



# MINUTES | TELCON OF THE EAI MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

8 January 2019, Conference Call

## Participants

### EAI

- Wolf Geppert, chair
- Akos Kereszturi
- Doris Breuer
- John Brucato
- Michel Viso
- Miguel Mas Hesse
- Thomas Henning
- Ewa Szuszkiewicz
- Antonello Provenzale
- Riho Motlep
- Julie Novaková
- Karen Olsson-Francis
- Emmanuelle Javaux
- Ruth Sophie Taubner

### ESF

- Emmanouil Detsis
- Jonas L'Haridon

Minutes EAI Meeting 08 January 2020

## 1. Status of MoUs , participation of organisation & financial situation

There are still 5 MoU missing (ULB, CAB, Kent, Orleans and DLR). The reasons are different but the ESF and Wolf are continuously following up on that. At the moment, there are 60 000 € secured (judging from MoU) out of 82 000 €. Thus, the financial plan and budget is likely o be able to be kept. **The ESF will contact each EFO for the necessary actions to finalise payments in 2020.**

## 2. Meeting of the EAI Chair with the ESF on 6th January

There will be a dedicated space team at ESF headed by Emmanouil Detsis and including Jonas L'Haridon and Mariette Vandermersch which will be our main contact.

The ESF presence at BEACON 2020 will be determined soon. There have (as in Liblice where this has been a major headache) been issues with payment from participants to BEACON 2020, despite clear instructions on the website. It involves significant time from ESF finance officer, and EAI should consider using an online payment platform for the next conference to reduce staff costs (as initially proposed by ESF for BEACON 2020). **Wolf Geppert will check on registration and progress in mid-February in Strasbourg but also has on-line access to the registration files.**

There has been a staff workload of 0.15 man-months ESF for November and 0.0 man-months in October and, probably more in December to follow-up on registration for BEACON 2020. This will be inside the budgeted 0.2 of Full-time equivalent staff. **The ESF will be reporting on staff costs in March 2020.**

### **3. Progress of the RI proposal**

The Core Writing Team is still working on the draft proposal. The next meeting will be held on January 30<sup>th</sup> to finalize the draft. K. Olson-Francis mentioned that some parts of the proposal are still missing and encourage people to provide their inputs as soon as possible. Also, volunteers are requested to join the team. There will be another meeting of the Core Team on 30 January and there will be a **draft to EAI circulate early February.**

### **4. Status of preparation of the BEACON, AbGRadE and EGU (special session at the GA) meeting and final efforts to recruit attendees**

For BEACON the organisation well underway. Here has been very welcome support from the town council of Fuencaliente which will provide funding for the outreach event, notably for the Site Visits.

There is a special session on astrobiology at EGU convened by Muriel Gargaud, John Brucato and Wolf Geppert. We should **encourage EAI members and their colleagues to submit abstracts.**

AbGRadE has obtained 4 grants for accommodation by French Astronomical Society, looking for other grant opportunities from EAI / Europlanet Society. **The MC decided to contribute with EUR 5000,- to the AbGRADE-EPAC event.**

### **5. Activities of individual WGs and plans to launch those**

- a. **Outreach:** There has been initiatives to starting to organise outreach activities. There is a potential overlap with EPEC / Europlanet Society actions, and they may have some material that could also be of use for the EAI. The University of Bordeaux is also preparing a proposal which includes activities regarding Science Fiction and Astrobiology. More information will be available in March. Muriel Gargaud and Julie Novaková will keep contact. Wolf Geppert suggested to recruit members from the press to the outreach group via social networks in which the EAI presence is growing. Also the "AstroBioArt" initiative can be launched this way.

- b. **Education:** A survey is being drafted about education in astrobiology across the EAI. It is planned to put on material on-line either on the EAI website or the astrobiology website that Muriel has organised. Another option is the one of the WG Education and Training in Astrobiology of the IAU
- c. **Formation and Evolution of Planetary Systems and Detection of Habitable Worlds:** Antonello Provenzale reported that work has been stalled due to submission of EC project report, but the WG should start working on activities in the next few weeks.
- d. **Field work and Field site Management:** There be a discussion session organised during BEACON 2020, either during a lunch break or in an evening.

## 6. Summer schools and training events in 2020

The following events are planned

- a. AbGRadE/EPEC meeting before BEACON with an introductory session and an excursion to a lava cave on Friday a scientific meeting on Saturday and a workshop on Sunday
- b. RED'20 summer school (near Bordeaux, France) organised by Muriel Gargaud.
- c. Torun University summer school (Poland) on formation of planetary system and habitable environments organised by Anna Losiak and Agata Karska
- d. Workshop on micro and nanosatellites I Tartu (Estonia)
- e. EAI will apply for funding from Europlanet 2024 RI for the Torun and Tartu events

The MC decided to provide 5 000 € funding for the RED'20 and Torun summer schools each.

## 7. Any other business

- a. Jan Kotlarz probably will volunteer to function as a Webmaster and we will start working as soon as possible on the website (design). We would ask MC members to provide any recommendations / ideas for the website
- b. The next telecons will take place in the beginning of February and the beginning of March.