



ERC SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL

34th PLENARY MEETING, BRUSSELS

28-29 February 2012

MINUTES

Scientific Council members present (in alphabetical order): Dr. Claudio BORDIGNON, Prof. Nicholas CANNY, Prof. Sierd CLOETINGH, Prof. Tomasz DIETL, Prof. Daniel DOLEV, Dr. Daniel ESTEVE, Prof. Pavel EXNER, Prof. Hans-Joachim FREUND, Prof. Carl-Henrik HELDIN, Dr. Tim HUNT, Prof. Norbert KROÓ, Prof. Maria Teresa LAGO, Prof. Henrietta MOORE, Prof. Helga NOWOTNY, , Prof. Alain PEYRAUBE, Dr. Jens ROSTRUP-NIELSEN, Prof. Mart SAARMA, Prof. Anna TRAMONTANO, Prof. Isabelle VERNOS

Scientific Council members excused (in alphabetical order): Prof. Mathias DEWATRIPONT, Prof. Carlos M. DUARTE, Prof. Christiane NÜSSLEIN-VOLHARD

ERC Secretary General: Prof. Donald DINGWELL

ERC Executive Agency staff present: Pablo AMOR, José LABASTIDA, Yves PATERNOSTER, Theodore PAPAZOGLOU, Mechtild MAY, Gabor NAGY, Alejandro MARTIN HOBDEY, Massimo GAUDINA, Maria OLIVAN AVILES, Carina LEONARDUZZI, Michel VANBIERVLIET, KAINZ-FERNANDEZ DE LA REGUERA Ulrike, Agnes KULCSAR, Manuel FERNANDEZ CRUZ, Ben TURNER, Alexis-Michel MUGABUSHAKA, Severina SHOPOVA, Marie ROBERTI, Laura PONTIGGIA, Jens HEMMELSKAMP, Sabine SIMMROSS

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

Advisor of the Chair: Dr. Thomas KÖENIG

Rapporteur: Severina SHOPOVA, ERC Executive Agency

TUESDAY 28 February 2012

Session 1

1. **Welcome, introduction of new members, plans and goals of meeting**
 - Prof. Nowotny welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Adoption of agenda of the 34th plenary meeting in Brussels and point summary of the 33rd plenary meeting of the ERC ScC in Brussels on 6 and 7 December 2011**
 - The draft agenda of the 34th plenary meeting was adopted.

- The Minutes of the 33rd 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 January and 14 February 2012

An update was given on recent meetings, such as the last Board meetings on 17 January and 14 February 2012.

4. Work programme 2013

The Draft Work programme 2013 was discussed. The focus shifted to a number of points, which needed further clarification. Those included the time commitment of the Principal Investigators to the grants, re-application, the eligibility and evaluation criteria and the size of grants. Also recommendations from the various Working groups and Standing Committees were taken into account, including the introduction of CS Actions.

5. Working groups update

5.1 Working group on Open access

The WG on Open Access met on 27 February 2012 and the Chair of the WG gave a short report. The Working group noted that it would be useful to have members from the social sciences and humanities as well as chemistry.

The Scientific Council endorsed the idea that central repositories (where available) offer a more sustainable solution than personal websites or institutional repositories (which also can use central repositories).

5.2 Working group on Innovation and relations with industry

The WG on Innovation and relations with industry met on 27 February 2012 and the Chair of the WG gave a short report on recent activities, including PoC developments.

5.3 Working group on Internationalisation strategy

The WG on Internationalisation strategy met on 25 January 2012 and the Chair of the WG reported on recent activities.

5.4 Working group on Gender balance

The Chair of the WG reported on recent activities of the Gender balance WG.

Session 2

6. ScC Standing Committees update

The Committee on Panels (CoP) met on 27 February 2012 and the Chair of the Committee, gave a short report.

The Committee on Conflict of Interest, Ethics and Scientific Misconduct (CoIME)'s Chair, gave an update on recent activities and ongoing work.

7. Communication activities update

The ERCEA gave an update on recent activities, including press releases on the PoC second deadline and AdG 2011 results, which have been issued. The visits of Prof. Nowotny in Singapore and New Zealand, and of the ERC Secretary General's travel to Canada in February 2012 (a first trip from the ERC global campaign) have attracted significant media coverage. A second trip of the Secretary General to South Africa has been scheduled for March 2012.

Moreover, a clip was produced on the occasion of the ERC 5th Anniversary featuring selected ERC grantees on the impact of the ERC.

In terms of future events a few were mentioned with ERC sessions envisaged. Those included the Planet under Pressure in London at the end of March, the AACR Annual Meeting in Chicago in March-April, the EU Danish Presidency event in April and the European Geosciences Union meeting in Vienna also in April.

The final preparations for the ERC 5th Anniversary event on 29th February and 1st March were also discussed.

Session 3

8. Presentation on EURAXESS

Representatives from DG RTD gave a presentation on EURAXESS, the gateway of attractive research careers in Europe, and its services. The presentation focused on the four key EURAXESS initiatives, namely: information on job and funding opportunities (E-Jobs); personalised assistance to researchers and their families (E-Services); support to researcher career development (E-Rights) and networking tool for European researchers worldwide (E-Links).

The ERC is one of the 6 top job/funding search possibilities and its logo is displayed in both the search result list and adverts' description. Besides, the ERC adverts are also made available on the Naturejobs website and on one the 36 national EURAXESS Portals (depending on the country where the ERC funded job is available).

9. Operational issues

9.1 ERCEA Department D operations

The ERCEA gave presentations on the various activities of the Department, including the current human resources and infrastructure, the IT tools development and management, programming, monitoring and legal matters and budgetary operations.

WEDNESDAY 29 February 2012

Session 4

9. Operational issues continues

9.2 Presentation on PI-Centric events

A discussion on "PI-centric" events, which have been organised since December 2010 across Europe, with the aim of providing information and training for PIs (Principal Investigators), took place.

9.3 State of play: ERC-2011-AdG call/ ERC-2012-AdG call

The ERCEA gave an update on the state of play of the ERC AdG call-2012 call in terms of panel recruitment and evaluation planning.

9.4 State of play: ERC-2012-StG call

ERCEA gave an update on the StG2012 call evaluation process. Moreover, recruitment of panel members for the 2013 call was also discussed and reported on.

9.5 ERC Synergy grant

An update on the preparations of the evaluation of the proposals submitted to the SyG call was presented by the ERCEA, including information on panel recruitment.

9.6 Proof of Concept

A brief update was given by the ERCEA on the PoC call.

10. Any other business

No items were discussed under this point.