Minutes of the FESPB Executive Committee held on Tuesday 16th November (16:00-17:30) by ZOOM platform.

AGENDA

1. Request from Journal of Experimental Botany
2. Short visit grants
3. Information on the FESPB Facebooks and other web-media activities
4. Next congress, Marseille 2023
5. Report of the past president Andrea Schubert on Plant Europe Congress 2020 (this point will be discussed with the President and Secretary of EPSO)
6. Other issues

Present: Jana Albrechtová, Laura De Gara, Janos Gyorgyey, Christophe Robaglia, Andrea Schubert, Christian Zorb.
Justified absent: Isabel Díaz.

1. Request from Journal of Experimental Botany

The Secretary General, Laura de Gara, illustrates the request received by Michael Page, the Managing Editor of Journal of Experimental Botany, to add the following text to the FESPB Journal Member webpage.

“2020 Impact Factor = 6.992

The Journal of Experimental Botany (JXB) is dedicated to publishing high quality research and reviews across the plant sciences. JXB is owned by the Society for Experimental Biology (SEB), with all profits reinvested to support the research community through the Society's activities. JXB has a diverse and experienced editorial board.

Many FESPB members will be included in a Read & Publish agreement between their institution and our publisher Oxford University Press. This means that the charge for publishing Open Access (OA) in JXB will be paid in full with funds made available by their institution as part of the agreement, with no direct cost to the authors. For FESPB members not included in a Read & Publish agreement, authors may publish for free with a non-OA licence, or we offer a 5% discount on the OA publishing charge. JXB also offers the opportunity for session organisers at the FESPB meeting to organise a special issue of JXB on their chosen topic area.
As part of our commitment to help early career researchers (ECRs), JXB provides €2000 sponsorship for one of the two FESPB Awards to young scientists, and invites both FESPB Award winners to write a review article for the journal.

Please get in touch with our editorial office if you have any questions: j.exp.bot@lancaster.ac.uk”

After discussion, the EC members approve the addition of this text with a link in the “member journals” webpage. The Secretary General will be in charge to ask the webmaster to modify the webpage.

2. Short visit grants

The Chair of Travel Grants, Jana Albrechtovà, remembers that the deadline for sending application for short visit grants was yesterday Monday 15th November and informs that she has not received any applications. The EC decide to postpone the deadline to January 28, 2022. The Secretary general will inform all the national representatives.

3. Next Congress

The President Christophe Robaglia gives an update on the next Plant Europe Congress that will be take place in Marseille in 2023

4. Information on the FESPB Facebooks and other web-media activities

The Chair of Publication, Janos Gyorgyey, informs on the state of the art of the FESPB facebook and Facebook group, underling the numbers of followers are in line with those of analogous societies. It is important to involve the National Representatives in the activities relates to web-media.

5. Report of the past president Andrea Schubert on Plant Europe Congress 2020 (this point will be discussed with the President and Secretary of EPSO)

The President of EPSO, Alan Schulman, the EPSO Executive Director, Karin Metzlaff, and a referent of CCI (Centro Congressi Internazionale srl), participate to the discussion of this point.

The Past President Andrea Schubert illustrates the results obtained by the congress in term of participants, links to the different sections and feedbacks received by the participants. The number of participants was about 550, less than in the previous editions. However, taking into account the epidemic situation and the necessity to postpone the congress from 2020 to 2021, the participation can be considered good. The economic situation of the congress shows a substantial balance between revenue and expenditure.

6. Other aspects

The treasure, Christian Zorb, remembers that in 2021 the EC members decided to support two international congresses: “S-Bio2021 Glucosinolate - Joint meeting Plant and Human Sulfur Biology and Glucosinolates, that was held in Sevilla (Spain) from the 26th to 30th September 2021 and “Understanding Plant Response to Climate change: Redox-based strategies” that was held in Baeza
(SPAIN) from the 20th to 22nd September 2021. In both cases the FESPB contribution was aimed at supporting the participation of young scientist to the congress. The organizers informed that the two Congresses have been regularly held.

No other aspects have to be discussed by EC.

Laura De Gara, FESPB Secretary General

Rome, November, 16th 2021