



Newsletter July 2020

✓ Message from the President

Only a few months passed since our last biennial meeting in Prague, but in these few months the world has changed in many ways and we are now facing challenges that were unimaginable last year. In these turbulent times I am very happy that the EBBS community is lively and active, and that our democratic elections have now successfully ensured the future of EBBS leadership. I extend a warm welcome to our new ExCom members Francesca, Muriel and Lars as well as to Igor and Alex, who are joining again the ExCom in new positions this time. At the same time, I want to express my gratitude to the stepping-down members of the executive committee. Antonis Stamatakis has done a wonderful job as Secretary General during the past 6 years and ensured with his tireless efforts that the society was running smoothly. Francesca Sargolini, Mark Walton and Sebastien Bouret were active and invaluable members of the executive committee and their input and help will be dearly missed. Thank you! I hope you will all be leaving the committee with the certainty that the future of the EBBS is in firm hands. I also want to officially welcome Marina Picciotto as recently co-opted overseas member of our executive committee.

Coming back to the challenges that we are facing, I want to specifically address some of them. As I already emphasized when I stepped into office, equality and gender balance are central values that I myself and our society stand for. The recent tragic events in the US have again highlighted how important it is to fight inequality and racism, and to actively support initiatives to promote diversity and equality in our society and beyond. As President of the EBBS I will therefore do what is in my power to continue this fight.

A second challenge that I already raised early on was the necessity to adapt scientific meetings to be more environment-friendly and reduce the need for air travel. In some ways the Covid19 crises has accelerated this process and we are now forced to adapt to new realities of virtual meetings and conferences. I am very much looking forward to see what we can learn from the virtual FENS Forum this year, which includes the EBBS co-organized Mini-Conference "Behavioural neuroscience for the next decade: Why behaviour matters to

brain science” and the EBBS-Elsevier-Behavioral Brain Research Lecture. Also for our next biennial meeting 2021 in Lausanne we are engaged in preparations for a hybrid meeting, so that participation will hopefully be possible in real live, but also virtually. You can already check out some details on our new meeting web page www.ebbs2021.org

In closing, I hope that all of you are successfully facing the challenges that 2020 has in store for us and look forward to seeing you at the FENS Forum virtually and hopefully soon also again in real life.

Mathias Schmidt

✓ **Results of the Executive Committee Elections**

Based on the results of the on-line elections, the incoming members of the EBBS Executive Committee are:

President Elect Igor Branchi

Secretary General Alex Easton

Ordinary Members Muriel Koehl

Lars Schwabe

Francesca Zoratto

Welcome aboard new members!

✓ **FENS 2020 Virtual Forum**

Be part of #FENS2020, 11-15 July 2020

<https://forum2020.fens.org/>

✓ **Mini conference FENS Forum of Neuroscience Glasgow 2020-“Behavioural neuroscience for the next decade: Why behaviour matters to brain science”**

July 11, 8:30-11:30

The European Brain and Behaviour Society (EBBS), European Behavioural Pharmacology Society (EBPS), European Molecular and Cellular Cognition Society (EMCCS) and International Behavioural and Neural Genetics Society

(IBANGS) invite you to our jointly organised mini conference. A variety of topics will be covered, focusing on the role of behaviour in Neuroscience and the translatability of animal models to human traits and psychiatric disorders.

<https://forum2020.fens.org/event/mini-conference-behavioural-neuroscience-for-the-next-decade-why-behaviour-matters-to-brain-science/>

✓ **EBBS in social media**

You can follow EBBS in Facebook and Twitter for scientific news, meeting announcements and funding opportunities.

Facebook: **EBBS.science**

Twitter: **EBBStweets**