



Announcement

Third Meeting of the Federation of European Protistological Societies (FEPS), on the occasion of the VII European Congress of Protistology, September 5–10, 2015, Seville, Spain

The third meeting of FEPS was held on Tuesday, 8 September, 19.00–20.00 h, in the *Bioemprendimiento-1* meeting room, 4th floor, Faculty of Biology-Red Building (Reina Mercedes Campus, University of Seville), in Seville, Spain. The Secretary General, Dr. Aurelio Serrano, Seville, Spain, had issued invitations to the FEPS council to attend this meeting. Eleven representatives of 6 of the 12 member societies were present.

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

1. Election of the Secretary General. Since the term of Dr. Aurelio Serrano as Secretary General has come to its end with the organization of the VII European Congress of Protistology (VII ECOP), and no candidate proposal for Secretary General in the next 4-years period has been received to be assessed at this meeting, the council decided unanimously to nominate Dr. Aurelio Serrano as Secretary General *interim*, acting for a maximum period of one year. Also, the council agreed to give a time period (up to 31 December 2015) for receiving a firm proposal of candidate for Secretary General from one of the member societies of FEPS, whereupon the Secretary General *interim* will leave his post.
2. Venue and date of the next European Congress of Protistology. As a result of the above discussion, the date and venue of the next ECOP to be held in 2019 remain to be decided. They will be communicated to the FEPS member societies as soon as the next Secretary General of FEPS is appointed. As with topic 1, the council agreed to give a time period (up to 31 December 2015) for receiving proposals for the organization of VIII ECOP.
3. Council members agreed that future joint meetings of FEPS in partnership with other protistological societies (Asian Protistological Society, ISOP, and others) should be promoted, bearing in mind the very positive experience with the VII ECOP - ISOP Joint Meeting of Seville. On the other hand, the alternative dates every two years of ECOP and ISOP congresses should be maintained to allow a relevant participation of European protistologists in these two important events.
4. The renovated FEPS web page of FEPS (www.FEPS-protists.eu) will be hosted at the *Data Center* of the Instituto de Bioquímica Vegetal y Fotosíntesis (Universidad de Sevilla-CSIC, Sevilla, Spain) until the effective appointment of the next Secretary General of FEPS, who will take care of the domain name maintenance and website updates from that moment.

Aurelio Serrano
FEPS Secretary General