

**Protocol of the General Assembly
of the European Colloid & Interface Society (ECIS)
held during the 37th ECIS Conference
Naples, Italy
7 September 2023, 16:50 (Central European Summer Time)**

Epameinondas Leontidis (President) presiding.

Pierandrea Lo Nostro (Secretary) recording.

AGENDA

1. Opening: Prof. E. Leontidis (President) presiding, Prof. P. Lo Nostro (Secretary) recording
2. Approval of the minutes of the 2022 ECIS General Assembly.
3. Election of the new Vice-President, **SECRET VOTE**.
4. Account of the 2023 ECIS conference (Prof. L. Paduano and Prof. G. D'Errico), 5'.
5. Account of the Marcoule 2023 School (Prof. O. Diat), 5'.
6. Updates for ECIS 2024, Copenhagen.
7. Updates for ECIS 2025, Bristol.
8. Bids for 2026.
9. 2024 European Student Colloid Conference (Prof. V. Schmitt, Bordeaux), 5', **VOTE**.
10. Overbeek Foundation (status and funding).
11. ECIS webinars on fundamentals (Prof. E. Leontidis).
12. Financial Report (Prof. M. Karg). Discharging of the Board, **VOTE**.
13. ECIS website and Newsletter (Prof. D. Horinek and Prof. E. Leontidis).
14. Changes in rules and committees for the Lyklema award (Prof. E. Leontidis), **VOTE**.
15. AOB.
16. Closing.

1) Opening

The President opens the General Assembly (GA). 142 persons participate in the room and sign 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 2022 in Chania (Crete) 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 2022 are approved unanimously by the General Assembly.

3) Election of the new Vice-President

The President announces that Prof. Dganit Danino's term as Past President of the Society has come to the end. The President and the Assembly sincerely thank Dganit Danino for the great work she did for the Society, since 2017.

Prof. Karin Schillén and Prof. Luciano Galantini nominated Prof. Regine von Klitzing (Technical University of Darmstadt) for the position of new Vice President.

No other nominations were made.

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

Electoral ballots are distributed to the attendees of the General Assembly and then collected for the scrutiny. 91 total votes are collected of which:

7 blank votes

3 null votes

81 votes for von Klitzing.

The President declares Prof. Regine von Klitzing as elected Vice President of ECIS.

Prof. Regine von Klitzing accepts the appointment.

4) Account of the 2023 ECIS conference

The Conference Chairs, Prof. Luigi Paduano and Prof. Gerardino D'Errico present to the audience the final report for the 37th ECIS conference held in Naples (Italy).

The conference was run in presence with 4 parallel sessions. In total there were 570 participants from 41 countries. The oral presentations included 2 award winners, 5 plenaries, 32 keynotes and 230 contributed talks. 370 poster presentations. 6 oral awards and 11 poster awards.

5) Account of the Marcoule 2023 School

Prof. Olivier Diat gives a report on the 2023 School held in Marcoule (France), 28 August - 1 September 2023 with the participation of 30 students.

6) Updates for ECIS 2024, Copenhagen

Prof. Ben Boyd and Prof. Jacob Kirkensgaard give an update on the organization of the 38th ECIS meeting that will be held in Copenhagen, 1-6 Sep 2024 at the Scandic Falkoner conference center. The website is: <https://ecis2024.org/>

The registration fees are illustrated in the following table:

	Early bird by April 16, 2024	Late registration after April 16, 2024	On-site
ECIS member	675 €	725 €	775 €
Non-ECIS participant	725 €	775 €	825 €
Industry representative	1000 €	1000 €	1000 €
PhD student or pensioner	400 €	450 €	500 €
Honorary members	25 €	25 €	25 €

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

7) Updates for ECIS 2025, Bristol

Prof. Wuge Briscoe presents the bid for the 39th ECIS annual meeting to be held in 2025 in Bristol (United Kingdom), in collaboration with the Colloid Group of the Royal Society of Chemistry and the Society of Chemical Industry of the UK. The registration fees are expected to be more or less similar to those of other ECIS meetings.

8) Bids for 2026

None.

9) **2024 European Student Colloid Conference**

Prof. Véronique Schmitt from Bordeaux proposes the organization of the 2024 European Student Colloid Conference in Bordeaux. The general assembly approves unanimously.

10) **Overbeek Foundation (status and funding)**

Prof. Remco Tuinier reports to the assembly the current status of the Overbeek Foundation, and calls for new funding.

11) **ECIS new webinar on fundamentals**

The President proposes to hold the second webinar on the fundamentals of colloid science in early 2024, on a topic in the general area of wetting.

The previous webinar was held in May 2023 on the topic of nanobubbles in Colloid Science. Presentations were given by Profs. Barry Ninham and Vincent Craig of the Australian National University. The first webinar was attended by more than 130 participants.

12) **Financial Report**

The Treasurer in charge, Prof. Matthias Karg, gives a report on the ECIS budget for the period 02/08/2022 - 31.07.2023. The balance of the Girokonto (checking account) started with 47.684,31 € and ends with 52.187,44 €.

On the checking account, the transactions that were taken are detailed in the following table.

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. Karg asks if anyone wants to make comments on the budget.

The financial report was checked by Prof. Alexander Wittemann (Univ. Konstanz), who confirms the correctness of the presented budget and the agreement between the provided documents, and calls for the discharging of the Board.

The President opens the vote 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.

No.	Date		In (€)	Out (€)
	02.08.2022	Saldo	47.684,31 €	
1	24.08.2022	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
2	31.08.2022	Bank fee		5,18 €
3	30.09.2022	Bank fee		4,90 €
4	13.10.2022	Solvay Award 2022		3.000,00 €
5	13.10.2022	Exerowa Platikanov Award 2022		600,00 €
6	13.10.2022	Enzo Ferroni Award 2022 (3x 500 EUR)		1.500,00 €
7	13.10.2022	Elsevier Poster Award (7x 300 EUR)		2.100,00 €
8	27.10.2022	Substantia Award 2022		500,00 €
9	27.10.2022	Fee international transaction (Substantia Award)		39,70 €
10	28.10.2022	Bank fee		9,08 €
11	17.11.2022	2. Repayment Overbeek Foundation	1.000,00 €	
12	30.11.2022	Bank fee		5,04 €
13	05.12.2022	ECIS 2022 Crete, final accounting	10.170,00 €	
14	30.12.2022	Bank fee		5,04 €
15	31.01.2023	Bank fee		7,40 €
16	28.02.2023	Bank fee		4,90 €
17	29.03.2023	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
18	31.03.2023	Bank fee		5,04 €
19	25.04.2023	Reimbursement Notary costs (Sweden)		66,33 €
20	28.04.2023	Bank fee		7,54 €
21	05.05.2023	ECIS Membership fee	30,00 €	
22	11.05.2023	ECIS Membership fee	25,00 €	
23	17.05.2023	Reimbursement Notary costs (Germany)		23,80 €
24	19.05.2023	Substantia Award 2023	500,00 €	
25	31.05.2023	Invoice Notary for change ECIS registry entry		106,33 €
26	31.05.2023	Bank fee		5,46 €
27	07.06.2023	Tax consultant for tax declaration 2019		1.154,30 €
28	07.06.2023	Tax consultant for tax declaration 2020		1.154,30 €
29	07.06.2023	Tax consultant for tax declaration 2021		1.484,53 €
30	21.06.2023	Enzo Ferroni Award 2023 (3 x 500 EUR)	1.500,00 €	
31	29.06.2023	Solvay (Prize 2023)	3.000,00 €	
32	30.06.2023	Bank fee		5,60 €
33	07.07.2023	Membership fee	30,00 €	
34	31.07.2023	Bank fee		7,40 €
35	31.07.2023	Saldo	52.187,44 €	

13) 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 throughout each year, and of strengthening communications further in general. Six issues of the Newsletter have already been e-mailed to the members and published online.

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

15) Changes in rules and committees for the Lyklema award

The ECIS-Lyklema Prize is named in honour of **Johannes Lyklema**, one of the founding fathers of ECIS.

The ECIS-Lyklema Prize is granted to an ECIS scientist with proven scientific excellence, who additionally devoted long-time, sustained and exceptional efforts to ECIS organizational activities and colloid community development.

The prize is at the amount of 3,000 €, taken from the ECIS account. It will be combined with a special plenary lecture + ceremony at the current ECIS Conference, and a lifetime ECIS membership, and will be presented by the ECIS President at a session of the annual ECIS Conference.

The Board proposes that:

- The nominations will be made by the former Presidents of ECIS and the decision will be taken by the current President, Vice-President and Past President.
- A simple nomination form will be made available, like the one used for the Overbeek medal and Solvay prize.
- The award will be given every 3-4 years at the discretion of the Board. Therefore, the Board will open a call and invite the former Presidents to propose nominations.
- Nominations shall be notified to the Secretary no later than April 30.

The assembly approves the Board's proposals with 6 abstentions and no one against.

16) **AOB**

Nothing.

17) **Closing**

The President thanks everybody for joining the General Assembly and closes the meeting at 19:45.

Pierandrea Lo Nostro
ECIS Secretary

Epameinondas Leontidis
ECIS President
Chair of the ECIS General Assembly

Naples (Italy), 7 September 2023