul Luckham suggests choosing a conference venue with an amphitheatric hall; halls with flat floor do not provide good visibility. Victor Starov asks how long will take the separation of the hall to two parts? H.-J. Butt raises the issue about the children care. Thomas Zemb proposes the organizer of the previous ECIS conference to be invited for plenary speaker at the next one. Elena Mileva answers all asked questions. With an open vote, the GA unanimously approves the suggestion for organizing the ECIS-2013 conference in Sofia.

d. Future Conferences: Proposals and presentations.

(1) Organization of 28th ECIS 2014, 7–12 September in Bordeaux, France

Veronique Schmitt (CRPP, CNRS, Bordeaux), member of the Local Organizing Committee presents the candidature of Bordeaux. She gave information about the conference city, Bordeaux, with a central part, which is in the UNESCO World Heritage List as an outstanding urban and architectural ensemble of the 18th century; the Aquitaine region as a famous wine producer, as well as producer in modern laser-based technologies and aeronautics. Bordeaux is also an important academic centre with the Universities of Bordeaux No. 1, 2, 3 and 4, corresponding to different branches of science (52,000 students) and a Polytechnic Institute (1,500 students). The centers of colloid science are the Research Centre “Paul Pascal” (CRPP-CNRS), LCPO, CBMN, et al. The conference venue will be the Convention Center in Bordeaux with Amphitheatres A, B and C with 600, 353 and 196 seats, respectively, and other smaller halls. The participation fees will be (preliminary values):

Early registration	550 €
Late registration	650 €

Students	250 €
Exhibitors	2000 €

The list of local organizing committee members is presented. Bordeaux offers more than 4800 hotel rooms. Scientific international conferences are strongly supported by the local authorities, which can provide:

- Reception in the City hall with welcome greetings from de Mayor of Bordeaux or his representative;
- Free public transportation in the local area provided by the Bordeaux Urban Community (CUB);
- Free information brochures for the congress bags – brochures provided by the Tourist Office of Bordeaux;
- Information booth of the Tourist Office in the lobby of the Convention Centre;

(2) Organization of 28th ECIS 2014, 7–12 September in Israel

Dganit Danino (Technion, Haifa, Israel) presented the candidature of Israel. She notes that the Israeli scientists have important contributions in colloid and interface science, and tight connections with the European colloid and interface society. ECIS conference in Israel will increase the interest of Israeli scientists for enhancing future collaborations with the ECIS community. Israel offers many cultural and touristic destinations such as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Eilat, Dead Sea, and Sea of Galilee. The optional cities in Israel to host the ECIS 2014 are:

- Jerusalem - The International Convention Center (ICC);
- Tel Aviv - David Intercontinental and/or Hilton;
- Haifa – Convention Center or Dan Hotel.

Finally, D. Danino recalls that at the GA in Prague, during ECIS 2010, that she had expressed the interest of the soft matter community at Technion (Haifa) to organize an ECIS meeting in Israel. Moreover, 2014 is the only option for them at present, because only in 2014 the week of the ECIS conference does not coincide with the Jewish holidays during that period of the year. On the other hand, ECIS conferences have been already organized in France (Paris 2002, Montpellier 1994, and Arcachon 1988).

(3) Organization of 29th ECIS 2015, 6–11 September in York, UK

Paul F. Luckham (Chem. Eng. Dept., Imperial College, London, UK) presents the candidature of York. The reasons to hold the conference in the UK are:

- Last held ECIS conference in 1993;
- Has the full backing of the Colloid and Interface Science group of RSC and Colloid and Surface Chemistry Group of SCI and the general colloid committee.

The reasons to choose the University of York are as follows:

- One of the few places in the UK which can hold a meeting the size of ECIS;
- Has excellent facilities;
- Is a very nice city with world heritage sites;
- Has an excellent conference office staff;
- Is close to the very strong Colloid groups in Hull, Leeds, Sheffield and Durham;
- Has good travel links.

The costs are expected to be as follows:

- York University Conference office estimates the cost to be around £350 per person; excluding the conference dinner, but including 3 receptions, and a 2-course buffet lunch for the first four days.
- Conference dinner will most likely be in the National Railway museum in York where we can book the museum for our exclusive use at little extra cost.
- Thus total cost including lunches likely to around £400 (450 Euro) per person. The registration fee therefore will be similar to the current conference in Berlin.

4. ECIS Student Meeting:

- a. Report on the ECIS Student Meeting in Sweden, 11–14 June 2011
Brian Vincent (Bristol, UK) presents the report for the 2011 ECIS Student Meeting in Chalmers University in the coastal town of Falkenberg, near Gothenberg, Sweden. The students conference was successful, with 101 students from 16 countries, including 1 student from the USA, 1 from Israel and 2 from Australia. Andrew Howe thanks Brian Vincent for his continued initiatives on behalf of ECIS for students in Europe and around the world.
- b. Proposal for 2013 ECIS Student Meeting
Reinhard Miller (MPI Golm-Potsdam, Germany) presents the candidature of MPI Golm-Potsdam to host the 14th students' conference in June 2013. The expected costs (including food and housing) will be about 350 €. Bursaries will be provided for a part of the students. The lecture hall (200 seats) of the Max Planck Campus in Golm will be used.
- c. Proposal for 2015 ECIS Student Meeting
Piotr Warszynski (Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry, Cracow, Poland) presented the candidature of Cracow to host the 15th students' conference in June 2015.

5. Changes in the Statutes of ECIS

Andrew Howe (AH) presents the reasons for the changes in the ECIS statutes. The administration of ECIS changed following the ECIS Conference in Prague in 2010. Peter Schurtenberger retired from his position as General Secretary after 10 years in post. At the 2010 GA in Prague, the role of General Secretary was divided into that of Treasurer and Secretary, into which positions Hans-Jürgen Butt (Mainz) and Peter Kralchevsky (Sofia) were elected. P. Schurtenberger, who had maintained the ECIS bank account, has moved from Switzerland to Lund (Sweden), so that the location of the account must change. The Board recommends the account be relocated to Germany. As a consequence, the status of ECIS has to be modified. The Board recommends to the General Assembly that ECIS becomes registered in the Register of non-profit Associations in Germany as “European Colloid and Interface Society”. The Statutes state the purpose of the Society; the roles of the Council (Board and Secretariat and of each individual) and of the General Assembly. In addition to registration of ECIS in Germany, other changes are recommended, including: The title Vice President replaces that of President Elect; The ECIS Secretariat consists of

Treasurer, Secretary and Webmaster; The Board and Secretariat combine to form the ECIS Council. The proposed new Statutes have to be approved by the GA. The original version of the Statutes in German is definitive. English translation is also posted at the ECIS website. The audit will be carried by ECIS members who are not in the ECIS Council.

Adrian Rennie raises a number of points about the Statutes, including the issues about the German and English versions of the Statutes and the audit.

AH answers that the original version of the Statutes in German is definitive. English translation is also posted at the ECIS website. The audit will be carried by ECIS members who are not in the ECIS Council.

The GA votes that the due consideration should be given to these points and include them as the Council feels appropriate.

The new Statutes were unanimously accepted by the GA by open vote.

Piero Baglioni proposes to elect Pierandrea Lo Nostro (PLN), University of Florence (IT), for ECIS Webmaster. PLN was unanimously elected for webmaster by the GA by open vote.

6. Elections: Election of Vice President of ECIS

AH thanks Maria Miguel (Coimbra, Portugal), Past President of ECIS, for her six years service in the ECIS Board. AH is asking whether the GA members are going to nominate candidates for Vice President.

Elena Mileva (Sofia) nominates Zbigniew Adamczyk (Institute of Catalysis and Surface Chemistry, Cracow, Poland) for Vice President of ECIS. He is a world-wide known scientist, expert in electrokinetic phenomena; particles and macromolecules at interfaces, and has organized numerous international meetings in the field of colloid and interface science. Mileva underlines his considerable contributions to ECIS, including the organization of the 22nd ECIS conference in Cracow, 31 August – 5 September 2008.

Peter Schurtenberger (Lund) nominates Debora Berti (University of Florence, Italy) for Vice President of ECIS. He briefly describes her scientific experience, the fact that she has been a very active ECIS member during the last 10 years, and her role as a member of the organizing committee of the ECIS conference in Florence. Moreover he stresses the fact that with Maria Miguel leaving the board, ECIS will no longer have a woman in the board and in the council, which does not properly reflect the situation with the active members. He thus suggests voting for Debora Berti as a representative of the younger generation and the women.

The election of Vice President of ECIS is carried out by secret ballot. The ECIS Secretary, P. Kralchevsky, and the ECIS Treasurer, H.-J. Butt, are opening the box and counting the vote.

AH announces the results from the secret ballot. The number of ECIS members who has voted is 42.

Debora Berti obtains 28 votes; Zbigniew Adamczyk obtains 12 votes, and there are two blank cards (abstentions). With this vote, Debora Berti is elected Vice President of ECIS.

7. Awards

Reinhard Miller presents a summary of the ECIS awards:

- *The Overbeek Gold Medal* is given annually to acknowledge excellent careers in, and inspiring contributions to, the field of colloid and interface science.

Overbeek Gold medals have been awarded to:

- Håkan Wennerström: 2006 (Budapest)
 - Helmuth Moehwald: 2007 (Geneva)
 - Björn Lindman: 2008 (Crakow)
 - Gerard Fleer: 2009 (Antalya)
 - Brian Vincent: 2010 (Prague)
 - Heinz Hoffmann: 2011 (Berlin)
- *The ECIS-Rhodia Prize* is given annually for recent excellent work within the field of colloid and interface science. ECIS-Rhodia Prize has been awarded to:
 - 2001 Kare Larsson (Lund)
 - 2002 Piero Baglioni (Firenze)
 - 2003 Henk Lekkerkerker (Utrecht)
 - 2004 Thomas Zemb (Saclay)
 - 2005 Peter Pusey (Edinburgh)
 - 2006 Alfons van Blaaderen (Utrecht)
 - 2007 Peter Schurtenberger (Fribourg)
 - 2008 Gordon J. Tiddy (Manchester)
 - 2009 George S. Attard (Southampton)
 - 2010 Gero Decher (Strasbourg)
 - 2011 Bernard P. Binks (Hull)
- *The Lifetime Membership* is an award, which is given exceptionally to acknowledge outstanding contributions to the ECIS. The ECIS Lifetime Members are:
 - Mario Corti (Milan, Italy)
 - Pierre Bothorel (Bordeaux, France)
 - Vittorio Degiorgio (Pavia, Italy)
 - Björn Lindman (Lund, Sweden)
 - Heinz Hoffmann (Bayreuth, Germany)
 - Peter Schurtenberger (Lund, Sweden)

They have been awarded for their services as Founding Fathers of ECIS and long outstanding service in the ECIS Board.

Reinhard Miller proposes Johannes (Hans) Lyklema to be awarded ECIS Lifetime Membership. By open vote, the GA unanimously awards ECIS Lifetime Membership to Johannes (Hans) Lyklema.

8. Financial Report

The ECIS Treasurer, Hans-Jürgen Butt, presents the Financial Report of ECIS:

ECIS since Prague 2010

End 8.2010	44759 €
21.9.2010 Rhodia Prize reimbursement	+ 2997
22.11.2010 Rhodia Prize Decher	- 3000
21.12.2010 ECIS Prague, fees	+10140
Direct member fees	+ 120
<u>Interest rate – bank fee</u>	<u>+ 208</u>
- 26.5.2011	55224 €
- 8.2011 Bank fees	- 28
<u>Travel reimbursement students</u>	<u>- 1348</u>
26.5.2011	53848 €

Expected budget 2011-12

Balance 15.8.2011	53848 €
ECIS 2011 Berlin (372 +242 students)	+ 10510 €
Member fees since 2009 from IACIS	+ 436
Direct member fees	+ 100
Setting up ECIS as non-profit society	- 1000
<u>Bank fees</u>	<u>- 100</u>
	63794 €

The excess budget will be used to support the participation of students at the ECIS conferences.

The budget balance was accepted by the GA unanimously by an open vote.

9. Overbeek Foundation

AH notes that the main function of the Overbeek Committee is to raise money from companies for the Overbeek Gold medal Award. At present, the Chair of the Overbeek Committee is Prof. Björn Lindman. The Committee includes also H. Möhwald and the members of the ECIS Board.

Hans Lyklema announces his recent meeting with the Overbeek's daughter, who asked him to convey to the GA of ECIS her opinion that the Overbeek Gold medal should be an award for which European scientists were given preference.

On behalf of the GA, AH thanks Björn Lindman for his service as Chair of the Overbeek Committee. AH proposes Thomas Zemb (Marcoule, France) for new Chair of the Overbeek Committee. This suggestion is unanimously accepted by the GA.

10. AOB (new logo)

AH announces that a call for suggestions for a new logo of ECIS will be soon launched. All ECIS members are encouraged to actively participate in this renewal, by proposing a color, bright, captivating image that would be the ECIS logo for the years to come. Any reproduction of already existing and copyrighted material must be avoided. The new logo will appear in the Society website and in the web pages created for each meeting, and in any other printed or electronic document. The ECIS Board will make a first selection, and the three best logos will be proposed to the General Assembly in Malmö (ECIS 2012) to vote for the official new logo.

11. Closing

AH thanks again the Local Organizers and closes the meeting at 19:30.

The number of ECIS members, who attended the GA in Berlin, was 60, as certified by their signatures in the Attendance List.

Peter Kralchevsky
ECIS Secretary

Andrew Howe
Chair of the ECIS General Assembly

Berlin, 6 September 2011