



A EUROPEAN ASTROBIOLOGY INSTITUTE:

WHY? WHAT FOR ? HOW? WHEN?

WHY ?

- **Several astrobiology institutes exist. For example:**
 - **NAI (USA; 1998),**
 - **Centro de Astrobiologia (CAB, Spain; 1999)**
 - **Earth Life Science Institute (ELSI, Japan; 2012)**
- **In Europe**
 - **EANA (European Astrobiology Network Association, 2001) –One conference/year**
 - **Several national societies**
 - **2 recent initiatives (2014-2018)**
 - **COST Action ORIGINS (30 european countries) : in 2014, we proposed in the Memorandum of Understanding of COST ORIGINS to built one Institute at the end of the Action**
 - **European Astrobiology Campus (EAC) – 10 European Universities**
 - **AstroMap report (under FP 7) recommended a European Astrobiology platform or Institute**

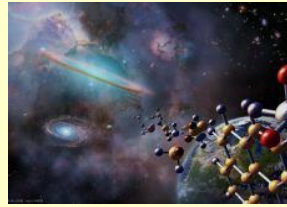
WHAT FOR ??

To develop and to coordinate the european research in astrobiology around the main themes

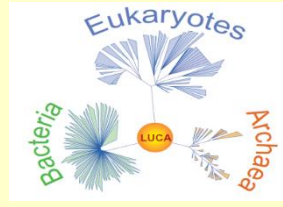
Planetary systems formation and evolution



Complex molecules and building blocks of vivant



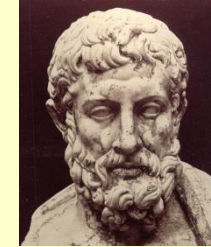
First traces of life and life in extreme conditions



Looking for life on other planets

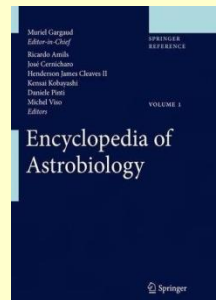


History of science, ethics and philosophy



To train students and teachers and to answer general public expectations

Encyclopedia of Astrobiology



General public events



Training Schools

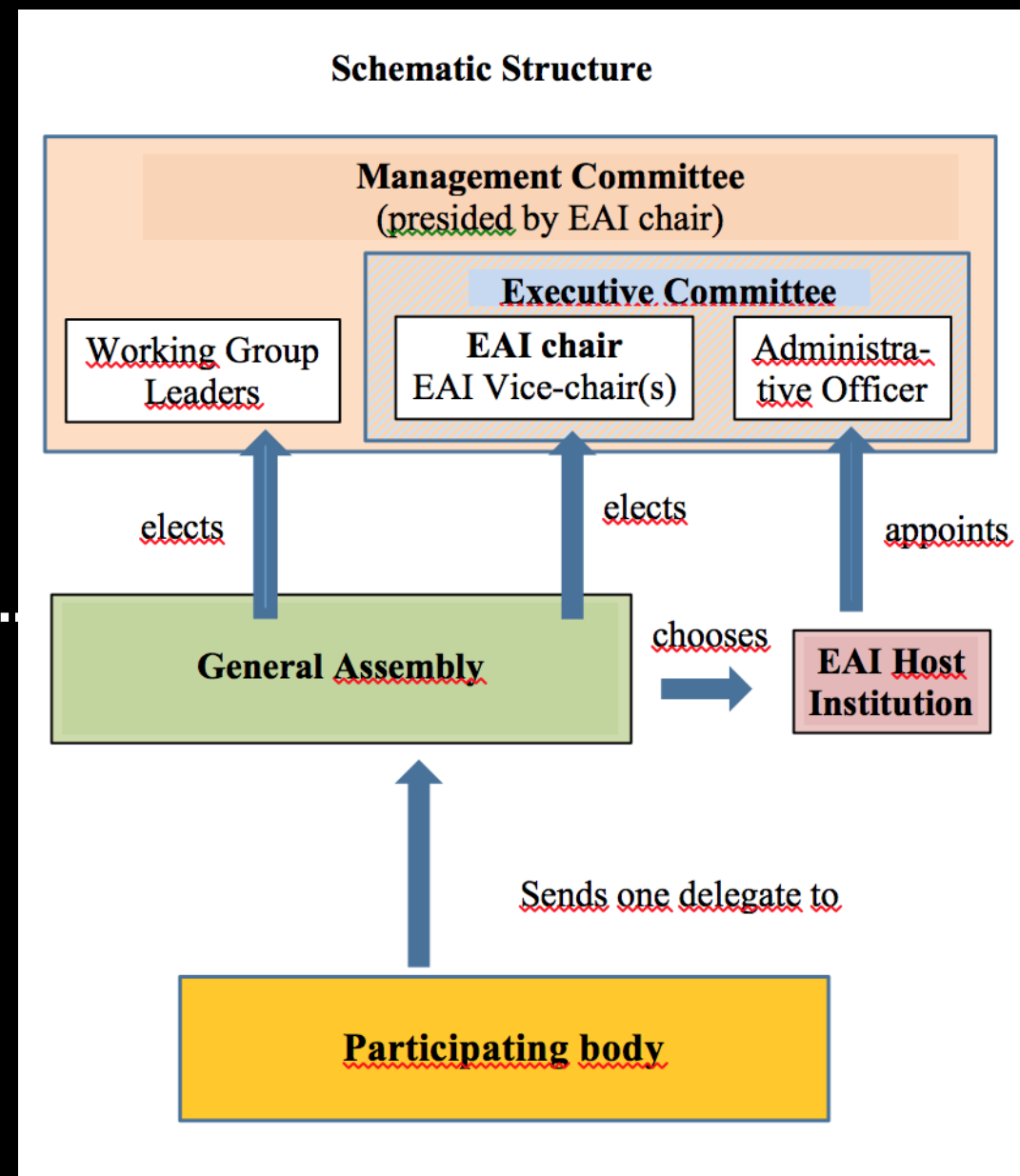


Material for teachers



FOR WHOM ?? HOW ??

- **Virtual Institute, hosted by ESF**
(European Science Foundation; Strasbourg)
- **Open to all academic organisms**
(institut, university, laboratory, museum, etc.
or industry.
- **No individual fee**
(no compétition with the international
societies already existing: EANA, ISSOl, etc...)



INTERIM BOARD

John Brucato, INAF(National Institute for Astrophysics)

Maurizio Falanga, ISSI (International Space Science Institute)

Muriel Gargaud, COST Action TD 1308

Thomas Henning, Max Planck Institute for Astronomy, Germany

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Frances Westall, EANA

Wolf Geppert, Nordic Network of Astrobiology

*Nov 2017: first meeting in Strasbourg
Teleconfs every month since then.*

THREE DIFFERENT FORMS OF MEMBERSHIP

Fees necessary to keep minimum of activity

- **Core organisations (National and European Research organisations)**
 - Two representative in General Assembly
 - Fee EUR 8000,- per year, EUR 4000,- for ITCs
- **Participating institutions (Local Higher Education and Research Organisations)**
 - Requirement: Legal personality
 - Membership fee EUR 2000,-per year, EUR 1000,- for Less represented Countries
 - Have local teams
 - One representative in General Assembly
- **Affiliated groups (Individual Research Groups)**
 - Smaller groups of scientists, juridic persons, etc.
 - Fee EUR 500,- per year, EUR 250,- for ITCs
 - No representation in General Assembly

**All these are eligible to obtain fundings to participate in EAI activities.
Members of other institutions can participate on their own cost.**

What to do with 150k€/year? Where to apply for extra fundings?

1) Example of the ORIGINS COST action (150k€/year):

- one big meeting in spring (60 persons supported, usually 1k€/person)
- one more specialised meeting in autumn (30 persons supported)
- 2 Training Schools (15 k€ each)
- 20 Short Term Scientific Missions of around 1 week each to allow visit to another lab in Europe (1.5k€ each)

2) H2020 Research Infrastructure Calls

- Europlanet will apply for a Research Infrastructure Advanced Community Grant (deadline March 2019)
- EAI will submit a proposal for a Starting Community Grant (deadline March 2020).

TIME PLAN

- September 2018:*** Presentation of the EAI plans at the ESPSC and EANA workshop
- Autumn 2018:*** Discussion of the EAI Action Plan with **the whole Astrobiology Community**. Amendments and extension
- 13 November 2018:*** Event with European Members of Parliament
- Winter 2018/2019:*** Recruitment of Institutions
- 21-23 th May 2019:*** Launch of EAI and first General Assembly, **Liblice, (near Praha)**

WEBSITE ET FORUM

EAI: www.europeanastrobiology.eu (preliminary website)

Forum: <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/europeanastrobiology>