

Protocol

6th General Assembly of the Swiss Metabolomics Society

Date and time: 06. November 2020,
Place: Remote ZOOM Meeting (50 Min)
Present: online participants, Board members (Julijana Ivanisevic, Juan Zhang, Christian Berchtold, Julien Boccard, David Tonoli, Pablo Sinues, Endre Laczko, Serge Rudaz, Guido Sonsmann)

Chair: Serge Rudaz (SR)
Protocol: Guido Sonsmann (GS)

Agenda:
1. Welcome
2. Acceptance of the minutes of the 2019 General Assembly
3. Reports and Communications
 a) President's communication: SMS update/register of commerce
 b) Treasurer's and Trustee's Report
 c) External communication / Visibility / SMS Website
4. Perspective 2021 and propositions
5. Miscellaneous

1. Welcome

The president welcomes all members and prospects of the Swiss Metabolomics Society and starts the meeting on time. The president talks the assembly through the meaning of the GA and explains the voting modalities.

Board elections are not foreseen in 2020.

Tobias and Florence accept to continue to act as the Scrutineers for the financial report revision.

2. Acceptance of the minutes of the 2019 General Assembly:

The president presented briefly the 2019 minutes. Those have been accepted together with the agenda by voting (no – abs – yes):

0 – 0 – remaining

Despite the pandemic situation, the board met regularly to maintain the activities of the society.

3. Reports and Communications:

SR presented the SMS participation at the European Metabomeeting in January 2020 in Toulouse, France. A significant contribution from several active Metabolomics Labs has been positively perceived. Flash presentation could be won by Santiago Codesido from Geneva.

The level of Metabolomics Society status throughout Europe is quite heterogenous. It has been agreed that interchange between the societies should be facilitated (e.g. participation at local meetings). Metabolomics in general is gaining importance.

Finally, the SMS stepped out as a registered association at the chamber of commerce. This will now facilitate several decisions within the society (changes on the board) and save a lot of money.

Pablo Sinues has been announced the winner of the 2020 SMGS award for his work in Exhalomics "Key contributions to the analysis of exhaled breath by ambient mass spectrometry".

Status Report on the membership: From about 75 members in 2019 (27 individual members, 43 academia Memberships from 6 institutes, 6 Industrial) the society grew to 147 members in 2020 (81 individual, 55 academic and 11 industry).

The GA is asked to vote on the complete member list without displaying the individual member names (data privacy).

Proposal for 2020 to keep the individual membership fee at 30 CHF per year, the active sponsoring membership fee at 1000 CHF, regular sponsoring members 500 CHF for private entities and the University / Academic membership at 300 CHF.

The Membership list and Fees have been accepted by voting (no – abs – yes):

0 – 0 – Remaining

Financial Report:

David Tonoli explained the 2019 report in detail. The society has to switch bank accounts and change the status of the society. The net balance has been positive, and the society is healthy for a young society. A focus on supporting young scientists has been enabled.

The report has been approved by Florence Mehl and Jean-Christophe Prost.

External communication:

The website is the important communication tool of the society and is continuously evolving. An expertise map has been set-up to facilitate interaction between research groups. All metabolomics groups (independent of membership status) are welcome to join the expertise map. Further projects are posting of job offers or Congress announcements.

The SMS is additionally active on Twitter (517 followers) and LinkedIn (280 connections) driven by Juan Zhang and Christian Berchtold.

The reports and communication has been accepted by voting (no – abs – yes):

0 – 0 – Remaining

4. Perspectives 2021 and Propositions:

- The 2021 planned event (Lausanne) is insecure and might be postponed to 2022 – 2023
- It is intended to drive the national and international visibility
- Further work on the structure and status of the Society
- With the sound financial conditions attractive meetings are envisaged 2021
- Drive the membership gestion and maintain the sponsors relationship
- An online short course (remotely) has been organized by Endre Laczko
- National project (Round Robin) is the vision of the society

5. Miscellaneous and Closing remarks

The president thanks all participants of the online - GA and invites everyone to join the scientific presentations in the afternoon.

Serge Rudaz
President SMS

Guido Sonsmann
Secretary SMS