



EUROPEAN ORTHOPAEDIC RESEARCH SOCIETY
General Assembly – Munich, 15 Sept. 2017

Minutes of the General Assembly of the EORS

Date: 15 September 2017

Begin: 12:32

Closure: 13:13

Location: Great Lecture Hall, Dept. of Anatomy, LMU, Munich, Germany.

Members of the Executive Committee

President:	Ashley Blom
1 st Vice President:	Denitsa Docheva
2 nd Vice President:	Richie Gill
Secretary General:	Holger Jahr
Treasurer:	Gianluca Vadalá

Ordinary EORS members

Presence of 39 members is registered by signed attendance lists. Attendance lists of the EORS Board and members is photo-documented and archived.

1. Opening

EORS President Ashley Blom opens the general assembly by presenting the agenda of this year: 1) Welcome from the President, 2) Approval of minutes of the previous General Assembly, 3) Report of the President, 4) Report of the Secretary-General Holger Jahr, 5) Report of the Treasurer Gianluca Vadalá, 6) Report of Cash Auditors, 7) Discharge of Executive Committee, 8) Membership, 9) Next EORS meetings, 10) ICORS, 11) Other topics, 12) Closure of the General Assembly.

2. Approval of last GA minutes

The minutes of the last General Assembly, held on September 16, 2016 in Bologna (IT), are presented and accepted without objection or abstention. The President asks the audience if any additional points should be added to the agenda, without response.

3. Report of the President

The president starts reporting that Edward Raymond Valstar, past Vice president, former Secretary and loyal and inspiring EORS member sadly passed away at the young age of just 47 this summer. In memory of his pioneering spirit and mentoring attitude, the ExCom



decided to rename the best overall EORS award into Edward R. Valstar Award. Past President Bernd Grimm briefly looks back on Edward's activities and shares some personal memories of his invaluable contributions to EORS.

Ashley Blom then presents major activities of the EORS since the last General Assembly.

Executive Committee (2016-2018)

The president gives an overview of the current [Board](#) and thanks all EC members individually with dedicated slides for their service in the past year: 1st Vice-President Denitsa Docheva, 2nd Vice-President Richie Gill, Secretary-General Holger Jahr and Treasurer Gianluca Vadala.

Ex-Officio members

His further special thanks go to EORS Past-President Bernd Grimm and our current Ex-Officio members Florelle Gindraux (France; Awards), Chris Arts (Netherlands; Social Media/Digital Services), Jeanette Penny (Denmark; Female Leadership), Christine van der Straeten (UK; Sister Societies) and Geroen Geurts (Swiss; Young Investigator Activities).

National ambassadors

Ashley Blom further appreciates the commitment of EORS' Ex-officio National Ambassadors for their national networking, for promoting EORS and EORS events in individual countries, supporting best pan-european networking benefits, increasing EORS Annual Meetings submission and attendance and their knowledge of national orthopaedic events: Florelle Gindraux (EORS Ambassador of France) and Volkan Öztuna (EORS Ambassador Turkey). He points out that EORS warmly welcomes applications to become a New Ambassador and that interested members should contact Florelle Gindraux (fgindraux@chu-besancon.fr) or write to secretary@eors.info.

25th Anniversary Meeting

Celebrating EORS' 25th Annual Meeting, the president continues with giving a brief overview about the past 24 Annual EORS Meetings. He thanks Denitsa Docheva and her team a lot for organising this special and very successful meeting in Munich. He also shows the special "EORS 25th"-pins that were made for this anniversary meeting to honour loyal EORS members.

EORS Guest Sessions

EORS-endorsed Guest Sessions on prominent international congresses, since the 2016 meeting in Bologna, are summarised: first off, EORS had two special session on the 18th Annual Meeting of EFORT in Vienna 2017: one on "e-health applications" (organized by Holger Jahr) and one on "knee pain" (organized by Ashley Blom). EORS was further active on TERMIS 2017 in Davos, organized by Geoff Richards and Mauro Alini, with contributions from EORS members Denitsa Docheva, Florelle Gindraux, Gianluca Vadalá, Wiltrud Richter and others.

EORS Booth

EORS was further well represented by its Booth, and related promotional societal activities, during EFORT 2016 and 2017 (organized by Bernd Grimm). EORS (Denitsa Docheva, Holger Jahr) also successfully run a Booth on the German Congress of Orthopaedics and Traumatology (DKOU), the biggest German congress in the field, in October 2016 in Berlin, again. This promotional activity helped successfully running EORS 2017 in Munich with an enormous number of German delegates. The president thanks the personnel recruited from different labs from EORS members.

EFORT Basic Research Task Force

EORS (Enrique Gomez-Barrena, Bernd Grimm, Ashley Blom) was, again, further active in the Basic Research Task Force in EFORT by providing reviewers for basic science abstracts, advising & co-developing basic science curriculum, advising & co-developing Basic Research courses and advising & co-developing Basic Research Education content.

24th Annual meeting of EORS 2016, Bologna

The president reviews the 2016 Annual Meeting of the society in Bologna, organized by Nicola Baldini and expresses his gratitude to the local organizers. The rich and varied program provided many opportunities to share, exchange and discuss the latest innovations in orthopaedic research. The Bologna meeting was organized in the famous building of the Istituto Ortopedico Rizzoli. After the core meeting, an EORS Roadmap Conference on Societal Challenges and Novel Solutions in Orthopaedic Research was organized in the beautiful halls of the historical Sala Dello Stabat Mater in the heart of the city, with participation of European politicians. The Roadmap Conference, due to its footprint character in the field, was financially supported by the society. The winners of the 2016 EORS awards are listed on the [EORS website](#).

EORS Journals

Ashley Blom reminds the audience of EORS' two official journals: first, European Cells & Materials (Editor: Geoff Richards) with a current Impact Factor of 3.3 and Bone & Joint Research (Editor: Richie Gill), which recently improved its Impact Factor to 2.6. Other journals with official EORS involvement are: The Bone & Joint Journal (Nico Verdonschot, Richie Gill), European Orthopaedics and Traumatology (Enrique Gómez-Barrena) and the Journal of Orthopaedic Translation (Bernd Grimm, Nicola Baldini, Geoff Richards).

EORS Travel Grants

In light of the 25th anniversary, the president reviews the recent EORS Travel Exchange Grant Winners since 2013, Alexander Aquilina (From Orthopaedic Surgery, Bristol University To AHORSE Research Foundation, Zuyderland Center, Heerlen, NL; 2013); Julia Blackburn Aquilina (From Orthopaedic Surgery, Bristol University To AO Research Institute, Davos, CH) and Gemma di Pompo (From University of Bologna, Italy) – both 2014; Johan van der Stok (From Erasmus University Medical Center, Rotterdam To AO Research Institute, Davos, CH; 2015), and Suat Ulatas Josa Hanzlik (From Istanbul University Cerraphase, Faculty of Medicine To Zuyderland Medical Center, Heerlen, NL; 2016). He further addresses the submission deadline of 30.09. for this year's application and encourages the audience to apply.

ICORS and ICORS Travel Grants

He further reviews EORS' activities within ICORS, EORS' two official workshops during the 2016 ICORS Meeting in Xi'an (China) and the EORS-sponsored ICORS Travel Awards for travelling to Europe. He dedicates a slide to proposed and possible future ICORS initiatives and he strongly encourages the audience to apply for the [2017 ICORS award](#). The Travel Award recipients are then reviewed: Ajay Suryavanshi (2014, From Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay To Dept Orthopaedics (Andrew Carr) Oxford, UK), Josa Hanzlik (2015 From Implant Research Center, Drexel University, Philadelphia To Radboud university, Nijmegen, NL) and Benjamin McCarl (2016 From Flinders University, South Australia To Rizzoli Institute, Bologna, IT). Furthermore, also last year, EORS had posters in the Best of ICORS Section during the ORS Meeting in New Orleans (2017), he says.

FIOR Fellowship

The president next mentions the Fellow of International Orthopaedic Research (FIOR) program by ICORS, initiated by Geoff Richards, which aims to promote the ICORS mission and to increase commitment of individuals to the ICORS mission by recognizing scientists with longstanding efforts to the ICORS mission. ICORS member societies nominate candidates with the condition to attend ICORS triennial meetings. EORS wants to nominate 55 candidates over the next six years. The president informs about the FIOR (Fellow of International Orthopaedic Research) Fellowship program of ICORS and the nomination rules by the societies. Currently nominated ICORS Fellows from EORS are: Nico Verdonschot, Enrique Gomez-Barrena, Nicola Baldini, Klemens Trieb and Bernd Grimm as active Fellows, and Lars Lidgren and Neil Rushton as emeriti. For the 2019 ICORS meeting in Montreal, 5-6 new Fellows will be nominated by our society, he continues.

FORTE Summer Course

The recent FORTE Ortho Summer School was also targeted by EORS through endorsement, cross-promotion and contributions by EORS members Ashley Blom (GB) and Ide Heyligers (NL).

H2020 endorsement

EORS may further endorse your H2020 proposal if you please write to: president@eors.info

4. Report of the Secretary-General

Annual Meeting Standard Operating Procedures

Holger Jahr explains that EORS developed and approved new Annual Meeting SOPs in order to standardize the application procedure around hosting these meetings. This, to reduce costs involved with registration and administration of organizing meetings and to increase the transparency of incomes derived from the meetings.

With respect to the former SOPs, some important changes are: the local organizers can expect getting even more support from EORS Board with respect to e.g. abstract submission, congress registration and promotion of the event. New is further that the EORS membership fee will now be included in the registration fee of future meetings. The Secretary stresses that all EORS members are welcome to apply to host a future meeting

and that the application form and guidelines (SOPs) can be found on the EORS website as well as the submission deadlines. He further says that this is expected to result in more competition and to increase the quality of the annual meetings. Furthermore, this likely ensures a longer-term planning of future annual meetings. EORS aims at securing meeting locations for at least two years in advance. Currently, the 2018 will be held in Galway (Ireland), the 2019 meeting in Maastricht (NL) and the 2020 meeting in Izmir (Turkey). The application deadline, to host the [2021 meeting](#), is June 29, 2018. Application forms are available on the [EORS website](#).

EORS Membership Application System

Holger Jahr addresses the Online Payment option for joining EORS as member and paying fees. This system allows to collect rich member information, which is beneficial to the society in order to identify member's interests and background to adjust congress themes accordingly.

In addition, the system operates at very low costs. Currently, the administration through the EORS office in Vienna is still cost intensive and he thus encourages the audience to use the online option.

EORS Social Media Activities

The Secretary informs the membership about EORS activities on facebook, twitter and linkedIn. Members are updated about congress program and changes through facebook (like in Bologna) and other media are used to share information real-time during EORS congresses. At present, EORS has more than 1,775 Followers on facebook, almost 300 more than last year, which is at least three times the number of members. This underscores how vivid EORS is on social media. EORS uses social media as an informal way to EORS news, photos, videos, tips, links, finds, etc. and to exchange comments and feedback to interact most efficiently with its members. He encourages to have a look at the [EORS website](#), which is editable by the Secretary General and the President and providing updates such as Announcements & Links to Annual Meeting and respective deadlines, EORS sessions, EORS Travel Grant application forms, [Membership details](#), past Meeting Proceedings, EORS Follower scheme & sign-up forms or Links to EORS streams on Facebook & Twitter.

EORS Newsletter

The Secretary further encourages, especially new and young, members to actively contribute to EORS as this still rather small society lives from, and through, its members. To this end, Holger Jahr appeals to the audience to actively contribute news to the society by contributing to the EORS Newsletter, which is regularly distributed among all members by email. The EORS Newsletter is currently send to more than 1750 unique recipients, but also accessible through the [website](#).

Digital Archive

To honour our 25th Anniversary, EORS' recently updated its digital archive of society-related information. This valuable database contains additional information and documents like photos, flyers and program books of EORS meeting. Promotional material dating back to the flyer announcing even the very first EORS congress held in Paris, can now be retrieved through our [website](#).

EORS WhatsApp group

During the Annual Meeting in Bologna, Holger Jahr explains, EORS started its Whatsapp Group to reach more of, especially, the younger membership more directly. Also, this circumvents email spam filters of some organizations. Members can easily subscribe and stay updated by a very simple 2-step process: first, add EORS to your **Whatsapp** contacts (EORS number: **+49 15 224 607 722**), then send a Whatsapp with your name (first & last name).

Telcons and other activities

EORS' ExCom also joins for monthly Telcons to discuss and decide societal issues quicker and more interactively.

As mentioned earlier, in order to reduce costs, EORS actively invests into the transition from using the Official Office in Vienna to exclusively use electronic banking in the future. EORS' Electronic Banking will be explained by the Treasurer, next.

5. The Report of the Treasurer

Balance sheets

EORS Treasurer Gianluca Vadalá presents the financial balance sheets of EORS since our Bologna 2016 meeting:

Expenses comprise the EORS Travel Grant (€1,000.-), contributions to the EORS Roadmap Congress (€10.402,35.-), EORS Booths at the above-mentioned Meetings/Symposia (€4,156.-), legal and tax consultant fees (€4.000,90), secretarial fees of the Vienna Office (€4.722,99), website and telcon fees (€906,34), banking fees (€243,85), fees paid to EORS journals (€2.619,25), and travel costs related to ExCom meetings (€2.195,60). Temporal expenses concern the loan to Maastricht for organising EORS 2019 (€5.000,- seed money).

Of note, the smaller ExCom, as compared to the former EORS Board, significantly reduced the costs related to ExCom meetings in the past period already, he explains.

Income is generated through membership fees (€961,60.-) and from EORS-organised sessions on EFORT (€5,000.-), he continues.

The budget for 2018 considers **expenses** for EORS Travel Grant (€3,000.-), ICORS and EFORT Booths (€2,000.-), reduced administrative fees (€1,500.-), and costs for ExCom meetings (€1.500,-) with a total of approx. €10,000.-.

With recent membership fees (€8.000.-), income from this Munich meeting (€7.000.-), and our EFORT sessions in Vienna (€5.000.-), our expected **income** amounts to approximately €20.000.-, he reports. With the present balance (15.09.2017) of €25.004,65, the expected balance after the Galway Meeting in September 2018 is thus €35.004,65, the Treasurer predicts.

6. Cash Auditor report and nomination

Auditors report

Both EORS cash auditors (2016-2018), Pieter-Paul Vergroesen and Eduardo Garcia-Rey, reviewed the balance sheets and original receipts and verified completeness of receipts and

correctness of the balance. Both proposed to accept the accounting for the year 2017 and to discharge the treasurer.

7. Discharge of the EORS Board

Discharging the Treasurer

After the financial report and its approval by the cash auditors, the President asks the General Assembly (GA) of the EORS to discharge the Treasurer. Gianluca Vadalá is unanimous discharged without objection or abstention.

Discharging the EORS Board

Next, the President asks the GA to also discharge the Board. The Executive Committee (ExCom) of EORS is discharged by unanimous voting of the members without objection or abstention.

8. Membership

The lists of new members are displayed. The audience is informed that the EORS ExCom approved a satisfying number of 155 new members since the last General Assembly in Bologna.

9. Future EORS meetings

The President announces EORS' next Annual Meetings: the [26th Annual Meeting](#) of the EORS in **2018** will be held from **September 25-28 in Galway**, Ireland, and is hosted by Dimitrios Zeugolis. The flyer is shown to the audience and the preliminary website (<http://www.eors2018.org/>) is displayed. Our [27th EORS Meeting](#) in **2019**, from **October 2-5**, will be held in **Maastricht**, Netherlands, hosted by Chris Arts. The [27th EORS Meeting](#) in **2019**, from **October 2-5**, will be held in **Maastricht**, Netherlands, hosted by Chris Arts. From September 15 – 19, the [28th EORS Meeting in 2020](#) will be held in **Izmir**, Turkey.

The deadline for applications to host the 29th EORS Meeting in 2021 is open. Application forms and SOP can be found online (www.eors.info).

10. ICORS 2022

Last not least, the President announces that EORS bid to host ICORS in 2022, in collaboration with AO and BORS. Munich and Vienna are presently discussed as candidate cities, but have to be negotiated with BORS and AO on the ORS 2018.

11. Other issues

The President finally asks, again, if any other issues should be discussed during this GA. There is no response from the audience. Only one remark was made, suggesting to distribute the weblink for the host application form to all new members, which was acknowledged.

12. Closure of the General Assembly

EORS President Ashley Blom once again inquires if any of the present EORS members wishes to discuss additional topics in this General Assembly. As no further points are raised, the assembly is officially closed at 13:13 local time.

Holger Jahr, EORS Secretary-General