

ECCOMAS Young Investigators Committee (EYIC) Meeting
Milan, September 14th, 2017
MINUTES

Participants (14):

Konstantinos Agathos (Switzerland), Joan Baiges (Spain), Krzysztof Bzowski (Poland), Ludovic Chamoin (France), Massimiliano Cremonesi (Italy), Stefanie Elgeti (Germany), Juha Jeronen (Finland), Tomislav Lesicar (Croatia), Simone Morganti (Italy), Alexander Popp (Germany), Carlos Quental (Portugal), Carmen Rodrigo (Spain), Frans van der Meer (The Netherlands), Francois Vilar (France)

A) REPORT ON CURRENT ACTIVITIES 2016/17

The largest part of the meeting was devoted to a report on recent ECCOMAS activities, and in particular young investigator related activities, by the two co-chairpersons Stefanie Elgeti and Alexander Popp. Among the discussed topics were the following:

(1) ECCOMAS Meetings 2017

Meetings of all three main organs of ECCOMAS (Managing Board, Executive Council, General Assembly) took place in Vienna in May 2017, and EYIC has been represented there by Stefanie Elgeti. The most important decision was the election of a new Executive Council 2017-2021 with Michal Kleiber (Poland) as new ECCOMAS President. Also, a possible future change of the ECCOMAS membership structure has been discussed, since currently no individuals can be members of ECCOMAS directly, but only through a national / regional association. Finally, there are attempts to move the legal basis of ECCOMAS from France (historically) to Spain (where the ECCOMAS office is located). As last project of the old managing board, a comprehensive ECCOMAS brochure has been prepared (see attached file).

(2) ECCOMAS PhD Olympiad 2017

The PhD Olympiad 2017 has been organized in conjunction with the Young Investigators Conference in Milan, and the EYIC has supported both the preparation phase and the actual organization (Joan Baiges and Frans van der Meer served on the evaluation panel). Generally speaking, the organization has seen great improvements over recent years, which is mostly due to the efforts and early planning of Massimiliano Cremonesi. However, as Massimiliano Cremonesi, Ludovic Chamoin and others point out, there is still room for improvements:

- the text on the ECCOMAS website should be updated, some sentences need clarification
- the rules (i.e. the link to the website) should be provided to the participants in advance
- the winner of the ECCOMAS PhD awards should be officially announced by ECCOMAS before invitations to the PhD Olympiad are sent out
- the financial support rules ("up to 500 Euro") should be clarified with ECCOMAS
- the schedule for 2018 will be very tight (ECCM in June), organizers shall be contacted soon

(3) Young Investigator Activities at ECCM-ECFD 2018 in Glasgow

Several activities from among EYIC members have been planned for the ECCM-ECFD 2018 conference in Glasgow (11-15 June 2018). Among these is the second edition of the so-called "Young Investigators Minisymposium" (organized by Joan Baiges, Ludovic Chamoin, Stefanie Elgeti, Alexander Popp, Jaan-Willem Simon, Frans van der Meer), where new scientific formats such as presentation in pairs are experimented with. Alexander Popp gives an overview of the

minisymposium format and asks for support in finding speakers (an invitation with all details is attached). Also, a Science Slam (organized by Stefanie Elgeti, Alexander Popp, Jaan-Willem Simon) will take place at ECCM-ECFD 2018 in analogy to the very successful edition at YIC 2015. Again, all committee members are asked for support in finding speakers, ideally also one or two “big names” (a link to the videos of the last Science Slam is attached).

(4) ECCOMAS in Social Media

The last executive council (with President Ekkehard Ramm) has asked EYIC to help promote ECCOMAS in Social Media and other private / professional web-based networks. A first big step has been taken by the creation of an ECCOMAS Facebook Group (organized by Tero Tuovinen and others in Jyväskylä / Finland). The idea is to have postings from conferences, young investigator meetings and other interesting events in reasonable time intervals. Therefore, all EYIC members are encouraged to become members of the group and to also obtain administrator status (by writing a short e-mail to Tero Tuovinen: tero.tuovinen@jyu.fi with Alexander Popp and Stefanie Elgeti in Cc:). Also, membership and participation should be encouraged within all national / regional associations. Beyond Facebook, the possibility of creating an ECCOMAS LinkedIn profile is discussed. While certain dangers are identified (“it is embarrassing if no activity can be seen on such a page”), the majority agrees that this would be a good idea to have also an ECCOMAS representation in a big professional network. Alexander Popp will ask for volunteers to help the ECCOMAS office in Barcelona to set up such a LinkedIn profile in an e-mail to all EYIC members soon.

(5) ECCOMAS Website and Job Database

The planning and preparation for a new ECCOMAS website has started, and this website should also contain a job database (with open PhD / Postdoc positions) as an important new feature that would be particularly beneficial for young researchers. Alexander Popp reports on the current state of the preparations (the design and implementation are mainly done at CIMNE in Barcelona, in collaboration with the new ECCOMAS Secretariat Alessio Bazzanella).

(6) Announcement of YIC 2019

The right to host the next Young Investigators Conference YIC 2019 has been awarded to Krakow (Poland), with the two conference chairmen Konrad Perzynski and Krzysztof Bzowski. In a short presentation, Krzysztof Bzowski gives an overview of the organization proposal (the presentation slides are attached). EYIC assures the two organizers of its full support in all matters regarding a successful preparation and organization of YIC 2019.

(7) Miscellaneous

Alexander Popp thanks Stefanie Elgeti for contacting all national / regional associations and for bringing the EYIC member list up-to-date over the last few months. Also, he thanks all contributors to the so-called Young Investigators Section (6 pages) in the last edition of the ECCOMAS Newsletter 2017. The ECCOMAS Newsletter 2018 will have to be prepared soon. Finally, the upcoming WCCM 2020 conference in Paris is mentioned, where ECCOMAS would like to have a special emphasis on Young Investigator related activities.

(B) DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

For several upcoming activities, volunteers are needed. Alexander Popp gives an overview of the most important upcoming tasks, which mainly consist of the following:

(1) ECCOMAS Newsletter 2018

The next ECCOMAS Newsletter will be put together by Charles Augarde (U.K.) as responsible editor. The deadline for the contributions will be some time in fall 2017. For the young investigators section, the following contributions are required:

- a short technical paper (4 pages): N.N., in 2017 this had been done by Juha Jeronen
- a short report on the YIC 2017 conference (1-2 pages): Massimiliano Cremonesi
- an announcement of YIC 2019 (1-2 pages): Krzysztof Bzowski
- a short report on the CSMA Young Section meeting (1-2 pages): Ludovic Chamoin
- short overall report on EYIC activities (1-2 pages): Stefanie Elgeti, Alexander Popp

(2) Other Tasks

Alexander Popp recollects the aforementioned tasks that need to be addressed over the next few months. In particular, the following tasks are highlighted:

- find participants for Young Investigators Minisymposium at ECCM-ECFD 2018
- find participants for Science Slam at ECCM-ECFD 2018
- help creating an ECCOMAS LinkedIn profile page
- generate ideas for young investigator activities at ECCOMAS Congress / WCCM 2020 (some first ideas put together by Juha Jeronen are attached)
- collect the experience from YIC 2012, 2013, 2015 and 2017 in a report / handbook
- improve EYIC rules of nomination, membership, etc. and include in ECCOMAS brochure

Due to time limitations, the mentioned tasks cannot be worked on during this EYIC meeting. While the next regular EYIC meeting will take place during ECCM-ECFD 2018 in Glasgow (11-15 June 2018), an additional two-day EYIC meeting in-between is discussed. Stefanie Elgeti and Alexander Popp will try to identify possible dates for such a meeting, which could again take place in Aachen / Germany (just in like in 2016).

Attachments

annex01.pdf Invitation to the Young Investigators Minisymposium at ECCM 2018

annex02.pdf Link to the Science Slam Videos at YIC 2015

annex03.pdf Presentation slides for YIC 2019

annex04.pdf Ideas for innovative activities at ECCOMAS Congress / WCCM 2020

annex05.pdf ECCOMAS brochure 2017