

## Minutes ELMi Steering Committee Meeting

11.6.09

Participants:

Chairs: K. Anderson, S. Terjung

Excuses: R. Pepperkok (represented by S. Terjung)

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Jan Ellenberg [ellenberg@embl.de](mailto:ellenberg@embl.de)

Agenda:

1. Future role of RMS / use of surplus funds P. O'Toole
2. Location of next meetings M. Koffa, B. Geiger, S.Munck
3. ELMi web page / media partner S. Terjung
4. ELMi coordinator S. Terjung / R. Pepperkok
5. Euro-BioImaging update J. Ellenberg
6. Any other business

1. There was a suggestion by UK members to use the RMS as a default organizer for all future meetings. Since the next four meetings (see 2.) will be outside of the UK and at least two of the next four organizers (EMBL, Weizmann) have their own meeting organization services it was decided that the manner of organization will be up to the local organizer as in the past. It was emphasized that it is an important tradition to rotate ELMi meetings through the different member states and that two UK meetings within three years would remain an exception.

Regarding the use of leftover funds from meetings it was generally agreed that these should be accounted for as soon as the meeting finances are closed to the ELMI secretariat (currently S. Terjung at EMBL) and made available to the next local organizer as start up finances for advance expenses. EMBL as a supranational institution will set up an account for this purpose.

2. The locations of the next four meetings were decided as follows:

2010: 19.-23. May EMBL Heidelberg, Germany (Rainer Pepperkok)

Suggestions for speaker or session topics are welcome ( [almf@embl.de](mailto:almf@embl.de) )

2011: Alexandroupolis, Greece (Margy Koffa, Andreas Girod)

2012: KU Leuven, Belgium (Sebastian Munck)

2013: Weizmann Institute, Rehovot, Israel (Benny Geiger)

3. There was a general feeling that the ELMI webpage could be used more actively as a discussion forum to exchange ideas, methods, macros, protocols etc. S. Terjung will look into existing solutions for online discussion forums to be added to the ELMI webpage, e.g. LinkedIn or the Imaging & Microscopy Blog.

Martin Friedrich asked to clarify if they remain the official media partner of ELMI, which was definitely approved by the steering committee members.

4. Tommy Nilsson who is in the process of taking up a new position in Canada would like to step down as the ELMI coordinator, which should be an eminent scientist based in an ELMI member institution. Rainer Pepperkok, the current scientific coordinator of ELMI offered via S. Terjung to take on this responsibility. This was confirmed by unanimous agreement from the steering committee.

5. Jan Ellenberg gave an update on the ESFRI project Euro-BioImaging that is currently preparing the application for funding in FP7. Euro-BioImaging will hold its first open stakeholder meeting on September 21/22 at EMBL Heidelberg and all ELMI members will receive invitations to this meeting. Any comments or suggestions for Euro-BioImaging can be sent to the Project Manager Antje Keppler ([keppler@embl.de](mailto:keppler@embl.de)).

6. There was a discussion whether the size of the ELMI annual meeting should be limited to 200 participants to maintain the very successful community spirit and possibility for intense discussions especially between industrial and academic participants. The Steering community was of the opinion that the meeting should maintain its current style with a single session of research lectures and a strong emphasis on technical workshops that run repeatedly. However it was not felt that the ELMI community was in danger of growing rapidly beyond a manageable size and it was pointed out that ELMI should maintain its inclusive and open character to foster free exchange and communication between European Imaging Facilities.