ERC SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL
41st PLENARY MEETING, BRATISLAVA
18 June 2013
MINUTES

TUESDAY 18 June 2013

Scientific Council members present (in alphabetical order): Prof. Klaus BOCK, Prof. Nicholas CANNY, Prof. Sierd CLOETINGH, Prof. Tomasz DIETL, Prof. Athene DONALD, Prof. Carlos M. DUARTE, Prof. Barbara ENSOLI, Dr. Daniel ESTEVE, Prof. Pavel EXNER, Prof. Reinhard GENZEL, Dr. Tim HUNT, Prof. Matthias KLEINER, Prof. Eva KONDOROSI, Prof. Helga NOWOTNY, Prof. Alain PEYRAUBE, Prof. Mart SAARMA, Prof. Nuria SEBASTIAN GALLES, Prof. Isabelle VERNOS, Prof. Reinhilde VEUGELERS

Scientific Council members excused (in alphabetical order): Prof. Daniel DOLEV, Prof. Carl-Henrik HELDIN, Prof. Anna TRAMONTANO

ERC Secretary General: Prof. Donald DINGWELL

ERC Executive Agency staff present: Pablo AMOR, Theodore PAPAZOGLOU, Massimo GAUDINA, José LABASTIDA, Alejandro MARTIN HOBDAY, Ana LONNROTH, Mechtild MAY, George TE KOLSTE, Maria OLIVAN AVILES, Ben TURNER, Severina SHOPOVA, Marie ROBERTI, Madeleine DRIELSMA, Samantha CHRISTEY, Sabine SIMMROSS

Chair of the meeting: Prof. Helga NOWOTNY, ERC Scientific Council

Advisor of the Chair: Dr. Thomas KŐENIG

Rapporteur: Severina SHOPOVA, ERC Executive Agency

Session 1

1. Welcome of new ScC members, plans and goals of meeting

Prof. Nowotny welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Prof. Nowotny also congratulated Prof. Dingwell and Prof. Cloetingh on their recent awards. Prof. Dingwell received the 2013 Norman Levi Bowen Award of the world's largest geo-scientific organisation, the American Geophysical Union. Prof. Cloetingh received the 2013 Arthur Holmes Medal and honorary membership in recognition of his contributions to understanding processes of solid earth dynamics, particularly lithospheric evolution, and for placing them in a broad framework that has been confirmed by observations.
2. Adoption of agenda and point summary of the 40th plenary meeting of the ERC Scientific Council in Brussels on 19 and 20 March 2013

- The Agenda of the 41st plenary meeting was adopted.
- The Minutes of the 40th plenary session of the ERC Scientific Council (ScC) were adopted without any changes.

3. Update on recent meetings and activities

3.1 ERC Board meetings on 17 April and 3 June 2013

An update was given on recent meetings, including the Board meetings on 17 April and 3 June 2013 and the discussions that took place.

4. Working groups and Standing Committees update

Working group on Gender balance

The Chair of the WG, Prof. Vernos, gave a report from the meeting of the WG on 17 June 2013. A main point for discussion was the Workshop to be organised by the WG on 2 December 2013 in Brussels. Moreover, she noted the state of play of the CSA2012 project, ERCAREER and the CSA2013 call. In addition, an analysis of a number of panels from the SH, LS and PE domain has been made in terms of women panel members and success rates of women. Looking into the numbers, no correlation between the number of women in the panel and the success rate for women applicants was detected.

Working group on Innovation and relations with industry

The Chair of the WG, Prof. Cloetingh, gave a short report from the last meeting of the WG which took place on 17 June 2013. He also referred to the positive evolution of the PoC submission numbers.

Working group on Widening Participation

The Chair of the WG, Prof. Peyraube gave an overview of the discussions during the last WG meeting on 17 June 2013. Prof. Dingwell reported on his trips (ERC Global Campaign) so far. Also, some National Contact Points are being set up in the wake of the visits and most research councils are very interested in bilateral affiliations.

Working group on Open Access

The Chair of the WG, Prof. Canny, gave an update on recent activities of the WG.

Working group on KPIs (Key performance indicators)

The Chair of the WG, Prof. Veugelers, reported on the first meeting since the set-up of the WG, which took place on 17 June 2013. She outlined the ambitious aims of the group and the approach that they hoped to follow.

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1 If any necessary changes in the point summary are proposed, a written proposal in advance will be appreciated.
ScC Standing Committees update

Committee on Panels (CoP)
In the absence of the Chair of the CoP, Prof. Heldin, Prof. Nowotny gave an update on the work of the Committee and informed the ScC members on some updates with respect to the policy and procedures for the selection of ERC peer reviewers.

Committee on Conflict of interest, Ethics and Scientific misconduct (CoIME)
The Chair of the CoIME, Prof. Exner, gave a report from the last meeting of the Committee on 17 June 2013 and the Committee’s recent activities.

5. Communication activities update

The ERCEA gave an update on recent communication activities. The ERC information event in Bratislava on 17 June 2013 was mentioned, as well as the press conference which preceded the event. An overview of past and future events with ERC presence was given, including trips of the Secretary General as part of the global campaign. A number of press and dissemination activities were also noted. Furthermore, Prof. Donald and Prof. Duarte explained their activities on important daily blogs and newspapers.

The ScC thanked the communications team for all the good work done in the past years, which is much appreciated.

Session 2

6. Update on the Work programme 2014

The ERCEA gave an overview of the main points for the Work Programme 2014 and the ScC had a discussion on those. The main items included budget distribution, resubmission rules and possible future calls in support of the ERC monitoring and evaluation strategy, among others.

7. Operational issues reporting

State of play: ERC-2013-SyG call
The ERCEA gave an update on the SyG2013 call evaluation progress.

State of play: ERC-2013-StG call
The ERCEA gave an update on the evaluation progress for the StG2013 call.

State of play: ERC-2013-CoG call
The ERCEA gave an update on the evaluation progress for the CoG2013 call.

State of play: Granting
The ERCEA gave an update on the state of play of grant preparation processes between January and June 2013.

8. Any other business
No items were discussed under this point.