



Minutes of the 24th General Assembly of the SSB+RM

Adolphe Merkle Institute, Fribourg, Thursday, June 9th, 2018, 11:05-11:50

Present: 52 participants according to the 10 lists of participants (enclosed)

The SSB+RM president, D. Eglin, welcomes the SSB+RM members and opens the general assembly. He thanks the sponsors and active supporters of the annual meeting and the society. A special thank goes to the guest institute the Adolphe Merkle Institute, Fribourg and especially Prof. Dr. Barbara Rothen-Rutishauser for the local organization.

1. Agenda

- 1-Approval of the agenda of the 24rd GA
- 2-Minutes of the 23rd General Assembly, discussion and approval (2017)
- 3-Report of the President
- 4-Report of the Treasurer
- 5-Report of the Auditors
- 6-Election of a new Auditor
- 7-Report of the Young Scientists
- 8-European Society for Biomaterials re-affiliation (vote)
- 9-Election of the Executive Committee (one-year term)
- 10-Election of the President (one-year term)
- 11-2018 Annual Meeting
- 12-Varia

2. Minutes of the 23rd General Assembly in St. Gallen, 2017

The minutes are unanimously approved. G. Richards, honorary member of the society, points out that the minutes of the GA should be distributed before the GA. He also suggests that all EC members should be seated in the front during the GA as it was the tradition in previous years.

3. Report of the President.

The president summarizes the activities from 2017 and 2018:

The society had a very successful 23rd annual meeting in June 2017 (EMPA St. Gallen) with the specific topic: "Advanced Antimicrobial Biomaterials". The Meeting format was a 1.5 days meeting, with a dedicated young scientist session and a conference dinner.

Best Podium and Poster presentation awards were given to Fabian Passini, ETH Zürich, for his presentation on "Calcium Signaling in Tendons: An Early Response to Mechanical Loading" and to Willemijn Boot, ARI Davos, for her presentation "FISH-based detection of bacteria in orthopedic implant-related infections".

Claudia Loebel, who obtained her PhD from ETHZ, was the recipient of the SSB+RM research award given to an outstanding PhD thesis in the field of Biomaterials and Regenerative Medicine. The Award was given for her thesis work entitled: "Engineering hyaluronan-tyramine hydrogels to modulate mesenchymal stem cell behavior".

Four Executive Committee (EC) meetings took place in 2017/18.

Several newsletters and information emails were prepared and distributed to the SSB+RM members.

3 Travel Awards were given in 2017:

Bastien Le Gars Santoni (University of Berne)	Bioceramics
Yazgan Gökçe (EMPA)	European Society for Biomaterials
Fabian Passini (ETHZ)	Orthopaedic Research Society

The president reports that the SSB+RM was represented at the European TERMIS conference in Davos through the organization of a "SSB+RM Symposium on Translational Cell-Based Therapies" with 3 invited keynote speakers: Prof. E. Reichmann, University of Zürich, CH, Dr. Marcus Mummer, University of Basel, CH, Dr. Paris Jafari, CHUV, CH. The symposium was chaired by Prof. Marcy Zenobi-Wong.

The SSB+RM and the Swiss Society of Biomechanical Engineering (SSBE) co-organised a breakout session at the Swiss Medtech Day in Bern the 13th of June 2017. The session was entitled "Current Research Trends in Medical Technology and Biomaterials.". Prof. Michael de Wild, Prof. Wendelin Stark and Prof. Marcy Zenobi-Wong have been invited to give a talk.

The President informs that meeting abstracts will be published in eCells and Materials (eCM) one week after the conference. eCM a non-profit, open access journal is the official journal of the SSB+RM society. The president thanks again all sponsors and active supporters who allow EC members to work for the society. A special thank goes to the RMS, the awards sponsor of this year.

M. Bohner, honorary member of the society, suggests to use the term cooperate members instead of sponsors.

The president reports that the website works well on smart phones now. He also encourages to join the SSB+RM LinkedIn group. He emphasizes that according to the new EU regulation the SSB+RM will delete all personal data upon request.

4. Report of the treasurer

The treasurer presents the accounting per 31.12.2016. The balance at the end of 2016 50'179.20 CHF compared to the budget for 2016 of 47'186.11 CHF. The balance was significantly better than expected. This was due to a higher income in St. Gallen, sponsoring which was not transiently booked and less expenditures due to only one instead of two granted MD / PhD awards. In the budget of 2018 a reduced income is expected due to reduced amount of sponsoring and less meeting participants. On the other hand expenditures are also expected to be reduced since no conference session will be sponsored. However, the overall 5 year's balance is expected to be stable at 50'000 CHF.

5. Report of the auditors.

The auditors Dr. A. Bruinink and Dr. N. Dobelin attest the accounting to be well organized, in good order and calculations to be correct. Therefore the auditors propose the acceptance of the 2017 accounting.

The SSB+RM members unanimously accept the report of the treasurer.

6. Election of a new Auditor

Arie Bruinink will step back as auditor. The president thanks him for his work for the SSB+RM. Dr. Jens M ller, member of the society, his proposed as new auditor. The SSB+RM members unanimously vote for the appointment of Dr. Jens M ller as auditor of the SSB+RM.

7. Actions for Young Scientists of the Society.

The young scientists team: Queralt Vallmaj , Emma Cavalli and Letizia Vainieri present their 2017 activities. The aim of the SSB+RM Young Scientists foster networking and collaborations within Switzerland as well as providing information regarding education and career opportunities. Young Scientists organised following events:

- 2nd Young Scientist Symposium by the SSB+RM Young Scientists on 21st of November at the University Hospital of Zurich
- 4th Lab Networking Event on April 20th at the AO Foundation in Davos
- A pre-conference workshop on the 17th of May 2017 with the title: "How to target and get the perfect job for you: Career workshop on job interviews, CV preparation, networking and much more" presented by Daniela Gunz from the University of Zurich.

G. Richards, honorary member of the society, congratulates the YS for their attractive program and for their great success in motivating PhD students from all Swiss Universities to actively participate in their workshops and meetings.

8. European Society for Biomaterials re-affiliation (vote)

The SSB+RM has not been affiliated with the ESB in recent years. The EC of the SSB+RM, and the president and the secretary of the European Society for Biomaterials (ESB) have initiated discussions regarding the potential re-affiliation of the SSB+RM as affiliated society of the ESB. Due to new policies and governance of the ESB, the EC of the SSB+RM thinks that both governance transparency and involvement of affiliated national societies to the ESB are now guaranteed. Therefore the EC recommends the members of the SSB+RM to agree on the re-affiliation. The present members of the SSB+RM unanimously vote for the re-affiliation of the SSB+RM as national affiliated society to the ESB.

9. Election of the executive committee (EC)

The president communicates the resignation of Dr. Pierre-Etienne Bourban (EC member since 2012). He thanks him for the organization of a very successful annual meeting in Lausanne (2015) and for his great and balanced inputs in the EC and awards him the SSB+RM honorary membership.

To replace Pierre-Etienne Bourban, the EC suggest to elect one of the young scientist who has been involved in the very successful organization of many lab events and Young Scientist symposia. Queralt Vallmajo-Martin who is currently a PhD student at the University of Zurich and EPFL is interested in joining the EC. She is committed to join the EC for at least a one year's term.

The president presents the members of the new executive committee of the SSB+RM EC 2017-2018 for election:

David Egin
Marcy Zenobi-Wong
Martin Ehrbar
Laetitia Galea
Michael de Wild
Arnaud Scherberich
Markus Rottmar
Mario Morgenstern
Queralt Vallmajo-Martin

Marc Petitmermet is the webmaster of the society.

The SSB+RM members present unanimously vote for the proposed EC.

10. Election of the president

David Eglin as current president stands for another election.

The SSB+RM members present unanimously vote for David Eglin.

Consequently the new EC consists of:

David Eglin (President)
Marcy Zenobi-Wong (Vice-President)
Martin Ehrbar (Secretary)
Laetitia Galea (Treasurer)
Janine Conde (Industry issues)
Mario Morgenstern (clinical issues)
Markus Rottmar (Sponsoring)
Michael de Wild
Arnaud Scherberich (Homepage)
Queralt Vallmajo-Martin (Young Scientist Representative)

Marc Petitmermet (Webmaster)

11. Annual Meeting 2018

Michael de Wild announces that the next annual meeting will take place in Muttenz at the Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz (FHNW), tentatively proposed dates are the 22nd and 23rd of May 2019 with a special session on Biodegradable Materials.

Michael de Wild will be local organizer of the 2019 SSB+RM annual meeting.

Marc Bohner, honorary members of the society, suggests to inform the German and French Societies of Biomaterials about the planned meeting. The organizers should evaluate the possibility to organize combined session with these societies.

12. Varia

There are no further announcements and comments under varia.

At 11:50 AM, the president thanks again the sponsors of the annual meeting and society and closes the general assembly by thanking the attendees for their participation and contributions.

Martin Ehrbar, June 9th, 2018 (draft to be approved during 2019 general assembly)
SSB+RM secretary