

Report of the Secretary General to ECM 123 Hotel Hyundai, Gyeongju, Korea

1. General

This report covers the period from the fifth meeting of the triennium, ECM 122, in April 2016 to now (August 2016). First I would like to once again thank the Portuguese Vacuum Society (SOPORVAC) for organizing an excellent ECM 122 in beautiful Braga. In special I would like to thank our incoming President, Lars Montelius, for giving us the opportunity to visit the impressively equipped International Iberian Nanotechnology Laboratory (INL). Also I would like to thank Ana Silva once again for her flawless work in organizing ECM 122. Let me also thank our host for this meeting, ECM 123, the Korean Vacuum Society (KVS) for the excellent organization here in Gyeongju and for organizing an exciting IVC 20 which will happen right after this meeting.

2. Minutes and Communications

The Minutes of ECM 122 were posted on the web site by the Recording Secretary. As so often, some reports are missing and I would urge all Committee Secretaries to ensure that the Recording Secretary receives these as soon as possible for posting.

At ECM 122 Anouk Galtayries was unanimously voted as Candidate for President Elect to be proposed to the 19th General Meeting of the Union, GM 19, which will happen on Wednesday next week during IVC 20. Also bids were presented for IVC 22 in 2022, from which one will be finally selected here in Gyeongju.

Also the future delegates of the member societies to the Executive Council as well as the new division members are known by now. Division elections were carried out and the new Division officers were determined. A full proposal for the new Division Officers and Members of the Executive Council can therefore be submitted to the 19th General Meeting of the Union in Busan.

3. Web Matters

I use our web-site to post relevant up-to-date information. So please use the members section of the website to find information on e. g. the names and contact e-mails of all persons involved in the Union, Officers, Councillors and Alternates. Division Officers, Division Members and Committee Members can also be found there. All relevant data will be updated at the beginning of the new Triennium. Many other sections of the web page still require updating, especially those of the divisions. Members who have forgotten how to log on to the Members' pages should contact me for the id and password. As always, I would like to thank the team at the University of Illinois, where the web page is hosted, Ivan Petrov and especially John Koudelka for always providing efficient help.

4. New Memberships

After ECM 121, the following update on the negotiations concerning the membership of vacuum societies or of other national scientific societies to the Union can be given:

4.1 Bulgaria

At ECM 120 the status of provisional membership was granted to the "Bulgarian Union of Physicists" by the Executive Council. All necessary documents have been received and are posted on the web. Bulgaria is willing to contribute one share if membership is granted at the General Meeting at IVC 20. The status of provisional membership allows attending all open meetings and sessions, including the ECM as an observer, i. e. with all rights of a member except for the right to vote.

4.2 Philippines

The Vacuum Society of the Philippines has supplied all relevant documents required for the application for membership to the Union. These documents were distributed to officers and members of the ECM in June 2016 and no objections to their validity were received. Therefore we can vote for provisional membership at ECM 123 and for full membership at GM 19. The Philippines are willing to contribute one annual share if membership is granted.

4.3 Turkey

Turkey is still in progress of establishing the legal recognition of the "Surface Science Society of Turkey (SSSTu)", which will act as the member society of the Union, by the Turkish government. In how far recent developments in the country influence this process is unknown.

4.4 Romania

According to Joe Greene Romania was to launch the "Romanian Society for Vacuum Science and Technology" in the first half of 2015 and is interested in joining the Union. No new developments have been reported so far.

To conclude this point I would like to express my thanks to all persons, and especially to the members of the Emerging Societies Committee, for their continuous efforts in soliciting new members.

5. Interactions with other Bodies

5.1 International Bodies

Most material now comes from UNESCO, ICSU and ISO by email, although there is, however, some hardcopy material, especially from UNESCO. Concerning the liaison of the Union with ISO, there is action taken by VSTD to revive this link with TC 112 where the Vacuum Science and Technology Division is involved.

5.2 Commercial Bodies

Many convention centres, travel agents, etc., contact me with offers to host conferences and meetings. If your Society is looking for a venue, contact me and I will check to see if I have any information on anything in your vicinity that might be of interest.

6. Future Executive Council Meetings

During this ECM 123, bids for ECM 126, which is due in late 2017 and which is the second meeting of the next triennium will be discussed. Two bids from Bulgaria and the UK were received and were posted on the web-site. Bids for ECM 127 will be solicited at ECM 125.

6. Finally

As this is the last ECM in this Triennium, I would like to thank all officers and representatives of the Union cumulatively once again. Whenever I contacted any person from this group I always received a very fast response and efficient help regarding all my questions and demands. Of course this is mutual, so whenever I can provide help to anyone it will be given, if I am able to provide it. I also would like to thank the representatives of the member societies, especially their Presidents, for timely supplying the data of the new IUVSTA representatives. This will make it possible to present the proposal for the new Executive Council and the new Divisional Officers at GM 19.

Christoph Eisenmenger-Sittner
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