

## EMA General Council Meeting e-Meeting on 8 Dec 2020 – Minutes

### Participants

#### PARTICIPANTS WITH VOTING RIGHTS (MEMBERS OF THE GC AND OFFICERS)

- Leon Abelmann (The Netherlands)
- Johan Akerman (Sweden)
- Denis Arcon (Slovenia)
- Agustina Asenjo Barahona (Spain)
- Riccardo Bertacco (Italy)
- **Christian Back (Germany, Officer for Awards)**
- Susana Cardoso (Portugal)
- Andrejs Cebers (Latvia)
- **Bertrand Dupé (Officer for Carbon Footprint and Digital Networking)**
- Cathrine Frandsen (Denmark)
- **Paulo Freitas (Officer for Industrial Relationships)**
- **Olivier Fruchart (Vice-President, Officer for Higher Education, Officer for Communication)**
- Elinor Galanis (United Kingdom)
- Pietro Gambardella (Switzerland)
- **Burkard Hillebrands (President),**
- **Emmanuelle Jal (France, proposed Officer for Communication)**
- Dariusz Kaczorowski (Poland)
- Maarit Karppinen (Finland)
- Dennis Meier (Norway)
- Ivan Nedkov (Bulgaria)
- Damir Pajic (Croatia)
- Nikolay Perov (Russian Federation)
- Anatolie Sidorenko (Moldova)
- Alexandru Stancu (Romania)
- Raivo Stern (Estonia)
- Dieter Suess (Austria)
- Vassilis Tangoulis (Greece)
- Alex Tovstolytkin (Ukraine)
- Vojtěch Uhlíř (Czech Republic)
- Bartel Van Wayenberge (Belgium)
- Ratislav Varga (Slovakia)
- Nerija Zurauskiene (Lithuania).

#### INVITED PARTICIPANTS

- Elisabetta Agostinelli (Treasurer)
- Kees van der Beek (EPS/CMD)
- Paolo Bortolotti (SpinTronic Factory)
- Eugenio Coronado (The European Institute of Molecular Magnetism, EIMM)
- Dino Fiorani (past president)
- Thomas Hauet (Magnetometry.eu)
- Tomas Jungwirth (President of JEMS IAC)
- Diana Leitao (JEMS2020)

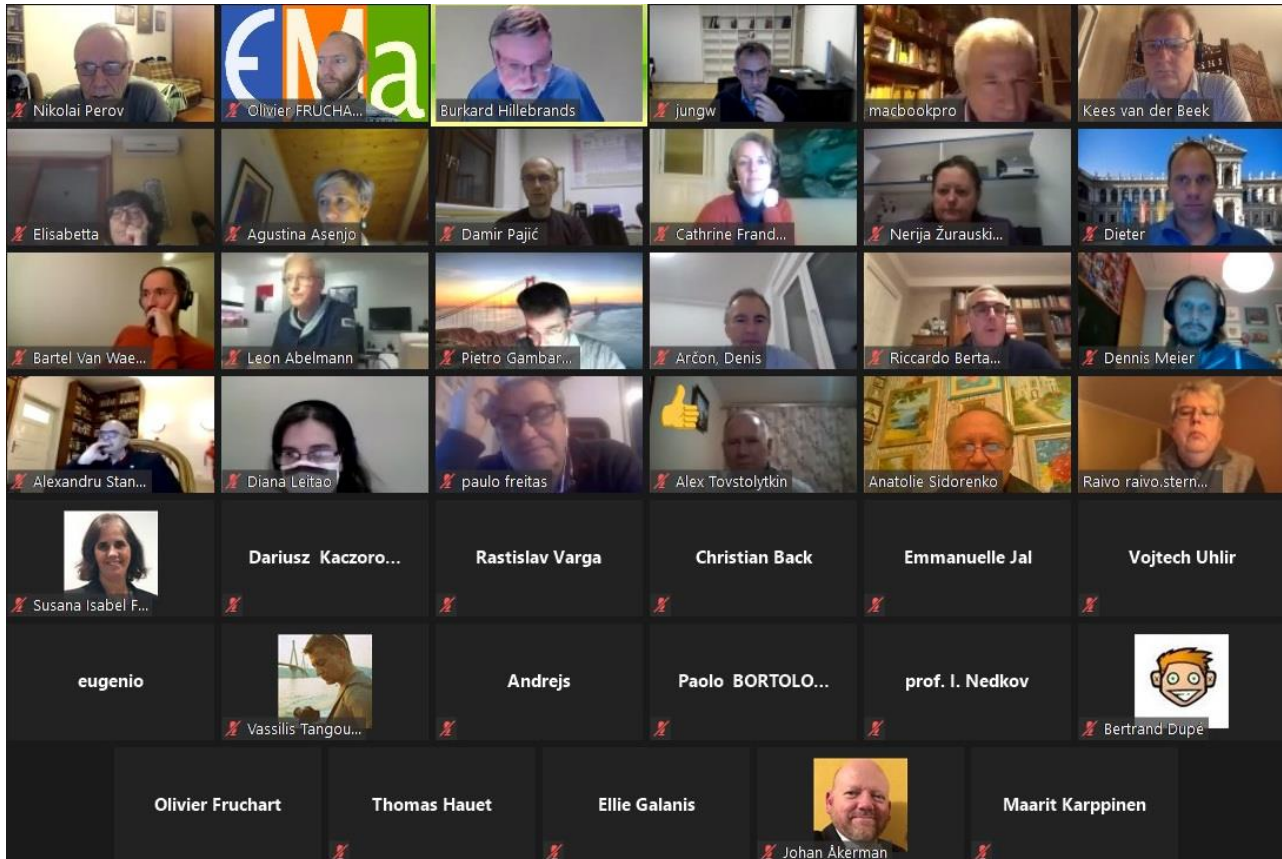
#### EXCUSED PARTICIPANTS

Note:

- The questions raised are reported below. If none were posed, no specific comment was inserted in the report.
- All votes held during the meeting have been made non-anonymously, although not reported nominally in the present minutes.

## Agenda

### 1. WELCOME



### 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST GC E-MEETING, JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup> 2020

The minutes were accepted.

### 3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda is approved.

### 4. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY (EPS) / CONDENSED MATTER DIVISION (CMD) AND THE EMA

A memorandum of understanding is proposed with the Condensed Matter Division of the European Physical Society, represented at the present meeting by the President of EPS/CMD, Kees van der Beek. Informally, the EMA and the EPS/CMD have been closely connected over the past years; the MoU would make this formal.

Kees van der Beek briefly presents the EPS/CMD. It is the largest EPS division, currently consisting of seven sections, with magnetism the first one to be created (by Erich Wohlfarth in 1969). The idea of the coordination is to avoid overlap and competition between the magnetism section of

the EPS/CMD and the EMA, the latter acting informally as the EPS/CMD magnetism section since 2018. If approved, the agreement ought to be effective from 11 December 2020 until 31 December 2022. The CMD Executive Committee has already approved the MoU.

- Votes: YES with absolute majority, no vote against, no abstentions.

#### 5. GENERAL REPORT BY THE EMA PRESIDENT (BURKARD HILLEBRANDS)

This section related general and key facts about the EMA in 2020, some of them detailed later on in the agenda by specific persons.

##### Association

The EMA bank account has been associated with the name of Burkard Hillebrands, in the wake of the beginning of his term as President in Summer 2019. Elisabetta Agostinelli remains the Treasurer. The finances are secured (item #8a). The website has been updated, e. g., now containing recordings (see, for instance, <http://magnetism.eu/school/2020/recordings>, and item #8f). There is a growing number of associated bodies (IEEE Magnetics Society, AUMS, EPS/CMS, STF, the Magnetometry Network, see <http://magnetism.eu/network> and items 8g-j).

##### Elections

The General Council has been partly renewed in 2020, with 17 seats renewed, including three re-elected persons. Detail at <http://magnetism.eu/general-council>.

##### Officers (item #8)

Following the statutes, the EMA President appoints an Officer. However, the official mission may start only when confirmed by the General Council, with a vote during a meeting. An Officer has voting rights during the GC meetings, provided the Officer is not already a General Council member. The Officers appointed before this meeting deal with communication, awards, higher education, industrial relationships, carbon footprint and networking (see <http://magnetism.eu/ema/executive-board>).

Today, the General Council GC considers the approval for a change in Officer for Communication (proposed: Emmanuelle Jal, representative for France) and the appointment of an Officer for JEMS (Tomas Jungwirth, President of JEMS IAC), see #9. Another item is the discussion for the need for an Officer for Gender and Equity: discussion.

##### Web Seminars (item #8d, Bertrand Dupé)

EMA started a series of e-seminars in November. 2020.

- **EMA Plenary Lectures:** They cover a field and provide an introduction to this field for a broader audience, analogous to a plenary talk.
- **EMA Early-Career Seminars:** They provide young scientists with a stage for a broad audience experience, typically PhD and post-docs (no permanent position).

##### Carbon footprint

This year, our key events, JEMS and ESM, had to be changed to online events due to the pandemic. Building on this experience, and for the sake of a reduction in carbon footprint and facilitate access to knowledge, we proposed that all future EMA events occur in a blended format with both onsite and online participation and registration.

##### Statutes, Bylaws (item #7, Olivier Fruchart)

The discussion of changes in the statutes and the creation of bylaws have been ongoing since January 2020. Today, we examine the changes made to the text already presented and discussed in June 2020, for their possible approval.

## 6. REPORT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE JEMS INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### 6.1 Report by the President of the JEMS International Advisory Committee (Tomas Jungwirth)

The International Advisory Committee (IAC) of JEMS was partly renewed, with members elected for a six-year term. The results will be announced soon. Nora Dempsey (Grenoble, France) shall become the new Vice-President of the IAC.

### 6.2 JEMS 2020

- The conference is running smoothly despite having turned into a fully online format during the fall.
- The EMA conveys its high appreciation to the organisers for the effort and success.
- There are 561 conference participants. This is a fantastic result under the circumstances, and the fact that the choice to go for real-time presentations focuses the audience on participants from Europe.
- The budget is essentially balanced, maybe with a slight surplus.

### 6.3 JEMS 2022

The venue and dates were approved by JEMS IAC: Warsaw, 25-29 July 2022, with organisers Maciej Sawicki and Andrzej Wiśniewski from the Institute of Physics, Polish Academy of Sciences. The conference will combine the possibilities for onsite and remote participation and registration. The regular onsite fee is expected to be in the range of €500 to €530 ; the reduced onsite fee is expected to be in the range of €250 to €270. The dinner will cost extra, with a fee around €60. The organising and programme committee report that in their final form 18 sessions are scheduled, providing a broad representation of magnetism.

### 6.4 JEMS2023

Launching bids for JEMS 2023 is the next step ahead, following the recent IAC elections.

## 7. REVISED STATUTES AND BY-LAWS, SEE ATTACHMENTS (OLIVIER FRUCHART)

### Overview

Presentation of the motivation and main proposal for changes to the statutes. The initial EMA statutes contained deprecated aspects pertaining to the creation and rise of the association as well as aspects that needed to be made more practical or precise, such as the process for elections to the General Council, or the proper definition for a European country linked to representation in the General Council. The creation of by-laws has been proposed on this occasion, to split the backbone of the association, which should not change often (the statutes), from practical implementations that may be changed more easily (the by-laws). Both are subject to the approval of the General Council, the former with an absolute majority, the latter with a simple majority.

Both texts were disseminated to the General Council in June, discussed during the meeting on 24 June 2020, and amended since then following any comment received. It is reviewed today, possibly subject to final approval by vote.

### Statutes

The statutes are approved with an absolute majority.

### By-laws

Several meeting participant mention that the definition for being an individual member is not practical, as described in the by-laws. The General Council agrees that at this stage the notion of

membership is loosely defined and an aspect to be discussed in future time (see item #11). Accordingly, this phrasing will be removed from the by-laws at this stage. A point is raised that membership could be an issue for voting to get a majority. The President answers that so far, votes concern only the General Council; there is no general assembly.

- A question is raised concerning the revision in the by-laws: it is not clear who may propose changes. We propose that changes may be suggested by any member of the General Council. This point will be added to the by-laws.

The vote on the by-laws will be proposed via email within the coming weeks, based on a final document disseminated beforehand, taking into account today's discussions.

## 8. REPORTS FROM OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES

### a- Treasurer (Elisabetta Agostinelli)

The financial statements for 2019 and 2020 as well as the overview and balance of expenditures since 2017 (year of creation of the EMA) are reviewed. Overall, the budget remains balanced over the years, the surplus from JEMS sessions supporting the running costs and activities of the EMA.

### b- Honors and Awards (Christian Back)

Two awards were decided in the Uppsala meeting (2019): the Dominique Givord Award, granted every three years (two high-level nominations received), and the Young Scientist Award (nine nominations received, however, one with research performed outside Europe, not fulfilling the rules). The committee consisted of the Officer for Awards, and a few select General Council members.

### c- Higher Education: ESM (Olivier Fruchart)

ESM2020 had to be held online. The ESM Steering Committee decided to reduce its length and programme (five days instead of 11 days), and number of participants (70 instead of 100), to proceed cautiously for a brand new format. The school was held rather satisfactorily, benefiting from key support by Bertrand Dupé and the University of Liège for the e-learning platform and various digital means. The recordings of the lectures were made available online.

The school generated a budget surplus of 12 k€, which will be used to support future sessions. We will use the gained experience to propose mixed participation for future sessions, both onsite and remote.

### d- Digital Networking and Carbon Footprint (Bertrand Dupé)

The series of early-career seminars started in November. The format is specific to the online scenario, with a video abstract, and mentoring of the speakers to make a presentation better suited for the recording. Making high-quality recordings online contributes to fuelling the job market, advertising the young scientists. Please suggest speakers. The plenary e-lectures start in February 2021. Please suggest topics or speakers.

- Question: are early-career seminars open to post-docs? The answer is yes, the rule is that you not have a permanent position.

### e- Industrial Relationships (Paulo Freitas)

The current status is the existence of a list of European-based countries for which Magnetism is key. The roadmap for 2021 is three-fold:

- Define contact groups in each of the areas.
- Establish a contact in the companies.

- Join efforts with other associations such as SpintronicFactory to work on technology roadmaps, which are standard tools in the U.S. and Japan. The roadmaps are part of the tools for leadership.

#### f- Communication (Olivier Fruchart)

- Newsletter
  - Maintaining the mailing list, strength of the EMA, strictly following the EU General Regulation on Data Protection (GRDP). We currently have around 14 000 mostly relevant recipients, largely in Europe, yet also with a worldwide contribution.
  - We wish to systematically put effort into the editorial part in all monthly newsletters, involving the Officers.
- Web
  - Now broadly including online seminars in the agenda.
  - Inserting recordings of seminars and lectures at ESM.
  - Tools: support on Zoom, Vimeo, Twitch channel.
  - Ads, donations for job or event announcements provide more than 5k€ of income per year.
  - Obituaries gathered, and reorganisation of the presentation of the EMA structure and of associated bodies.

Do not hesitate to make comments on the communication and web for improvements.

#### g- Representative EPS/CMD (Kees van der Beek).

Key facts of the activity CMD2020 had to be organised online; Europhysics prize awarded to Jörg Wrachtrup, organisation of CMD29, monthly newsletter sent to 6 700 recipients (25% open the letter), revised statutes approved and implemented, MoU with the EMA.

#### h- Representative Spintronics Factory (Paolo Bortolotti)

STF tries to push spintronics activities towards higher TRL and organise the community for this objective. A key achievement for 2020 is the publication of a European roadmap in spintronics, published in Nature Electronics (<https://dx.doi.org/10.1038/s41928-020-0461-5>). STF also works on lobbying. STF strengthened its structure for communication in 2020, and reinforcement of ties to industrial partners and to the EMA. Connections should be made with the IEEE Magnetics Society. However, at the same time, there should be activities focused on Europe.

#### i- Representative Magnetometry Network (Thomas Hauet)

The historical grounds of the European Magnetometry Network are reviewed, due to an initiative of the Greater Region (2011), a French Network on Magnetometry (2015), the European network supported by an EIT Raw Materials initiative (2017-2020), connecting 45 labs in 12 countries, and also companies. Thomas highlights that a replacement for a network leader is sought.

- Question: can a scientific project enter the network? The answer is that the EU project (EIT) is now over, yet the networking remains, especially through the website. So yes, the network can help identify suitable partners.

#### j- Representative European Molecular Magnetism Community (Eugenio Coronado)

Topics cover organic spintronics single-molecule spintronics, molecular spins for quantum technologies. It involves 100/120 groups in Europe, organises meetings in Europe, and a yearly school on nanosciences, with a large load on molecular spintronics. The current COST project is ending, however, a new one will be requested.



- Question about what can EMA and IEMM do together? Answer: we should maintain and strengthen links, e. g., for linking topics in events. In this respect, Eugenio states that the EIMM is happy to stay in touch with the EMA.

## 9. APPOINTMENT OF NEW OFFICERS

### Officer for Communication: Emmanuelle Jal

Approval with absolute majority.

### Officer for JEMS : Tomas Jungwirth

The JEMS IAC elects its President, here Tomas Jungwirth since 2019.

Approval with absolute majority.

## 10. APPOINTMENT OF A GENDER AND EQUITY OFFICER

This point is open for discussion, not necessarily for a decision today. The question is raised, whether we need such a person, and with which practical task. The main statements from the members of the council are reported below:

- We need such an Officer, as there are many questions that are gender-oriented. We need to compensate for biases, and considering that the largest bias is gender, code of conduct.
- The above-mentioned opinion receives full support. Progress has been made and should be sustained. An Officer should monitor the actions and go beyond gender, and include ethnicity, for instance. We have to be even more vigilant in situations such as COVID.
- Kees van der Beek will be responsible for the equal opportunity actions at EPS, and will be happy to be in touch with a counterpart at the EMA.
- There is an ongoing community of Women in Magnetism, initiated by Laura Heyderman (Switzerland) and Sara Majetich (US). It could be used, and at least a connection should be made with the similar effort within the EMA.
- It is necessary to have such an Officer. One action is a section on the webpage to display statistic in the EMA, related to gender in events, invited lectures, early-career seminars.

There is a positive vote that such an Officer should exist. We should draft practical tasks to start with for this position. A search committee is established, comprising Burkard Hillebrands, Cathrine Frandsen, Bertrand Dupé, Olivier Fruchart and remaining open (interested persons may join). Emmanuelle Jal will seek volunteers in the network Women in Magnetism.

## 11. ISSUES REGARDING MEMBERSHIP (OLIVIER FRUCHART)

At present, membership is loosely defined. There is no formal registration, generating no feeling of neither community nor revenue. This may be a crucial topic for the EMA in the years to come. Related aspects:

- Link with other societies including the EPS; avoid double subscription?
- Individuals or possibly labs and industry?
- Legal basis of the association to make invoices and collect funding.
- Means to implement the easy monitoring of membership and payment.
- Question: do we need more funding, is it worth to implement a membership fee? Answer: not necessarily at present, we have no pressure. However, the sense of an association and community is also at stake.

This item is an important, yet not urgent one. We agree to put it on the agenda again for the next meeting.

#### 12. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

June/July 2021, with the newly-elected members. A Doodle request will be made in due time.

#### 13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No point is raised from the participants' side. We end mentioning the important dates for the EMA in 2021:

- 31 Jan 2021: deadline for the Young Scientist Award
- 26 to 30 April, Intermag (organised by Europe)
- Spring 2021 elections to partly renew the GC
- June/July 2021: next GC, with newly-elected members. A Doodle request will be made in due time.
- Sep 2021: ESM in Cluj

#### Attachments:

- Minutes of the last General Council Meeting 24 June 2020, held remotely
- Revised statutes and by-laws