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|  | ***MC meeting******Monday, 12 June 15:00 CEST*** |

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# Participants

**EAI**

Wolf Geppert, Chair of EAI

John Robert Brucato

Julie Novakova

Dennis Höning

Muriel Gargaud

Akos Keresturi

Nigel Mason

Victor Parro

Erik Persson

Christian Lorenz

Ruth Sophie Taubner

Ewa Szusziewicz

**ESF**

Mariette Vandermersch-Desmartin

# Agenda

1. BEACON - Balance sheet and experiences gained
2. General Assembly – Plans
3. Oncoming ERIM Meeting in Bratislava
4. Plans for Activities working Groups
5. Events in the coming summer
6. Oncoming calls including COST Actions.
7. Any other business

Christian Lorenz is joining the MC as the new AbGraDe representative in the EAI Board of Trustees, replacing Keyron Hickman-Lewis.

# BEACON - Balance sheet and experiences gained

The positive points were the large attendance (biggest astrobiology meeting which ever happened it Europe), and the format worked very well, even if the talks were very short due to the huge number of abstracts received.

Nigel confirmed that the conference was nice and stimulating. The AbGraDEPEC meeting went also very well and having it right before BEACON helped a lot.

ESF cannot report yet on the finances because there are still invoices to be paid.

Akos mentioned that some people from the US came thanks to the satellite meeting on lava caves that was happening just before BEACON at Lanzarote. The unfortunate thing was that it collided with the AbGradE.

John Robert mentioned that the hotel was very nice and the fact that it was remote allowed a good participation to the scientific programme and asked to circulate some data about the meeting (number of participants, countries, affiliation, etc): Mariette has got a detailed list.

The outreach programme was a great success. The MC sends its special thanks to Caterina Boccato and José Caballeros. The conference was also covered very amply in the local media.

Concerning the negative points, WG mentioned that he underestimated the issues that could happen with the transportation. Also the registration procedures, especially the ones concerning the excursions with people changing their mind last minute, etc., was excessively time consuming. Another problem were the road closures and political quarrels in the community of Fuencaliente due to the oncoming elections.

ESF will prepare a report of BEACON for the MC and put also the interesting data on the EAI website.

Concerning next BEACON, we have to avoid time collisions with other meetings. Muriel mentioned that she heard some concerns from participants about the costs of Iceland over summer.

Wolf is currently negotiating with Icelandic venues and should receive quotes over the summer. Nigel recommended to contact the Reykjavik university to ask them for some help.

Plan B could be in the Açores, Torun ore Tartu. Christian Lorenz asked the MC some feedback about having the 10th anniversary of AbGraE in Firenze, Italy next year. It was mentioned that this is a nice destination, John is helping on it.

Christian asked if it would be possible to have some financial support from EAI: this needs to be discussed.

# General Assembly – Plans

A possible for the next GA venue would be Romania or Netherlands. It would be in May or June 2024. The subject of this next GA would be a discussion of the objectives and plans o the Working >Groups and Project Teams.

# Oncoming ERIM Meeting in Bratislava

250 attendees are planned to arrive. There will be several formal and informal discussions during the week. Wolf will participate and represent EAI there.

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# Events in the coming summer

• Students and Early Career Scientists’ Workshop “Microsatellites and their use in planetary and astrobiology research”, Tartu, Estonia, 1-9 August 2023

<https://sisu.ut.ee/microsatellites2023>

 • Summer School: “Impacts and their Role in the Evolution of Life”, Nördlingen, Germany 5-14 September 2023

<https://europeanastrobiology.eu/summer-school-2023-homepage/>

• Conference: “Life in the Sub-Surface: Habitats, Species and Survival Strategies” Angra do Heróismo, Azores, 11-21 October 2023

<https://europeanastrobiology.eu/azores-workshop-2023-home/>

 • Summer school: Volcanism, Plate Tectonics Hydrothermal Vents and Life, Angra do Heróismo, Azores, 25-27 October 2023

<https://europeanastrobiology.eu/azores-ss-home/>

External events:

* IAU meeting April 15 to 19 2024 in Durham
* Nuclear Astrochemistry Trento February 26 to March 1 2024
* Proposed workshop in Vienna by IAEA a workshop focussed on sensitivity analysis of models.

# Oncoming calls including COST Actions.

Funding opportunities will be discussed during the ERIM meeting. The results of the last call are expected this summer.

The protoplanetary teams won a COST Action, and ESF was asked to be the host institution, as the funding needs to be managed in Europe, preferably in the Eurozone. The MC sends its congratulations to Catherine Walsh, who had been the main proposer.