

First Meeting of the *Federation of European Protistological Societies (FEPS)*, on the occasion of the *V European Congress of Protistology and XI Conference on Ciliate Biology*, July 23–27, 2007, St. Petersburg, Russia

The first meeting of the FEPS was held on Wednesday, 25 July, 16.00–17.30, in the *Academic Meeting Room* of the library of *The Russian Academy of Sciences* in St. Petersburg, Russia. The interim *Secretary General*, Prof. Dr. Klaus Hausmann, Berlin, Germany, had issued invitations to the FEPS council to attend this meeting. Seven representatives of the 12 member societies were present (two societies sent apologies by mail for their absence, three had not responded).

The discussion of the topics on the *Agenda* came to the following conclusions:

1. *Election of the Secretary General*: Before voting the convention agreed that a *Secretary General* will be elected for a 4 year period lasting from one Congress to the next. Re-election is possible. Prof. Hausmann was nominated as *Secretary General* and elected unanimously with one abstention. He accepted the election.
2. *Venue and date of the VI European Congress of Protistology*: The *German Society of Protozoology* offered to organise the next Congress in 2011. This invitation was accepted unanimously. The exact date and venue of the Congress will be communicated in the near future.
3. *Possible renaming of the next Congress*: After a vivid discussion the convention decided with one dissenting vote to shorten the title to the *European Congress of Protistology*.

4. *Home page of FEPS*: The *Secretary General* briefly explained the structure of the home page of FEPS (www.fepe.eu/) and asked all members to inform him immediately about any change, especially in the home page addresses of the societies, to ensure a correct and up-to-date forum.
5. *Any other Business*: The *Secretary General* drew attention to the affiliation between FEPS and EJOP. He emphasized that each member society has the possibility to publish special announcements or reports in EJOP. These should be sent to the *Secretary General* of FEPS or to the *Editor in Chief* of EJOP, not directly to the publisher. Additionally he pointed to the special subscription offer of the EJOP to all members of the constituent Societies of FEPS.

During the closing banquet of the *St. Petersburg Congress* Prof. Hausmann, speaking on behalf of FEPS, thanked the Russian team for the outstanding organization of the *V Congress* and informed the participants that the *VI European Congress of Protistology* will be hosted by the German colleagues.

Klaus Hausmann