



**EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL
INTEGRITY SOCIETY**

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ESIS Council Meeting

Catania, Italy

21st June 2016, 16:00

MINUTES

Attendees: The meeting was attended by 37 representatives. A full list is given at the end of the minutes.

1. Welcome, Leslie Banks-Sills
The president, Leslie Banks-Sills (LBS), chaired the meeting and thanked all the council members for coming, and the ECF organizers for providing the meeting room.
2. Minutes of the last meeting, Bamber Blackman
The minutes of the last council meeting (Trondheim, ECF20) were available on the ESIS website. They were accepted as correct.
3. Establish voting members, Bamber Blackman
 - a. The voting members of Council were established by the secretary, (based on memberships for 2015/2016). Proxy representation had been identified earlier by communication with the secretary.
 - i. Austria: R. Pippan
 - ii. Bulgaria: D. Angelova
 - iii. Czech Republic: L. Kunz
 - iv. Hungary: P. Trampus
 - v. Israel: L. Banks-Sills
 - vi. Italy: F. Iacoviello
 - vii. Norway: Z. Zhang
 - viii. Poland: A. Neimitz (for D. Kocanda)
 - ix. Portugal: P. Moirera
 - x. Romania: L. Marsavina
 - xi. Russia: R. Goldstein
 - xii. Serbia: A. Sedmak

- xiii. Slovenia: N. Gubeljak
 - xiv. Spain: A. Martin-Meizoso
 - xv. Sweden: P. Stähle (for J. Larsson)
 - xvi. Switzerland: A. Brunner
 - xvii. Ukraine: H. Nykyforchyn
 - xviii. United Kingdom: G. Williams
 - xix. TC3: S. Vantadori (for A. Carpineri)
 - xx. TC4: G. Williams
 - xxi. TC5: Y. Petrov
 - xxii. TC9: G. Ferro
 - xxiii. TC10: J. Toribio
 - xxiv. TC13: P. Yasniy
 - xxv. TC24: S. Beretta
 - xxvi. Vice-President: F. Iacoviello
 - xxvii. Vice-President: A. Sedmak
 - xxviii. Secretary: B. Blackman
- b. There were 28 eligible votes in total; 18 national delegates, 7 TC chairs, 2 ExCo vice-presidents and ExCo secretary.
4. President's Report: Leslie Banks-Sills
- a. The president reported that ECF20 (Trondheim) had been attended by 536 participants and that at ECF21 (Catania) there were 640 attendees.
 - b. She reported that the Fellows Committee consisted of Francesco Iacoviello, Aleksandar Sedmak, Zhiliang Zhang, and herself as chair. The two new fellowships being awarded at ECF21 were to Donato Firrao and Anthony Kinloch. Attendees were encouraged to submit more nominations for future awards.
 - c. The Awards Committee was chaired by Francesco Iacoviello and included nine other members, each from a different country. They were: Zhiliang Zhang, Gordon Williams, Nenad Gubeljak, Aleksandar Sedmak, Antonio Martin-Meizoso, Hryhoriy Nykyforchyn, Nikita Morozov, Donka Angelova and Reinhard Pippan.
 - d. The Griffith medal was to be awarded to Robert Goldstein, and the Wöhler medal to Paul Paris. The Award of Merit was to be presented to László Tóth; Andrzej Neimitz would be elected an Honorary Member of ESIS. These awards would be presented at the ECF21 Conference dinner.
 - e. Committee for the Support of Scientists: This committee was chaired by Aleksandar Sedmak with two other members: Per Stähle and Valery Shlyannikov. For the results, see item 14.
 - f. It was reported that there are now four ESIS affiliated journals (Engineering Failure Analysis, Engineering Fracture Mechanics, International Journal of Fatigue and the recent addition, Theoretical and Applied Fracture Mechanics). Members were encouraged to publish in these journals.
 - g. It was reported that a new contract between Elsevier and ESIS had been signed covering the two-year period January 2016 to December 2017. In this,

ESIS agrees to publish a maximum a 5 special issues per year, for which ESIS supports the TCs by €1,500 per special issue.

- h. A list of recent SIs published by Elsevier originating from ESIS activities had been prepared by Valery Shlyannikov (ExCo-Publications) and the list was presented to Council.
 - i. LBS described the process of publishing conference papers in Procedia Structural Integrity, as had been utilized at ECF21. It was reported that ESIS will assist financially with the cost of Procedia for the next two years. The maximum support available would be €2000. Members should write to Leslie Banks-Sills to request this support.
 - j. It was reported that TC12 on probabilistic methods is not currently active and needs to be re-instated.
 - k. The three statute changes on the agenda for voting were introduced. (i) One-member one-vote and proxy voting; (ii) ESIS membership clarification and (iii) reference to the blogger. (See item 15).
 - l. The president thanked the ECF chairs for their great organization.
 - m. The president also thanked all TC chairs for their vital work- commenting that they are “the back-bone of ESIS.”
 - n. Finally the members of the ExCo were thanked for their hard work. They were: Vice Presidents- Francesco Iacoviello and Aleksandar Sedmak, Secretary- Bamber Blackman, Treasurer- Beppe Ferro, Newsletter and Publications- Valery Shlyannikov, Blog- Per Stähle, and Liaison- Zhiliang Zhang.
5. Report on ECF21, Francesco Iacoviello
 - a. Francesco reported that ECF21 had attracted 640 delegates.
 - b. 472 short conference papers had been published in Procedia Structural Integrity.
 - c. There has been a summer school immediately prior to the conference which had attracted 87 participants from 18 countries.
 6. Report on ECF22, Aleksandar Sedmak
 - a. Belgrade had been selected at the last council meeting for the venue for ECF22 in two years’ time. The dates were 26-31 August 2018, hosted by the Serbian National Committee (DIVK)- Society for Structural Integrity and Life.
 - b. A conference fee in the range of €580 to €630 was anticipated, depending upon sponsorship arrangements.
 7. Treasury Report, Leslie Banks-Sills
 - a. It was reported that the audit for 2010-15 had been conducted by Donato Firrao and Angelo Finelli and had been presented to the ExCo in December 2015.
 8. Budget, Leslie Banks-Sills

LBS proposed a two-year budget for the period Jan 2016-Dec 2017 as follows:

 - a. Income was estimated to be €70,000.
 - b. Expenses were estimated to be: Support for TCs €12,000; ExCo meetings €5,000; Working groups €2,500; Website €8,000; Support for scientists €11,650; Summer schools €7,000; Contingency €10,000;

I-tunes-U (camera and technician) €10,000; Procedia €12,000; Total expenses €78,150.

9. Elsevier Special Issues and Publications, Valery Shlyannikov
 - a. This item had been covered in the President's Report (4h).
10. Membership report (2015,2016), Bamber Blackman
 - a. The membership numbers for the years 2014-2016 were reported as follows: 2014=507 members, 2015=562 members, 2016= 228 members so far. The 2015 figure represents a 10.8% increase on 2014. The final membership numbers for the 2016 cannot be reported until after the year end (31/12).
 - b. Analysing the membership figures for 2014-2015, it was reported that the vast majority of members were from 9 national groups each having >20 members each year. A further 5 national groups had ~10 members each year. Disappointingly, a number of important countries had fewer than 10 members in both 2015-2016 and hence failed to achieve a vote on Council. Examples included France, Germany and the Netherlands.
 - c. The French representative asked whether ESIS membership could be coupled with ECF registration. LBS replied that such a link would disadvantage those counties that successfully gain ESIS membership via their national groups already. The French representative commented that there were three committees in France with an interest in fracture and that they did not wish to create a 4th for this purpose. BB commented that existing committees could join ESIS directly as groups, each with a specified number of members. Then the National Delegation to Council would be comprised of the sum of these groups. This subject was to be discussed further outside of the meeting to try to find a way forward.
11. Awards Committee for ECF21, Leslie Banks-Sills
 - a. This was reported on in the President's Report (4c).
12. Report by the Awards Committee, ECF21, Francesco Iacoviello
This was reported on in the President's Report (4d).
13. Report by the Fellows Committee, ECF21, Leslie Banks-Sills
 - a. This was also reported on in the President's Report (4b).
 - b. Donato Firrao (appointed Fellow at ECF21) was present and was congratulated by the President and by all present.
14. Report by the Committee for Support of Scientists at ECF21, Aleksandar Sedmak
 - a. Following a selection process, the committee chaired by Aleksandar Sedmak and including Per Ståhle and Valery Shlyannikov had decided to support 17 scientists out of a total of 26 who had applied for support.
 - b. ESIS paid the conference fees for these successful applicants.
 - c. The list of the successful applicants was presented to Council.
15. Vote on the Statute changes, Leslie Banks-Sills
 - a. LBS described the details of the proposed changes to the Statutes and why each was considered necessary. The proposed changes to the text had previously been circulated to Council.

- b. A ballot of members was conducted for the first Statute change (one-member one-vote and proxy voting). The result was unanimous with 28 votes in favour of the change and none against.
 - c. Following a proposal by Gordon Williams, it was agreed by all present that the remaining two votes would proceed by a show of hands.
 - d. The second proposed change to the Statutes concerning the description of membership types (to add clarity and remove the term Corporate Member) was agreed unanimously by acclamation.
 - e. The representative from Spain asked if National Groups were obliged to accept membership from groups (e.g. companies or universities) within that country seeking ESIS membership via their National Group. LBS answered that National Groups decide whether or not to accept group memberships in this way.
 - f. The third proposed change to the Statutes, to include specific reference to the blogger, was also agreed unanimously by acclamation.
16. Proposal and vote for ECF23, Pedro Moreira
- a. A detailed proposal to host ECF23 was presented by Pedro Moreira, the National Representative of Portugal. The proposed dates are 28th June-3rd July, 2020. The location would be the town of Funchal on the island of Madeira, Portugal. The proposal has the support of the Portuguese Society of Materials.
 - b. A detailed hard copy of the proposal had been distributed to all those present.
 - c. The venue will be the Hotel Pestana Casino Park (5*, with 340 rooms). Other hotels nearby are 5-10 minutes from the conference centre (4* and 3*). Travel links are good.
 - d. The registration fee will be €650 maximum (early bird). ESIS member €600 (early bird), student €450 (early bird).
 - e. The proposal was agreed by acclamation.
17. Indicative proposal for ECF24, Zeljko Bozic
- a. There was a presentation by Zeljko Bozic representing the National Group of Croatia to host ECF24 in 2022.
 - b. The proposed venue was the city of Dubrovnik in Croatia.
 - c. Zeljko was thanked for his presentation and was invited to give a more detailed presentation at the Council meeting in two years' time at ECF22.
18. The meeting ended at 18:35.

Attendance:

B. Blackman, W. Baer, A. Neimitz, P. Trampus, A. Brunner, R. Goldstein, L. Kunz, Z. Zhang, J. Besson, T. Palin-luc, M. Freitas, L. Reis, P. Tavares, S. Beretta, L. Toth, A. Sedmak, J. Toribio, F. Iacoviello, G. Ferro, A. Capinteri, G. Williams, H. Nykyforchyn, P. Yasniy, P. Stähle, A. Spagnoli, S. Vantadori, N. Alexopoulos, J. He, Y. Petrov, J. Hoefnagels, D. Sherman, A. Meizoso, L. Marsavina, L. Banks-Sills, K. Stavros, D. Angelova, P. Moreira.