

European Crystallographic Association



Minutes of the Council Meetings

Bergen, 7 – 9 - 10 August 2012

29th March 2013

Participants

The membership of the ECA Executive Committee as appointed for the period of 2009-2012 is:
President: S. Garcia-Granda (Spain); Vice-President: A. Roodt (South Africa); Immediate Past President: J. R. Helliwell (UK); Secretary: P. Bombicz (Hungary); Treasurer: R. Kuzel (Czech Republic); Educational coordinator and Webmaster: M. Nespolo (France); Members; A. Bacchi (Italy), Wulf Depmeier (Germany) and L. van Meervelt (Belgium).

	Voting right	Councillors / representative	7 August	9 August
Councillor of Member Countries				
Algeria	Yes	Ahmed Bekka	-	-
Austria	Yes	Ekkehart Tillmanns	Herta Effenberger	Herta Effenberger
Belgium	Yes	Bernard Tinant	Joke Hadermann	Joke Hadermann
Bulgaria	Yes	Daniela Kovatcheva	-	-
Croatia	Yes	Stanko Popovic	Aleksandar Visnjevac	Aleksandar Visnjevac
Czech and Slovak Rep	Yes	Jindrich Hasek	Jindrich Hasek	Jindrich Hasek
Denmark	Yes	Kell Mortensen	Anders O Madsen	Anders O Madsen
Egypt	Yes	Zeid Heiba	-	-
Finland	Yes	Keijo Hämäläinen	Kari Rissanen	Kari Rissanen
France	Yes	Jacqueline Cherfils	-	-
Germany	Yes	Birger Dittrich	Birger Dittrich	Birger Dittrich
Greece	Yes	Irene Mavridis	-	-
Hungary	Yes	Alajos Kálmán	-	-
Irish Cryst. Assoc.	Yes	Simon Lawrence	-	-
Israel	Yes	Michal Harel	Israel Goldberg	Israel Goldberg
Italy	Yes	Carlo Mealli	Carlo Mealli	Carlo Mealli
Latvia	Yes	Anatolij Mishnev	-	Inese Sarcevica
Society of Chemists and Technologists of Macedonia	Yes	Pance Naumov	-	-
Morocco	Yes	Nouzha Bouhmaida	-	-
Netherlands	Yes	Ton Spek	Martin Lutz	Martin Lutz
Norway	Yes	Carl Henrik Görbitz	Carl Henrik Görbitz	Carl Henrik Görbitz
Poland	Yes	Janusz Lipkowski	-	-
Portugal	Yes	Pedro Pereira	-	Maria A Carrondo
Russia	Yes	Irina Makarova	Irina Makarova	Irina Makarova
Serbia	Yes	Slobodanka Stankovic	-	-
Slovenia	Yes	Ivan Leban	-	-
South Africa	Yes	Dave Billing	Deon Visser	Deon Visser
Spain	Yes	Enrique Gutierrez-Puebla	Enrique Gutierrez-Puebla	Enrique Gutierrez-Puebla
Sweden	Yes	Elisabeth Sauer-Erikson	Elisabeth Sauer-Erikson	Elisabeth Sauer-Erikson
Switzerland	Yes	Jürg Schefer	Jürg Schefer	Jürg Schefer
Tunisia	Yes	Mongi Debbabi	-	-
Turkey	Yes	Süheyla Özbej	-	-
UK	Yes	Georgina Rosair	Georgina Rosair	Georgina Rosair
Ukraine	Yes	Roman Gladyshevskii	-	-
IM represent. (2009-12)	Yes	Giuanluca Cascarano	-	-
IM represent. (2009-12)	Yes	Bill Clegg	Bill Clegg	Bill Clegg
IM represent. (2009-12)	Yes	Helen Stoeckli-Evans	-	-
CAM representative	Yes	Tony Savill	Martin Adam	Jörg Wiesmann
present			50 %	55 %
Observers				
IUCr	No	Elena Boldyreva	Elena Boldyreva	Elena Boldyreva
Armenia	No	Hakob Bezirganyan	-	-
Belarus	No	Alexander Lyakhov	-	-
Estonia	No	Hugo Mandar	-	-

SIG's representatives				
SIG 1	No	Keith Wilson		Keith Wilson
SIG 2	No	Birger Dittrich	Birger Dittrich	Birger Dittrich
SIG 3	No	Sander van Smaalen		-
SIG 4	No	Holger Klein		Holger Klein
SIG 5	No	Sergey V Krivovichev		-
SIG 6	No	Robert Cernik	Robert Cernik	Robert Cernik
SIG 7	No	Susan Bourne		Paola Gilli
SIG 8	No	Paolo Scardi	Robert Cernik, Radomir Kuzel	Robert Cernik, Radomir Kuzel
SIG 9	No	Harry Powell	-	Harry Powell
SIG 10	No	closed	-	closed
SIG 11	No	Leonid Dubrovinsky		Karen Friese
SIG 12	No	Julien Haines		Julien Haines
SIG 13	No	Andreas Roodt	Fernando Lahoz	Alessandra Crispini
GIG 1	No	Laura Roces	Suzanne Coles	Laura Roces
GIG 2	No	Svend Erik Rasmussen		Paul Beurskens
Auditors				
Auditor (2006-7)	No	Carlo Mealli	Carlo Mealli	Carlo Mealli
Auditor (2006-7)	No	Jindrich Hasek	Jindrich Hasek	Jindrich Hasek
ECM's representatives				
ECM27-2012	No	Karl Törnroos Carl Henrik Görbitz	Carl Henrik Görbitz	Carl Henrik Görbitz
ECM28-2013	No	Alexander Blake Elspeth Garman	Alexander Blake	
ECM29-2015	No	Aleksandar Visnjevac Marijana Dakovic	Aleksandar Visnjevac	Aleksandar Visnjevac
ECM25-2009	No	Katharina Fromm Jürg Schefer	Jürg Schefer	Jürg Schefer
Executive Committee				
President	No	Santiago Garcia-Granda	Santiago Garcia-Granda	Santiago Garcia-Granda
Vice-President	No	Andreas Roodt	Andreas Roodt	Andreas Roodt
Past-President	No	John R Helliwell	John R Helliwell	John R Helliwell
Secretary	No	Petra Bombicz	Petra Bombicz	Petra Bombicz
Treasurer	No	Radomir Kuzel	Radomir Kuzel	
Educ. coord.	No	Massimo Nespolo	-	-
Member	No	Alessia Bacchi	Alessia Bacchi	Alessia Bacchi
Member	No	Wulf Depmeier	Wulf Depmeier	Wulf Depmeier
Member	No	Luc van Meervelt	Luc van Meervelt	Luc van Meervelt
Candidate	No	Georgina Rosair	Georgina Rosair	Georgina Rosair
Candidate	No	Christian Lehmann	Christian Lehmann	Christian Lehmann
Candidate	No	Joke Hadermann	Joke Hadermann	Joke Hadermann
Candidate	No	Udo Heinemann	Udo Heinemann	Udo Heinemann
Candidate	No	Olga Yakubovich	-	-
CAM				
Bruker - AXS	No	Eric Hovestreydt	Martin Adam	-
Pananalytical	No	Celeste Reiss	-	-
Molecular Dimensions Limited	No	Tony Savill	-	-
CCDC	No		-	-
Marresearch	No	Göran Helgerson	-	-
STOE	No		-	-
Rigaku	No	Bram Schierbeek	-	-
Oldenbourg	No	Johannes Oldenborgh	-	-
Agilent Technologies	No	Oliver Presly	-	-
Dectris	No		-	-
Huber	No		-	-
Oxford	No		-	-



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Cryosystem				
NanoMegas	No		-	-
Taylor&Francis	No		-	-
Crystal Impact	No		-	-
ICDD	No		-	-
Incoatec	No	Jörg Wiesmann	-	Jörg Wiesmann
CENTEO biosciences	No		-	-
Xenocs	No		-	-
HECUS	No		-	-
Microlytic	No		-	-
Rayonix	No		-	-
TTP Labtech	No		-	-
Photonic Science	No		-	-
Douglas Instruments	No		-	-
<i>also present</i>				
SIG 1	No			Gerlind Sulzenbacher
SIG 1	No			Marjolein Thunnissen
GIG 1	No			Susanne Coles
	No			Tony Linden

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- 6 **Reports regarding ECMs**
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 - 6.3 ECM28 (2013) Warwick - progress in organisation E. Garman, A. Blake
 - 6.4 ECM29 (2015) Rovinj - progress in organisation A. Višnjevac, M Djakovic
 - 6.5 ECM30 (2016) Basel – bid presentation Katharina Fromm
- 7 **European Crystallography School**
 - 7.1 From the proposal to the establishment
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End of the first day of the Council Meeting

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11 Annual Reports regarding SIGs / GIGs activity

- 11.1 SIG.1 Macromolecular Crystallography (Keith Wilson)
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- 11.4 SIG.4 Electron Crystallography (Holger Klein)
- 11.5 SIG.5 Mineralogical Crystallography (Sergey Krivovichev)
- 11.6 SIG.6 Instrumentation and Experimental Techniques (IET) (Bob Cernik)
- 11.7 SIG.7 Molecular Interaction and Recognition (MIR) (Carl Henrik Görbitz)
- 11.8 SIG.8 Powder Diffraction (SIGPD) (Paolo Scardi)
- 11.9 SIG.9 Crystallographic Computing (CCSIG) (Harry Powell)
- 11.11 SIG.11 Extreme Conditions (Leonid Dubrovinsky)
- 11.12 SIG.12 Materials Science (Julien Haines)
- 11.13 SIG.13 Molecular Structures and Chemical Properties (Fernando J. Lahoz)
- 11.14 GIG.1 Young Crystallographers (Laura Rocas)
- 11.15 GIG.2 Establishing of GIG for Senior Crystallographers (Svend Erik Rasmussen)

12 Progress in the establishment of a European Graduate School of Crystallography (M. Nespolo)

13 Schools, Conferences and Workshops

Request for support from ECA to schools and workshops (Luc van Meervelt)

14 Prizes of ECA: Perutz Prize, Bertaut Prize, Poster prizes and fund raising

15 Votes

- 15.1 Vote on the venue of ECM30
- 15.2 Vote on the venue of ECS1
- 15.3 Executive Committee election for the period of 2012-2015

16 The ECA : what to do - where to go Discussion regarding rules and future proceedings

[Written contributions from the Councillors as well as from Individual Members are welcome!]

17 Any other business

18 Close

Appendices

The reports of the members of the Executive Committee and SIG-s' chairs referred to the Minutes were distributed to the members of the Council on 20th June 2012 .

Welcome to Council

1 Opening

1.1 Welcome to Council and Guests

Prof Santiago Garcia-Granda opened the Council Meeting. He gave a short summary of the regular business of the Association and an overview of tasks and timing of the Council Meetings. He referred the Councillors to his Presidential report circulated prior to the Council, which was accepted by the Council. He addressed a special welcome to the candidature of the new ECA Adhering body, the Irish Crystallographic Association, as a new National Member of ECA.

Prof Santiago Garcia-Granda accounted the harmonic relation of ECA as a Regional Associate to IUCr. Prof Garcia-Granda highlighted the importance that 2014 will be the International Year of Crystallography. He referred to the personal meeting of the SIG chairs with the Executive Committee in the afternoon of the ECM27 opening day. He reported 1. that Prof Massimo Nespolo had submitted for the third time a proposal for an ERASMUS MUNDUS Master Course, European Graduate School of Crystallography in a collaboration of several universities and support of industrial companies and 2. the establishment of the annual European Crystallography School of ECA.

The leaflet with information on ECA has been updated by Prof Radomir Kuzel in 2012 also, who was heartily thanked. Prof Santiago Garcia-Granda expressed his thanks to the ECA Executive Committee colleagues, the Auditors, and thanked the Editor of the IUCr Newsletter for publishing ECA reports. He expressed his sincere gratitude to all Council members and all the SIG Chair, Co-Chairs and Secretaries for their hard work for the ECA, making the organization progressing year after year. He deeply acknowledged also the collaboration of all ECA Corporate Affiliate Members (CAMs).

The next ECA Executive Committee 'Winter meeting' will be held in February 2013 in Budapest and Councillors are most welcome to suggest agenda items for discussion till the end of January 2013.

Application for membership

1.2 Application for membership

The Irish Crystallographic Association was formed in 2011 and it represents the interests of the crystallographic community in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. This covers a diverse range of crystallographic interests in structural biological, inorganic and pharmaceutical crystallography, as well as crystallisation processes and monitoring. It includes both academic and industrial members. Members are active in the crystallographic community, for example Prof Caffrey organised the 13th International Conference on the Crystallization of Biological Macromolecules and Dr John Gallagher is co-editor for Acta Crystallographica C. The application with the covering mail and thirty selected publications sent by Prof Simon Lawrence, Secretary of the ICA, was circulated among the Councillors on 12th March for discussion.

The Council ratified:

The Irish Crystallographic Association shall be a National Adhering Body of the European Crystallographic Association.

Former e-mail decisions

1.3 Former e-mail decisions

The following e-mail discussions took place between August 2011 and June 2012:

1. The document "**Requirements and recommendations for Commercial Exhibitions (ECA/ECM)**" elaborated by the Corporate Affiliate Members to the ECM organisers coordinated by the CAM Councillor Dr Tony Savill was accepted in November 2011 and placed on ECANews: http://www.ecanews.org/Guidlines_ECM.php
2. The members of the ECA Council agreed in a trivial email voting procedure at the end of March 2012 that Profs Jindrich Hasek and Carlo Mealli act as **Auditors** for the financial year of 2011 of ECA.
3. Recognising the more and more difficult general economic situation the Executive Committee proposed to establish a scholarship fund for any kind of hardship considering both nationality and age. The majority of Councillors voted for the establishment of the **ECA Scholarship Fund** at the end of April 2012. The call for donation is alive throughout the year. The first application for ECM27 participation was performed.
4. The Associazione Italiana di Cristallografia (AIC) proposed that an annual **European Crystallography School (ECS)** to be organized by different national adhering bodies to the ECA each time on different aspects of crystallography, basic or advanced. The Councillors voted for the establishment of the School. The bid for the first school held in 2014 took place at the ECM27 in Bergen.
5. The discussion on the establishment of the **General Interest Group for Senior Crystallographers (GIG2)** took place before the Council Meeting in Bergen. The vote happened at the ECM27.
6. 2012 is the year of the election of the **Representatives of the Individual Members** by the IMs for the period of 2012-2015. Nomination and electronic voting procedure was performed between March and July 2012. The three IM Councillors elected to represent Individual Members in the Council are Prof Giovanni Luca Cascarano, Prof Bill Clegg and Dr Kamil Dziubek.
7. The **ECA Executive Committee election** for the period of 2012-2015 was held at the ECA Council Meetings at ECM27. The Council appoints the members of the Executive Committee on the proposal of the Committee or of at least five (5) Councillors. The Executive Committee made nominations to the Council for the Officers of the Association on 16 April 2012.

Annual Reports by the President S. Garcia-Granda

2 Annual Reports

2.1 Report by the President S. Garcia-Granda

Prof. Santiago García-Granda

ECA President's, Report to the ECA Council to be held at ECM27 Bergen, August 2012.

We are celebrating the important centennial for Crystallography, the Max von Laue and the Braggs (father and son) seminal backgrounds and, connected with that, the postponed and now projected 2014 IYC, promoted by the IUCr and supported for all crystallographic associations and crystallographers. These are important milestones achieved by European Crystallographers and provide good opportunities to continue showing the strength and leadership of European Crystallography. Relevant commemorations of the Centennial will take place in August at our ECM27 Meeting in Bergen.

One European Crystallographer, have been awarded with the 2011 Nobel Prize "for the discovery of quasicrystals"; that is a deep satisfaction for the European Crystallography after receiving the 2011 Ewald

Prize three European crystallographers. Congratulations to Dan Shechtman. It is a deep satisfaction to know that the 2012 Max Perutz winner is Prof. Hartmut Fuess, former president of ECA.

After a very successful IUCr22 took place Madrid August 2011 where the Council held the last meeting, and up until early June 2012, the time of my writing this report to the ECA Council, I record here the following particulars:

The Executive Committee of ECA works coordinately according to the effective distribution of tasks and responsibilities programmed among its members. In particular, it is considered of high importance keeping the surveillance of the risk analysis for the European Crystallographic Association, following the documents of analysis produced so far, mainly by the past president and the finances and administration team of ECA. The monitorization, reorganization, visibility and effective scientific leadership of the SIGs, including widen their geographical influence and enlarging the membership and also improving the transversal activities with the new GIG class (General Interest Groups). The GIG-Young Crystallographers was approved in Madrid and is working enthusiastically as the last year, self-organizing and programming events and activities, in particularly connected to ECM27. All ECA officers, Councillors and SIG officers ought to be strongly encouraged to become an Individual Member of the ECA. An official inauguration document for GIG02, Senior Crystallographers, has been submitted to Council approval in Bergen. Councillors should encourage researchers of their country and also SIG officers should encourage researchers of their field to be individual members of ECA. All activities organized by SIGs/GIGs should be known in advance by the ECA Executive Committee and supervised by the SIG coordinator. It is important to involve all SIGs, GIGs and as many of crystallographers in all activities organized by any SIG/GIG to effectively promote collaboration and multidisciplinary within the ECA scientific, social and divulgation activities.

The annual winter meeting of the Executive Committee this year was organized in Budapest the fifth time. A short summary on the meeting is submitted to the IUCr Newsletter.

Following the ECM27 in Bergen, organization ECM28 in Warwick and ECM29 in Rovinj (Croatia) are in progress. Bids for ECM30, according to the ECA guidelines 'How to prepare and submit a bid to host a future ECM' and 'Guidance for ECM Organizers', placed on ECANews, are expected to be discussed at the ECM27 ECA Council meeting.

The European Crystallographic Association continues extending his geographic influence with the application of a new Adhering body, the Irish Crystallographic Association representing the interests of the crystallographic community in both the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland. This application was warmly welcome by the ECA Executive Committee. The number of current NM will be then thirty four.

On June 7 – 9, 2012, I am attending in Izmir, Turkey, the Third meeting of the Turkish Crystallographic Association, also attended by the ECA vice-president. The Third National Crystallographic Meeting TUCr 2012 will be held at Dokuz Eylül University from 7th to 9th June 2012. Earlier meetings were held in Samsun (2004) and Kayseri (2006). In 2009 the XXV European Crystallography Meeting was organized in Istanbul (16-21 August) and the Third National Crystallographic Meeting was postponed to 2012. The development of crystallography in Turkey is extending and progressing very quickly.

One relevant opportunity is to attract to ECA area the peripheral countries and to improve relationship with other regional organizations and the IUCr. The meeting among the Executive committees of IUCr and ECA initiated in ECM26 in 2010, had a continuation in 2011 at the IUCr Meeting in Madrid. Some important initiatives, including crystallography in Africa and other programs promoting mobility to regional crystallographic meetings have been carried out in 2012. To continue providing as wide communications as possible with the ECA members, and indeed the whole community, and providing visibility to ECA, the presence of ECA news on the IUCr Newsletter allowed to us as an IUCr Regional Affiliated body, which is indeed most useful to the ECA, and I record here the ECA's thanks to IUCr.

The European Crystallographic Association continues increasing the sponsorship for meetings, Workshop and Schools, all along the ECA area, and importantly giving increasing support to young crystallographers and senior crystallographers for the less developed countries in order to promote the development of new

National Crystallographic Organizations. Efforts in this particular direction are maintained also this year within the ECM27 framework, in collaboration with the local organizers, and will be strengthened in the next ECMs.

The renewal, for the third time, of our application for one Erasmus Mundus Master and PhD program in crystallography, is led by Massimo Nespolo, at the spring of 2012. This is an important issue to promote crystallography and for the future of develop of crystallography around the ECA area. The establishment of one European School of Crystallography, an Italian initiative, has been approved by the ECA Executive Committee and will be submitted to the Council and candidates will presented their applications in Bergen. Further suggestions from Councillors on other, new, possible benefits to ECA Members will be most welcome to further stimulate the future growth of the membership, and indeed, the ECA's financial strength will rest, in part, on a healthy growth of the numbers of ECA individual members.

Allow me to have a moment to remember all our colleagues, Individual Members of ECA and other fellow crystallographers, who passed away in the past year. We express our deep condolences to their families with our permanent acknowledge to all.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all Council members and all the SIG /GIG Chair, Co-chairs and Secretaries for their hard work for ECA, making our organization progressing year after year. I deeply acknowledge also the collaboration of all companies, supporting ECA prizes and meetings and especially the involvement of the ECA Corporate Affiliate Members (CAMs).

The immediate ECA activity is being organized in Bergen August 2012 at the ECM27 Meeting, which was affected by several economic restrictions, will be an excellent opportunity to share scientific achievements and show the strength and influence of crystallography everywhere along the main meeting and the interesting satellites. In parallel to the 4 days of scientific program in Bergen, the 14 SIG/GIG meetings will be organized, the traditional informal get-together of the Young Crystallographers (GIG01) will also take place as well as the presentation of the Senior Crystallographers GIG (GIG02).

The next ECA Council and Executive Committee meetings are planned to be held in August 2012, at ECM27 in Bergen(Norway) and Councillors are most welcome to suggest new ideas and agenda items for discussion. The renovation of both IM representatives in the Council and Executive Committee Officers is to take place at the Council in Bergen. That will end my term as President of ECA and gives me the opportunity to express my deep thanks to the Executive Committee and all ECA members. New conductors will be elected and, I am sure, they will supply fresh ideas and renovated energies to ensure the most successful development and influence of our organization.

Finally, here I wish to record most heartily the thanks on behalf of the whole ECA for the effort made by the ECM27 local organizers, led by Prof Karl Tornroos and Prof. Carl Henrik Gorbitz, all the crystallographers in Norway and all the team of the Program Committee. Thankyou!

The Council approved the submitted report of the President.

Annual Reports by the Treasurer R. Kuzel

2.2 Report by the Treasurer R. Kuzel

ECA Treasurer Report

From different reasons the ECA money are currently on several accounts. The history, reasons and credits as of 08. 08. 2012 are given below.

<i>Account</i>	<i>Person responsible</i>	<i>Credit</i>
Netherlands	Sybolt Harkema	~ 400 EUR
The account has been created together with the ECA registration in the Netherlands by the ECA treasurer. It is used fees for the Chamber of Commerce (Euro 25), because the ECA is registered in the Netherlands.		
Germany, Darmstadt	Hartmut Fuess	76 068 EUR
The principal ECA account for collection prizes money. It should have minimal transfers and higher interest rate.		
Czech Republic, Prague	Radomír Kužel	11 902 EUR cash +1430 EUR
The current EURO account of the Czech and Slovak Crystallographic Association. Since 2007 not used for other purposes than for ECA money. This is the working ECA account of the present treasurer with frequent transfers and low interest rates. It is used for collection money by bank transfers from IM, NM, CAM and ECA supports.		
Czech Republic, Prague	Radomír Kužel	187 339 CZK ~ 7 494 EUR
The current CZK account of the Czech and Slovak Crystallographic Association. For ECA, it is currently used only for collection of credit card payments, mainly from IM (individual members), payments with other currency than EUR.		

Total amount of ECA money ~ 95 968 EUR.

Transfers

Transfers in the Prague EUR account (July 2011 – June 2012)

Credit:

From National members	3 145 EUR
From Individual members	980 EUR
From Corporate members	3 750 EUR
Bank transactions (- interest) -	4 EUR
Total	7 879 EUR

Debit:

Support of meetings	6 860 EUR
Bergen ECM	3000
Tunisia	750
Erice	1200
Italy bio	1000
HEC	910

Bank transactions	240 EUR
Total	7 100 EUR

Difference **779 EUR**

Transfers in the Prague CZK account (July 2011 – June 2012)

Credit (credit cards)

From Individual members	40 511 CZK	1 620 EUR
From Corporate members	18 374 CZK	735 EUR
Total	58 885 CZK	2 355 EUR

Debit:

IUCr regional membership (Algeria, ...)	21 192 CZK	848 EUR
Leaflets printing	25 000 CZK	1 000 EUR
Leaflets mail	6 282 CZK	251 EUR
Support ECNS, Prague	22 032 CZK	880 EUR
ECA executive committee meeting Budapest	14 749 CZK	590 EUR
Bank fees	946 CZK	38 EUR
Total	90 201 CZK	3 608 EUR
Difference	-31 316 CZK	-1 253 EUR

Cash transactions in EUR account (July 2010 – June 2011)

Credit:

From Individual members (IUCr Madrid)	330 EUR
Individual members (Budapest)	50 EUR
Donations (Heliwell)	150 EUR
National members	225 EUR
Total	755 EUR

Debit:

Meeting of executive committee in Budapest	560 EUR
Total	560 EUR
Difference	- 195 EUR

Total income since the last audit (without bank transactions)

NM	4 927 EUR	
IM	1 853 EUR	
CAM	7 382 EUR	
	10 985 EUR	

Total costs (without bank transactions)

Support of meetings	7 740 EUR
Executive Committee Meeting	1 150 EUR
IUCr – regional association fee	848 EUR
Leaflets –print+mail (3500 copies)	1 251
	10 989 EUR

<i>Account</i>	<i>End of June 2011</i>	<i>End of June 2012</i>	<i>Difference</i>
EUR	11 123 EUR	11 902 EUR	779 EUR
CZK	218 654 CZK ~ 8 746 EUR	187 338 CZK ~ 7 494 EUR	-31 316 CZK ~ -1 252 EUR
CASH	1 235 EUR	1 430 EUR	195 EUR
Perutz-Bertaut Darmstadt	75 190 EUR	76 068 EUR	878 EUR
TOTAL	96 294 EUR	96 894 EUR	600 EUR

Theoretical income from national members including their debts from the past:	3 500 EUR
Return of the loan to ECM27	25 000 EUR
Expected costs: leaflets (print+mail)	1 000 EUR
Max Perutz, Bertaut Prizes	7 000 EUR
Total	+20 500 EUR

Total income 2006-2012

National members	19 643
Individual members	19 474
Corporate members	31 899
ECMs	41 574

The Council approved the submitted report of the Treasurer.

ECA Corporate Members 2012:



Prof John R. Helliwell mentioned that the ACA has the asset of 1 million EUR which provide a wide autonomy to the American Crystallographic Association.

Reports of the Auditors: J Hasek & C. Mealli

3 Approval by the Council of the submitted accounts

3.1 Report of the Auditors for the financial year of 2011-2012

The Councillors voted and agreed that Professors Jindrich Hasek and Carlo Mealli act as Auditors of ECA for the past year (3rd April 2012).

Several comments to the ECA economic management based on audit reports from several last years

Current status of the ECA accounts – June 2012

- *Current account* at “Ceska sporitelna a.s.” in Prague, which **accepts money transfers** in EUR
IBAN: CZ84 0800 0000 0015 6339 9283
Responsible person: R. Kuzel (Czech Republic)

Total sum 11 902 EUR

- *Current account* at “Ceska sporitelna a.s.” in Prague, which **accepts credit card payments**
IBAN: CZ84 0800 0000 0001 6290 0319, Currency CZK.
Responsible person: R. Kuzel (Czech Republic)

Total sum (exact amount depends on the CZK/EUR exchange rate) ~ 7 494 EUR

- *Cash*
Responsible person: R. Kuzel (Czech Republic)

Total sum 1 430 EUR

•*Account in Darmstadt* – the general reserve fund serving for save, long term deposition of money.

Presently, 1 year deposit, expires November each year. The safety of a long term deposit account is to be preferred to risky investments in bonds or other banking opportunities.

IBAN: DE59 508 700 050 0280222 05

Responsible person: H. Fuess (Germany)

Total sum 76 068 EUR

•*Account in Nijmegen* - in the country of the ECA registration

ABN-AMRO “priverekening” 502707097

Responsible person: S. Harkema (the Netherlands)

Total sum ~ 400 EUR

Total sum ~ 97 294 EUR

All accounts in Prague were checked against the original receipts and the bank records. All transactions performed were agreed and countersigned by the President of the ECA. The accounts in the other countries [Holland (S.Harkema), Germany (H.Fuess)] were agreed based on an e-mail correspondence only.

Donations from companies are inhomogeneous.

Theoretically, the membership fee of 250 EUR is unique to all companies. In practice, the long term sum donations differ greatly. BRUKER AXS and PANALYTICAL indicated here as Golden contributors contributed more than 6 kEUR. Other 5 companies contributing over 2.5 kEUR indicated here as Silver contributors.

Bruker AXS	8 035
Panalytical	6479
<i>Molecular Dimensions</i>	4250
<i>CCDC</i>	3500
<i>Marresearch</i>	3500
<i>Stoe</i>	3000
<i>Rigaku</i>	2750

Category 1000 – 2000 EUR involves:

Zeitschrift für Kristallographie, Agilent, Nanomegas, Dectris, Huber, Oxford Cryogenics, Taylor and Francis, Crystal Impact, ICDD, Thermo Electron SA, Triana, Incoatec.

Category under 1000 EUR involves:

Centeo, Xenocs, Rayonix, Malvern, XOS, Hecus, Microlytic, Accelrys, Osmic, Wyatt, Hampton, Springer, Axygen, Constant systems, TTP, Photonic Science, Douglas.

OVERALL TRENDS

The income in period 2011 - 2012 consists of:

Surplus from the ECM in Darmstadt 70 %

Corporate memberships 13 %

Country memberships 9 %

Individual memberships 7 %

Interests from the deposition account (banks) 1 %

It is evident that the most important component of the ECA income is the surplus from ECM conferences.

Conclusion.

It is desirable that, the executive committee takes some measures to help the local organizers in the preparation of the financial plans and co-signing agreements with the local commercial companies in order to preserve the virtuous trend from Darmstadt.

Surplus from the ECMs

ECM conferences are the main activities of the ECA and the income arising from their organization is important for the ECA budget and associated activities. However, depending on the size and success of local organization, the surplus from most recent ECM's varied. Here is a summary:

The ECM in	Leuven	Marakesh	Istanbul	Darmstadt	Bergen
Year	2006	2008	2009	2011	2012
No of participants	800	750	800	1000	630
Income for ECA EUR	10.000	4.600	12.300	25.600	low

Surplus from ECM is not regulated by any clear rules – therefore, no audit is possible.

The auditors can only check that the *a posteriori* negotiated amount has been really transferred to the ECA, but nothing can say about its efficiency or fairness.

Is some supervision over the ECM budget possible ????

Better control of the ECM budget can be achieved either by:

- direct control (the ECA treasurer could make all financial transactions via the ECA accounts)
- Financial agreement and a close co-operation with the local organization on the budget (see the following example)

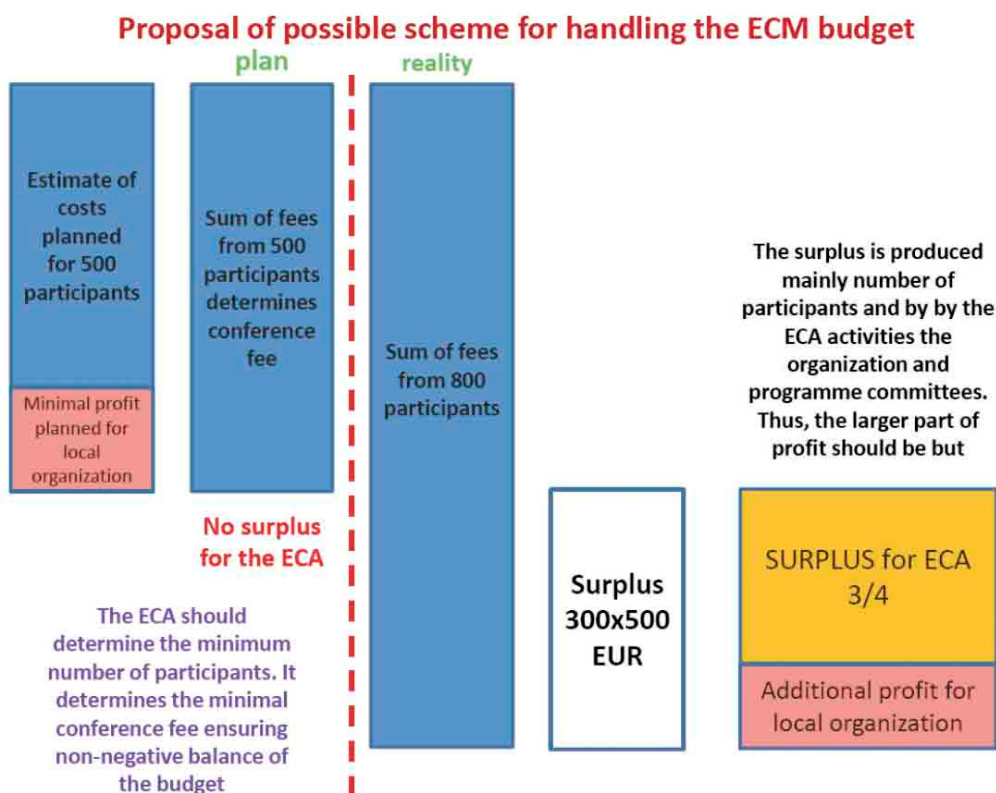
Planning the ECA budget ???

The individual costs for each participant (accommodation, lunches, etc.) should be considered separately from the conference fee and solved by local organizers only.

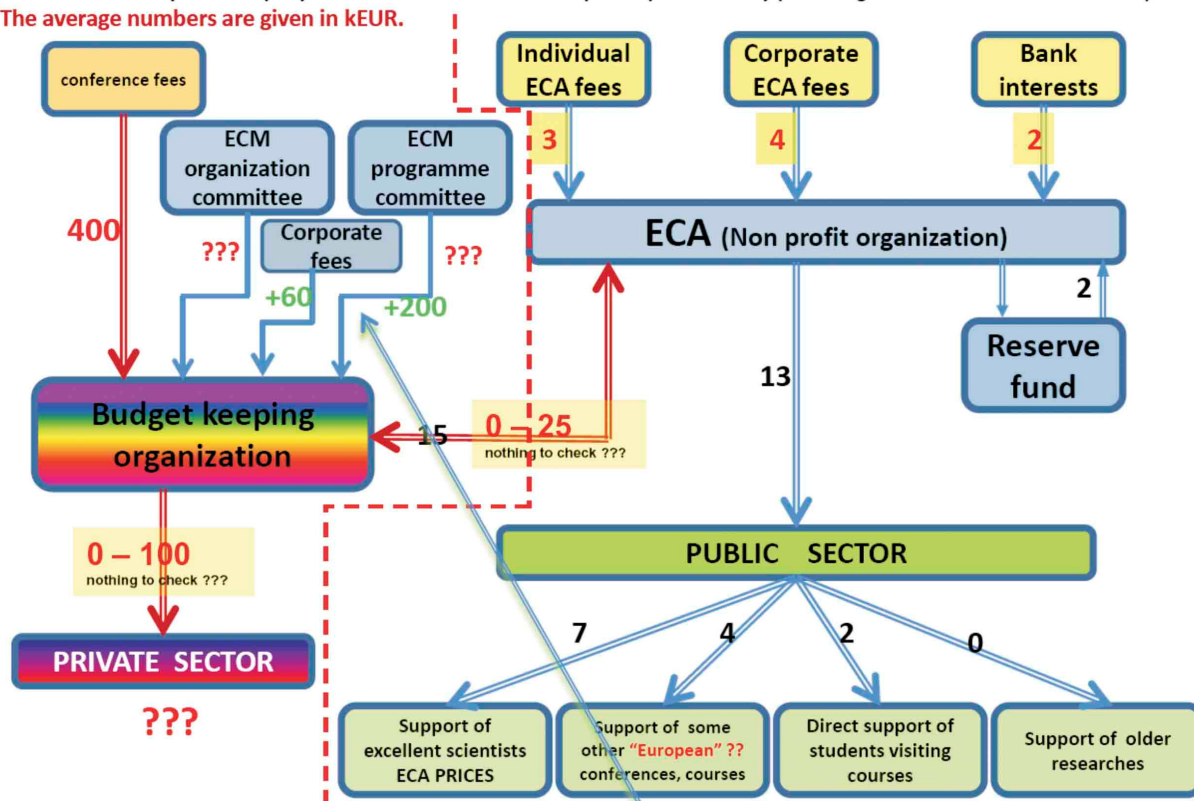
The remaining part of the conference budget should be solved in cooperation with the ECA committee the following way: Facts:

1. Conference costs do not increase significantly with a number of participants (hire of the conference rooms, services, print of proceedings, etc.)
2. Conference income increases linearly with the number of participants

The estimate of surplus: The conference budget should be planned for a minimum number of participants. The conference surplus is estimated from the fee of participants over the planned number of participants (see the following example).



Flow chart of money turnover per year shows that ECA controls only small part of money (on the right side from the red dashed line).
The average numbers are given in kEUR.



Overhead of ECM is formed mainly by activities of the ECA (green numbers) – definitely not by the local organization. Their influence on number of participants and on corporate fees is minimal. CONCLUSION: The ECA should take regular income from the ECM organization.

J. Hasek, Comments to the ECA audit 2012

The former chart approximates the flow of money in several last years.

Conclusions:

- The reserve fund should be kept at 100-200 kEUR. Then the ECA can follow the policy of the balanced budget (incomes = expenditures).
- The idea that the bank interests from the ECA deposits will form important part of the budget is not realistic.
- It is evident that a majority of the ECA money is a surplus from ECM conferences. Therefore, this is the area which the ECA committee should control effectively.
- The written agreement between the ECA and the local ECM organization should be signed for each ECM and should specify the basic financial conditions.
- The collection of individual memberships is laborious and less effective. The payment of the “individual member fees” together with “the ECM conference fee” and a single transfer after the conference would be desirable.

Some comments to the ECA treasurer and accounts:

- The ECA accounts can physically stand in any reliable bank in any country. They need not be in Holland.
- The tax from income should be paid in Holland. However, the local people repeatedly stated that the non-profit organization pays no taxes in Holland.
- The current account should fit best the treasurer’s requirements, should be served via internet access and should contain a useful amount of money only. Co-signature of money transfers by two people via internet is a good usage.
- The treasurers (all with attorney rights) should sign the “agreement of the material responsibility” with the ECA.
- The deposition account(s) should be absolutely safe. The highest interest is a bad criterion. Interests form a negligible part of income only.

- The treasurers, if successful, should receive some reward for their work each year. They have evidently financial personal responsibility, bear some risks and should make a lot of monotoneous work.

Prof Jindrich Hasek stated that the ECA is in good financial state.

Support to the retired crystallographers: senior ECM registration fee
paragraph 10.3 from the Minutes of the Council Meeting in Madrid 2011:

"A researcher who is over 65 and retired could be recognised as in the category of 'senior researcher'. A partially waived ECM registration (like a student rate) fee could be offered to the senior scientists."

Prof John R Helliwell highlighted that this is an intricate and detailed analysis which must be studied carefully by the ECA Exec but it must in his view not lead to removal of income streams. Recall the ACA's assets of 1 million dollars arising from many income streams.

Annual Reports by the Vice-President A. Roodt

4 Annual Reports by the Executive Committee and preliminary progress reports

4.1 Report by the Vice-President A. Roodt also on the Perutz, Bertaut and poster prizes

Brief Annual Report 2011-2012: A Roodt: Vice-President: ECA

1. As office bearer of ECA Executive Committee, contributions via email and personally whilst attending the Executive Committee meeting in Budapest, Feb/Mar 2011, toward aspects of importance to the ECA, and discussions in general, were made.

The two ECA Executive Committee meetings, which were held during the IUCr Conference and General Assembly in Madrid during August 2011, as well as the ECA Council meeting there, was attended.

2. Max Perutz Prize:

Chair the selection committee for the 6th Max Perutz prize of the ECA for 2012, which is currently being finalised. Excellent nominations have been received and the laureate will be announced soon and the prize presented at ECM27 in Bergen in August.

Updated guidelines for the selection process of the Max Perutz prize were presented and ratified at the ECA Council Meeting in Madrid.

3. Erwin Felix Lewy Bertaut Prize:

Chair the selection committee for the 5th Bertaut Prize of the ECA/ ENSA, with co-chair Prof Michael Steiner from ENSA, since the prize will be awarded at ECM27 in Bergen this summer. The winner is currently being selected.

Updated guidelines for the selection process of the Bertaut prize were presented and ratified at the ECA council meeting in Madrid.

4. Poster Pizes: Bergen:

The poster prizes to be awarded at ECM27 are being coordinated.

5. Other activities:

As part of the drive to expand crystallography, also in Africa, a Workshop on Crystallography, in collaboration with Prof Dave Billing from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, is planned for later this year. This will be hosted in Johannesburg directly after INDABA7 which will be held in Skukuza in the Kruger National Park, South Africa.

6. IUCr:

The workshop in point 5 forms part of the drive by the IUCr's Committee on Africa, to which I have been co-opted for a brief period. Meetings to this effect were held at the African Materials Science Research Conference in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Preliminary discussions to this effect with equipment suppliers have been initiated.

The Council approved the submitted report of the Vice-President.

Annual Reports by the Past-President J. R. Helliwell

4.2 Report by the Past-President J. R. Helliwell

Report of the ECA Immediate Past President for 2011 - 2012

In the last year I attended all Executive Committee and Council meetings ie at IUCr Madrid in August 2011 and in Budapest February 2012. During these events, and also regularly by email in between, I have provided a variety of inputs eg on details relevant to ECM27, ECM28 and ECM29. I provided assistance in the resubmission of the Erasmus Mundus Master in Crystallography (EMMC) proposal to Brussels led by our Education Coordinator Prof Massimo Nespolo and in formulating the ECA Scholarship Fund guidelines. I provided an assessment of the potential risks and mitigation options regarding ECA's assets (currently largely in Euros) in the current financial crises.

The Council approved the submitted report of the Past-President.

Annual Reports by the Secretary P. Bombicz

4.3 Report by the Secretary P. Bombicz on summary of the work of the Executive Committee

Report of the Secretary 2011-2012

The secretary is responsible for conducting the ordinary business of the Association, for all the ECA related communications, announcements and votes, for preparing the Agendas and Minutes of the meetings of the Council and the Executive Committee, for collecting and distribution of reports including the annual Book of Reports and for keeping the ECA Archives since 2006.

The annual winter meeting of the Executive Committee in 2012 was organised in Budapest the fifth time. A short summary on the meeting is submitted to the IUCr Newsletter Vol. 20, No. 2 2012.

The ECA activity organised in Bergen 2012 during the ECM27 are the followings. Booths are set up to present ECA, ECM28, ECM29, bidder(s) of ECM30. The meetings taking place are the Council Meetings , the Executive Committee Meetings , the ECM28 Warwick Program Committee Meeting, the meeting of the Executive Committee with the SIG and IM Representatives, the ECA IM representatives meet Individual Members of ECA, the 12 SIG meetings (3days x 4 SIGs) and GIG1 and 2 meetings.

The ECA Secretary contributed to the arrangements of the establishment, announcement and discussions of:

1. the document " Requirements and recommendations for Commercial Exhibitions (ECA/ECM)" elaborated by the Corporate Affiliate Members to the ECM organisers coordinated by the CAM Councillor Dr Tony Savill, elected in Madrid 2011.
2. the members of the ECA Council agreed in a trivial email voting procedure that Profs Jindrich Hasek and Carlo Mealli act as Auditors for the financial year of 2011 of ECA.
3. the application procedure of Irish Crystallographic Association for a National Membership of the European Crystallographic Association is in progress, the vote on the membership of Ireland will take place at the ECM27 Bergen Council Meeting.

4. the call for nomination and announcement of the laureates of the ECA Perutz and Bertaut Prizes
5. recognising the more and more difficult general economic situation the Executive Committee proposed to establish a scholarship fund for any kind of hardship considering both nationality and age. The majority of Councillors voted for the establishment of the ECA Scholarship Fund. The call for donation is alive throughout the year. The first application for ECM27 participation was performed.
6. the Associazione Italiana di Cristallografia (AIC) proposed that an annual European Crystallography School (ECS) to be organized by different nation adhering to the ECA each time on different aspects of crystallography, basic or advanced. The Councillors voted for the establishment of the School. The bid for the first school held in 2014 will take place at the ECM27 in Bergen.
7. the discussion on the establishment of the General Interest Group for Senior Crystallographers takes place before the Council Meeting in Bergen. The vote will happen at the ECM27.
8. the election of the Representatives of the Individual Members happens this year by the IMs for the period of 2012-2015. Nomination and electronic voting procedure was performed before ECM27.
9. The upcoming ECA Executive Committee election will be held at the ECA Council Meetings at ECM27. The Council appoints the members of the Executive Committee on the proposal of the Committee or of at least five (5) Councillors. The Executive Committee made nominations to the Council for the Officers of the Association.

The ECA President, Prof Santiago Garcia-Granda and the Secretary visited Bergen, the Grieg Hall and the University of Bergen in November 2011. We met the organisers, Chair Prof Karl Törnroos and Co-Chair Prof Carl Henrik Görbitz as well as the PCO. The venue satisfies all requirements to hold an ECM. The town and the fjords offer splendid opportunities to spend the free time left by the busy conference programme.

The transversal or networking group system: the General Interest Group which follows the same rules as the Special Interest Groups was established in Madrid 2011. The GIG - Young Crystallographers worked enthusiastically in the last year and already before the formal ratification. The Inauguration Document of the GIG - Senior Crystallographers was circulated among the Councillors in order to achieve its establishment by the Council in Bergen. Senior Crystallographers are active ad interim also, and organize a microsymposium at ECM27.

The Executive Committee continues the practice this year of invitation of the ECA Individual Member Representatives and the SIG representatives for discussion. In Bergen the 12 SIG meetings will be organized on three slots thus no more than four parallel SIG meetings will be running in four different rooms. Meetings will be also held for the General Interest Groups.

The Executive Committee assists and advises the future ECM organisers and bidders along the organisation process. Organisation of ECM27 Bergen, ECM28 Warwick and ECM29 Rovinj are in progress. The documents: "How to prepare and submit a bid to host a future ECM", "Guidance for ECM Organisers" and "Requirements and recommendations for Commercial Exhibitions (ECA/ECM)" are elaborated and placed on the ECANews:

http://www.ecanews.org/Guidelines_ECM.php.

The Amendment of the Statutes and By-Laws of the ECA has become necessary by the years from the establishment of ECA in 1997 and the introduction of the General Interest Group system. All decisions ratified by the Council were posted up the Statutes and By-Laws. Contact with the Chamber of Commerce (Kamer van Koophandel) is held by Prof Luc van Meervelt and Prof Rene de Gelder.

The ECA individual members are requested from time to time to check their Individual Membership of ECA on the publicly available webpage: <http://www.ecanews.org/membership.php> under "individual membership" and also to report any change in their contact details.

Furthermore all ECA officers, Councillors and SIG officers ought to be strongly encouraged to become an Individual Member of the ECA. Councillors should encourage researchers of their country and also SIG officers should encourage researchers of their field to be individual members of ECA.

Sincere thanks have to be expressed to the ECA Councillors and especially to all members of the Executive Committee for their hard work in the last year. Contribution to the work of ECA with new ideas, suggestions and comments are highly welcome in the future also.

For more information please visit regularly the ECANEWS webpage, continuously developed and kept updated by Prof. M. Nespolo (www.ecanews.org).

The Council approved the submitted report of the Secretary.

Annual Reports by W. Depmeier

4.4 Report by W. Depmeier on ECA links and National Councils

Report of Wulf Depmeier on ECA links

I have contacted the representatives of the national crystallographic association in order to ask for any possible problems with their relationships between them and ECA - Executive Committee. There were only few answers. The answer was generally: No problem. One representative bemoaned the high registration fees for the ECM's (in general).

I have asked our contact persons from Albania and Iran whether there was any progress in our relationships, but have not received any precise answer.

I have contacted once more the Turkish Crystallographic Association, asking if they were now ready to apply for the full IUCr membership. The answer was: Yes. I directed them to the Executive Secretary of the IUCr, Mike Dacombe for the technical details of the procedure. In case Turkey becomes full member of the IUCr, it is probably no longer necessary that Turkey keeps on being member of the Regional Association.

The Council approved the submitted report of Prof Wulf Depmeier.

Annual Reports A. Bacchi

4.5 Report by A. Bacchi on SIG/GIG organisation

Report on SIG-GIG activities 2011-2012 by Alessia Bacchi

The main issues that have been addressed are:

- (i) to stimulate the increment of individual members registered to SIGs and to promote the creation of websites for all SIGs;
- (ii) to harmonize the rules for renovation of SIG officers;
- (iii) to follow the initialization of GIG2.

Some positive results for the past year can be reported:

- (i) In the period May 2011 – May 2012 the number of Individual Members registered with SIGs increased significantly;
- (ii) To strengthen the contact with the SIGs, the ECA EC continues its personal meetings with the SIG officers during the ECM.
- (iii) Some common rules for the election of SIG officers have been defined and will be applied starting from 2012 (see item 11).
- (iv) By proposal by Prof Svend Erik Rasmussen, Prof Theo Hahn and Prof Paul T. Beurskens, the establishment of a General Interest Group for Senior Scientists (GIG2-SC) is proceeding. The inauguration document has been prepared by the three promoters; GIG2 focus will be to preserve the

history of crystallography, the archive of materials, to play a part in teaching, and to consider special requirements of Senior Scientists. Prof Svend Erik Rasmussen, the interim chairperson, will call a meeting for the election of chair and co-chair and for discussion of future activities at the forthcoming ECA meeting in 2012. As first possible activity of GIG2 Theo Hahn has offered to give an informal contribution on space group developments since 1919 at one of the first gatherings at the forthcoming ECA meeting in 2012.

Some things have still to be improved: SIG 7, 11 and 12 still do not have a web page and will be strongly encouraged to work on this. A web form for online submission of the annual reports has been created but the activation of the procedure of online submission has still technical problems and could not be launched in 2012.

The Council approved the submitted report of Prof Alessia Bacchi.

Annual Reports by L. van Meervelt

4.6 Report by L. van Meervelt on sponsorship of meetings and schools

Report of Prof. Luc Van Meervelt on financial support

Overview of supported meetings in 2011

Name of event	:	EMU School 2011 Layered mineral structures and their application in advanced technologies
Venue	:	Rome, Italy
Dates	:	9 - 19 July, 2011
Organizer	:	Prof. Maria Franca Brigatti
Amount granted	:	750 €
Report?	:	13 February 2012
Name of event	:	School on Fundamental Crystallography
Venue	:	Mahdia, Tunisia
Dates	:	25-29 April, 2011 - POSTPONED to April 2013
Organizer	:	Prof. Mongi Debabbi
Amount granted	:	750 €
Report?	:	NA
Name of event	:	Electron crystallography: new methods to explore structure and properties of the nano world
Venue	:	Erice, Italy
Dates	:	2-12 June, 2011
Organizer	:	Prof. Paola Spadon
Amount granted	:	1200 €
Report?	:	6 July 2011
Name of event	:	Heart of Europe Bio-Crystallography meeting HEC-14
Venue	:	Zagan, Poland
Dates	:	29 September - 1 October, 2011
Organizer	:	Prof. Mariusz Jaskolski
Amount granted	:	1000 €
Report?	:	5 October 2011
Name of event	:	The power of powder diffraction
Venue	:	Erice, Italy
Dates	:	2-12 June, 2011
Organizer	:	Prof. Paola Spadon
Amount granted	:	1200 €
Report?	:	8 July 2011

Name of event : The Zürich School of Crystallography 2011
Venue : Zürich, Switzerland
Dates : 13-26 June, 2011
Organizer : Prof. Anthony Linden
Amount granted : **1000 €**
Report? : 28 September 2011

Name of event : 5th European Conference on Neutron Scattering
Venue : Prague, Czech Republic
Dates : 17-22 July, 2011
Organizer : Prof. Vladimír Sechovský – Dr. Pavel Svoboda
Amount granted : **1000 €**
Report? : 13 February 2012

Name of event : Crystallographic Computing School 2011
Venue : Oviedo, Spain
Dates : 16-21 August, 2011
Organizer : Dr. Harry Powel
Amount granted : **support via satellite IUCr Congress**
Report? : **NA**

Name of event : XXII Congress and General Assembly of the IUCr
Venue : Madrid, Spain
Dates : 22-30 August, 2011
Organizer : Prof. Martin Martinez Ripoll
Amount granted : **3000 €**
Report? : 13 February 2012

Total sum support: € 9900 (750 € not used)

Reports of these supported meetings are available from the ECA website.

Overview of supported meetings in 2012

The applications received by 1st August 2011 and 1st February 2012, have been reviewed during the Executive Committee meetings in Madrid and Budapest, respectively.

Name of event : Present and Future Methods for Biomolecular Crystallography
Topic : biomacromolecular crystallography
Venue : Erice, Italy
Dates : 31 May - 10 June, 2012
Organizer : Prof. Paola Spadon
Application on : 21 June, 2011
Amount granted : **1200 €**

Name of event : Methods of high pressure single crystal diffraction
Topic : high pressure - ECM27 satellite
Venue : Bergen, Norway
Dates : 4-5 August, 2012
Organizer : Dr. Karen Friese
Application on : 20 July, 2011
Amount granted : **via ECM27**

Name of event : 27th European Crystallographic Meeting ECM27
Topic : general crystallography
Venue : Bergen, Norway
Dates : 6-11 August, 2012
Organizer : Prof. Karl Törnroos
Application on : 31 July, 2011

Amount granted	:	3000 €
Name of event	:	Crystallography for Health and Biosciences - Summer School
Topic	:	protein crystallography, polymorphism
Venue	:	Como, Italy
Dates	:	18-23 June 2012
Organizer	:	Prof. Norberto Masciocchi
Application on	:	28 November, 2011
Amount granted	:	1000 €
Name of event	:	School on Fundamental Crystallography
Topic	:	general crystallography
Venue	:	Mahdia, Tunisia
Dates	:	9-13 April, 2012 - originally scheduled in 2011
Organizer	:	Prof. Mongi Debabbi
Application on	:	9 July, 2010
Amount granted	:	750 €
Name of event	:	European Charge Density Meeting ECDM6
Topic	:	charge density
Venue	:	High Tartras, Slovakia
Dates	:	15-20 September, 2012
Organizer	:	Prof. Jozef Kozisek
Application on	:	9 March, 2012
Amount granted	:	application arrived too late

Total sum support: € 5950

Guidelines for financial support (no changes since Council Meeting Darmstadt)

The ECA sponsors European symposia, schools, workshops and conferences on topics relevant to crystallography. The following rules, accepted by vote by the ECA Council in Darmstadt (August 30, 2010), apply:

1. 5000 € to be distributed each year.
2. Grants in the range of 500-2000 €.
3. Application from the organisers must be received before 1st February or 1st August annually for events planned for the following year and at least 6 months before the event. Applications should be supported by a letter from at least one SIG chair or if no relevant SIG exists by the chair of an IUCr Commission.
4. Dates of conference must be outside of a blackout period of ± 1 month around the ECM's and IUCr Congresses.
5. There should be an official bank account or sub-account opened for the conference or its organising institution, to which the support will be transferred.
6. The ECA funds should be used to support young scientists (under 35) from the ECA "region", with priority to less developed countries.
7. There should be a reasonable geographical distribution of the fellowships. In particular, the organising country should not dominate the list of awards. National meetings should use the grant to attract young participants from other countries. The gender balance should also be taken into consideration.
8. An applicant should be presenting author of an accepted abstract (applies to conferences, symposia and other meetings, whose main purpose is the presentation of scientific results). The successful applicant should become Individual Member of ECA and registered in the World Directory of Crystallographers.
9. The ECA support should be acknowledged in the conference materials, web pages, and announcements. Where possible, the ECA logo should accompany the acknowledgment. Participants should be aware of being recipient of an ECA bursary.
10. Within 3 months after the meeting, the organisers should provide for the Executive Committee a short report indicating how the ECA support was used to help young participants (including a list of their names and email addresses) and for inclusion in ECA News a brief statement summarizing the event (including a short scientific report written by the bursary holders).

Requests for financial support for meetings should be addressed to Prof. Luc VAN MEERVELT, Chemistry Department K.U.Leuven, Celestijnenlaan 200F – box 2404, BE-3001 Leuven (Heverlee), Belgium

(Luc.VanMeervelt@chem.kuleuven.be) using the available application form. Deadlines: 1st February and 1st August annually for events planned for the following year and at least 6 months before the event.

The Council approved the submitted report of Prof Luc van Meervelt.

Regarding the two additional points in article 8 there is still some discussion among the applicants: (1) it is clearly the policy of the IUCr to include all crystallographers – also undergraduate students – in the World Directory of Crystallographers, and (2) a one year ECA individual membership is sufficient (it has never been the intention to ask for a 5-year membership!).

Annual Reports by M. Nespolo

4.7 Report by M. Nespolo on education and the website related activities

Prof Massimo Nespolo was present via internet. He spoke to the Councillors and answered questions.

Prof Massimo Nespolo proposes, based on his wide experience in education and as a reviewer, to setup a page at ECANews presenting critically textbooks of crystallography.

Activity report of the Webmaster and Education Coordinator – 2011-2012

The main activity during the June 2011 – May 2012 period consisted in the preparation of the third application for the Erasmus Mundus Master Course (EMMC) “CRYSTAL”, which has been submitted in late April 2012.

The two previous applications have been classified in the “Group I” (highest rank) but not all the proposals in this group are financed. The marks obtained are not disclosed, so we (the consortium) cannot know what was the gap with respect to the financed project: we could only try to improve our proposal on the basis of the comments received by the experts who reviewed the applications.

The Executive Committee felt that the second evaluation was unfair. In fact, the experts gave a negative evaluation about the fact the joint diploma does not have legal value in France – coordinator country of the project – which depends on the legal constraints and is completely outside our sphere of action (in the meanwhile this problem has been solved by a new legal disposition and the consultancy of an attorney's cabinet). Furthermore, the experts stated that the second application was of slightly lower quality than the first, which is hardly understandable, given that we had retained the positive aspects and improved at least some of those that were criticized. The Executive Committee suspected the existence of some conflict of interest on the experts' side and for this reason two complaint letters, signed by the Education Coordinator, the President and the Past President, have been sent to the Head of the EMMC project at the Executive Agency, where the intention of submitting an appeal to the President of the European Commission has been clearly stated, should the third application be again evaluated unfairly. The replies were not fully satisfactory but at least the Executive Agency knows that ECA will not remain passive in case of further accidents.

For the preparation of the third application, we requested the cooperation of a cabinet in Strasbourg expert in preparing applications for European projects and an attorney's cabinet. The cost (about 7000 €) was covered by the coordinator University. Thanks also to this consultation, we could improve the following points with respect to the previous applications.

1. The problem of the legal value of the proposed joint diploma has been solved.
2. A completely rewritten budget for the project has been prepared, that now should appear much closer to the requirements for a sustainability plan issued by the Executive Agency.
3. The industrial partners, which were previously listed as Associate Partners without having any concrete role, have now been divided in two categories. Three of them (Incoatec, NanoMEGAS, and Panalytical) stay as Associate Partners and offer the students the possibility of doing their master thesis (completely or in cooperation with one HEI of the consortium) at the industry, also financing (partly or totally) the costs for the student. The others are listed in the Appendix, with the respective support letters.
4. A possible conflict of interest in the External Evaluation Board has been solved by using the list of experts of the AERES – the National Agency which evaluates the research and education in France.

Several minor improvements concerning the presentation and the text of the application have also been introduced.

The results of the application are expected in early July. In case of positive evaluation, the applications by the candidate students will be accepted from early September and the Course will start in September 2013.

The activity about the website (www.ecanews.org) was essentially of normal administration, by updating the information on the basis of the news and requested received directly or via the Secretary. A new set of email aliases has been introduced to make them invariant even when new officers are elected. The email addresses of the officers are now: president@ecanews.org, past.president@ecanews.org, vice.president@ecanews.org, secretary@ecanews.org, treasurer@ecanews.org, sig.officer@ecanews.org, meetings.officer@ecanews.org, nm.officer@ecanews.org, webmaster@ecanews.org.

The Council approved the submitted report of Prof Massimo Nespolo.

IM Representative election

5 Elections

5.1 Individual Member Representative election

The Statutes (3.3, 3.4 and 4.2) and By-Laws (1.2 and 1.3) of the Association gives the opportunity to elect three Representatives of the Individual and Corporate Affiliate Members (IM Representative) for the period of 2012-2015 as the number of individual members exceeded 300. Statute 4.2: "The representatives of Affiliate or Individual Members are elected on the basis of one representative for 100 Affiliate or Individual Members, where the total number of representatives is obtained by rounding downwards. Each such appointed or elected representative is a member of the Council (Councillor) and shall have one vote."

The candidates for the role of Individual Member Representative are Prof Giovanni Luca Cascarano, Prof Bill Clegg and Dr Kamil Dziubek. Prof Helen Stoeckli-Evens has also received numerous supports but she decided to withdraw her nomination. The statement of the acceptance of the nomination and a short biography of the candidates can be found at <http://www.xray.cz/eca/vote.htm>

Although there are three candidates and three IM Representative positions, the candidates are strengthened by voting (June - July 2012) in order to get the position. The electronic voting took place in July 2012. As it was ratified by the Council in Darmstadt: the 50%+1 votes is the criteria to be elected.

The three IM Councillors elected to represent Individual Members in the Council are Prof Giovanni Luca Cascarano, Prof Bill Clegg and Dr Kamil Dziubek.

The newly elected IM Representatives are in charge from the end of ECM27 for the period of 2012-2015.

The Council ratified:

The limitation in time of the IM Representatives to be in charge is one term, e.g. three years termination. It facilitates a reasonable turnover.

The number of Individual Members exceeded 400 not a long time after the election procedure was completed. Prof Santiago Garcia Granda proposed to discuss the possibility to define a range of number of IM members instead of an exact number as election criterion to compensate the effect of the fluctuation of number of IM members especially around the ECMs. E.g. 1 IM Representative for 50-150 IM members, 2 IM Representative for 150-250 IM members, 3 IM Representative for 250-350 IM members and so on.

The Individual Members are kindly requested to check their Individual Membership of ECA from time to time on the publicly available webpage: <http://www.ecanews.org/membership.php> under "individual membership".

Nominations to the new EC

5.2 Nomination to the election of the new Executive Committee

The succeeding ECA Executive Committee election took place at the ECA Council Meetings during ECM27 in Bergen. Relevant Statutes to the election: 10.3 and 10.4; relevant By-Laws to the election: 1.2, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2. Relevant Statutes to the decision making: 8.1.b, 8.3, 8.4; relevant By-Laws to the decision making: 1.4, 1.5, 3.3.

The ECA Executive Committee made nominations to the Council on 16th April 2012 for the Officers of the Association. The Executive Committee has converged on the recommended candidates, and who have each accepted the nomination, as per below:-

	present 2009-2012	nomination for 2012-2015
President	S. Garcia-Granda*	Andreas Roodt, SA, FA4
Past-President	John Helliwell*	S. Garcia-Granda, Sp, FA 4, 5
Vice-President	Andreas Roodt	Alessia Bacchi, It, FA 4
Secretary	Petra Bombicz*	Georgina Rosair, UK, FA4
Treasurer	Radomir Kuzel*	Christian Lehmann, Ge, FA 3, 5
Officer 1	Luc van Meervelt*	Joke Hadermann, Be, FA 3
Officer 2	Alessia Bacchi	Udo Heinemann, Ge, FA1
Officer 3	Wulf Depmeier**	Olga Yakubovich, Ru, FA 2
Educ Coord	Massimo Nespolo	Massimo Nespolo, Fr, FA 2

* may not be elected for a further term in the same role

** may be re-elected, but since he has been elected to the IUCr ExecCtte, that would not be reasonable

By-Laws:

3.1 All delegates (and alternates) shall be notified of the nominations presented by the Executive Committee under By-Law 2.2 for the Officers of the Association as early as possible and in any case at least ninety-six hours before the scheduled commencement of the session of the Council at which the vote is to be taken.

3.2 After the delegates have been notified of the nominations made by the Executive Committee, other nominations for Officers of the Association may be made by any five or more Councillors.

One nomination was received by the Executive Committee on 7th August 2012 made by seven Councillors (or Alternates to ECM27 Council Meeting) to the position of Educational Coordinator and Webmaster. The candidate is Dr Fermin Otorola (Spain) who accepted the nomination. The supporters are: Prof Carlo Mealli (Italy), Enrique Gutierrez-Puebla (Spain), Maria Armenia Carrondo (Portugal), Georgina Rosair (UK), Israel Goldberg (Israel), Irina Makarova (Russia) and Dave Visser (South Africa).

All Candidates got some minutes to present themselves.

Prof Andreas Roodt:

He will keep the Executive Committee as streamlined as it can be possible. He underlined the importance of future ECM management considering especially its financial risk. It is an aim to increase the number of Individual Members of ECA. New countries should be involved to the ECA as members of the crystallographic society, focused also in Africa.

Prof Alessia Bacchi:

She leans on her wide experience with the scientific backbone of ECA: the SIGs, with the establishment of the two General Interest Groups for young and senior crystallographers, thus way of networking. She will work for the success of the European Crystallography School proposal and the International Year of Crystallography 2014.

Dr Georgina Rosair:

She gain experience as the Secretary of the British Crystallographic Association, and organisation of BCA meetings.

Prof Christian Lehmann:

He has long standing experience running non-profit organisations, auditing the German Crystallographic Association, and on taxation.

Prof Joke Hadermann:

She is a member of the IUCr Commission on Electron Crystallography and the Belgian National Committee for Crystallography.

Prof Udo Heinemann:

He is the former President of the German Crystallographic Association. He took part in the organisation of ECM.

Dr Fermin Otalora:

He expressed his willingness to do the job of the Educational Coordinator and Webmaster, and explained his experience on computing.

Prof Massimo Nespolo via internet:

He is ready to continue his work as Educational Coordinator and Webmaster. He prepared the European project proposal to establish the European Graduate School of Crystallography in the past three years.

Prof Olga Yakubovich could not be present at ECM27. She sent an introductory mail:

Dear ECA Councillors,

I consider the proposal of the ECA Executive Committee to be the official candidate of the EC at the next election for the period of 2012-2015 for the position of "Officer" of ECA as a great honor and I accept the nomination with gratitude.

My personal data are as follows:

Position: Olga Yakubovich is a leading researcher of the Department of Crystallography of Moscow State Lomonosov University.

Professional preparation: O. Yakubovich received the MS degree cum laude in geochemistry from Moscow State Lomonosov University in 1973, the PhD degree in crystallography and crystal physics in 1978, and the degree of Doctor of Science in Geology and Mineralogy in 1996 from the same University.

Professional activities: From 2009 she is a member of the Commission on Inorganic and Mineral Structures of the IUCr. In 2011 she was selected as a member of the Council of the Moscow branch of the Russian Mineralogical Society. She is a member of the Commission on Mineral Crystal Chemistry and X-ray diffraction of the Russian Mineralogical Society. She works as an Associate Editor of The Canadian Mineralogist (2010-2012).

2011 scientific activity: O. Yakubovich was a member of the programme committee of the "XVII International Conference on Crystal Chemistry, X-ray Diffraction and Spectroscopic Studies of Minerals", St. Petersburg, Russia, 20 – 24. 6. 2011 and presented there a plenary lecture. She was an invited speaker in the RFBR – DFG – CNRS Trilateral Scientific Seminar "Advances in Inorganic Crystal Chemistry: Non-conventional Approaches, New Techniques, Structure Modelling and Prediction", St. Petersburg, Russia, 24.-25.06.2011. O. Yakubovich gave an oral presentation in the micro symposium "Minerals as advanced materials" (Congress and General Assembly of the IUCr, Madrid (Spain), 22-30 August, 2011).

Sincerely, Olga Yakubovich

ECMs

6 ECM Guidelines

The Council Ratified:

The ECA does not cover a deficit of the European Crystallographic Meeting. The surplus is shared 50 - 50 % between the organisers and the ECA.

The document "**Requirements and recommendations for Commercial Exhibitions (ECA/ECM)**" elaborated by the Corporate Affiliate Members to the ECM organisers coordinated by the CAM Councillor Dr Tony Savill was accepted in November 2011 and placed on ECANews: http://www.ecanews.org/Guidlines_ECM.php

along with the documents ratified by the Council in Madrid 2011:

- How to prepare and submit a bid to host a future ECM
- Guidance for ECM Organisers

Requirements and recommendations for Commercial Exhibitions (ECA/ECM)

Exhibitions are under-going big changes, and companies are getting more and more request to sponsor meetings and pay for exhibitions. In this information technology age customers believe that almost any information can be obtained with two clicks of a mouse! One effect of this is that the willingness of exhibition visitors to take away literature from booths is now almost non-existent. Similarly, we also experience a decline in the percentage of delegates at a conference who actually visit the exhibition. Because of this many companies are looking at other ways in which to interact with their customers at conferences. Such events as company run technical workshops in satellite rooms can offer significant new value to a conference by adding a teaching dimension to the programme, and make participating on the conference cost effective for the companies. To maximise the number of sponsors and exhibitors who contribute to the meeting budget it is important to optimise their commercial experience. Therefore we have produced these guidelines for organising commercial exhibitions.

A prospectus (in the English language) stating the most important information on the various aspects should be issued at least 9 months, but preferably 12 months, prior to the exhibition dates.

The prospectus should at least contain information about:

Exhibition Space Rental price/m², Sponsoring options (in all price categories), advertising options with prices, contact person names with their specific responsibilities and communication channels.

The contact persons should be able to communicate well in English.

Enhancing the value of the meeting for commercial sponsors

Other sessions to improve integration with the meeting could include company workshops, and seminars, and a job fair. A Commercial Session can be organised at the ECM by the initialisation of the companies effectively and entertainingly having 5 minutes lectures, no questions. Depending on the first experiences on the attendance the lecturing time can be lengthen and time for questions can be introduced based on advance arrangements in the future.

The programme should be finalised in the main before the closing date for early bird registration.

The length of the exhibition both in terms of hours per day and number of days could be optimised. Three / max four days is ample and opening at 10.00 for coffee break is good. Closing time will depend on the timing of the afternoon poster session. From the exhibitor point of view an afternoon poster / exhibition session is preferable to evenings. This allows Key Note talks to be held late afternoon / early evening and the exhibition area to close. However, if the conference content runs beyond the length of the exhibition it is vital that the most interesting sessions are not schedule after the day that the exhibition closes!

Promoting the conference

Organisers are invited to ask exhibitors to help promote the conference on their web site and in published news-letters. The exhibitors probably have much larger mailing lists than the ECA or national associations.

Exhibition Space

For the exhibitors it is essential to have maximal attention. The value of the exhibition is influenced strongly by this. Thereto the posters should be displayed in the same "room" as the commercial exhibition and refreshments. Note that it is not acceptable to the exhibitors for lunch to be in a different building or room far from the exhibition. For both the posters and the commercial exhibit as well as refreshments. It is necessary to mix these activities. The exhibition, refreshments and poster areas should be in the same hall. It should be possible to bridge the distance between the lecture halls and the exhibition / poster / refreshment area in a few minutes. The value is further enhanced by the continuous availability of coffee and tea with the commercial exhibit and poster areas or at least 2 refreshment breaks per day. The detailed plans must be published clearly in the BID for getting the ECM. If poster sessions are to be held in the evening additional refreshments integrated with the exhibition are welcome. Company names printed on shell schemes are not necessary as all exhibitors display their names on their graphical displays. Free wifi should be available everywhere at the ECM, high quality, faster wifi connection may be sponsored at the exhibition area.

The quality of the exhibition space should be essentially the same for all vendors. If it would be unavoidable to have prime and secondary locations, the respective rental prices should reflect this.

The height of the exhibition area should be more than 2.7 meter. When such areas can not be offered, it should be published clearly in the BID for getting the ECM. Non-profit organisations should pay a lower rate for exhibition space, but they would prefer to be mixed in with the other exhibitors and not put in a row together. National member associations should be encouraged to exhibit.

A floor plan of the poster and exhibition area, also showing the coffee/tea break areas, should be published in the prospectus, complete with scale indications.

Participation in the conference

The exhibitors should have free access to the exhibition areas and be entitled to free coffee and tea, same as the conference attendees. If the organisation offers free full subscriptions to the conference and some of the social activities, the number of persons benefiting from this should be proportional to the number of square meters rented. The full registrations and exhibitor registrations should depend on the size of the booth rented, a minimum of one each, say per 4sqm seems to be reasonable. It is possible to allow a number of full participant registrations per booth but also additional exhibitor only passes. Ideally each unit exhibition space should have 2 free exhibitor passes as a minimum. Extra exhibitors should be able to attend the exhibition only (not as full delegates) either free of charge or for a small nominal fee to simply cover tea & coffee or food (such as EURO 20/day for example). Free exhibition passes for CAMs / Exhibitors need careful accountancy check by ECM organisers, view may vary from ECM to ECM.

Announcements

The exact time table for the exhibition should be published at least six months before it will be held and, once decided, it should not be changed. At same time the dates and times for building up and tearing down the stands should be published and once decided it should not be changed. The general meeting attendees need to be kept out of the exhibit area during build-up and break down. The bigger vendors need at least one full working day to set up their exhibit and at least half a day to tear down. These times should not be colliding with the social events. If this cannot be offered, bigger equipment will not be shown and the risk exists that less exhibition space can be sold than during previous ECM's. The exhibition site must be able to receive goods at least one day (preferably longer, one week) before the date of building up the show and it must offer the option of pick up the goods one day after tearing down the exhibition. It should be made easy to ship to the meeting by any method. Exhibitors shouldn't have to use the shipping company appointed by the meeting. If exhibitors need to use a customs broker, this needs to be made clear. Ideally a broker should be appointed by the meeting and available to everyone. The shipping address for the exhibition should be published clearly as well as the earliest date goods can be received and the last day goods can be picked up.

Insurance & Security

Risks covered by insurance for goods packed and unpacked, during, before and after the exhibition should be published clearly in the prospectus. The prospectus should also mention whether the premises of the exhibition will be guarded before, during and after the commercial exhibition. During setup and tear down the exhibition area should be closed to the public. The access limitation should be enforced. Exhibitor's badges should be distinguished from delegate badges. This will enable security to keep delegates out of the exhibit area during set up and breakdown times and when the exhibit is closed. It would help also to prevent the overnight swag. Exhibitor badges should be transferable. Affiliation (Company, Institute, etc) should be included on all badges. The exhibition times should be clearly stated on a sign or board, so that everyone knows exactly what the exhibition hours are and when the exhibition closes.

Booking

Deadlines should be published clearly and must not be changed during the preparation process.

Accessibility

For heavy display materials the exhibitions area access should be without any mayor obstruction. Capacities of elevators and restricting door sizes should be published in the prospectus. If there would be any steps and/or stairs between the loading dock and the exhibition area this should be published in the prospectus.

Local moving and hauling services will be appreciated and the price thereof should be published, be reasonable and proportional to the amount of work done. However, the use of local services should not be mandatory.

Storage of packing materials

Availability of local space for storage of empty crates and/or other packing material during the exhibition period is required by the exhibitors. If this would not be available it should be published in the BID for the ECM, and in the prospectus and alternative storage facilities for "empties" must be offered.

Information on the participants registered

The exhibitors should be informed of the number of firm registrations approximately one month before the Conference commences. Name badges should be printed on the front and on the rear, clearly show the affiliation of the attendee. At the time of the participants' registration to the ECM a tick box should be included whether his/her name and contact information can be handled over by the organisers to the commercial exhibitors. Lists of participants - those who agreed - should be distributed

to the exhibitors three weeks prior to the exhibition to allow exhibitors one or two mailings to the attendees. Upon registration attendees may refuse to receive these mailings or be listed at all. During the exhibition electronic methods, like bar codes on the name badges, etc. should be considered for the easy transfer of attendees' contract information.

All issues addressed here should be well described in the BID for hosting the next ECM.

Report ECM27

6.2 ECM27 (2012) Bergen - running the conference K Törnroos and C H Görbitz

Bergen, August 6-11 2012

Prof Karl Törnroos presented the numbers of the running conference:

Participants:	659 (47 after July 1)
Students:	114
Exhibitors:	65
Accompanying persons:	13
Exhibitors:	32
Plenaries	1 (2)
Keynotes	16
MS-Oral	238 +6
MS-Poster	264

Report ECM28

6.3 ECM28 (2013) Warwick - progress in organisation Alexander J. Blake and Elspeth Garman

Warwick, 25-29 August 2013

Prof Alexander J. Blake presented the progress in organisation of ECM28 to the Council. The SIG representatives to the Programme Committee are finalised after the SIG meetings. The Programme Committee expects the proposals for keynote lectures and microsymposia from the SIGs in September 2012.

ECM28 Co-chair

Elspeth Garman has kindly agreed to serve as Co-Chair of ECM28. Wherever possible, roles on the LOC are shared by at least two people to try to avoid any failure due to one person's unavailability.

ECM28 Company

The company has five Trustees and one of these, Christine Cardin, has recently offered to fill the role of Secretary. We are seeking to configure the Company so that maximum financial benefit accrues to the ECA and BCA.

Warwick Contract, Banking, etc

On behalf of the LOC I recently signed the contract with the University of Warwick. The ECM28 bank account has been set up and I have requested that the start-up funding from the BCA be transferred so that the deposit can be paid.

Financial Support

An application for financial support of younger scientists, including a request for support of the Young Crystallographers Satellite Meeting on 25/8/2013, has been submitted to the ECA.

ECM28 web site

This has been set up at <http://ecm28.ecanews.org> with some basic information. We will begin adding content after ECM27.

Bragg Symposium

The speakers for the Symposium are being selected by the independent Bragg Lecture Fund Committee of which Elspeth Garman is a member. I believe they are ready to approach potential speakers.

Bragg Exhibition

Mike Glazer and Pam Thomas are investigating the possibility of a loan of Bragg historical material including X-ray apparatus, publications, Nobel Prize certificates, medals, notebooks, letters, photographs,

paintings, films from a very wide range of sources including the Cavendish Laboratory, Science Museum, Leeds University, the Bragg Family, Natural History Museum and Mike's own exhibits. Effective security is obviously a key requirement and we are looking into how this can be implemented economically, for example by closing the Bragg Exhibition while scientific sessions are running. We are interested in extending access to the general public, but that would have to be funded and we are looking into possible sources of support.

Careers Session

This session aims to provide information and a discussion forum on career development, mainly with younger crystallographers in mind. The idea came from a very successful session at a BCA Spring Meeting in 2011, but a slightly different format will be needed for a wider European audience. The session is being coordinated by Paul Raithby and Karen Ruane.

Satellite Meetings

I have received several enquiries about possible Satellite Meetings. The most advanced in planning of these is the Young Crystallographers Meeting which will run from 10:00–17:00 on 25/8/2013. I am advising the organisers of other possible Satellite Meetings to avoid this time because they may lose a high proportion of their younger audience. Other possible Satellite Meetings are concerned with HC1 (humidity control), a two-day computing workshop organised by Harry Powell of SIG9, and a major (2-3 day) workshop on CIF matters organised by the IUCr.

Focus Area Representatives

There has been one change (to FA 5) due to someone changing field away from crystallography:

FA1: Biological and Macromolecular Crystallography	Simon Phillips
FA2: Minerals and Materials	Pam Thomas
FA3: Physical Including Fundamental Crystallography	Jeppe Christensen
FA4: Chemical Crystallography	Bill Clegg
FA5: Experimental and Computational Techniques	Anthony Philip

ECM27 Programme Committee

We have received some very helpful insights from Karl Törnroos.

ECA Individual Membership

We are using the fact that ECM28 is taking place in the UK to promote Individual Membership through the BCA, via the Crystallography News and other means.

Prof Keith Wilson raised the proposal that the ECM participation can come along automatic Individual Membership of ECA. Prof John R. Helliwell answered that this issue has already been discussed and it was decided that individual membership and ECM participation should be a separate decision of the crystallographer.

Report ECM29

6.4 ECM29 (2015) Rovinj - progress in organisation Aleksandar Visnjevac and Marijana Djakovic
Rovinj, 23-28 August 2015

Dr Aleksandar Visnjevac reported the increase of the number of Croatian Individual Members of the ECA from 2 to 10. The Organising Committee is fully operational, the Programme Committee is under construction. There is a logo competition running. The website is launched on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/29thEuropeanCrystallographicMeeting>

The contract with the PCO is expected at the end of 2012.

Bidding for ECM30

6.5 ECM30 (2016) Bid presentations

Prof Katharina Fromm presented the bid for Basel, Switzerland. The budget of 552.100 EUR is calculated with 800 participants. The registration fees:

Category	Early bird EUR	Normal EUR	Late registration EUR
ECA non-member	430	490	550
ECA member	410	470	530
Student	210	235	265
Accompanying person	100	120	150

To the question of Jörg Wiesmann about the costs of the exhibitors Prof Fromm answered that Switzerland is a member of the Schengen Treaty. Prof Carlo Mealli, Auditor of ECA 2011-2012, asked about the cost of Congrex, the Professional Conference Organiser. The bid was a free service of Congrex. There has been no contract yet signed with the PCO. Prof Mealli requests the organisers to show the contract between the ECM28 and its PCO to the ECA Executive Committee based on the experience with former ECM organisers with their PCO. Prof Jürg Schefer reported that the Paul Scherrer Institute provides auditing to the ECM29. Prof Andre' Roodt stated that a small fluctuation of fees can be accommodated, but they can not be significantly higher. Prof Katharina Fromm enlightened that they want crystallographers to participate, therefore no change of order of magnitude is possible, prices may increase with the inflation only.

European Crystallography School

7 European Crystallography School

7.1 From proposal to the establishment

Prof Michele Saviano, the President of the Associazione Italiana di Cristallografia (AIC), Prof Carlo Mealli, the Italian representative at ECA and IUCr, and the AIC board and its Commission on Teaching submitted a proposal on 17th February 2012 to the ECA EC on a **European Crystallography School (ECS)** to be organized, every year in turn by a different nation adhering to the ECA.

The initiative has been considered with great interest at the winter meeting of the Executive Committee. The ECS invites bids whereby organisers offer their own individual concept providing a regular flexibility to the ECS content. It is keeping thereby a dynamism to the field of crystallography in general and training in particular. The ECS should not be a satellite of the ECM. It should not interfere with other schools on crystallography in the ECA region (for example Erice and Zurich Schools). The link of the School to the Meeting would reduce the number of countries. Especially those countries are seeking to held a School and need education where ECM has never been hold. All ECA region countries may apply independently whether they have already organised ECM or not. The black out period to the ECM should be kept. The organisation of the school is a step forward in the direction of the establishment of an ECA GIG of Teaching. The GIG1 for Young Crystallographers should be involved in the preparation of the schools. A detailed description of the proposal on the European Crystallographic School (ECS) and Guidelines for applications to host an ECS, as well as Guidelines for the bidders was circulated among the Councillors on 30 March 2012. The electronic voting procedure took place about the establishment of the European Crystallographic School (ECS) based on the elaborated description and guidelines in the beginning of June 2012. The positive decision of the Council allows some two months for preparation of the bid. The bid presentation and voting on the bids, e.g. the venue of the 1st ECS will take place at the Council Meeting at ECM27 in Bergen. Thus the first ECS may take place in 2014, in the International Year of Crystallography.

European Crystallography School

The ECA regularly provides financial support to schools within the ECA region, including Europe, as well as Africa and the Middle-East (typically in recent years 7000 Euros per annum overall as student bursaries). While still being committed to give regular support to these local initiatives, ECA intends to promote a high level European school for continuous education in crystallography that will become a regular event to be hosted each time in a different country. It will be planned to cover each time different aspects of

crystallography, basic or advanced, also depending on the justifications presented by the organizer of the school. A European School will have the advantage of rationalizing the presentation of closely related subjects in different nations while at the same time optimizing the turn over of subjects. It will also be able to exploit a truly international board of renowned teachers, thus helping aggregate future scientists, and serving as a seed for new European scientific networks. A further important issue is that the organization of a school at the European level will allow funding from European initiatives, such as the Erasmus Intensive Program. In this way, students or young scientists coming from countries where crystallography is less developed will find excellent opportunities for their advanced education and for starting new contacts and collaborations.

Guidelines for applications to host an ECS:

1. A detailed financial plan must be presented following a template provided by the Executive Committee, together with a set of minimal requirements and a risk analysis in terms of expected number of participants. The ECA will in no case be required to cover a deficit of the school, should this occur.
2. An educational book closely related to the topic(s) of the school must be released. The final version of this text we think can be usefully donated to the IUCr, thereby to be published online for example in their Series of *Teaching pamphlets*; the IUCr would be officially consulted as to its preference for publication method. In turn it may consult the IUCr's Commission on Education.
3. The official ECA School has to guarantee a strict adherence to the IUCr standards in nomenclature, symbolisms and conventions, as presented in the *International Tables for Crystallography*. In case of different conventions used in the various volumes of the *Tables*, the last edition of Volume A must be taken as reference.
4. The topics of the proposed School should assure a reasonable coverage, or turn over by rotation of themes, amongst the five ECA Focus Areas, ie as used also to organise the ECMs these days.
5. A reasonable turnover among the hosting countries (ECA National Members and/or Adhering Bodies) is also highly desirable, indeed we imagine mandatory, including with special attention to countries with less strong crystallographic traditions and countries unlikely to host an ECM meeting because of economic or other objective difficulties. By attention to the change of hosting countries a diversity of training in different geographical areas can be attained wherever possible. This may include the need for more than one language of the ECA region of the School's definitive teaching pamphlet text.

Proposals to host the ECS may be presented by any of the current National Members, Adhering Bodies of ECA, through their Councillors.

Each proposal to hold an ECS will be submitted to the ECA Subcommittee on Education (ECA-SE), whose composition will finally be detailed by the ECA Executive Committee, so as to judge the soundness of each proposal

Each proposal will be evaluated by the ECA-SE via the above criteria, as well as with respect to the financial plan. The ECA-SE will assist as constructively as possible in advising on each School's detailed preparation thus maximising the chance for a positive outcome for each. Thus, assuming that an evaluation is positive, a given proposal will be forwarded to the ECA Councillors at least two months in advance of the relevant ECA Council meeting for their approval.

One of the ECA-SE members, appointed by the ECA-SE itself, will be invited, at his/her own expense, to attend the ECS and will then write a report addressed to the ECA Executive Committee. This will also form the basis for an IUCr Newsletter article of each year's school.

The text of the Teaching Pamphlet book must be finalised and submitted to the ECA-SE not later than two months after the school. The ECA-SE may request modifications if the text does not conform to the requirements on nomenclature, as referred to above, which we also see as vital for the future trained crystallographers.

Guidelines for the bidders:

In the year N-2 of the school and at least three months before the date of the ECA Council meeting that has to approve it the proposal will be submitted to the ECA Secretary (secretary@ecanews.org). The proposal should include

- a) School Title

- b) the list of topics with the names of the lecturers (and who should already have been contacted and given their agreement);
- c) the financial plan according to the template provided by the ECA EC;
- d) a draft of the text that will be used as Teaching Pamphlet book.

The scientific aims and contents of the school shall be clearly illustrated in the presentation. Indications shall be provided on the required competences of the teachers, with some emphasis on their international composition of their countries where they work. The presentation shall also illustrate the location of the School, its facilities, and report on the overall costs and fees for participants.

In the year N-1 of the School and at least three months before the date of the ECA Council meeting the organisers have to submit a report of the current state of advancement of the organisation and an elaborated draft of their teaching pamphlet, where the crystallographic nomenclature and symbols that will be used during the School must be explicitly indicated. The ECA-SE will judge the adherence of this first version of the text to the guidelines and may request modifications. Failure to follow these guidelines will result in a recommendation to the Council to withdraw the label 'ECS' to the proposed School.

ECS bid

7.2 European Crystallography School bid presentation

Dr Michele Zema presented the proposal of the Italian Crystallographic Association for the 1st ECS 2014 to be held in Pavia, Italy, cca. 30 km south to Milan. The proposed ECS aims at sharing the idea of crystallography as a unique discipline and at attracting students from all fields of crystallography proposing a path which ideally follows the increase in dimensionality and complexity of the system, from small molecules to macromolecular assemblies. The proposed topics are:

- Basics on matter-radiation interaction
- Symmetry and geometrical crystallography
- Direct and reciprocal space
- Diffraction conditions
- Crystallography of biological macromolecules
- Symmetry relations between space groups
- *International Tables for Crystallography*
- Twins, aperiodic crystals, pseudo-symmetry
- Structure factors, electron density
- Sources (synchrotron radiation and XFEL, neutron and electron diffraction)
- Structure solution: methods, applications and future perspectives
- Phasing and refinement from small to macromolecules
- Absolute structure determination
- Electron density maps and charge-density analysis
- Electron density maps from macromolecular structures: limits and exploitations
- Use of crystallographic databases for crystal structure analysis
- Crystal-chemistry and topological analysis

International Board of Crystallographers:

- Sine Larsen, University of Copenhagen, Denmark, *Member of Scientific Committee*
- Gervais Chapuis, EPFL, Switzerland, *Lecturer and Member of Scientific Committee*
- Victor Lamzin, EMBL, Hamburg, Germany, *Lecturer and Member of Scientific Committee*
- Claude Lecomte, CNRS and Jean Barriol Institute, Université de Lorraine, Nancy, France, *Lecturer and Member of Scientific Committee*
- J. Manuel Perez-Mato, Universidad del Pais Vasco, Bilbao, Spain, *Lecturer and Member of Scientific Committee*
- Vladislav Blatov, Samara State University, Russia, *Lecturer*
- Venkatraman Ramakrishnan, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, U.K., *Lecturer*
- Randy J. Read, Cambridge Institute for Medical Research, Cambridge, U.K., *Lecturer*
- Thomas Schneider, EMBL, Hamburg, Germany, *Lecturer*

Exercises and tutorials will give students the possibility of practicing and make themselves familiar with basic concepts and instruments. There are 4-5 single crystal diffractometers available at the Pavia University. Poster exhibition will favour aggregation and give the possibility to students to discuss their ideas with experienced crystallographers, as well as to create collaborations and synergies at the international level. It may be possible to combine the 1st European Crystallography School to be held in Pavia with an Erasmus International Programme. It would make possible to extend the school to 10 working days: Aug. 28th – Sept. 6th and to increase its internationality. The educational book would not just a reference text on the basics of crystallography, but a collection of reviews on subjects of topical interest. Proposal for the logo of the ECS were given. Proposal for the timetable for both 5 and 10 days versions were presented with slots for lectures and exercises as well as evening seminars. The school programme includes a tour to Cremona, football match between students and teachers, social dinner, opening ceremony and welcome party as well as a closing ceremony. The lecture halls and the student residences were presented on photos. There are about 100 students expected. The students are divided to groups of approximately 20 persons at the tutorials.

Recommendation of the ECA Executive Committee to the organisers: the subject field should be more focused; more practicals and tutorials should be planned; the lectures should be adjusted to the background of the students; the students should be splitted to parallel sessions like macromolecular or inorganic and small molecule crystallography.

Prof Christian Lehman underlined that the European Crystallography School should not be in coincidence in time with the national crystallography schools, the Zurich and Erice schools, German Crystallography meeting and IUCr meetings.

ECA links and National Councils

8 IUCr-ECA link, Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE), and IYCr 2014

The IUCr ECA link is Prof Elena Boldyreva for the period of 2011-2014.

The IUCr has established a **bursary scheme for young scientists** attending the annual meetings of the Regional Associates. It is additional to the young scientist support that the IUCr already provides and aims to facilitate the attendance of young scientists from the area covered by one Regional Associate at a meeting of a different Regional Associate. It helps young scientists from America or Asia to attend the ECA meeting, for example. The IUCr administers the bursary scheme. The aim is to broaden the knowledge of the awardees and enable them to establish contacts that will be of great help to them in their careers.

Rules:

- (1) Students and post-docs may apply for financial assistance of up to \$2,000 towards travel and subsistence expenses to enable them to attend a meeting of a Regional Associate (American Crystallographic Association, Asian Crystallographic Association or European Crystallographic Association) other than the one corresponding to their country of residence/work. Up to five awards will be made for each meeting.
- (2) Applications should be sent by e-mail to the Executive Secretary (execsec@iucr.org) and include evidence of an accepted Abstract for a poster or a talk. An Application Form may be downloaded [here](#).
- (3) The application should be accompanied by a CV and a letter of recommendation from an academic supervisor/mentor.
- (4) An applicant may receive an award on only one occasion.
- (5) For each meeting of a Regional Associate there should be no more than one award for each research group.
- (6) An applicant must have (or create) an entry in the *World Database of Crystallographers*.
- (7) Awards will not be made in the year of an IUCr Congress.
- (8) Applications must reach the Executive Secretary at least three months before the beginning of the meeting.

The IUCr has made a great progress in the update of the **World Directory of Crystallographers** (WDC). The principal author of each paper appearing in IUCr journals is included in the WDC. There is a 20% discount on books published by Oxford University Press, Wiley and Taylor and Francis (Informa Group PLC) to WDC members.

The **Initiative for Science in Europe** (ISE) covers biology, biochemistry, chemistry and physics i.e. all important topics for ECA. The ISE has accepted the request of ECA and welcomed our Association as an observer to ISE in 2010. "Observers are organizations interested in the activities of ISE and endorsing its objectives but that, for legal, financial or other reasons, cannot become full member of ISE. Observers may make donations or provide in-kind services to ISE." The aim of ECA is to become a full member of the Initiative for Science in Europe (ISE) in the future. The benefits of ISE membership of ECA are the impact on the decisions of the European Community, European programs, European research area and European infrastructures. ECA membership in ISE is a good way to increase visibility of crystallography.

Prof Keith Wilson highlighted that the ECA annual budget is *cca.* 100 000 EUR. The ISE fee is 1 000 EUR, it is 1% of total asset of the ECA.

The Council ratified:

It is decided that the ECA should be a member of ISE for 2013. The full membership fee would be 1000.- € per year. It has to be paid before February 2013.



Extract from the letter of Prof Gautam R. Desiraju, President, International Union of Crystallography:

The United Nations has declared that 2014 will be the official **International Year of Crystallography**. The initiative had been proposed by the International Union of Crystallography and spearheaded by the Moroccan Crystallographic Association. The declaration of IYCr 2014 provides a wonderful opportunity to sustain and renew our commitment to this outstanding subject. It has brought us together, whether we consider ourselves as crystallographers, or as physicists, chemists, biologists and materials scientists who work extensively with crystallography and its related techniques. The declaration of IYCr 2014 by the United Nations is the finest endorsement for a subject that has weathered time and tide and continues to thrive. It signifies that crystallography has continuing cultural relevance and, in the end, this is the only justification for carrying out science in this rapidly changing world with its political and social flux and constant economic variables.

This is a very old subject, which shifted its emphasis from a study of crystals to a study of structures over a hundred years ago. Today, the subject is poised towards a study of dynamics and properties. All healthy scientific endeavour can recreate and reinvent: crystallography is a meaningful example of this. This is an opportunity to stimulate and ignite an interest in crystallography amongst students, scientists and the general public.

The ECA has to prepare plans how to use this opportunity, IYCr2014, to celebrate this event raising interest of scientists and people toward the discipline of crystallography.

National Crystallographic Associations, Grouping countries

9 National Crystallographic Associations

Prof Panče Naumov organized special issues of the IUCr Newsletter on South-East Europe covering 11 countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, Slovakia, Romania, Serbia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Bulgaria, Turkey and Greece (Vol 19, issues 2-3-4, 2011).

9.1 Grouping ECA member and IUCr non-member countries to IUCr Adhering Body

The ECA pays the subscription of IUCr (1000 CHF/year) for the Union of the Regional Committee of Crystallographers from Algeria, Latvia, Morocco, Tunisia, Turkey and Ukraine for two periods of 2008-2010 and 2011-2013 by the decision of the ECA Council in Osaka 2008.

The Turkish Crystallographic Association has joined IUCr as full member in 2012. The ECA congratulates all Turkish crystallographers and Prof. Süheyla Özbey, President of TCA, for this important step, one more on the spectacular development of crystallography in Turkey.

The cooperation among the member countries should be continued. On the other hand it is important to urge the member countries to apply for IUCr General Assembly membership for themselves. It would facilitate to enter the group by other countries.

Observer Countries

9.2 Observer Countries, non-member countries

There is no news from the Observer countries in the last year. There are attempts to establish the contact again by the ECA EC without any visible success.

ECA region non-ECA member countries in the status of Observer:

- Armenia
- Belarus
- Estonia.

ECA region non-ECA member countries:

- Albania (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)
- Bosnia-Herzegovina (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)
- Cyprus (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)
- Iran
- Lithuania
- Moldova (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)
- Montenegro (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)
- Romania (reported crystallographic activity in IUCr Newsletter 19, 2011)

African and Middle-East Crystallographic Region

9.3 African and Middle-East Crystallographic Region

The IUCr has created a subcommittee Crystallography in Africa chaired by Claude Lecomte. Possibly new African grouping countries can be organised to join IUCr in the future from African countries involved in the ECA. ECA supports schools and scholarships for and from the region as Africa belongs to the ECA as Regional Associate to IUCr. The ECA is represented by its Vice-President in the IUCr subcommittee.

The construction of SESAME is proceeding.

ECA memberships

10 ECA membership

- 10.1 Enlarging the number of IMs and CAMs of the ECA, relationship between ECA, the ECM's and the CAM's

A prominent visible indication of membership of ECA on the conference badge is required from ECM organisers. Senior registration fee equal to the student registration fee for ECM exists. Small countries do not have a National Crystallographic Association and thus it is extremely important for the researchers from these countries to be IMs of ECA. The Crystal Growth community could be involved more.

The ECA individual membership is a condition of the award for a student bursary from the ECA decided by the Council in Darmstadt 2010. First step to be an IM member, then it would be possible to apply for bursary. The Membership can be checked before awarding the bursary- even by the organisers - on the web site: <http://www.xray.cz/eca/im-payment.htm>. In case of credit card payment the membership can be seen immediately, in case of bank transfer it may take months. The credit card payment method established by Past President Prof Fuess and the current Treasurer Prof Kuzel is working well.

Councillors and SIG officers should be individual members of ECA! Councillors should encourage researchers of their country and SIG officers should encourage researchers of their field to be individual members of ECA. The Councillors ought to be convinced that being IM is almost mandatory to have any representative position within ECA.

The Corporate Affiliate Members of ECA has a Representative in the Council since the end of 2010. Thus via the CAM Councillor the Affiliate Members may perform influence to the ECA Council decisions. It is also hoped that it recruits new Members with the new opportunity that the 'CAM Councillor' has voting right. It is important to encourage the new CAM-s to continue their memberships for several years.

CAM-s should be more involved to be part of the scientific programme of the ECMs, to organise workshops and/or sessions in lunchtime slots as their responsibility. An alternative proposal is to plan 5 minutes within a dedicated session for each exhibiting company at an ECM to present its devices. The commercial presentations of companies either oral or poster should be well distinguished from the scientific programme.

ECA CAM-s may be highlighted by prominent colours on badges at the ECMs. At future ECM-s the price for non-ECA-CAMs should go up by 10% compared to the costs imposed on ECA-CAMs.

At ECM27 a booth is provided for ECA where information on membership will be given and where forms are available to become an IM member of ECA. ECM registrants are directed to the ECA membership fees collection page to check their membership or to become a member.

Reminder is placed to ECANews to members of ECA to pay attention for the opportunity of donation to ECA as an annual or a five years deal. Donation can be done on the ECM or on the ECA IM registration website. Donations received from companies are, as ever, needed.

Report of the IM Representatives

10.2 Report of the Individual Members Representatives

There are over 400 Individual Members of ECA. An annual meeting of the IM representatives with the IM members, as well as an annual meeting of the Executive Committee with IM representatives were organised in Bergen and will be arranged in the coming years also.

Prof Bill Clegg, IM Representative, reported to have very limited communication with the IM members. An on-line forum should be developed to increase the activity. Other ways should be found also to enhance the interaction between the individual members and their representatives to the Council.

What benefits are received by Individual Members?

Individual membership of the European Crystallographic Association (ECA) is the expression of scientific interest related to crystallography independently from the geographical situation. Individual members may elect representative(s) for the Council of the Association thus having influence in decision making.

Individual membership is also possible from countries who do not have a national crystallographic association. IUCr does not have an individual membership system. Individuals are represented in IUCr via ECA. ECA supports meetings, schools, conferences, workshops and gives bursaries to participants. The membership fee is a contribution to this activity of ECA.

Individual members are encouraged to participate in the organisation of scientific programmes via the SIGs.

Individual members of ECA pay reduced registration fees at the European Crystallographic Meetings (ECM). For the time being, the individual membership fee is 10 EUR/year, while the reduction of the ECM registration fee is *at least* 20 EUR for members. Although there is no printed ECA newsletter, ECA members are included in the ECA e-mailing list. Discounts for books and journals published by Taylor and Francis are offered to individual members.

- Becoming a member is not just the pleasure of paying the annual fee. Although ...it costs almost nothing for most people in western Europe.
- Maybe, being an Individual Member gives you good feelings because you are helping to strengthen your professional environment.
- Maybe, you will actually enjoy helping and spending your time for the development of your own professional Association.
- Maybe you are willing to pay because the ECA needs some money for various purposes, for instance helping meetings to get started.
- For the time being you don't get any printed ECA-news paper...(maybe in the future ?), nevertheless, ECANEWS and other activities cost money: at present you will be put on the ECA e-mailing list !
- Individual Members have the right to elect their representatives for the Council (1 Councillor elected per 100 Individual Members). That is your possibility to make the ECA democratic. You will soon receive proposals for such election.
- Individual Members can propose to set up a SIG. (A proposal may be submitted by 20 Individual Members for approval by the Council.)
- Membership of active and well-organised SIG's so that members can influence and participate in the organisation of scientific programmes ???
- Most likely, you are willing to become an Individual Member if you get some money in return, for instance a substantial refund or reduction of the registration fee of ECM's !!!!!!!
- A discounted society rate for [Crystallography Reviews](#) is now available for ECA Individual Members. Details at the [subscription page](#).

SIGs' activity

11 Annual Reports regarding SIGs' activity

11.1-11.14 SIG1-SIG13 and GIG1

A SIG (ideally) includes all the crystallographers working in a given scientific area. SIGs and GIGs organize their activities (Keynotes and microsymbosia at ECMs, meetings, seminars, workshops, schools, *etc*) and choose the best ways for exchanging information. The basic tasks are to circulate information, promote and coordinate activity. The basic tools are their mailing list and web site of the SIG/GIG. The most important activity is their contribution to the ECM program. There are several SIGs which coordinate or sponsor prizes or organize schools and workshops. Some SIGs have a well established connection with the corresponding IUCr Commissions; a well functioning link with all the relevant IUCr Commissions is desired. In order to determine the number of researchers belong to a SIG/GIG there is a multiple choice tick box facility on the ECA Individual membership registration page. At the registration page of an ECM a multiple choice tick box facility has to be included to indicate the SIG(s)/GIG(s) interest of the participant.

The Council approved the submitted report of all SIGs and GIG1.

Focus Areas:

FA1: Biological and Macromolecular Crystallography (SIG 1)

FA2: Materials and Minerals (SIGs 5, 11, 12)

FA3: Physical Including Fundamental Crystallography (SIGs 2, 3, 4)

FA4: Chemical Crystallography (SIGs 7, 13)

FA5: Experimental and Computational Techniques (SIGs 6, 8, 9, 10)

Special / General Interest Groups:

SIG1 Macromolecular Crystallography

SIG2 Charge, Spin & Momentum Density

SIG3 Aperiodic Crystallography
 SIG4 Electron Crystallography
 SIG5 Mineral and Inorganic Crystallography
 SIG6 Instrumentation and Experimental Techniques (IET)
 SIG7 Molecular Interaction and Recognition (MIR)
 SIG8 Powder Diffraction (SIGPD)
 SIG9 Crystallographic Computing (CCSIG)
 SIG10 Closed
 SIG11 Crystallography under Extreme Conditions
 SIG12 Crystallography of Functional Materials
 SIG13 Molecular Structures and Chemical Properties
 GIG1 Young Crystallographers
 GIG2 Senior Crystallographers

	website	ECA individual membership 11th May 2011	ECA individual membership 18th May 2012
SIG#1	Yes	92	121
SIG#2	Yes	47	54
SIG#3	Yes	38	41
SIG#4	Yes	35	45
SIG#5	Yes	89	112
SIG#6	Yes	87	109
SIG#7	No	100	116
SIG#8	Yes	110	129
SIG#9	Yes	98	121
SIG#11	No	64	82
SIG#12	No	139	164
SIG#13	Yes	145	176
GIG#1	Yes	no data	36

Some common rules for the election of SIG officers have been defined and will be applied starting from 2012:

1. *The SIGs are coordinated by three officers: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary. They are elected by SIG members and remain in charge for three years.*
2. *The Chair has the responsibility to promote and coordinate SIG activities, and to report them to the Executive Committee each year. She/he must ensure that the SIG website is accessible and updated. The Secretary coordinates the exchange of information between the SIG and the Executive Committee, collects and archives the documentation on the activities and the reports, and assists the Chair to communicate with the members.*
3. *The Chair may stay in charge for a maximum of two terms. If the Chair leaves his/her office before the end of the term, the Vice-Chair completes the term.*
4. *The renovation of the officers takes place during the year following the IUCr Congress and General Assembly. The elections are preferably carried out at the SIG assembly during the ECM, or by electronic consultations. The results of the elections must be communicated to the Executive Committee within one month after the end of the ECM.*
5. *The rules for the elections are established by each SIG.*
6. *Transitory rules: the limitation of two terms for chairing a SIG will be applied starting from the appointments carried out during 2012, at the ECA congress in Bergen. The chairs appointed in 2012 will have the possibility to stay in charge for maximum two terms, not taking into account their previous service.*

To strengthen the contact with the SIGs/GIGs, the ECA EC continues its personal meetings with the SIG/GIG officers during the ECM. SIG/GIG chairs / substitutes participated on the meeting with the ECA Executive Committee on day 0, e.g. the afternoon of the day of the opening ceremony at ECM27 in Bergen:

SIG1	Macromolecular Crystallography:	Keith Wilson
SIG2	Charge, Spin & Momentum Density:	Birger Dittrich
SIG3	Aperiodic Crystallography:	-
SIG4	Electron Crystallography:	Luisa Meshi
SIG5	Mineralogical Crystallography:	Oleg Siidra
SIG6	Instrumentation and Experimental Techniques (IET):	-
SIG7	Molecular Interaction and Recognition (MIR):	Carl Henrik Görbitz
SIG8	Powder Diffraction (SIGPD):	Radek Kuzel
SIG9	Crystallographic Computing (CCSIG):	Harry Powell
SIG11	Extreme Conditions:	-
SIG12	Materials Science:	Julien Haines
SIG13	Molecular Structures and Chemical Properties:	Andre'Roodt
GIG1	Young Crystallographers:	Laura Roces, Susanne Cole
GIG2	Establishing of GIG for Senior Crystallographers:	Theo Hahn

There are three slots for the 12 SIGs to keep their annual meeting during the ECM. The GIG meetings are held at different times. It means four SIGs meetings are running parallel. The SIGs are distributed among the slots to reduce the coincidence of overlapping interest to a minimum. The date and time of the meetings are announced to the SIG Chairs during the spring. The SIG responsables ought to circulate the date and time of the SIG meeting to the SIG members via their own mailing list.

Prof Robert Cernik complained of the low attendance of the SIG8 meeting. EPDIC holds its next meeting in October 2012. Keith Wilson reported that SIG1 meeting was modestly attended. He was complaining that people do not know what SIG is, the meeting is poorly advertised, crystallographers need to be encouraged to come, and the meeting should take place in individual rooms (it was so in Bergen). Dr Berger Dittrich underlines the importance of the announcement in the Programme Book. Prof Marian Armenia Corrondo proposes to publicise it on a poster. Prof Bill Duax offered IUCr Newsletter for dissemination information on and to SIGs.

GIGs' activity

11.15 GIG2

Special Interest Groups are dedicated to scientific topics therefore General Interest Groups are being introduced related to different aspects (young and senior crystallographers, teaching etc.). The specific rules for the establishment of a GIG are the same as the establishment of a SIG. Description how to start a SIG/GIG: http://www.ecanews.org/sig_start.php.

The ECA is pleased to support the activities of the younger generation of crystallographers as well as of the senior scientists. The ECA supports student bursaries and the meeting of the young crystallographers at ECM-s. Representatives of the young and the senior crystallographers are invited to the Council Meetings and a representative of the young crystallographers is invited to the Programme Committee of the future ECM-s.

By request from Prof Svend Erik Rasmussen and Prof Theo Hahn, involving Prof Paul Beurskens, the parallel establishment of a General Interest Group for Senior Scientists (GIG-SC) was prepared in the first half of 2012. This GIG comes together to preserve the history of crystallography, the archive of materials, to play an important part in teaching, consider special requirements of Senior Scientists *etc.* A researcher who is over 65 and retired could be recognised as in the category of 'senior researcher'. A partially waived ECM registration (like a student rate) fee could be offered to the senior scientists.

Senior crystallographers hold a GIG meeting and also a lunchtime scientific symposium at ECM27 in Bergen.

Establishment document of GIG2:

GIG # 2

General Interest Group

Senior Crystallographers

1. Name of the Group

The name of this group shall be: General Interest Group for Senior Crystallographers (GIG-SC)

2. Promotors

Paul T. Beurskens: PTBeurskens@HetNet.nl
Theo Hahn: hahn@xtal.rwth-aachen.de
Svend Erik Rasmussen: ser@geo.au.dk

3. Proponents (Councillors)

Andersen, Gregers Rom: gra@mb.au.dk
Gørbitz, Carl Henrik: c.h.gorbitz@kjemi.uio.no
Hämäläinen, Keijo: keijo.hamalainen@helsinki.fi
Sauer-Eriksson, Elisabeth: Elisabeth.Sauer-Eriksson@chem.umu.se

4. Purpose

This GIG comes together to preserve the history of crystallography, the archive of materials, to play a part in teaching, consider special requirements of Senior Scientists and any other business connected and concerned to Senior Crystallographers. A researcher who is over 65 and retired is recognised as in the category of 'senior researcher'.

GIG for senior crystallographers would like to have a room at the ECMs where they can get together, and carry out all initiatives organized by this community. Senior crystallographers might, for instance, offer seminars on "who is who" in crystallography, the group could also arrange formal and informal sessions on the history of crystallography.

Old and still active crystallographers might also like to draw attention to the following matters:

- Readability of Conference Programmes and Abstract Books could be improved by the use of not too small font sizes and by avoiding the use of low contrasts such as using black print on grey or red backgrounds.
- Audibility of oral presentations would be facilitated by making sure that equipment for Tele coils and FM in auditoria is activated if available. Ideally, such facilities should be standard equipment.
- Conference buildings with as few stairs as possible should be chosen for future meetings.
- Some of the disabilities that inevitably follow with increasing age may also strike younger people and it might be of interest to know if young colleagues are actually prevented from attending meetings because of disabilities.

As in Europe the age average of crystallographers, and scientist in general, is increasing it may not be unreasonable to expect that the number of Senior Crystallographers may increase at future conferences.

5. Founding Members

Paul T. Beurskens: PTBeurskens@HetNet.nl
Theo Hahn: hahn@xtal.rwth-aachen.de
Svend Erik Rasmussen: ser@geo.au.dk

The following senior crystallographers have expressed interest in the GIG-SC:

Berit Fjærtoft, Ivar Olovsson, Jorunn Sletten, Roland Tellgren,
Karimat Elsayed, Tom Blundell, Mamannamana Vijayan, Alan Mackay,
Ted Baker, Eleanor Dodson and Guy Dodson

6. Preliminary Rules

The *interim* chairperson, (SER) will call a meeting for election of chairperson and co-chair and for discussion of future activities at the forthcoming ECA meeting in 2012.

7. Preliminary Plans

Theo Hahn has offered to give an informal contribution on space group developments since 1919 at one of the first gatherings at the forthcoming ECA meeting in 2012.

The Council ratified:

The Council agreed on the establishment of the General Interest Group for Senior Crystallographers (GIG2-SC).

The Chair of the GIG for Senior Crystallographers is Prof Hans-Beat Buergi hans-beat.buergi@krist.unibe.ch, the Co-chair is Prof Paul Beurskens ptb@sci.kun.nl.

European Graduate School

12 Progress in the establishment of a European Graduate School of Crystallography (M. Nespolo)

Prof Massimo Nespolo could not attend the ECM27 Bergen meeting. He sent a report about the project activity.

Despite the excellent evaluation the proposal has not been selected for Erasmus Mundus Master Course (EMMC). Sustainability should be ensured.

Considerations about the EMMC Crystallography project

Massimo Nespolo, ECA Education Coordinator

My role of Education Coordinator includes a number of tasks, most of which (preparation of the rules for the proposed European School; analysis of the suitability of bursary applications; launching the project of a critical presentation of textbooks, the latter still to be discussed by the Council) accomplished with the Executive Committee and in tight cooperation with the other members of the Committee. The main tasks I had to accomplish, however, was to setup the project of an EMMC in Crystallography and submit the application to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), which I have done for three consecutive years. I report here about this project because it now requires the opinion and action by the Council. The negative outcome of the applications, despite the excellent evaluations received for three consecutive years, prompts for a global reflection about the target and the strategies of this project. I would like to make a summary of the motivation behind this project, the choice of the EMMC, the efforts spent so far, the perspectives, in order to give the Executive Committee and the Council a clear picture of the situation and allow to take a decision about the possible future of this project.

Background

Back in 2007, after a few years striving to defend crystallography teaching in my University and discussing with several colleagues who were in a similar situation in their respective institutions, I started to reflect about the reasons why our discipline is so badly overlooked in the University curricula and why it is so unattractive for students. The successes of crystallography are undeniable, as shown also by the fact the quite regularly Nobel prizes are awarded for scientific works which involve directly crystallographic investigation. The employability is also not so negligible: industries needing staff with a background in crystallography do

no easily find candidates with the right background and are obliged to form themselves the newly hired staff. The situation is possibly even worse for scientific positions with a crystallographic profile. Despite this promising panorama, lectures of crystallography disappear from University curricula, or move from compulsory to optional, or become virtually invisible as a part of larger modules in materials sciences, chemistry, physics etc. etc. My idea was that the lack of visibility is one of the reasons behind this problem, creating a sort of vicious circle: the less visible is crystallography, the lower is its attractiveness, the lower the number of students choosing modules of crystallography, which makes it even more invisible. To break this vicious circle a *degree in crystallography* seemed to me the right solution, although a challenging one. In fact, a graduate in crystallography would be the ideal target for the jobs where a substantial crystallographic profile is required. Also, a degree in crystallography should be attractive given the employability mentioned above. However, it is practically impossible for any University today to launch a Master of PhD in crystallography, for several reasons: the competences required for such an ambitious program span from mathematics, to chemistry, physics, materials science, Earth science, life science, while Universities where laboratory of crystallography still exist have developed one or a few of these competence fields, but nowhere is such a wide competence available to setup smoothly a curriculum leading to a degree in crystallography which would not be restricted to a specific field (“molecular crystallography”, “macromolecular crystallography”, “functional materials crystallography”, “mineralogical crystallography” and so on). Furthermore, at least during the first few years after its hypothetical launch, such a degree may have to face the risk to get a limited number of students, until it becomes an established course with significant outcomes in terms of employability. In a period where disaffection for science is quite generalised and more classical degrees like chemistry or physics are at risk of closure because of the low number of enrolled students, to launch a new program in crystallography in a single University seems unrealistic. On the other hand, a European program based on the specific competences of different Universities, capable of gathering a large enough number of students from Europe (“Category B” in the EU jargon) and third countries (“Category A”), seemed more feasible. Indeed, the EMMC project I have setup with the precious help and cooperation of the colleagues who joined me in this adventure, is wide in scope, detailed, and certainly attractive. To realise such a project, two obstacles have to be overcome:

1. the attribution of a *European* degree, which would make such a program definitely more attractive than just a national degree;
2. a financial support allowing students to move in the different sites where the four semesters will be held.

To overcome these obstacles, the EMMC seemed the right way to go.

The choice of the EMMC formula and the outcome of the applications

The choice of the EMMC came after analysing the existing programs. It is indeed the education program which best fits our purpose, because it attributes a European joint degree which is officially recognized, and it offers financial support not only for European students (Category B), but also, and especially, for third country (Category A) students (“especially” because the number of grants and the amount of the grant are higher for Category A students). It also provides financial support for the consortium, to start the project. However, besides being extremely competitive, it has some constraints which turned out to be more severe than expected. In particular:

1. The EMMC must be *innovative* but *not new*. It means that the lectures delivered in the EMMC must be part of Master courses existing and officially recognized in the respective countries. No new lecture can be added, only what is already existing can be used.
2. The financial support given to the approved EMMCs is considered a help to start a project that **MUST** then be able to exist on its own basis: in other words, the **sustainability** is considered an absolute prerequisite. For this reason, the grants for students are attributed for five years and the last year the number of grants is reduced. The Master can be renewed once, after a new review process, but there is not guarantee that a successful project be renewed. However, a programme that has been approved once has the right to keep and use the **label EMMC**, which is a main objective of our project of *European* degree. After getting the agreement of the Council, I have sent, via our secretary, a call for partnership to the National Members. Some candidates could not be retained, either for financial reasons (it is the case of UK institutions, having enrolment fees far too high with respect to the support the students may receive) or because a local Master with the required lectures did not exist yet. The consortium took however a nice shape and allowed to prepare a program that perfectly fits requirement No. 1 above. The proof is that since the first application, in 2010, our project has constantly been classified among the top ones, being even No. 2 in the waiting list in 2010. Some weak points have been criticised in the first two applications, some of which the Executive Committee considered unfair: two complaint letters have been sent to the Executive Agency of the European

Community which is in charge of the program, pointing out some criticisms to the 2011 application that were out clearly of target: the answers were “political” and pretty disappointing. The points that could be accepted as weaknesses of the program, given the guidelines of the EMMC, consisted essentially in the sustainability and the objectivity of the evaluation of the program during its life. In the last application, of 2012, we worked especially on the alleged weaknesses and even hired a consulting company expert in the preparation of European programs and a lawyer. I succeeded in getting some direct involvement of the industries: Panalytical, Incoatec and NanoMEGAS offered subjects for Master thesis and even a financial support for the students who would choose their subjects. The result of the last application is shown below.

Categories by award criterion	
Award Criteria	Category*
Relevance of the project to the Erasmus Mundus Programme	Very good
The expected impact of the project to help enhance the attractiveness of European higher education worldwide	Very good
Arrangements for dissemination of projects results and experiences, quality assurance and plans for sustainability and the long-term exploitation of results	Good
Consortium composition and cooperation mechanisms	Very good
Work plan and budget	Good

The scientific quality, its attractiveness, the consortium integration all got the highest rank, “very good”. The two “good” evaluations concern “sustainability” (*i.e.* money) and budget (*i.e.* money again). In other words, the project has been rejected on a financial basis only. The latter is not even seriously criticised, because it has got “good” marks. That was however not enough to be retained. It is true that we got an awkward remark, which we did not get before saying “The proposed mobility scheme, although well designed, could be counterproductive; a Master course is a demanding study period and it is not compatible with mobility for every semester. Moreover, the project does not address the issue of incompatibility of academic calendars”. This however did not affect the “very good” evaluation of the project and can be easily prevented in a possible future application by specifying that the academic calendars of the partners perfectly fit the proposed mobility scheme (which is true). It is certainly not because of this out-of-target comment that the project was not selected. I would also like to point out that a concurrent project from the same University, which had got lower marks than ours in the previous application but had strong industrial support, has now been approved. This colleague was in the opposite situation of mine: he had the money but his project was not of enough good quality. He could work on the improvement of his project having already the necessary financial support that was required. The latter is precisely what is missing in our project. This clearly disappointing result requires a reflection on the strategies for the future, keeping in mind Yoda's wisdom: "*If no mistake have you made, yet losing you are ... a different game you should play.*"

Strategies for the future of the project in terms of the evaluation of the projects

The projects candidates to EMMC are reviewed by a panel of anonymous experts on the basis of five categories, as shown above. A numerical global score is attributed and a ranking is established. The projects which got the highest ranks are financed. The higher is the number of projects submitted, the more competitive becomes the selection. Our project has got the highest marks in the categories where we could work to improve it: scientific quality, attractiveness, consortium integration. The remaining possibilities to further improve the global marks concern essentially the finances. In particular, in order to fulfil the prerequisite of the **sustainability** we would need to find a source a **co-financing**. Concretely, this means that the experts ask for a number grants coming from sources other than the EMMC itself, which should completely replace the EU grants once the programme is over. It is now rather clear that without such co-financing we cannot reasonably expect to be selected even in future applications, also because there are virtually no other aspects in our project which could be significantly improved. The question now is whether

we may get such a co-financing. A further aspect has to be taken into account. The current EMMC programme runs in the period 2009-2013. This means that 2013 will be the last year to apply. A continuation of the project, if decided, will be announced in January 2012; given the current economic situation, the conditions of this continuation, *if* a continuation is indeed approved, will probably get more severe in terms of the allocated budget, which means the number of grants. On the other hand, the experience of the preparation of this EMMC project has shown that a European degree *can* be attributed as a *joint diploma*: this is independent from the programme being or not an EMMC. It is important to remind that to deliver a joint diploma with a European character was our initial goal.

On the basis of the above considerations, the following conclusions can be drawn.

1. It is probably useless to submit again the project unless we find a way to co-finance it. A source of co-financing, if found, should be reliable enough on the long term to assure the sustainability of the project.
2. Assuming that such a source of co-financing is found, in principle we do not even need the EMMC: the project could run independently, although the label of EMMC would certainly add attractiveness.
3. Grants are not a pre-requisite to run the project independently: if we decide to run the European Master in Crystallography independently, then it becomes a standard educational program, with the big difference, however, that it is run jointly by various Universities and leads to a joint diploma.

The following scenarios can then be envisaged.

– A reliable source of co-financing is found between now and January 2013, to leave time for the administrative work necessary to submit the new proposal. As a rule of the thumb I would say that to be considered reliable for the sustainability on the long term, at least five grants for Category B students should be found. This corresponds to 500 € per month for 24 months on a five-year program, *i.e.* a total of 300,000 € (three hundred thousand euros) spanning over the five years of the programme, *i.e.* 60,000 € (sixty thousand euros) per year. Given the current economic situation in Europe, the chances of getting such a financial aid seem very weak. In any case, the possible source could be (1) public or (2) private.

– **Public support.** The three semesters where all the students will be together will be in France, the Czech Republic and Italy; for the Master thesis, Belgium, Spain and Portugal are also involved. Under the current flow of budget cuts and tax increases, National support from these countries seems very unlikely. Regional support might perhaps be possible, but normally it is restricted to projects directly related to the economy or developments of the Regions, which has no contact with our project, unless industries interested in hiring crystallographers exist in the Regions hosting the partner Universities (it is not the case for Nancy).

– **Private support.** Private support for such amount cannot be expected other than from big companies. But we do not have much to offer as a return on investment. We can place the logo of the sponsors on the website, documentation, teaching material, even the diploma, but I am afraid that the advantage this may give to the sponsors will be considered far from satisfactory for such a huge support. The laboratories / departments involved could perhaps sign some agreement with the sponsors to give them a sort of priority for the future purchase of equipments, but this is probably illegal, could give rise to speculation on the prices, and there cannot be assurance that a new director will keep faith to the agreement signed by his predecessor. A non-for-profit support from some rich foundation devoted to education would do the job, but I am not aware of any possible source of this type. I have done a rapid search through the websites of some foundations (Qatar foundation, Bill and Melissa Gates foundation, a few more...) but they clearly have other targets and none seem to have any criterion that we might exploit to submit a proposal. That said, I am willing to get any suggestion on the basis of which I will do my best to get in touch with a foundation which could be interested in supporting our program.

– A way to co-finance the project is not found and we decide to go ahead on our own. This would limit the potential public to “rich” students only – those who can pay the additional expenses, with respect to a normal Master, of travelling and staying in different countries. For European students (who would most likely represent almost the total of our public) some help to the mobility could perhaps be provided in the framework of the Erasmus programme. But a significant effort should be made also by the consortium, namely at least waiving of enrolment fees and logistic help to find the best conditions for lodging at minimal cost. A direct, but limited, financial participation (print costs) is required to prepare the documents presenting the programme. Are the consortium members ready to support the programme up to this point? If we decide to go in this direction, this question should be answered quickly. Perhaps a meeting in person with all the members is required.

– The only further alternative I can see is to give up the project. It would be really a pity, considering the enormous effort and the time we all have devoted to it, but if no financing is found and if the partners are not

ready to run the project on their own resources, I do not see further margins to keep it, at least in the current economic situation.

This document is the due summary of my activity as Education Coordinator, elected by the Council, for the last three years. If the Council decides to give up the project, the main motivation for establishing three years ago, a position of Education Coordinator within the Executive Committee vanishes. The continuation of such a task requires, in my opinion, new targets, like the supervision of the initiative of European School, if this project is concretely realised, a critical analysis of the didactic texts (see the Minutes of the Budapest winter meeting), a more direct involvement in the didactic activities (schools, microsymbiosia about teaching at ECM) etc.

If the Council decides not to dismiss the Master project, then I propose the following plan.

1. A call for help and suggestions is sent right after the ECM meeting to the industries (both CAM and not). By October 31st proposals and conditions are collected. If a reasonable financial support seems possible, then negotiations are started to see whether the conditions required by the industries be accepted taking into account the legal constraints in the different countries.
2. In parallel with the above initiative, all the partners are requested to negotiate with their Universities the conditions for a possible launch of the Master without the EU support. This may lead to removal or substitution of a partner whose University does not accept to negotiate special conditions for the students of the project. Should this happen for a partner offering only a Master thesis, a replacement is in principle possible without affecting the bulk of the project. If instead one of the three Universities where the lecture of the semester 1 to 3 are held (Nancy, Prague, Padua) drop out, a major change in the programme becomes necessary and may represent a serious obstacle to the realisation of the project. Answers are required again by October 31st, to allow taking a decision about the strategic direction to undertake and to prepare a new project.
3. In the hypothesis that a financial support is found, the probabilities that the programme is approved in 2013 are very high but nobody can guarantee the approval. In case a fourth application is rejected despite the external financial support, the project should start independently: the partner institutions should express their will to go ahead or not, should this be the outcome.
4. From November 1st to the end of the year the new programme is setup. It can either be a continuation of the present programme, with the addition of an external support, if it is found, or a new programme to be realised independently, as a joint degree not related to EMMC, if an external support is not found.
5. Starting January 1st, 2013, the administrative documents are prepared. These can be either a new EMMC application if a financial support is found, or a set of engagements for the realisation of the independent joint degree, if an external support is not found.
6. The promotional material is printed and sent to all potentially interested institutions in Summer 2013, for a start of the programme in September 2014.

Comments to the considerations about the EMMC Crystallography project

Prof Joke Hadermann, University of Antwerp, Partner of the project

In itself the financial support from EMMC is indeed not really necessary. It is not necessary to give full scholarships to the students. Indeed this will not result in any lower income students coming, but this is also the case for any other study abroad. Costs involved in the thesis can be covered by putting the students on an existing project. Cost involved with teaching should be non-existent almost since the courses already exist and are already being taught. The only costs are then: travel, enrolment fee, living costs. Living costs they would have to pay also in their home country if they would go to live in a student room in a University away from their home town, this is not unusual and these costs should not be excessive. All universities have student rooms, nearby private student houses,...

Of the enrolment fees, also when staying in their own university they would pay half of these at least (in the case that for the Crystallography master they have to pay 4x full enrolment). So that leaves as "extra" costs for the Crystallography students as compared to other students the travel and the 2 enrolment fees, spread over two years.

Maybe companies could be encouraged to sponsor the best students in providing these extra costs only: travel and enrolment fees. They could sponsor the best students based on either their results in the bachelor years, or their results in the first year of the Crystallography master. To ask them sponsoring for a monthly pay is too much to be reasonable for the return they get, but a contribution to these extra travel and/or enrolment fees could be more acceptable. This could be coupled to doing a thesis on a subject related to this company, but not necessarily.

I think that it will not be possible to get the Universities of the first three semesters to waiver the costs of the enrolment. But in my opinion, this would not justify changing the program. For the Master thesis maybe this can be arranged without any enrolment, when the student can work within an existing project. The student could stay enrolled in the university of the previous semester and have two promoters: one of the partners there, for formal purposes, and the effective promoter at the thesis-University. Off course, maybe are disadvantages to this: without enrolment, those students cannot apply for assistance of the International office, but will have to be more independent, will not get a room on campus (which are the cheapest, but there are not so many available anyway), ... In any case, I will make an effort to see if the enrolment fee can be lowered or eliminated for the University of Antwerp.

All in all, it appears to me that even without the help of EMMC this should be possible, especially because it needs no new courses or infrastructure. It just needs students that are willing to do it.

During the discussion Prof Radomir Kuzel highlighted the problem of finances and sustainability. Prof Carlo Mealli added that public institutions should improvingly contribute.

Schools, Conferences and Workshops

13 Schools, Conferences and Workshops

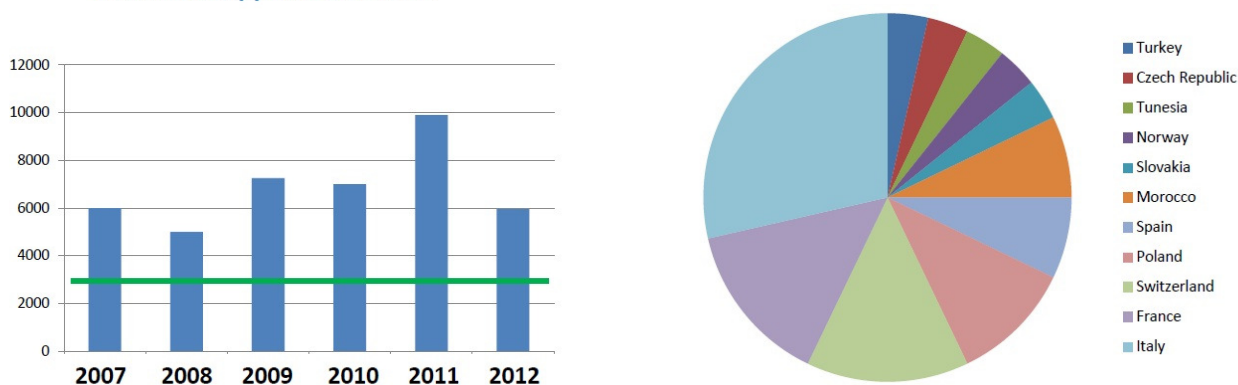
12.1 Request for support from ECA to schools and workshops (Luc van Meervelt)

The Council ratified in Darmstadt 2010 that the ECA membership is a condition of the award for a student bursary from the ECA at schools or workshops. At conferences / workshops an application for financial support should only be considered if the applicant is registered in the WDC.

Reports on the supported schools / workshops are placed on the ECANews website:
<http://www.ecanews.org/supported.php>

Statistics of countries and amount of support in the last years:

Overview support 2007-2012



**Sponsorship of Schools and Workshops by the
European Crystallographic Association**

===== 2013 =====

Name of event : BCA Intensive Teaching School in X-ray Structure
Analysis
Topic : small molecule crystallography
Venue : Durham, UK
Dates : 6 - 14 April, 2013
Organizer : Prof. Judith Howard
Application on : 26 June, 2012
Amount granted : **1000 EUR**
Report? :

Name of event : International School on Fundamental Crystallography
Topic : symmetry
Venue : Gulechitza, Bulgaria
Dates : 30 September - 5 October 2013
Organizer : Dr. Rositsa Nikolova
Application on : 20 May 2012
Amount granted : **750 EUR**
Report? :

Name of event : The future of dynamic structural science
Topic : structural science
Venue : Erice, Italy
Dates : 30 May - 8 June, 2013
Organizer : Dr. Annalisa Guerri
Application on : 28 June, 2012
Amount granted : **1200 EUR**
Report? :

Name of event : The Zürich School of Crystallography 2013
Topic : general crystallography, crystal structure analysis
Venue : Zürich, Switzerland
Dates : 9-22 June, 2013
Organizer : Prof. Anthony Linden
Application on : 29 June, 2012
Amount granted : **1000 EUR**
Report? :

Name of event : 28th European Crystallographic Meeting ECM28
Topic : ECM + satellite GIG1
Venue : Warwick, UK
Dates : 25-29 August, 2013
Organizer : Prof. Alexander J. Blake
Application on : 31 July, 2012
Amount granted : **4300 EUR**
Report? :

Name of event : GRC on Electron Distribution and Chemical Bonding
Topic : electron density
Venue : Les Diablerets, Switzerland
Dates : 2-7 June, 2013
Organizer : Prof. Piero Macchi

Application on : 31 July, 2012
Amount granted : 750 EUR
Report? :

9000 EUR

Prizes of ECA

14 Prizes of ECA: Perutz Prize, Bertaut Prize, Poster prizes and fund raising

Because of the shortage of time this item was not discussed.

Vote on the venue of ECM30

15 Votes

All votings took place in 'secret ballot', as usual, at the second Council Meeting. There were 38 persons eligible for voting: 33 representatives of National Associations + 3 representatives of individual members + 1 representative of corporate members. 21 (>50%) of them were present at the Meeting.

15.1 Vote on the venue of ECM30

Basel won the bid and received the opportunity to organize ECM30 in 2016.

Vote on the venue of ECS1

15.2 Vote on the venue of ECS1

Pavia won the bid and received the opportunity to organize ECS1 in 2014.

Vote on the EC members 2012-2015

15.3 Executive Committee election for the period of 2012-2015

The Executive Committee of ECA for the period of 2012-2015 elected by the Council by individual voting in secret ballot:

President	Andreas Roodt
Past-President	S. Garcia-Granda
Vice-President	Alessia Bacchi
Secretary	Georgina Rosair
Treasurer	Christian Lehmann
Officer 1	Joke Hadermann
Officer 2	Udo Heinemann
Officer 3	Olga Yakubovich
Educ Coord	Fermin Otalora

The Council ratified:

The Council ratified the cooption of the former Secretary, Dr Petra Bombicz, and the former Treasurer, Prof Radomir Kuzel, in the Executive Committee for one year.



what to do - where to go

16 The ECA : what to do - where to go Discussion regarding rules and future proceedings

Because of the shortage of time this item was not discussed.

Any other business

17 Any other business

No other business was discussed.

Prof Santiago Garcia Granda expressed his hearty thanks to all members of the Council and the Executive Committee and closed the Council Meeting in 2012 in Bergen.