



Open Meeting of the Section

The meeting was held during the European Congress on Biotechnology, ECB 2016, on 5th July 2016, at 13.30 in the Wiedeń room of the Targi Convention Centre, Kraków, Poland

Attendees:

Jeff Cole, Diethard Mattanovich, Michael Sauer, Tim Overton, David Kelly, Ghislain Baré, Tatsaporn Todhanakasem, Toni Villaverde, Yossi Shiloach, Jan Maarten van Dijl

Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence

Paola Branduardi, Danilo Porro, Pau Ferrer, Jean-Marie Francois, Peter Lund, Peter Neubauer, Jens Nielsen

2. Minutes of the last Section meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting (Palma, 2015) have been posted on the EFB Microbial Physiology Section Website.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes

-No matters arising were raised other than those already in the agenda.

4. Report from the Section Chairman

(a) Brief report from the EFB Executive Board.

- EFB is doing much better!
- Income and expenditure will be balanced
- The journal “New Biotechnology” is doing extremely well; the impact factor rose from 1.87 to 3-2 in 4 years
- The membership number of Personal members has increased to more than 30.000

(b) Section report for the EFB General Assembly

Attachment 2016 A

5. Treasurer's report

- DM reported on behalf of Pau Ferrer
- The section has consistent financial reserves, which can be used for upfront payments to hotels or conference centers, when required. They are also available to balance small losses of conferences, in case required, and to provide some student fellowships for conference attendance.



6. Review of progress in the organisation of forthcoming Section symposia:

(a) PYFF6 - 6th Conference on Physiology of Yeasts and Filamentous Fungi

Organised by Isabel Sá-Correia, 11-14 July 2016, Lisbon – Portugal

Diethard will attend the meeting and was authorized to take any necessary actions for the next PYFF meeting. Emphasis will be to make sure that this successful series will be continued under the auspices of the Microbial Physiology Section.

(b) 9th Conference on Recombinant Protein Production – RPP9

Organised by Jan Maarten van Dijl and Diethard Mattanovich, **23-25 April 2017**, Dubrovnik, Croatia

JMvD gave a short presentation about the planned venue and the organising committee; DM gave a short outline of the planned budget, which envisions a small surplus.

The budget of the meeting was unanimously approved.

(c) Microbial response to stress. This meeting will probably be organised by Conor O’Byrne and John Hennessey in the Republic of Ireland in 2018.

(d) Bacterial electron transfer and its regulation. This meeting will be organised by colleagues from Marseille and Aix en Provence in 2018.

(e) Applied Synthetic Biology. This meeting will be organised by Jean-Marie Francois and colleagues in the Toulouse area in 2018.

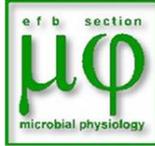
(f) International Conference on Analysis of Microbial Cells at the Single Cell Level

The unanimous opinion that this meeting series must be continued prevailed. The reasons for the low attendance of the last meeting would be reviewed in order to ensure the success of this series.

(g) Strategic discussion of whether, and if so how, the Microbial Physiology Section might evolve, with an invitation to propose new Section activities.

During its strategy planning meeting in January 2016, the EFB Executive Board discussed possible changes to the structure of the EFB, but accepted that it is up to individual Sections to determine their own policies. Jeff Cole reported about the following questions:

1. Should the Microbial Physiology Section merge with the less active Genomics Section?
 - The meeting agreed with the Section Chair that while it would be appropriate for the MP section to assume responsibility for microbial genomics, the Federation needs to consider alternative arrangements if it wishes to cover human genomics.
2. Should EFB reorganize into just two large sections under the general headings “The mammalian cell factory” and “The microbial cell factory”?
 - The general opinion was against this suggestion



Microbial Physiology Section



3. Do we wish to preserve our emphasis on microbial physiology? If so, would proposals 1 or 2 above risk losing this emphasis?
 - The emphasis on microbial physiology must be retained. This focus shall be upheld not in an exclusive but an inclusive manner. Many interfaces to other sections and fields exist. We should be aware of them and make use of them in a beneficial way.
4. Have some of our symposia series run their natural course and are now ready for replacement by other activities?
 - No
5. What areas of microbial physiology are we currently neglecting – and are there willing volunteers to generate activity in new areas?
 - The human microbiome was discussed as a topic that should be represented within EFB

8. Election of Section Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer.

Jeff Cole, Diethard Mattanovich, Michael Sauer, and Pau Ferrer have been unanimously re-elected as Section Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

9. Any other business.

No other business was raised

10. Next meeting of the Section.

The next Section Board Meeting will be held at RPP9 in Dubrovnik, Croatia, in April 2017.