



ILASS-EUROPE

Institute for Liquid Atomization and Spray
Systems - Europe

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Minutes of the 27th Annual General Assembly (AGA) of ILASS-Europe held on September 6th in Estoril, Portugal

The Assembly starts at 18:15 in the Atlantico Room at the Hotel Palacio Estoril with the attendance of 28 members.

Item 1 Opening and Approval of the Agenda.

Our Chairman, Iskender Gökalp opens the meeting thanking all the attendees for their presence. The contents of the agenda are approved.

Item 2 Approval of the minutes of the last AGA in Brno.

The minutes of the last AGA had already been sent to all the members by e-mail. Nobody formulates any objection and the minutes are accepted unanimously.

Item 3 Message from the Chairman.

Iskender Gökalp excuses the absence of our Vice-Chairman, Oskar Haidn who has been unable to attend the Conference due to his recent transfer to TU Munich. He thanks the Conference Organizing Committee for the excellent work and congratulates them on the high attendance.

Item 4 Election of Officers and Committee Members.

The Committee Members whose term expires this year are: Udo Fritsching, Eva Gutheil and Graham Pitcher. The three of them have already served for two terms, and according to the decision approved in our 2005 Assembly in Orleans, this is the maximum number of years of permanence in the Committee. This limitation was first applied last year and affected Günter Brenn, Christophe Dumouchel and Leif Rackwitz. The Committee proposes the candidacies of Peter Walzel, Jan Jedelsky and Lucio Araneo to the approval of the General Assembly. The proposal is accepted. The Assembly is informed that Lucio Araneo has also been asked about his willingness to assume in 2013 the position of Treasurer, in substitution of Raffaele Ragucci, whose term was exceptionally extended to resolve the details involved in his replacement. Having a new Treasurer also from Italy simplifies the process, as at present both the Association and the bank account are domiciled in this Country.

The Assembly is informed of the Committee decision to extend the two term limitation to the Web pages and Newsletter Editors.

Item 5 Treasurer's Report.

The report from our Treasurer, Raffaele Ragucci is presented by the Chairman, Iskender Gökalp. Differently from the provisional balance presented at the previous AGM in Brno that estimated a final amount of €20,300, the year 2010 has been closed with total assets of about €16,100 with a nominal loss of about €4,200 over the year. This is partly due to the postponement both of the cashing of the Brno Organizers payment of €6,400 (due to some technical problem solved at the beginning of 2011) and of some expenses to 2011. In addition, the payments for the PETA were of only €2,100 instead of €2,400. Taking into account these modifications, the cash flows are in line with the forecasted ones.

In the year 2011 the major expenses will be those connected to the payment of 7 Paul Esenklam Travel Award Bursaries for participants to the Estoril meeting, that will be about €3,500. The increased amount is justified by the higher number of recipients we had this time (in correspondence with a remarkable increase of the number of applicants - 22). To this outcome has to be added an amount of about €2,200.00 for auditing, taxes, bank expenses and web domain annual registration. If the contribution from the Estoril organizers is in line with the expected one, the final assets should be in the order of 20,000 euros confirming the economic stability of the Association in the past few years.

On the ground of the actual financial situation and taking into account that the contribution from the ICLASS Heidelberg organizers in 2012 will be raised to €50 per participant, the Association is surely in the position to provide the funds required for the Arthur Lefebvre award (€1,500) and to assign an amount of about €4,000 for the PETA relative to the Heidelberg meeting.

The budget is approved by the Assembly.

Items 6 Situation of the Web pages and Newsletter.

As explained by the Newsletter Editor, Ana Moita, during this year the Newsletter has been accessible from the ILASS-Europe 2011 Conference Web pages. As these pages will be eventually closed, the Assembly is notified that the Newsletter will be linked to the ILASS-Europe pages, although it will also be e-mailed to the ILASS distribution list, because this is a more direct way to reach all the members.

Item 7 Situation of Atomization and Sprays.

Marco Marengo, European Editor of Atomization and Sprays briefly summarizes how the situation of the journal has improved in the last year. The impact factor has increased to 0.928. The average reviewing time is now of 2.4 months and this gives an estimate for the average final online publication of 8 months. The Editor insists on the need of increasing the number of submissions to avoid a shortage of papers now that the publication time has been so significantly accelerated. It is also suggested to persuade ILASS members to consider, whenever possible, including citations to Atomization and Sprays papers in their manuscripts to help increasing the impact factor.

Last year, the percentage of rejected papers has been 20% from the Americas Editor, 30% from the Europe Editor and 80% from the Asia Editor. At present, Marco Marengo counts with a list of 248 reviewers. A form will be passed to all ILASS-Europe members asking about their availability to act as reviewers.

Item 8 Report from the ICLASS 2012 Conference Chairman

Eva Gutheil, Chairman of the ICLASS 2012 Conference, shows a brief presentation of the event. The Conference will take place in the New University, in the Old Town of Heidelberg. Most details about the venue have already been completed.

Item 9 Situation of the Eisenklam Travel Fund

Contrary to the case of the ILASS-Europe 2010 Meeting when only four applications were submitted, this year the number of applications for the PETA support was 22. The selection Committee presided by Bala Balachandran approved 7 awards (Florian Mathieu, Stephanie Fest-Santini, Eva Maria Littringer, Ansgar Heilig, Simona Tonini, Ahmed Elsaid Elwardany and Liran Fanny Haim) which included funding to cover for travel expenses plus the waiver of the registration fees, which at request of the selection committee was paid by the Conference Organizers as was done in Brno. The Committee considers preferable to separate as much as possible the costs that should be assumed by ILASS from those that are to be assumed by the Organizers. In accordance, ILASS will pay the registration to the Organizers (which can be effectively made by deducting this amount from the total that the Organizers have to pay ILASS after the Conference), and in this way, for organization purposes the Eisenklam students are to be treated exactly equal to the rest of the participants (which, also implies that they will contribute in 50 € to the total that has to be returned to ILASS).

As it is considered that these points should be clearly stated to avoid any possible misunderstanding, Joachim Domnick, elected new President of the PETA Selection Committee for next year, will prepare a document that will be posted in the Web pages, and that will be given to all future Conference Organizers. The Committee has decided to limit the total amount to be distributed each year, in principle, to 4000 €

Item 10 Miscellaneous

In the 24th AGA in 2008 in Como, it was tentatively approved that the 2013 ILASS-Europe Conference would take place in Brighton. However, Prof. Morgan Heikal who presented the proposal is going to be out of the UK for the next year, so he has requested to postpone the celebration of the Conference there at least for one year. Several new candidacies have been presented, and the Committee proposes to select the following venues: Greece in 2013, organized by Manolis Gavaises, Bremen in 2014 organized by Udo Frischting, in coincidence with the final reunion of a German program on sprays and Brighton in 2015. The General Assembly endorses the Committee decision. Some further candidacies are kept in the reserve for future conferences, among them, Chalmers University in Sweden, and IFPEN in France.

Finally, the Chairman thanks the audience again for their attendance and closes the meeting at 19:00.

Zaragoza, September 2011

Dr. Antonio Lozano