



**DRAFT**

# **M i n u t e s**

**of the G E N E R A L A S S E M B L Y**

**held in Florence, Italy, on 15 September 2019**

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# MINUTES

**of the General Assembly held in  
Florence, Italy, on Sunday, 15 September 2019**

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**Venue:** Firenze Fiera - Fortezza da Basso  
Room L16 (Palazzina Lorenese, 1<sup>st</sup> floor)  
Viale Filippo Strozzi, 1  
50129 Florence  
Italy

**Chairman:** Dr. Hermann J. Feise

**Duration:** 14:00 – 15:50 h

**Minutes Secretaries:** Professor W. Meier  
I. Honndorf

**Persons Present:** see list of participants

These minutes summarize the major results of the discussions, which were based on detailed working papers. The working papers complement the minutes.

Ludwigshafen, November 2019

Frankfurt am Main, November 2019

(Dr. Hermann J. Feise)

(Prof. Willi Meier)

# Agenda

## 1. INTRODUCTION & REPORTS

- 1.1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the minutes of the previous General Assembly (Barcelona, Spain, 1 October 2017)
- 1.2. President's report (*Hermann Feise*)
- 1.3. Scientific Vice-President's report (*David Bogle*)
- 1.4. Executive Vice-President's report, including accounts and budget (*Giorgio Veronesi*)

## 2. EFCE EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS

- 2.1. 12<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Chemical Engineering/5<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Applied Biotechnology (ECCE12&ECAB5), Florence, Italy, 15-19 September 2019 (*Giorgio Veronesi*)
- 2.2. ECCE13&ECAB6, Berlin, Germany, 19-23 September 2021 – current activities (*Hermann Feise*)
- 2.3. ECCE14&ECAB7 – announcement of host (*Hermann Feise*)
- 2.4. EFCE event series: “European Forum on New Technologies” (*David Bogle*)

## 3. DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS

- 3.1. Discussion & Questions to the President & Vice-Presidents

## 4. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

- 4.1. Endorsement of the EFCE Presidency
  - 4.1.1. EFCE President
  - 4.1.2. EFCE Executive Vice-President
  - 4.1.3. EFCE Scientific Vice-President
- 4.2. Election of the EFCE charity trustees (Executive Board members)
- 4.3. Membership matters

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

- 5.1. Date and place of the next General Assembly
- 5.2. Any other business

## **List of participants:**

### Representatives of the Member Societies:

#### **Czech Republic:**

Assoc. Prof. Petr KLUSON - Czech Society of Chemical Engineering

#### **Denmark:**

Assist. Prof. Seyed S. MANSOURI - Ingeniørforeningen i Danmark - IDA, Kemiingeniørgruppen

#### **Finland:**

Prof. Eija ZITTING - Association of Finnish Chemical Societies

#### **France:**

Mr. François NICOL - Société Française de Génie des Procédés – SFGP

Prof. Marco STOLLER - European Membrane Society

#### **Germany:**

Prof. Willi MEIER - DECHEMA e.V.

Dr. Michael WILK – GVC – VDI-Gesellschaft Verfahrenstechnik und Chemieingenieurwesen

#### **Hungary:**

Prof. Ferenc FRIEDLER - Hungarian Chemical Society

#### **Italy:**

Mr. Giorgio VERONESI - Associazione Italiana di Ingegneria Chimica - AIDIC

#### **The Netherlands:**

Dr.Ir. Antoon ten KATE - Koninklijke Nederlandse Chemische Vereniging - KNCV

Prof. Boelo SCHUUR - Koninklijk Instituut van Ingenieurs - KIVI

#### **Poland:**

Prof. Jerzy BALDYGA - Polish Association of Chemical Engineers

#### **Portugal:**

Prof. Manuel F. RIBEIRO PEREIRA – Ordem dos Engenheiros, Colégio de Engenharia Química

#### **Romania:**

Prof. Tanase DOBRE - Romanian Society for Chemical Engineering

#### **Slovenia:**

Prof. Zdravko KRAVANJA - Slovenian Chemical Society

#### **Spain:**

Prof. Carlos NEGRO - Asociación Nacional de Químicos de España - ANQUE

Prof. Antonio ESPUÑA - Sociedad Española de Química Industrial e Ingeniería Química - SEQUI

Prof. Antonio ESPUÑA - Asociación de Químicos e Ingenieros del Instituto Químico de Sarria

Prof. Antonio ESPUÑA - Col.legi+Associació d'Enginyers Industrials de Catalunya

**Switzerland:**

Dr. Patrick PICCHIONE - Swiss Society for Chemical Engineers - SGVC

**United Kingdom:**

Mr. Jon PRICHARD - The Institution of Chemical Engineers - IChemE

Representatives of the Institutional Members:**Lithuania:**

Dr. Michail SYRPAS - Kaunas University of Technology, Faculty of Chemical Engineering

Executive Board members:

Prof. Adisa AZAPAGIC, Manchester/UK

Prof. Jerzy BALDYGA, Warszawa/PL

Prof. David BOGLE, London/UK (*Scientific Vice-President*)

Prof. Mike CONSIDINE, West Byfleet/UK

Dr. Hermann J. FEISE, Ludwigshafen/DE (*President*)

Prof. Ferenc FRIEDLER, Budapest/HU

Dr. François GIGER, Paris/FR

Dr. Ir. Antoon ten KATE, Deventer/NL

Assoc. Prof. Petr KLUSON, Praha/CZ

Prof. Flavio MANENTI, Milano/IT

Prof. Willi MEIER, Frankfurt am Main/DE

Prof. Carlos NEGRO, Madrid/ES

Mr. François NICOL, Limay/FR

Dr. Patrick PICCIONE, Basel/CH

Mr. Jon PRICHARD, Rugby/UK

Dr. Bent SARUP, Søborg/DK

Mr. Giorgio VERONESI, Milano/IT (*Executive Vice-President*)

Dr.-Ing. Michael WILK, Darmstadt/DE

Working Party and Section Chairs/Representatives:

Prof. Jerzy BALDYGA, Warszawa/PL - Working Party on Mixing

Prof. Bruno FABIANO, Genoa/IT - Working Party on Loss Prevention and Safety Promotion

Dr. Stefan KAUFMANN, Hamburg/DE - Section on Product Design and Engineering

Prof. Flavio MANENTI, Milano/IT - Working Party on Computer Aided Process Engineering

Prof. François MARÉCHAL, Sion/CH - Section on Energy

Prof. Martin MORGENEYER, Lyon/FR - Working Party on Characterisation of Particulate System

Prof. Álvaro RAMIREZ-GOMEZ, Madrid/ES - Working Party on Mechanics of Particulate Solids

Prof. Eric SCHAEER, Nancy/FR - Working Party on Education

Prof. Michael SCHLÜTER, Hamburg/DE - Working Party on Multiphase Fluid Flow

Prof. Boelo SCHUUR, Twente/NL - Working Party on Fluid Separations

Representatives of the offices of the General Secretariat:

Ms. C. FLAVELL-WHILE, Rugby/UK  
Ms. I. HONNDORF, Frankfurt am Main/DE  
Dr. M. POUX, Toulouse, France

Excused:

Prof. Vahur OJA, Tallinn/Estonia – Estonian Chemical Society  
Prof. Fabrizio BEZZO, Padova/IT – Section on Energy  
Prof. Karel BOUZEK, Praha/CZ – Working Party on Electrochemical Engineering  
Prof. Markus BUSCH, Darmstadt/DE - Working Party on Polymer Reaction Engineering  
Prof. Tom VAN GERVEN, Leuven/BE - Working Party on Process Intensification  
Dr.-Ing. Volker HEINZ, Quakenbrueck/DE - Section on Food  
Dr Jean-Charles DE HEMPTINNE Rueil Malmaison/FR - Working Party on Thermodynamics and Transport Properties  
Prof. Christoph HERWIG, Wien/AT - Working Party on Quality by Design  
Prof. Olaf HINRICHSEN. Garching/DE - Working Party on Chemical Reaction Engineering  
Prof. Harry KOOIJMAN, NL/USA - Working Party on Fluid Separations

## **1. INTRODUCTION & REPORTS**

### **1.1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the minutes of the previous General Assembly (Barcelona, Spain, 1 October 2017)**

The President of the Federation, Dr. Feise, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. He thanked the Italian hosts for their hospitality. Furthermore, he briefly explained the alarm plan and relevant safety procedures.

No requests for amendments being tabled, the minutes of the General Assembly, held in Barcelona, Spain, on 1 October 2017, were approved and adopted as a correct record of proceedings. Information about General Assembly meetings since 2003 can be found in the Members' Area at <https://efce.info/Members+area.html>. A personal login is required to enter the Members' Area. The respective instructions are given in Appendix 1 of the working papers.

### **1.2. President's report**

Dr. Feise presented a progress report on EFCE's scientific and organisational activities since the last General Assembly, focussing on three projects undertaken: The digitalisation project, the EFCE-ESBES collaboration and Project One-New Ways to collaborate.

- Digitization: Mr. Feise presented EFCE's new digital presence including the new EFCE website at <https://www.efce.info> with a modern responsive design, which also included a data management system with a single sign-on and smart data access. He stressed the conformity with GDPR. Access to the Content Management System for a direct update of the web pages by the web masters of the Working Parties/Sections was under development. In future, the single sign-on would include access to the papers of EFCE conferences attended by registered persons.
- Collaboration: Mr. Feise recollected the tradition and importance of the close collaboration between EFCE and the European Society of Biochemical Engineering Science (ESBES) with the joint ECCE&ECAB conference as the core of the collaboration. The signing of the collaboration agreement on 29 November 2018 (see Appendix 2 of the working papers), affirmed the successful cooperation. Regarding the implementation of the agreement, see item 4.2.
- Project One: Mr. Feise presented the development, aims and activities of the *Project One-New Ways to collaborate*. He emphasized EFCE's need to increase its attractiveness for the young generation of professionals and to implement new ways of collaboration based on the electronic communication means currently in use. The recommendations of the members of the project would be summarised in a report.

His presentation slides are given in Appendix 1.

### **1.3. Scientific Vice-President's report**

#### Working Party and Section activities:

Prof. Bogle presented the activities of the EFCE Working Parties (20 in total) and Sections (5 in total) based on the annual reports submitted for the period of June 2018 to June 2019, especially regarding the organisation of and contribution to events, special actions (such as participation in EU programmes, etc.) and awards, as well as the number of members and business meetings. He pointed out that most Working Parties and Sections were active, only very few were less active.

Four Working Parties had not provided an Annual Report so that their activities could not be evaluated. He also thanked the Working Parties and Sections for their involvement in ECCE12&ECAB5 and asked the organisers of the upcoming ECCE&ECAB in Berlin to make good use of their commitment and willingness to cooperate and to be involved in the session planning.

He showcased the very successful activities of the Working Parties and Sections:

- Loss Prevention 2019, which attracted more than 400 participants – an example of the series of strong Working Party/Section events organised over many years;
- COST/ITN projects – good initiatives to gather further funding of projects on a European and international level;
- Successful collaboration among Working Parties and Sections.

Mr. Bogle presented a statistical evaluation of the Working Party delegates and elected members and the Section members, including figures for female and industrial members and guests from outside Europe. He pointed out that, in cooperation with the Member Societies and Working Party/Section Chairs, strong efforts should be made to increase the ratio of female members and industrial delegates in the Working Parties and Sections.

This issue would also be re-discussed at the annual meeting of the Working Party/Section Chairs to be held in Florence on the coming Tuesday, 17 September 2019.

#### Chemical Engineering Skills audit:

Mr. Bogle presented the Chemical Engineering Skills audit he had initiated a year ago and explained the figures obtained for the various countries. He thanked the Member Societies and colleagues who had provided figures for their countries. Countries not represented on the slide, so far, would be contacted again.

Mr. Bogle stressed that the figures included the first and second cycles in chemical and process engineering and that he was looking for trends and did not require exact figures. A high student/staff ratio would indicate low investment in chemical engineering education at university level.

What he was planning next was to correlate the figures with the size of the industry in the respective country e.g. by comparing them with the number of employees in the sector based on figures from Cefic for the year 2017 or 2018.

#### External engagement:

Mr. Bogle summarised EFCE's engagement with the European organisations A.SPIRE and SusChem (European Technology Platform for Sustainable Chemistry).

Since July 2016, EFCE is an associated member of A.SPIRE. Mr. Bogle reported that A.SPIRE had started to develop a SPIRE 2050 Roadmap, based on the "SPIRE 2050 Vision: A new Value Proposition for Horizon Europe and beyond", which would be integrated into the work programme for upcoming EU programmes. The Roadmap included sub-parts on energy and on digitalisation. EFCE had been invited to send representatives to the respective working groups.

Furthermore, Mr. Bogle announced that he had been appointed to the SusChem Board.

His presentation slides are attached as Appendix 2.



#### **1.4. Executive Vice-President's report, including accounts and budget**

Ms. Flavell-While presented the financial update for 2018 and drew attention to the highlights of 2018 as reported in the EFCE Trustees Annual Report 2018 which had been distributed to the participants and was available at the EFCE booth. The update included developments since the last General Assembly such as changes of charity trustees. She stressed the point that all Member Societies had the right to nominate two national delegates per Working Party. She also encouraged the Working Parties and Sections to make use of the small annual budget allocated to them for travel support or other activities.

Secondly, Ms. Flavell-While presented EFCE's finances and statement of financial activities for the period of January to July 2019 and explained the forecast for the whole year 2019 and the draft budget for 2020 to 2022. The income included the membership fee, event levy and sponsorship of all Excellence Awards. The major 2019 costs concerned the expenses for the EFCE General Secretariats and the digitalisation project of EFCE, including development of the EFCE website. Ms. Flavell-While stated that income and expenditure for 2019 were in line with the budget, except for a lower contribution of ECCE 12, and that it was expected to break even in 2019.

The presentation slides are given in Appendix 4 of the working papers.

Mr. Veronesi explained EFCE's current reserves policy: He stated that EFCE aimed at maintaining the reserves at approx. 3 times the annual membership income with an upper limit of 150,000 EUR. The policy would be reviewed in accordance with UK Charity Commission guidelines, considering the actual financial risks to which EFCE are exposed. Any adjustment would be reflected in relevant EFCE documents. He finally encouraged the participants to suggest projects and activities to be considered by the Executive Board for raising the profile and visibility of EFCE, and, if approved, to be reflected in next budgets.

The General Assembly approved the accounts.

## **2. EFCE EVENTS – STATUS REPORTS**

### **2.1. 12<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Chemical Engineering/5<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Applied Biotechnology (ECCE12&ECAB5) Florence, Italy, 15-19 September 2019**

Mr. Veronesi presented the updated figures for ECCE12 & ECAB5 as of 10 September. This including the plenary lectures, number of submissions for oral and poster communications and their distribution by topics, and the number of registered participants and their distribution by country. Approx. 1300 participants were expected for ECCE12 & ECAB5. Most of the participants originated from Germany and France, followed by Italy, with a substantial number of participants from South America and Asia. Furthermore, he announced the list of sponsors and exhibitors which the organisers considered to be satisfactory. Mr. Veronesi stressed the importance and attractiveness of the Student Programme organised by a student committee. He also presented the printed programme and announced that any changes to the programme from 26 August onwards would be available in the online programme.

Mr. Veronesi thanked all colleagues involved in the organisation of the Congress for their great support. He announced that a first feedback meeting between the leadership of EFCE and ESBES would be held after the closing session.

The presentation slides are given in [Appendix 3](#).

## **2.2. ECCE13&ECAB6, Berlin, Germany, 19-23 September 2021 – current activities**

Mr. Feise informed the participants about the state of development of the organisation of ECCE13 & ECAB6 in the vibrant city of Berlin in September 2021 and the actions undertaken so far. He briefly presented the venue of the congress - City Cube Berlin, the congress theme "*Engineering the Future*", the structure of the scientific programme and proposed topics. He pointed out that the venue had sufficient space for 19 parallel sessions and a large exhibition & coffee break area. The organisers were reaching out for 90-100 exhibitors. Furthermore, an attractive Student Programme, including the successful traditional ChemCar competition was planned to be organised.

The ECCE13&ECAB6 website had recently been opened – participants are invited to sign-in for the ECCE13&ECAB6 Newsletter.

Finally, he announced that the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the ECCE13 & ECAB6 International Scientific Committee would be held directly following the General Assembly.

His presentation slides are attached as [Appendix 4](#).

## **2.3. ECCE14&ECAB7 – announcement of host**

Mr. Feise again drew attention to the "*Agreement on the working arrangements between EFCE and ESBES to organise the biennial ECCE and ECAB conferences*" (see Appendix 2 of the working papers), which was signed by the EFCE and ESBES Presidents in November 2018. At the joint meeting of the EFCE and ESBES Boards earlier that morning, the Agreement was executed for the first time to decide by vote on the host of ECCE14&ECAB7 and to determine the conditions to be fulfilled by the host.

Mr. Feise announced that the participants of the meeting voted in favour of the Portuguese bid to host ECCE14&ECAB7 in Lisbon in 2023.

## **2.4. EFCE event series: "European Forum on New Technologies"**

Mr. Bogle briefly presented the concept of the new EFCE event series of 1-day events called "European Forum on New Technologies", dedicated to scientific and application-oriented developments and hot topics at the boundaries of chemical engineering.

He reported that the first two events of the series on "Chemical Engineering & 3D printing" and on "Digitalisation in Chemical Engineering" had taken place in September 2018 and March 2019, respectively. They were well received and attracted a good number of participants.

Mr. Bogle stated that representatives of 15 Working Parties and Sections took part in the European Forum on New Technologies - Digitalisation in Chemical Engineering in order to elaborate, among other matters, how the EFCE and its Working Parties and Sections can work together to address the challenges and opportunities of digitalisation. As the head of the Forum, he had summarised the outcome of the event in a 3-page report which was available on the EFCE website under "Topics".

The next two events are planned for spring and autumn 2020, dealing with the topics *Factory of the Future* and the circular economy/sustainability.

The respective presentation slide is included in [Appendix 5](#).

### **3. DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS**

#### **3.1. Discussion & Questions to the President & Vice-Presidents**

The participants stressed the importance of the EFCE initiatives related to young chemical engineers and reported about the challenge to attract young people to join the national society. It was agreed that an exchange of “best practice” among the EFCE Member Societies might help overcome the issue (see item 5.1.).

Further suggestions raised by the participants:

- Start the General Assembly with a brief introduction of the participants and, if possible, make a photo of the participants;
- Think about further measures to attract members of the EFCE Member Societies to attend ECCE&ECAB;
- Discuss means of support for and cooperation among graduate CE students in Europe within the framework of EFCE -> could be taken up by the Working Party on Education.

### **4. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

#### **4.1. Elections**

Mr. Nicol chaired the procedure for the endorsement of the EFCE Officers (EFCE President, Executive Vice-President and Scientific Vice-President). The current EFCE Officers left the room.

##### **4.1.1. EFCE President**

Following the recommendation of the Executive Board, the General Assembly unanimously endorsed **Dr. Hermann J. Feise**, Ludwigshafen, Germany, as the EFCE President for a second two-year term of office, starting on 1 January 2020.

##### **4.1.2. EFCE Executive Vice-President**

Following the recommendation of the Executive Board, the General Assembly unanimously endorsed **Mr. Giorgio Veronesi**, Milan, Italy, as the EFCE Executive Vice-President for a second two-year term of office, starting on 1 January 2020.

##### **4.1.3. EFCE Scientific Vice-President**

Following the recommendation of the Executive Board, the General Assembly unanimously endorsed **Professor David Bogle**, London, United Kingdom, as the EFCE Scientific Vice-President for a second two-year term of office, starting on 1 January 2020.

Mr. Nicol announced the result to the EFCE Officers and congratulated them on their re-election. The re-elected Officers accepted the office. On behalf of the three re-elected EFCE Officers, Mr. Feise thanked the General Assembly for their confidence in them.

The Frankfurt Secretariat was commissioned to confirm in writing the endorsement of Dr. Hermann J. Feise as the EFCE President, Mr. Giorgio Veronesi as the EFCE Executive Vice-President, and Prof. David Bogle as the EFCE Scientific Vice-President for their second two-year term of office.

## 4.2. EFCE charity trustees (Executive Board members)

A secret ballot was conducted to elect the EFCE CIO's charity trustees for the next two-year term of office (1 January 2020 – 31 December 2021). The following candidates were elected by the General Assembly as the EFCE CIO's charity trustees:

### Non-academic representatives:

- Prof. Michael (Mike) **Considine**, United Kingdom (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Dr.Ir. Antoon J.B. **ten Kate**, The Netherlands (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Dr. Alexis **Pey**, Spain (*1<sup>st</sup> term of office*)
- Dr. Patrick M. **Piccione**, Switzerland (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Dr. Maurizio **Rovaglio**, Italy (*1<sup>st</sup> term of office*)
- Dr. Michael **Wilk**, Germany (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)

### Academic representatives:

- Prof. Dr. Adisa **Azapagic**, United Kingdom (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Elisabetta **Brunazzi**, Italy (*1<sup>st</sup> term of office*)
- Prof. Dr. Ferenc **Friedler**, Hungary (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Associate Prof. Dr. Petr **Kluson**, Czech Republic (*2<sup>nd</sup> term of office*)
- Associate Prof. Dr. Álvaro **Ramirez-Gomez**, Spain (*1<sup>st</sup> term of office*)
- Prof. Dr. Eric **Schaer**, France (*1<sup>st</sup> term of office*)

The Frankfurt Secretariat was commissioned to confirm in writing the appointment of the EFCE CIO's charity trustees for the next term of office.

## 4.3. Membership matters

Mr. Feise announced that at its last meeting, the Executive Board had approved the application of **Kaunas University of Technology, Faculty of Chemical Technology** to join the EFCE as an Institutional Member from Lithuania. He welcomed Dr. Michail Syrpas to the General Assembly as the University's representative. Dr. Syrpas introduced himself.

The General Assembly noted with regret the change of membership status of the Turkish Chamber of Chemical Engineers from full EFCE Member Society to Institutional Membership.

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

### 5.1. Date and place of the next General Assembly

Those present agreed that the next regular General Assembly would be held in Berlin, Germany, on Sunday, 19 September 2021 on the occasion of ECCE13 & ECAB6. The invitation and agenda would be distributed in due time.

Furthermore, in order to further discuss the question of how EFCE could serve the young professionals, Mr. Feise suggested organising an EFCE Forum 2020 on that issue in conjunction with EFCE. The initiative was welcomed by the participants.

### 5.2. Any other business

No further points being raised, the President closed the meeting at 15:50 h.