

EAFP council meeting Tampere, September 1st, 2013

Attendees: Stephen Feist (President), Patrick Smith (Vice president), José Garcia (Meetings secretary), Sven Bergmann (Treasurer), Lone Madsen (General secretary), Klaus Knopf (Treasurer as from September 5th 2013), Ivona Mladineo (Meetings secretary as from September 5th 2013). Roy Palmer (Publications officer) was not able to attend the meeting.

AGENDA

1) Status of action points from minutes of Las Palmas council meeting April 2013

All actions were completed, apart from the action regarding the requested EAFP link with the DAA9 conference in November 2014. This will be followed up after the EAFP conference.

2) President

a) Report

b) Facebook support

Ideas from the council: pdf's of winning posters from this conference as well as a report on the students' workshop can be placed on the facebook site.

c) Development of the EAFP for the aquatic animal health community

Industry involvement was discussed and the possibility of the production of an EAFP Poster for presenting to industry was raised. The EAFP seeks to act as a vehicle to 'bridge the gap' between research and industry within the field of fish and shellfish diseases.

Action: The vice president and the new meetings secretary to take on production of the poster and to consider further actions to promote industry interest in the EAFP and joint goals.

d) EAFP website and webmaster

The work done as EAFP webmaster by David Bruno is highly appreciated by the council. As from now the new webmaster will be Bartolomeo Gorgoglione. He will be asked to give his input regarding an update of the website to the council. **Action:** The president to make sure that the EAFP website is updated in a timely fashion and in accordance with the direction required by the Council and EAFP members.

e) EAFP subsistence rate

The subsistence rate has for at least 6 years been 40 Euro a day. The council agreed on a rise to 50 Euro (25 Euro for half a day) to cover meals and incidental costs whilst on EAFP business.

f) Council members travel on EAFP business

It was agreed that it is the responsibility of each council member for travel arrangements and to make sure that they have comprehensive insurance.

The EAFP cannot provide such cover.

3) Vice president

a) Report

b) Electronic fee payment progress.

This has to be taken forward, so the members will be able to use PayPal in connection with payment of the 2014 membership fee payment.

Action: the vice president and the treasurer to take this forward.

c) Sustaining members update

Vice president has approached several potential new sustaining members.

d) Result of the vice-president attending the board meeting of the EATIP

(European Association of Technology and Innovation Platform) and the possibility of collaborative links and joint activities between FEAP and EAFP.

The meeting is scheduled for the coming week – the vice president will attend and look into possible collaborative links and joint activities.

4) General secretary

a) Report

The membership has been at the same level for the last 4 years – around 880 members, among them 722 regular members, 96 student members, 7 honorary members, 17 sustaining members, 31 library members.

The student grants for attending the EAFP conference were discussed. It was decided to remove the criterion that students have to be members for at least one year, before they can apply for a grant as from the 2015 conference.

The possibility of an EAFP small grants scheme (e.g. for travelling) was discussed and an amount of 5 x 300 Euro was suggested. Scope and criteria for application are to be developed before the next Council meeting.

The members list has been made available via the EAFP website. There is restricted access, so an access code has been distributed to the branch

officers, and they have been asked to forward the code to their branch members.

Action: The meetings secretary to change the criteria for the student awards for the 2015 EAFP conference.

b) Council elections 2013

Calls for council elections were published via the website as well as the EAFP bulletin. A voting for president was arranged on Election buddy on the internet – a total of 138 members (of 842) voted. 57 % voted for José Garcia whereas 42 % voted for Sven Bergmann.

Klaus Knopf (treasurer) and Ivona Mladineo (meetings secretary) were elected unopposed.

c) New honorary members

A new honorary member (Inger Dalsgaard) will be revealed at the EAFP conference dinner.

5) Treasurer

a) Report

Current account – 173,000 Euro in surplus. The level on interest on the account is very low (0.3 % recently), and the possibilities of changing this were discussed.

b) Investigations and review of the EAFP account 2011, 2012 and till end August 2013

The account was reviewed by Inger Dalsgaard and Klaus Knopf (for 2012) – their work is highly appreciated. The hand-over of the account from the old to the new treasurer will take place September 1st 2013. Revision/audit of the account in the future will be discussed and a decision taken at the next council meeting.

6) Meetings secretary

a) Report

The online submission system for abstracts for the EAFP conference has been functioning well, but there has been many late withdrawals and changes sent by the authors. The level of accepted abstracts was 426 (92.61 % of the originally submitted), among them 142 oral and 284 poster abstracts. In total there were 4 keynotes, 20 oral sessions, 6 workshops at this conference.

b) Support for keynote and invited speakers

Free registration for keynote speakers

The possibility of free registration as well as travel and accommodation expenses for the conference keynote was raised as a future possibility.

Further consideration was felt necessary and a decision will be made prior to the next EAFP conference in 2015.

- c) Participation of colleagues from African countries – possibilities of sponsorship?

Action: The president to approach the FAO, if there are possibilities of funding for colleagues from certain countries to attend the EAFP conference

- d) 2013 conference updates. Items for the GA.

See under agenda points 6 a and 8 a.

- e) 2015 conference update

During this conference a meeting between the president, meetings secretary and representatives from the Gran Canaria local organizing committee will take place.

- 7) Publications officer

- a) Report

The publications officer was not able to attend the council meeting and had sent a presentation. The presentation can be found on the EAFP website together with the minutes. Manuscript turn-over rates e.g. were discussed.

- 8) Any other business

- a) Suggestion for the GA regarding changing the EAFP bulletin into a web-based open-access journal (se email forwarded from Renate Johansen, Norway).

This will be taken forward by the publications officer at the general assembly.

An EAFP Twitter account was also suggested as a popular mechanism to disseminate EAFP news and information on activities.

- 9) Next council meeting – venue and dates

This will take place in April 2014. Dates and venue will be set before October 1st 2013.