

**Protocol of the General Assembly
of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS)
held during the 33rd ECIS Conference
KU Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences, Auditorium AP 00.15
Leuven, Belgium
17:50, Thursday, 12 September 2019**

Presiding: Elena Mileva

Protocol: Peter Kralchevsky

94 ECIS Members from 26 countries are present, as certified by the Attendance List

AGENDA

1. **Opening**
2. **Minutes of 32nd ECIS GA:** <http://www.ecis-web.eu/ECIS18-Minutes.pdf>
3. **ECIS Conferences** (presentations limited to maximum 5 min each):
 - a. ECIS 2019 Leuven (8–13 September): Account of the organization.
 - b. European Student Colloid Conference (Varna, 18–22 June 2019): Account of the organization.
 - c. ECIS 2020 Athens (6–11 September): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - d. ECIS 2021 Crete (5–10 September): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - e. Future ECIS Conferences: Proposals for ECIS 2022.
 - f. Proposals and decision for the next European Student Colloid Conference in 2021.
4. **Election of New ECIS Vice President**
5. **Awards**
6. **Financial Report**
7. **Overbeek Foundation**
8. **AOB**
 - Brief presentation of EUSMI Project: European infrastructure for soft matter research
9. **Close**

MINUTES

1. **Opening:** Elena Mileva (EM), the President of ECIS, acts as the chairman and opens the meeting. She thanks the Organizing Committee for the excellent organization and the very successful conference. She presents the Agenda of the meeting, which has been dispatched to the participants in advance.
2. **Minutes:** By open vote, 83 – YES; 0 – NO, and 1 – Abstention, the General Assembly (GA) unanimously accepts the minutes of the last GA in Ljubljana, Slovenia, 2018.
3. **ECIS Conferences:**
 - a. **33rd ECIS, Leuven, Belgium, 8–13 September 2019:** The Conference Chair, Prof. Erin Koos, KU Leuven (BE), describes a detailed account of the organization. A total number of 649 total attendees, which includes 390 ECIS members and regular participants, and 259 student members and regular students. Regions: 435 participants from Western Europe; 81 from Asia; 72 from Eastern Europe; 15 from Eurasia; 14 from Middle East; 13 from North America; 10 from South America, and 6 from Oceania. Short course on “Microfluidics and Surface Rheology” was organized by Benoit Scheid (Université Libre de Bruxelles) with 35 participants. At the ECIS-2019 conference, four invited plenary lectures and two award lectures were delivered. The other presentations were as follows: 222 oral + selected keynotes; 2 invited keynotes and 190 posters. Finances: Total income (with 18% sponsorship) was sufficient to cover the expenses. The main expenses were: Catering – 119,600 €; Conference office & staff – 61,000 €; Conference dinner – 54,000 €, and Venues – 23,800 €. Conference participants are invited to submit their ECIS contributions to the special issues of *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects* (Impact Factor 3.131) and *Polymers* (Impact Factor 3.164). More details may be found at http://www.ecis-web.eu/ECIS-2019-Leuven-Report_Assembly.pdf.
 - b. **17th European Student Colloid Conference, Varna, Bulgaria, 18–22 June 2019:** Account of the organization. Brian Vincent (Univ. Bristol, UK) presents details on the organization. The conference venue was “Cherno More” Hotel in Varna, near the Black Sea coast. The Sofia team led by post-doc Mihail Georgiev (chairman) and PhD student Veronika Yavrukova (secretary), and the local academic Prof. Peter Kralchevsky did a great job. The conference was attended by 8 senior academics who gave invited, overview-style, plenary lectures and 100 students / postdocs, who contributed 41 oral presentations and 70 posters. They came from 18 countries (including 9 from the Russian Federation and 1 from Australia); from the European countries, most represented were the UK (17), Poland (14) Bulgaria (11), Germany (11) and France (11). More information can be found at <http://www.ecis-web.eu/student.htm> (at the ECIS website).
 - c. **The 34th ECIS Conference in Athens, 6–11 Sep 2020:** Aristotelis Xenakis, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, Greece, presents details on the organization. The Organizing Committee and the International Scientific Committee (ISC) have been already constituted. Four plenary speakers have been selected after a discussion of the potential candidates with the ECIS Council and the ISC. The participation (early bird) fees will be as follows: ECIS member + ECIS membership – 550 €; Regular

participant – 600 €; Student + ECIS membership fee – 320 €, and Regular student 345 €. The conference venue will be Zappeion Mansion (in the heart of Athens) with all necessary halls. Hotel “Amalia” will be the main conference hotel. There are many other hotels around. Pre-event training course “Colloid and Interface Science in Food and Pharmaceutics” will be organized in Galini Hotel, Aegina island. Moreover, two special parallel sessions will be organized: (i) “Colloid and Interfacial Phenomena in Separations” coordinated by Thomas Zemb & COCIS/ Elsevier, and (ii) Special session of COST nano2clinic. More information may be found on the ECIS-2020 website, which is already active: <http://www.ecis2020.org/> .

d. 35th ECIS, Chania, Crete, Greece, 5–10 September 2021: George Petekidis, University of Crete, Greece, presents details on the organization. The conference will be co-organized by the Hellenic Polymer Society, University of Crete and FORTH. The Organizing Committee and the International Scientific Committee have been already constituted. The conference venue will be the Minoan Palace Congress venue hotel (5*), which disposes of plenary hall (800 seats in theater set-up); 3 parallel session rooms (130 seats each); poster area for 300 posters, and exhibition area for 20 booths. Transport: 33 km from Chania airport to congress venue; 154 km from Heraklion airport to congress venue. Short Course “Advance characterization and modelling techniques for colloids” (on 3-4 or 4-5 September) will be organized in FORTH (Heraklion) to have lab access. Proposed satellite meeting: “From surfaces interactions to rate-dependent colloidal rheology”, 1–1.5 day session within ECIS-2021 with mainly invited speakers. The participation (early bird) fees will be as follows: ECIS member + ECIS membership – 525 €; Regular participant – 550 €; Student + ECIS membership fee – 310 €, and Regular student 330 €. The deadline for abstract submission, 10 February 2021 will be earlier than usual to allow for early flight and accommodation booking.

e. The 36th ECIS conference in 2022 and the next ECIS conferences

- Remco Tuinier (Eindhoven University of Technology, NL) presents a bid to organize the 36th ECIS in Maastricht, NL. He describes the conference and hotel facilities in Maastricht. The conference venue will be the MECC conference centre. The proposed period for the 36th ECIS is from 11 to 16 September 2022. Aris Xenakis reminds that the ECIS tradition is the conference to begin on the first Sunday of September, that is 4–9 Sep 2022 for ECIS-2022 (ECIS-2019 is exception). Remco Tuinier says that the possibility to shift the conference period with one week earlier will be discussed. He suggests the decision to organize ECIS-2022 in Maastricht to be taken now, because this will allow the organizers to book the MECC facilities on time. Henk Lekkerkerker and Andreas Fery support this suggestion. By open vote, 88 – YES; 0 – NO, and 6 – abstention, the GA decides the 36th ECIS Conference to take place in Maastricht, Netherlands.
- Luigi Paduano (University of Naples, IT) presents a bid for organizing the 37th ECIS (3–8 Sep 2023) in Sorrento, near Naples, Italy.
- Eduardo Marques (University of Porto, Portugal) presents a bid for organizing the 38th ECIS (1–6 Sep 2024) in Porto, the capital of the North Region of Portugal.

- f. **Proposals and decision for the next European Student Colloid Conference in 2021.** Tamas Szabo (University of Szeged, Hungary) presents a bid for organizing the 18th European Student Colloid Conference in Szeged, Hungary. The conference will take place during the period 20–24 June 2021. By open vote, 93 – YES; 0 – NO, and 1 – Abstention, the GA decides the 18th ESC Conference to take place in Szeged, Hungary.

4. Election of new ECIS Vice President

The ECIS President, Elena Mileva (EM), announces that there is only one nomination for next ECIS Vice President – Prof. Epameinondas (Minos) Leontidis from the University of Cyprus in Nicosia. Thomas Zemb presents the nominee. EM appoints a commission to count the votes: Dganit Danino and Pierandrea Lo Nostro. By secret vote, 86 – YES; 0 – NO, and 4 – Abstention, the GA elects Epameinondas Leontidis for next ECIS Vice President.

5. Awards

Elena Mileva informs about the awards, which will be given at the 33rd ECIS Conference in Leuven:

RSC Best posters: 3 awards;

MDPI Best Poster Awards: 2 awards;

Elsevier Poster Awards: 5 awards;

Exerowa-Platikanov Award: 1 award for the best oral contribution in the thematic field of Surface Forces, Foams and Emulsions, presented by a postdoc, up to PhD + 7 years;

Langmuir Prize: 3 awards for the best oral presentations of young scientists – postdocs, up to PhD + 7 years;

Substantia: 1 award for top level scientific activity of young researchers in the field of colloid and interface science, from MSc up to PhD + 1 year.

Enzo Ferroni Award: 3 awards for top level scientific activity of young researchers in the field of colloid and interface science, from MSc up to PhD + 1 year.

MDPI – Polymers: 1 award for the best oral presentation of young scientists.

6. Financial Report. The ECIS Treasurer, Andreas Fery, presents the Financial Report of ECIS:

Budget 31.08.2018 – 31.08.2019

Girokonto (Checking account): started with 26,981.14 € and ends with 27,199.62 €;

Zuwachssparen (Savings account): started with 41,100.15 € and ends with 41,716.65 €.

On the checking account, the following transactions were taken:

Beleg-No.	Datum		In (€)	Out (€)
	31.08.2018	Bank account budget	26.981,14 €	

1	24.09.2018	ECIS Student Membership fee	5,00 €	
2	17.10.2018	ECIS Solvay Prize		3.000,00 €
3	17.10.2018	ECIS Exerowa-Platikanov Prize		600,00 €
4	17.10.2018	ECIS Substantia Prize		500,00 €
5	17.10.2018	Enzo Ferroni Prize		500,00 €
6	17.10.2018	ECIS Langmuir Prize (3 x 300 €)		900,00 €
7	17.10.2018	ECIS Elsevier Poster Prize (6 x 300 €)		1.800,00 €
8	17.10.2018	Foreign bank transfer fee (Elsevier Poster Award)		14,70 €
9	17.10.2018	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
10	02.11.2018	ECIS Support 17 th European Students Colloid Conference in Varna		3.500,00 €
11	08.01.2019	Transfer ECIS Ljubljana 2018	5.000,00 €	
12	21.03.2019	Sponsorship Elsevier	3.000,00 €	
13	29.04.2019	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
14	03.06.2019	Contribution 3 Ferroni Awards 2019	1.500,00 €	
15	05.06.2019	Contribution SUBSTANTIA Award	500,00 €	
16	13.06.2019	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
17	18.06.2019	ECIS Membership fee	28,00 €	
18	01.07.2019	Sponsorship Evonik	1.000,00 €	
19	21.08.2019	Saldo	27.199,62 €	

The budget has been checked by Prof. Thomas Helweg (University of Bielefeld), who confirms that the finances are correct. Stephan Förster (Jülich Research Center) proposes the GA to vote and support the report. The Financial Report is accepted by the GA unanimously, by an open vote.

6. Overbeek Foundation

Remco Tuinier, the new Chair of the Board of the Overbeek Foundation, presents the two other Board members, viz. Daniel Bonn (Amsterdam University) and Krassimir Velikov (Unilever & Amsterdam University). The cost of the medal is 5000 €. Sponsorship is needed to fund the Overbeek foundation. Remco will initiate actions to arrange this but is happy to

receive suggestions from the community to connect with companies who are willing to sponsor the medal.

7. AOB

Peter Lang (Jülich Research Center) presents the EUSMI Project: European infrastructure for spectroscopy, scattering and imaging of soft matter. EUSMI covers expenses for:

- Spectroscopy and rheology
- Scattering and diffraction
- Imaging
- Synthesis
- Supercomputing

One could apply for EUSMI at: <http://eusmi-h2020.eu>. The steps of the procedure are: (i) Registration; (ii) Find your instrument, and (iii) Write and submit a proposal.

8. Closing:

Andreas Fery thanks Elena Mileva (EM) for her two-year service as ECIS President.

EM thanks again Erin Koos and all local organizers and closes the meeting at 19:25.

Peter Kralchevsky
ECIS Secretary

Elena Mileva
Chair of the ECIS General Assembly

Leuven, 12th September 2019