

Minutes of the General Assembly of the European Society of Retina Specialists (EURETINA), which took place at 8.00pm CEST on Thursday 30th September 2021 via Zoom

Members:

(Up to) 47 members of EURETINA

President:

Frank G. Holz (Bonn), President of EURETINA

General Secretary:

Anat Loewenstein (Tel Aviv), Secretary General of EURETINA

Past President:

Sebastian Wolf (Bern), Past President of EURETINA

Prof. Holz opens the General Assembly meeting and notes that the meeting was convened on time.

Approval of the Agenda

Prof. Holz requested approval of the agenda (as circulated in advance of the meeting) by electronic voting and it was unanimously accepted (10,0,0)

Approval of Previous Minutes

In accordance with the bye-laws, the previous minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. Prof. Holz requested electronic approval of the points from the previous meeting. The minutes were approved by all (13,0,0).

Confirmation of New Members

A list of all members new to the society following the previous general assembly was circulated prior to the meeting. Prof Loewenstein requested electronic approval and all new members were unanimously approved (16,0,0)

General Secretary's Report

Prof. Loewenstein explained the background behind the postponements of the 10th EURETINA Winter Meeting, which was originally due to be hosted in Vilnius, Lithuania, from 20-21 March 2020, in close collaboration with the Lithuanian Ophthalmological Society. Due to ongoing uncertainty around Covid-19, the Winter Meeting was not held in 2021 and, further to recent discussions with the Lithuanian Society, will also not be held in 2022. Prof. Loewenstein thanked the Lithuanian

Ophthalmological Society for their ongoing support and for their understanding surrounding the postponements. Prof. Loewenstein announced that EURETINA are hopeful that the Winter Meeting will return in a face-to-face format in 2023, to be held in Vilnius.

The General Secretary sought approval of the General Secretary's Report which was unanimously given (18,0,0).

President's Report

Prof. Holz outlined that the membership figure for the society currently stands at 4,172 subscribed members. Over 3,000 of these members have subscribed through the YOURS initiative, launched in 2017, which offers free 3-Year membership for under 40s. Additionally, the National Society initiative is still performing well, and this initiative presents a good opportunity to strengthen bonds with other countries and national societies.

Prof. Holz also announced the mentorship programme, which was launched at EURETINA 2021 Virtual to offer support to members during early career development. Applications are currently open on the website.

Prof. Holz sought electronic approval of the President's Report which was granted by all (17,0,0)

Financial Report

The financial report was delivered by Prof. Sebastian Wolf. On 1st January 2020, the reserves of EURETINA Germany were €154,512. The outcome for the year to 31st December 2020 showed a surplus of €25,074 and the reserves of EURETINA Germany were €179,586 on 31st December 2020. Prof. Wolf explained that this report accounts for the finances of EURETINA Germany only.

Prof. Wolf requested electronic approval of the Financial Report which was granted by all (17,0,0)

Election of Board Members

Prof. Loewenstein then introduced the EURETINA Board Elections and confirmed that in September 2021 four places had become available on the board. Positions due to expire were confirmed as that of Sebastian Wolf (executive term expired), Jose Garcia-Arumi (second term expired), Stefan Seregard (second term expired), and Edoardo Midena (first term expired).

Prof Loewenstein announced that Edoardo Midena had confirmed his interest to be re-elected to a second term on the board and that furthermore, members Caroline Klaver, Martin Zinkernagel and Patricia Udaondo Mirete also confirmed their interest in running for election to the board. All candidates met the necessary criteria to run for election.

Summary CVs and formal expressions of interest for each of the nominees were displayed to members on screen. Anat Loewenstein asked attending members if there were any other nominations to consider for the election. There being no other interested parties, the General Assembly was asked to cast their votes by secret ballot based on the four members previously announced.

Ballot results:

Caroline Klaver
Edoardo Midena
Patricia Udaondo Mirete
Martin S. Zinkernagel

Results of the ballot were announced confirming that Edoardo Midena would return for a second term on the board, while Caroline Klaver, Patricia Udaondo Mirete and Martin S. Zinkernagel were confirmed as new board members.

Announcement of President Elect

Prof. Holz informed those present that Prof. Ramin Tadayoni has been confirmed as EURETINA President Elect, to take office as President from late 2023.

Any Other Business

There being no further business, Prof. Holz thanked those present and brought the meeting to a close at 20:19 CEST