



EFFS News

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CIRCULATION

To representatives and correspondents of federated societies:

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Holidays are approaching and I am very happy to offer all of you and all of the members of the organizations you represent my very best wishes for a peaceful Christmas 2011 and a positive, joyous 2012.

Although much in this News is no longer new to you, I take this opportunity to summarize what we have done since our last meeting in Girona, at the end of June.

New Members

It is a great pleasure to announce that in September, and at the direction of the Committee of EFFS Representatives, we have formally enrolled a new national organization. The **Swiss Society for Hydrology and Limnology** (SGHL) is the thirteenth member of our Federation and we warmly welcome the Swiss colleagues, who are presently represented by the president of the Society, Dr. Christophe Joerin.

I am in contact with the Secretary of the Finnish Limnological Association and I hope that the number of federated associations will further increase in the near future.

Web Site

As was decided at the last meeting of Representatives in Girona, I contacted the publisher Springer and asked for a donation to create the new website of our Federation. In exchange, the possibility to place a banner in the home page of the website was offered. This process took some time, but at the end Springer accepted and made a donation of 2,500.00 Euros, which is currently deposited on the bank account of AIOL. The banner is rather small (250x250 pixels) and it will be well integrated in

the home page of the new website. I think that, if the Representatives agree, we could offer this possibility to other selected publishers for harvesting some money which could be used to sustain our young researchers.

The URL www.freshwatersciences.eu was registered in November and the site is now under construction. The agency which is realizing it is doing a very good job and what I saw until now is very appealing and presents several novelties from the graphic point of view. It will also contain a blog where registered users will be able to post news or to seek/share information related to freshwater sciences. The total cost of the site should not exceed 2,000.00 Euros. We can decide later what to do with the remaining amount of money.

I hope that the website will be on-line in the first weeks of the new year and that it may attract the interest of many users. In the first days it will run “undercover” to allow an evaluation from the Representatives and to eventually modify its structure/contents if needed; then it will become public after approval.

The Freshwater Biological Association has managed and maintained the old website (effsonline.org) and I am very grateful to FBA and its staff for having offered us this facility, including all the work needed to update and “fill” the site with contents. Most of the information contained in the effsonline.org website has been downloaded and will be moved to the new one.

SEFS

The 7th Symposium for European Freshwater Sciences took place in Girona, Spain, from the 27th of June to the 1st of July. The theme for this year’s meeting was *Freshwater ecosystems – challenges between conservation and management under global change*. The meeting was undoubtedly a very successful one, with almost 550 delegates (more than 200 students) from 23 countries attending it. You can find a brief report on the meeting by Marie-Pierre Gosselin in the 55th issue of the Freshwater Biological Association Newsletter (FBA News).

As you all know, Elisabeth Meyer, on behalf of the German Limnological Society, took the challenge to organize the next symposium. At the last meeting of Representatives it was decided to maintain the two-year schedule and Elisabeth gave us the chance to choose among 5 different periods of the year and the beginning of July was the most voted period among Representatives. Thus, the 8th SEFS will take place in 2013 in Münster, Germany from July 1st to July 5th. I am sure that all the people involved with EFFE are ready to fully support Elisabeth in this task. Indeed, I look forward to attending the next SEFS in Germany being sure that we will have another exciting and fruitful meeting.

Student Prize

All the Representatives positively and enthusiastically reacted to the proposal submitted by our young colleagues of EFYR and aimed at awarding the author of the best European doctoral thesis a plenary lecture at SEFS. A draft containing the rules was also produced and I think that it could be effective with a few amendments. Of course, the involvement of national associations is fundamental since they have to act as primary hubs for applicants. A first screening must be done by the national associations, selecting one or two Theses per association. Then, an ad-hoc jury selected by EFFE should take the final decision. To have our first plenary lecture given by a young researcher at the next SEFS we have to define this procedure within the first months of 2012.

Finally, I wish to thank you all for your continued co-operation and feedback!

All my warmest and best wishes
Luigi Naselli-Flores

PS

According to our constitution, each federated organization is entitled to be represented by two members in the Federation, and it is up to the organization to appoint its representatives. Please check the enclosed list of Representatives and inform me if any change is required.

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