

**Protocol of the General Assembly
of the European Colloid and Interface Society (ECIS)
18:20 – 20:30, Monday, 7th September 2020
During the 34th ECIS Conference organized online by Technion, Haifa, Israel**

Presiding: Dganit Danino

Protocol: Peter Kralchevsky

109 ECIS Members from 29 countries are present, as certified by the Attendance List

1. **Opening**
2. **Minutes of 33rd ECIS Conference:** <http://www.ecis-web.eu/ECIS19-Minutes.pdf>
3. **ECIS Conferences** (presentations limited to maximum 5 min each):
 - a. 35th ECIS Conference. Athens (5–10 September 2021): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - b. 36th ECIS Conference. Crete (September 2022): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - c. 18th European Student Colloid Conference, Szeged, Hungary (June 2021): Short description by a representative of the Organizing Committee.
 - d. Proposals and decision for ECIS 2023.
 - e. Future ECIS Conferences: Proposals.
4. **Financial Report**
5. **Changes to the ECIS Statutes** (possibility of company membership)
6. **Awards** (the ECIS-Lyklema Prize)
7. **Overbeek Foundation**
8. **AOB**
 - Contract with the journal *Polymers*
9. **Close**

MINUTES

1. **Opening:** Dganit Danino (DD), the President of ECIS, acts as chairman and opens the meeting. More than 600 participants from 45 countries have registered for the online event that includes the three lectures of awardees this afternoon. She presents the Agenda of the General Assembly, which has been dispatched to the participants in advance.
2. **Minutes:** By open vote, the General Assembly (GA) unanimously accepts the minutes of the last GA in Leuven, Belgium, 2019.

3. ECIS Conferences:

- a. **The 35th ECIS Conference in Athens, 5-10 September 2021:** Aristotelis Xenakis, National Hellenic Research Foundation, Athens, Greece, presents details on the organization. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ECIS conference in Athens was shifted with one year. This was agreed with the Organizing Committee and the International Scientific Committee (ISC). 29 abstracts have been already submitted and 22 payments of fees have been carried out. They will be valid for ECIS-2021 in Athens. The conference venue, Zappeion Mansion (in the heart of Athens), remains the same. Pre-event training course “Colloid and Interface Science in Food and Pharmaceutics” will be organized in Galini Hotel, Aegina island. A. Xenakis said that at present it is not clear how the COVID-19 pandemic will evolve, so that there is readiness to organize ECIS-2021 as an online conference if the pandemic situation continues.

Thomas Zemb proposes a parallel session with tentative title “Colloids and the Virus” to be organized and the contributions to be published in a special issue of *Current Opinion in Colloid and Interface Science*. This session will replace another previously proposed session.

- b. **36th ECIS, Chania, Crete, Greece, 4–9 September 2022:** George Petekidis, University of Crete, Greece, presents details on the organization. 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” will take place. There will be an overlap with the 6th International Soft Matter Conference (ISMC2022) planned to be held in Poznan, Poland from 5-9 September 2022. It will be discussed whether the ISMC2022 could be shifted by one week.
- c. **18th European Student Colloid Conference (ESC-2021), Szeged, 20-24 June 2021.** Tamas Szabo (University of Szeged, Hungary) reports on the organization of ESC-2021. Plan A is the conference to be held in June 2021. Plan B (in case of continuing pandemic) is to shift the conference for July 2022.
- d. **The 37th ECIS conference in Maastricht, 2023**

Remco Tuinier (Eindhoven University of Technology, NL) suggests the final decision on the 37th ECIS conference in Maastricht, 2023, to be taken during the 35th ECIS in Athens in 2021 because of the unstable situation with COVID-19. The GA unanimously accepts this suggestion.

Luigi Paduano (University of Naples, IT) says that in case of problems with the organization of the 37th ECIS (3–8 Sep 2023) in Maastricht, NL, it can be organized in Sorrento, near Naples, Italy. Their bid for organizing ECIS-2023 or ECIS-2024 remains in force.

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

Budget 31.08.2019 – 31.08.2020

Girokonto (Checking account): started with 27.199,62 € and ends with 10.979,21 €;

Zuwachssparen (Savings account): started with 41.716,65 € and ends with 42.843,00 €.

On the checking account, the following transactions were taken:

Beleg-No.	Datum		In (€)	Out (€)
1	21.08.2019	Bank account budget	27.199,62 €	
2	01.09.2020	Bank fee		4,90 €
3	25.09.2019	ECIS Solvay Prize		3.000,00 €
4	25.09.2019	ECIS Exerowa-Platikanov Prize		600,00 €
5	25.09.2019	ECIS Substantia Prize		500,00 €
6	25.09.2019	Enzo Ferroni Prizes (3 x 500 €)		1.500,00 €
7	01.10.2019	Bank fee		10,90 €
8	01.11.2019	Bank fee		4,90 €
9	25.11.2019	ECIS Athens (Starting Budget + Student Conference)		7.000,00 €
10	30.11.2019	Bank fee		7,47 €
11	17.12.2019	Transfer ECIS Leuven 2019	3.250,00 €	
12	01.01.2020	Bank fee		5,02 €
13	09.01.2020	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
14	01.02.2020	Bank fee		7,32 €
15	29.02.2020	Bank fee		4,90 €
16	04.03.2020	Tax Consultant for tax declaration 2016-2018		3.758,26
17	12.03.2020	Notary - Registry declaration		109,72 €
18	01.04.2020	Bank fee		5,14 €
19	07.04.2020	Elsevier	3.000,00 €	
20	30.04.2020	Solvay (Prize 2019)	3.000,00 €	
21	01.05.2020	Bank fee		7,59 €
22	30.05.2020	Bank fee		4,90 €
23	16.06.2020	Lawyer (Contract Overbeek Foundation)		952,00 €
24	01.07.2020	Bank fee		5,04 €
25	01.08.2020	Bank fee		7,35 €
26	14.08.2020	Transfer Overbeek Medaille		8.000,00 €
27	21.08.2019	Saldo	10.979,21 €	

Andreas Fery explains that a support of 8,000 € was given as a loan (that will be returned) to the Overbeek foundation for the production of the medals for the next 20 years. To formalize this loan, a contract (prepared by a lawyer) was signed. Because the interest rate for the Savings Account has become negligible, this account will be closed and the accumulated amount of money will be transferred to the Checking Account.

Thomas Zemb raises the issue about the different amounts of the registration fees for ECIS members and non-members.

Dganit Danino replies that in the future every participant in the conferences will pay 25 € to ECIS.

Andreas Fery informs that the budget has been checked by Prof. Regine von Klitzing (TU Darmstadt). Prof. Regine von Klitzing confirms that the finances are correct. Dganit Danino proposes the GA to vote and support the report. The Financial Report is accepted by the GA unanimously, by an open vote.

5. Changes to the ECIS Statutes (possibility of company membership)

Andreas Fery suggests companies to pay 500 € institutional membership. After a discussion on the relations between the ECIS and companies-members, Dganit Danino suggests decision on this issue to be taken later, by an online vote, which suggestion was accepted by the GA.

6. Awards

Dganit Danino informs about the new ECIS-Lyklema award. The prize is awarded for exceptional research achievements in the field of colloid and interface science, and long-time, sustained contributions to ECIS activities. The first award of this kind was given to Hans Lyklema himself years ago. The second award was given to Peter Kralchevsky. The award is given upon decision of the ECIS Board and honorary members of ECIS, and will not be given every year. The laureate receives a financial award from ECIS and presents a plenary lecture at the respective ECIS conference.

7. Overbeek Foundation

Remco Tuinier, the Chair of the Board of the Overbeek Foundation, informs that because of the significant rise of the price of gold, the price of the massive gold medal has increased from 3000 to 7000 euro, and the Overbeek foundation has no funds to support it despite the sponsorships from several companies. For this reason, in the future the Overbeek medal will be made of silver and will be covered by a thin layer of gold. The appearance of the Overbeek gold medal will be the same as before. An agreement was achieved with the Royal Dutch Mint to produce at once 20 such medals, which will be paid using the loan received from ECIS. This loan will be returned to ECIS from the received sponsorships in accordance with the signed agreement.

8. AOB

Dganit Danino informs about a Contract with the journal *Polymers* that is similar to the agreements with *Elsevier* and *Langmuir*, which provide several awards for best presentations during the annual ECIS conferences. The journal will annually award to a young scientist in the areas of polymer physics, chemistry or technology a prize of 1000 Euro, and provide a 10% discount to all ECIS members when publishing in *Polymers*.

9. Close

Dganit Danino thanks again all participants and closes the meeting at 20:30.

Peter Kralchevsky
ECIS Secretary

Dganit Danino
Chair of the ECIS General Assembly

7th September 2020