

Annual General Meeting of the European Society for Muscle Research

held at the XXXIXth European Muscle Conference, Padua, Italy 12th September 2010

10/1 Professor Anders Arner introduced himself to the assembly as the Chair of the European Society for Muscle Research. The ESMR Steering group/Board was introduced:

Anders Arner, Stockholm, Sweden (chair)

Bernhard Brenner, Hannover, Germany

Laurence Stevens, Lille, France

Nikolai Gusev, Moscow, Russia

Steven Marston, London, United Kingdom (secretary)

Carlo Reggiani, Padova, Italy

Marcus C. Schaub, Zürich, Switzerland

Ger Stienen, Amsterdam, the Netherlands (treasurer)

Wolfgang A. Linke, Bochum, Germany

10/2 Professor Arner proposed that the AGM elect Professor John Sparrow to take the minutes of the AGM. **Agreed** *nem con.*

10/3 Professor Arner thanked the organisers of the XXXIXth European Muscle Conference for their efforts in organising the conference and praised them for the quality of the meeting.

10/4 Professor Arner outlined to those present the nature, history and remit of the European Society for Muscle Research.

10/5 Professor Arner explained that membership of the Society is automatic to those attending an EMC for one year and enables them to vote at the AGM at that EMC. A small membership fee is levied on each delegate. Names of delegates/members are kept on an e-mail list of members for 3 years in accordance with the EMSR Statutes (available on the society website).

10/6 Professor Arner explained that EMSR Board members and Chair were elected for 4 years. Most of the current Board Members and Chair had been elected at the AGM in 2009.

10/7 Minutes of the previous AGM held in Lille, Sept 2009:

Minutes had been available on the EMSR webpage and a copy posted on the notice board at the current EMC.

Professor Arner proposed that the AGM approve these minutes as a true and accurate record of the AGM held in Lille, September 2009.

This was **agreed** *nem con.*

10/8 Matters arising from the Minutes: Professor Arner highlighted a number of particular topics arising from these minutes.

- a) Homepage: A long term goal was to improve the attractiveness ESMR homepage. It would include notices of other meetings of interest to the membership.
- b) Change of Name of Society: At the previous AGM those present had been split approximately 50:50 on whether the Society might change its name to reflect the research interests of current and future members. In the light of this the Board had met to discuss the proposal to change the name of the society to the European Society for Muscle Research and Motility. They had proposed that the current name be retained.

Professor Arner proposed that if the proposal to change the name of the society was approved by the current AGM, that this proposal would be put to the next two AGMs before the name change was made. This was **agreed**.

On behalf of the Board Prof Arner proposed that the current name of the society 'The European Society for Muscle Research' be retained.

This was **agreed** by an overwhelming majority of those present.

- c) Society Funds: Prof Arner presented the Economical Statement for September 2010. This showed that the ESMR currently has a balance of 28,395 Euros.

The auditors, Profs R. Bottinelli and I. Morano had reviewed the Economical Statement and the bank account and had no further comments.

The AGM **approved** the discharge of responsibility by the Board

The Board had discussed the size and use of these funds. From these discussions they were proposing:

- i) That the Society should maintain a 'basic' fund of not less than 20,000 Euros, with the aim of keeping the balance of these funds at 20–30,000 Euros. The basic fund is required so as to provide monies for major up-front costs of EMC conferences (that were then to be recovered from conference income) and for liability assurance against any financial loss incurred by an EMC meeting,
- ii) That any funds surplus to 20,000 Euros should be used to provide travel grants, awards/prizes to support young people (including young PIs) in the muscle field, to improve maintain the society's homepage and to assist the society's officers in their discussions with the Editor and staff for the Journal of Muscle Research and Cell Motility.

The Board were especially keen that members agree that a major remit of the ESMR was

to encourage and support young people (including young PIs) in attending and presenting at EMC meetings.

On behalf of the Board Professor Arner put these proposals to the AGM.

These were all **agreed** *nem con*.

10/9 Annual Fee: Professor Arner reported that the Board were strongly in favour of keeping the annual fee at 10 euro/year for 2010/11. He put this proposal to the AGM.

This was **agreed** *nem con*.

10/10 Prof Arner proposed the Auditors for 2010/11 be Stefan Galler (main) and Alf Mansson (assistant)

This was **agreed** *nem con*.

10/10 New Board member: Prof Arner proposed Dr Elizabeth Ehler as a new member of the Board. She had indicated that she was willing to be member.

This was **agreed** *nem con*.

10/11 Journal of Muscle Research and Cell Motility: Prof Arner explained that there had been a long association of the Society and Springer, who have been very supportive of previous ESMR meetings. There had been a good collaborations in the past and both parties realised that the journal might benefit from some support from the ESMR to improve the impact factor/publication rate.

Prof Arner said that the ESMR would like to help them and in particular the journal editor, Prof Matthias Gautel, in achieving their current aims for the journal. He proposed that the ESMR Board would like to communicate with the published and Prof Gautel as to how the ESMR could achieve a constructive dialogue to help them.

He proposed that the AGM give the Board a mandate to discuss with the journal and Editor how we might assist them in achieving their aims.

This was **agreed**.

In the light of this approval, Prof Arner pointed out that there was likely to be some unbudgeted expenses for Board members in getting to discussion meetings with the journal and Prof Gautel. He proposed that the ASGM approve Board expenditure for travel to these meetings not to exceed 2,000 euros for 2010/11.

This was **agreed** *nem con*.

10/12 Future meetings:

The 2011 meeting would be in Berlin, organised by Prof Ingo Morano and colleagues.

Dr Christina Karatzaferi had offered to organise the 2012 meeting in Greece, probably in Athens.

This proposal was discussed. It was **agreed** to ask her to begin organising the 2012 meeting

10/13 Fellowship (Travel Awards):

The Travel Awards had been made by the Board for the 2010 meeting. In front of the AGM Prof Arner presented a fellowship ward to each of the following:

Siobhan Lisa Anton	Akshay Bareja	Dawit Albieiro Pinheiro Gonçalves	
Sukriti Dewan	Lars Hvid	Vsevolod Kurushin	
Stephan Lange	Filippo Macaluso	Malin Persson	Marita Wallace

10/14 There being no further business Prof Arner closed the AGM

Prof John C. Sparrow 4th March 2011

Prof Anders Arner 1th September 2011