

**Protocol of the General Assembly
of the European Colloid & Interface Society (ECIS)
held hybrid during the 36th ECIS Conference
Chania (Crete), Greece
8 September 2022, 19:00 (Central European Summer Time)**

Epameinondas Leontidis (President) presiding.

Pierandrea Lo Nostro (Secretary) recording.

AGENDA

1. Opening
2. Approval of the minutes.
3. Account of the 2022 ECIS meeting.
4. Account of the 2022 Student ECIS Conference.
5. Account of the 2023 ECIS conference.
6. Special 2023 ECIS Student conference.
7. Bid for ECIS 2024.
8. Bid for ECIS 2025.
9. Bid for the 2024 ECIS Student Conference.
10. ECIS new conference on fundamentals.
11. Statutes amendment.
12. Financial Report (Prof. A. Fery).
13. Election of the New Treasurer.
14. ECIS website and Newsletter.
15. Changes in rules and committees for the Overbeek gold medal and for the ECIS-Solvay award.
17. AOB
18. Close

1) Opening

The President opens the General Assembly (GA). 142 persons participate in the room and signed the attendance sheet.

The President asks Prof. Björn Lindman, one of the founding fathers of the Society, to welcome the audience.

2) Approval of the minutes

The minutes of the GA from September 2021 in Athens were distributed through the mailing list according to the Statutes (Art. 11).

The President asks if anyone wants to make comments or changes to these documents. No change is requested. The minutes for the General Assembly in September 2021 are approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

3) Account of the 2022 ECIS meeting

The Conference Chair, Prof. George Petekidis presents to the audience the final report for the 36th ECIS conference held in Chania-Crete (Greece).

The conference was run in hybrid mode, in presence with 4 parallel sessions, a short course, a Chinese-European symposium and a satellite meeting. In total there were 647 participants (613 in presence and 34 online) of which 259 PhD students, from 41

countries. The organizers received 795 abstracts: 207 for poster presentations and 588 for oral contributions. The oral presentations included 2 award winners, 5 plenaries, 32 keynotes and 236 contributed talks.

4) Account of the 2022 Student ECIS Conference

Prof. Tamas Szabo gives a report on the 18th Student conference that was held in Szeged (Hungary), 26-30 June 2022. 57 participants attended the conference, coming from 17 countries. The conference was organized by Laszlo Merai under the supervision of István Szilágyi and Tamas Szabo.

The conference was quite successful, given the very difficult conditions created by the covid pandemic and the war in Ukraine.

5) Account of the 2023 ECIS conference

Prof. Luigi Paduano gives an update on the organization of the 37th ECIS meeting that will be held in Naples, 3-8 Sep 2023, at the Stazione Marittima conference center.

The venue is easily reachable from the airport and the central train station. The topics in the Scientific Program include:

- Liquid Interfaces and Membranes: Structure, Surface forces, Dynamics
- Emulsions, Microemulsions, Foams
- Polymers, Polyelectrolytes, Gels, Liquid Crystals, Anisotropic Fluids
- Surfactants, Lipids, Proteins, Peptides and Self-Assembly
- Dynamics, Stability and Phase Behavior of Colloids and Complex Fluids
- Colloids for Delivery of Bioactives
- Micro and nanostructured Materials and Nanoparticles
- Theory, Modeling and Simulation of Colloidal Systems and Complex Fluids
- Wetting, Superhydrophobicity, Superoleophobic Surfaces and Capillarity
- Colloid in Food Science and Technology
- Colloid and Interface Science in Energy Technology
- Colloid and Interface Science in Cultural Heritage
- Colloid and Interface Science in Environment

The website of the conference has been activated at <https://www.ecis2023.eu/>

The registration fees are illustrated in the following table:

	Early bird (by June 10, 2023)	Late registration (by July 15)	On-site or after July 15
ECIS member	600 €	650 €	700 €
Non-ECIS participant	650 €	700 €	750 €
Accompanying person	200 €	200 €	200 €
PhD student or pensioner	350 €	390 €	420 €

A list of available hotels and other accommodation facilities at various rates will be available online.

6) Special 2023 ECIS Student conference

Prof. T. Zemb illustrates the organization of the special student conference in Marcoule (France), from 28.08 to 01.09.2023. The venue is easily reachable by plane (to Avignon and Marseille) and train or bus transfer (to Avignon). The conference will be available for about 30 students. The students will work closely with some

ECIS teachers and with other local teachers in small groups. The lodging costs are expected to be cheap.

7) Bid for the 2024 ECIS

Prof. Ben Boyd presents the bid for ECIS 2024 in Copenhagen. The registration fees will be decided later on, when there is a clearer idea of the sponsorship. More updates will be given during the 2023 ECIS conference.

The General Assembly approves unanimously.

8) Bid for the 2025 ECIS

Prof. Wuge Briscoe presents the bid for ECIS 2025 in Bristol (United Kingdom), in collaboration with the Colloid Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry. The registration fees are expected to be more or less similar to those of other ECIS meetings.

The General Assembly approves by a large majority, with 1 No and 0 Abstention.

9) Bid for the 2024 Student Conference

The President reports that there are no bids for the 2024 Student conference. The Secretary will ask for bids in the future through email.

10) ECIS new online conference on fundamentals

The President proposes to hold a series of online conferences on the fundamentals of colloid science.

The format of the online conferences will be quite novel: A fundamental problem will be identified and prioritized, and two key speakers will be selected, if possible one theoretician and one experimentalist.

The first such discussion will address aspects of Colloidal interactions and will be held in late 2022 or (more probably) early 2023.

The General Assembly votes on the proposal and unanimously agrees on the institution of this series of online conferences.

11) Statutes amendment

Prof. Andreas Fery reports to the general assembly that an amendment to the Statutes of the Society must be adopted and voted to comply with the German law. The issue concerns Art. 7 (The Council) that in the current version reads:

§7 The Council

The Council consists of the Directorate (Board) and the Secretariat (Secretariat).

Council members are volunteers.

The President presides over the Council.

Two members of the Council represent the Society externally - judicially and extra-judicially - including the President, and in his absence, the former President or the Vice-President (in that order).

In addition to an annual meeting of the Council, which will be held at the invitation of the President during the period of the annual conference, the President may call an extraordinary meeting of the Council at any time if it is in the interest of the Society.

The expressions "and in his absence," and "(in that order)" shall be deleted, and the new Art. 7 would read:

§7 The Council

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The President presides over the Council.

Two members of the Council represent the Society externally - judicially and extra-judicially - including the President, the former President or the Vice-President.

In addition to an annual meeting of the Council, which will be held at the invitation of the President during the period of the annual conference, the President may call an extraordinary meeting of the Council at any time if it is in the interest of the Society.

The President calls for a vote on this amendment: 0 No, 1 Abstention, the general assembly approves by large majority, according to Art. 12 of the Statutes.

12) Financial Report

The Treasurer in charge, Prof. Andreas Fery, gives a report on the ECIS budget for the period 26.07.2021 - 02.08.2022. The balance of the Girokonto (checking account) started with 43.061,56 € and ends with 47.684,31 €.

On the checking account, the following transactions were taken:

No.	Date		In (€)	Out (€)
	26.07.2021	Saldo	43.061,56 €	
1	30.07.2021	Bank fee		7,49 €
2	04.08.2021	Solvay (Prize 2021)	3.000,00 €	
3	26.08.2021	Translation death certificate Kralchevsky		110,00 €
4	31.08.2021	Bank fee		5,18 €
5	30.09.2021	Bank fee		4,90 €
6	01.10.2021	Substantia	500,00 €	
7	05.10.2021	Solvay Award 2021		3.000,00 €
8	05.10.2021	Exerowa-Platikanov Award		600,00 €
9	05.10.2021	Enzo Ferroni Award (3x 500 EUR)		1.500,00 €
10	05.10.2021	Substantia Award		500,00 €
11	05.10.2021	Elsevier Poster Award (4x 300 EUR)		1.200,00 €
12	29.10.2021	Bank fee		8,89 €
13	30.11.2021	Bank fee		4,90 €
14	01.12.2021	1. Repayment Overbeek Foundation	1.000,00 €	
15	22.12.2021	ECIS 2021 Athen, final accounting	5.612,00 €	
16	30.12.2021	Bank fee		5,18 €
17	31.01.2022	Bank fee		7,54 €
18	31.01.2022	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
19	28.02.2022	Bank fee		4,90 €
20	31.03.2022	Bank fee		4,90 €
21	12.04.2022	Invoice Notary for change ECIS registry entry		165,23 €
22	22.04.2022	Membership fee	25,00 €	
23	22.04.2022	Elsevier	3.000,00 €	
24	26.04.2022	Enzo Ferroni Award 2022 (3 awards)	1.500,00 €	
25	29.04.2022	Bank fee		7,96 €
26	18.05.2022	ECIS Membership fee	5,00 €	
27	18.05.2022	ECIS Membership fee	5,00 €	
28	24.05.2022	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
29	27.05.2022	Substantia Award 2022	500,00 €	
30	31.05.2022	Reimbursement Notary costs Tommy Nylander (700,- SEK)		66,58 €
31	31.05.2022	Bank fee		5,60 €
32	07.06.2022	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
33	07.06.2022	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
34	07.06.2022	Solvay (Preis 2022)	3.000,00 €	
35	30.06.2022	Bank fee		5,32 €
36	28.07.2022	Reimbursement Travel ESC Szeged		251,41 €
37	28.07.2022	Reimbursement Travel ESC Szeged		89,14 €
38	28.07.2022	ECIS Naples Starting Budget		6.000,00 €
39	30.07.2022	Bank fee		7,82 €
40	02.08.2022	Reimbursement Travel ESC Szeged		61,31 €
	02.08.2022	Saldo	47.684,31 €	

There is no extraordinary activity, the income-outcome being related to the prizes and awards, to the 2023 conference and to other minor general expenses. The budget has

already been circulated together with the agenda of this general assembly to all ECIS members. The pandemic represented a serious challenge to ECIS (and still does). In the long run, the Society may have to decide to get additional funding to support its activities.

Prof. Fery asks if anyone wants to make comments on the budget.

The financial report was checked by Prof. Matthias Karg that confirms the correctness of the presented budget and the agreement between the provided documents.

The President opens the online voting on the report and on the discharging of the Board. The financial report and the discharging of the Board are accepted unanimously by the General Assembly. The Board is discharged.

Prof. Fery concludes his office as ECIS Treasurer and thanks everybody for the collaboration.

13) Election of the New Treasurer

The President announces that Prof. Andreas Fery's office as Treasurer of the Society has come to the end. The President sincerely thanks Andreas Fery for the great work he did for the Society, since 2016.

The President asks for nominations for the position of ECIS Treasurer.

Prof. Thomas Hellweg nominates Prof. Matthias Karg, from the University of Düsseldorf. Prof. Karg gives a short outline of his professional career. No other nominations are made by the Assembly.

The President calls the election, by secret ballot, of the new Treasurer.

Electoral ballots are distributed to the attendees of the General Assembly and then collected for the scrutiny. 142 total votes are collected of which:

20 blank votes

12 null votes

110 votes for Karg.

The President declares elected Prof. Matthias Karg as Treasurer of ECIS for the period 2022-2028.

Prof. Matthias Karg accepts the appointment.

14) ECIS Newsletter and Website

The President presents to the Assembly the recent activity related to the ECIS Newsletter, conceived as a mean of keeping alive the communication among the Society members in the times of the pandemic and of strengthening communications further in general. Three issues have already been published in 2022.

The President invites the ECIS Webmaster, Prof. Dominik Horinek, to illustrate the new Website.

15) Changes in rules and committees for the Overbeek medal and the Solvay prize

The Board proposes to increase the size of the Committee for the Overbeek medal from 6 to 7. The new Committee will include the President, the Past President, the Vice-President, the Overbeek foundation representative and three former winners.

The President opens the vote for the changes proposed for the Overbeek gold medal: 0 No, 1 Abstention, the General Assembly approves by large majority.

Similarly, the new Committee for the ECIS-Solvay award will include the President, the Past-President, the Vice-President, the representative of Solvay, the organizer of the ECIS conference, and two former ECIS-Solvay prize winners.

The President opens the vote for the changes to the ECIS-Solvay award: the Assembly approves unanimously.

The President also urges the Society members to propose new nominations for the 2023 awards as soon as possible.

The Board will also expend all possible efforts to improve the advertisement through the mailing list, the Website and the Newsletter.

The President recalls that the Overbeek medal is not restricted to European scientists, while the Solvay prize is.

The nominators of each prize will be asked to submit a proper *laudatio* for the successful candidates to be used in the Website, Newsletter and award ceremony.

16) **AOB**

17) **Closing**

The President thanks everybody for joining the General Assembly and closes the meeting at 20:00.

Pierandrea Lo Nostro
ECIS Secretary

Epameinondas Leontidis
ECIS President
Chair of the ECIS General Assembly

Chania (Greece), 9 September 2022