Short Protocol of the 12th GA of the SSB

12th General Assembly of the Swiss Society for Biomaterials Wednesday, May 10, 2006, at 12.25 (Park Theater, Grenchen)

Duration: 50min

Present: J. Arnoldi, I. Boecken, A. Boger, M. Bohner, Y. Bruderer, A.-K. Born, T. Brunner, O. Casse, F. Cengelli, J.-F. Clémence, Y. Dirix, N. Doebelin, L. Eschbach, B. Gander, B. Gasser, S. Gilliéron, H. Gruner, M. Hug, T. Imwinkelried, O. Jordan, S. König, J. Lemaître, R. Lerf, C. Li, V. Luginbühl, H. Lüthy, P. Mainil, R. Mathys, J. Mayer, J-M Meyer, M. Möller, L. Pfister, E. Pletscher, S. Ponsart, L. Reclaru, G. Richards, W. Rieger, G. Rizzoli, K. Ruffieux, A. Salito, B. San Miguel, F. Schlottig, C. Sinescu, A. Taubert, P-H. Valloton, P. Van Landuyt, D. Vonwil, C. Wandrey, F. Weber, M. Zinn

Executive committee members

M. Bohner (MB, secretary; wrote the present protocol)

H. Gruner

J. Lemaître (JL, president)

H. Lüthy

G. Richards (GR, vice-president)

K. Ruffieux

A. Salito (AS)

P-H. Valloton

C. Wandrey

The SSB President, J. Lemaître (JL), welcomes the members and opens the meeting.

1. Agenda: approval

2. Protocol of the 11th general assembly, Mägenwil: approval

3. Report of the president

JL explained that the SSB EC would like to apply for the organization of ESB 2009/10 or 11. This application would be supported by PX Tech and the "Fondation Suisse pour la Recherche en Microtechnique". The deadline for such an application is August 2006.

The proposal to apply for the organization of ESB 2009/10 or 11 was voted and accepted with a large majority. The EC with the help of PX Tech and FSRM will prepare an application.

4. Report of the treasurer

Accounting 2005 – AS gave the EC member the account situation at the end of 2005. The SSB has about 36 kCHF on the account (+ 1kCHF compared to end of 2004).

Accounting 2006 – AS gave the EC member the latest account situation (May 5, 2006). The SSB has already received 10kCHF in 2006 (Annual fee individuals + lab: 2.3 + 2 = 4.3kCHF; Sponsoring: 3.8kCHF; GA registration fees: 1.9kCHF). Spendings are: SSB 2005: 4kCHF; SSB EC: 0.8kCHF. Presently, the fortune of SSB is 41.5 kCHF.

5. Report of the auditors

B. Gasser and A. Gisep are the two SSB auditors. A. Gisep was not present, but sent his report in advance. B. Gasser said the the accounts were well kept and that the numbers were correct.

6. Budget 2006

AS presented the budget 2006. Main revenues: Annual fee ind. + lab: 3.0 + 1.5 kCHF = 4.5kCHF; Sponsoring: 4.5kCHF, Registration fees SSB 2006: 5.0kCHF. Main spendings: Information Technology: 2.5kCHF; SSB 2006: 4.5 kCHF; Student sponsorship: 7kCHF; Administration: 1kCHF. Expected balance for 2006: +1075 CHF.

Pierre Mainil proposed to make a "reserve" every year, and to reduce the costs of the web master. Jean-Marc Meyer mentioned that the goal of the SSB is not to make a profit, but to spend the money to support young biomaterials scientists, mostly students.

Pierre Mainil was surprised by the small amount of sponsoring money. MB replied that it is difficult to ask for more considering the small number of medical doctors among SSB members.

The budget 2006 was accepted by the assembly

7. Fees and sponsoring

The number of members is stable (about 170 with lab members). The number of sponsors was increased (from 16 to 19)

A. Salito thanked all sponsors, i.e.

- AO Foundation Davos, CH
- Biotronik, Bülach, CH
- Degradable Solutions AG, Schlieren, CH
- Geistlich Biomaterials, Wohlusen, CH
- Krahn Chemie GmbH Ceramics, Hamburg, D
- Mathys AG Bettlach, Bettlach, CH
- Medicoat AG, Mägenwill, CH
- Mediluc Sagl, Bodio, CH
- Metoxit AG, Thayngen, CH
- Peyer AG, Waltenschwil, CH
- Plus Orthopedics AG, Rotkreuz, CH
- Institut Straumann AG, Waldenburg, CH
- Robert Mathys Stiftung, Bettlach, CH
- Sulzer Metco AG, Wohlen, CH
- Surface Solution GmbH, Zurich, CH
- Symbios Orthopédie SA, Yverdon, CH
- Synthes Inc, Solothurn, CH
- Thommen Medical, Waldenburg, CH

8. Elections

The EC members including the new EC member C. Wandrey were elected by the assembly.

J. Lemaître was re-elected president

A. Gisep and B. Gasser were re-elected as auditor.

9. Official journal

GR mentioned that the ECM has over 4000 registered readers, that the journal has a tough reviewing policy (75% refusal rate), and that it does not have an impact factor yet because the ECM editors refuse to pay "ISI Thomson" a fee to be indexed.

10. Future meeting

The next SSB meeting will take place in Neuchatel on May 9, 2007 and will be organized by L. Reclaru.

11. Varia

JL mentioned that a discussion had taken place at the EC to determine whether time limits should be set for EC members. The EC was not able to make a decision, so the EC decided to ask the opinion SSB members. A short majority of the assembly refused to discuss the possibility of shortening the time in the EC (9 against 8, with about 30 abstentions). Several proposals were given (e.g. e-voting). Finally, it was decided to postpone a decision to a time when a clear proposal can be made.