



MINUTES

Meeting of the ESBES General Assembly

Monday 6 September 2010, 12.35 - 13.30 hrs

Palazzo della Cultura e dei Congressi, P.zza della Costituzione 4/a

40128 Bologna

1. Opening of the meeting and introduction

Alois Jungbauer opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He continued by introducing the ex-officio members of the ESBES Board, the 4 elected Board members (both from industry and academia) and the co-opted Board member.

2. ESBES matters

Alois Jungbauer reported that the situation of EFB is still problematic. Although the EFB has successfully cut down costs, it is likely that it will have a negative cash flow in the coming months. The ECB 2009 in Barcelona made a financial loss. Furthermore, it was again not possible for ESBES to make a strong contribution to the scientific program of ECB.

In the Board meeting of 5 September the ESBES Board decided to initiate the process of stepping out of EFB and to look for an alternative “umbrella” organisation for ESBES (for instance the European Federation of Chemical Engineering – EFCE). The Board will write a letter to the EFB President explaining ESBES’ motivations to plan its own future. The deadline for a final decision about the future of ESBES is March 2011.

Alois Jungbauer then presented the latest figures regarding the ESBES money on the EFB bank account.

The Board decided that there will be a printed version of the Special Issue of the Biotechnology Journal with the proceedings of the Bologna conference. This issue is scheduled for May 2011. The costs will be covered by the ESBES funds at EFB.

3. Working Group activities

3.1. Downstream Processing

Guilherme Ferreira reported that the WG plans to organise 2 events in 2011:

- the Affinity Congress 2011 in Faro from 19 - 23 June.
- Separations for Biotechnology 2011 in Manchester from 27 April - 29 April (organised by Owen Thomas).

3.2. Modelling, Monitoring, Measurement & Control

Carl Fredrik Mandenius reported that M3C working group is planning the following activities in the forthcoming period:

- An M3C position paper on PAT and biopharmaceuticals to be published in a peer reviewed journal
- an advanced course on M3C for PhD students and industrial bioengineers. The course is an off-spring of the M3C expert meeting in London 2009.
- A new M3C expert meeting on microbioreactors (chaired by Dr. Krist Gearnaey at DTU).
- An expert meeting on M3C and biocatalyst (Chaired by Prof John Woodley).
- Newsletters to M3C members 3-4 times per year.

3.3. Bioreactor Performance

Alois Jungbauer reported that the WG organises the Bioprocess Engineering Course, which will take place from 19–25 September 2010 in Brac.

3.4. Biotransformations

John Woodley reported on the latest status of the WG:

- there is now a list of around 50 active members working on aspects of biotransformation related to biochemical engineering science
- it is proposed to have a name change from 'biotransformation' to 'biocatalysis'
- a joint expert meeting with M3C is planned to establish the modelling and control needs in biocatalysis.
- a position paper is planned on the needs of biochemical engineering for biocatalysis (to be published in Biotechnology Journal).

3.5. Bioenergy Systems

Luuk van der Wielen reported that most activities of the WG took place outside the ESBES community (e.g. the Global Biorenewables Research Society). After the meeting in Minneapolis he will inform the Board about the future interaction between the WG and ESBES.

4. Congresses

Alois Jungbauer reported on the following congresses

- ESBES - ISPPP - Biothermodynamics, 6-8 September 2010, Bologna, Italy
- 8th ECCE + 1st ECAB, 25-29 September 2011, Berlin, Germany (the Call for Papers was distributed to the ESBES conference participants in Bologna).
- Affinity 2011, 19-23 June 2011, Faro, Portugal
- 9th ESBES Symposium in 2012: this event will be jointly organised with ACS-BIOT. The venue of the conference is not yet decided. At the moment Spain (Madrid or Murcia) and the Netherlands (Den Haag or Amsterdam) are being discussed.
- ECB 2012, Istanbul, Turkey, September 2012: again ESBES topics are not well represented in the Scientific Program. If there is no change in this situation, ESBES will decide not to contribute at all.

5. Next General Assembly

The next General Assembly will take place in September 2011 in Berlin during the 1st ECAB.

6. Any other business

Participants reported that with regard to the future „umbrella“ for ESBES the focus should be on the bio-engineering side and not so much on the chemical engineering side.

7. Closing of the meeting

Alois Jungbauer thanked the participants and closed the meeting.