

## Activities Report 2021

### General information

The European Society for Evolutionary Biology was founded in the year 1987. On January 27, 2010, the society placed its constitution on record in a notarial act. The society is registered at the Dutch Chamber of Commerce with registration number 09216606.

### Purpose

1. The object of the society is to promote the study of organic evolution.
2. The society seeks to achieve this object by, among other things:
  - a. Publishing the professional journals, The Journal of Evolutionary Biology (JEB) and Evolution Letters (EL);
  - b. Organizing congresses and scientific meetings;
  - c. Rendering financial and other support to research into organic evolution;
  - d. Supporting activities to foster a scientifically based understanding of organic evolution in teaching and research;
  - e. Doing anything related to the above, directly or indirectly, or incidental thereto, all in the broadest sense.

### Board

On December 31 2021, the steering committee of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology consisted of the following members, of whom the officers indicated with an asterisk form the executive board:

- Andrea Betancourt,
- Tracey Chapman,
- Ellen Decaestecker\*,
- Astrid Groot\*,
- Lukas Kratochvil,
- Max Reuter\*,
- Michael Ritchie\*,
- Ophélie Ronce,
- Koen Verhoeven\*

### ESEB performed the following activities during 2021

In accordance with the foreseen activities in the Policy Plan 2019-2021 the following activities have been realised. See the accompanying Annual Report 2021 for the detailed accounting of these activities.

- Publication of the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology* and *Evolution Letters*.
- Preparation for the European Congress of Evolutionary Biology in Prague, which has been postponed to 2022 due to the Corona pandemic. Consequently, and in light of the 2024 Joint Evolution Congress, the European Congress of Evolutionary Biology in Barcelona has been postponed from 2023 to 2025.

- Preparation for the Joint Evolution Congress in 2024 together with the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE).
- Call for bids for the organisation of the European Congress of Evolutionary Biology in 2027.
- Commitment to sponsor the annual meeting of European PhD students in Evolutionary Biology (EMPSEB) with € 15,000. The 2021 meeting had been held virtually.
- Commitment to sponsor the EvoKE network with € 10,000 annually.
- Managing the Society's Conference Travel Award Initiative (annual budget € 15,000). Due to the Corona pandemic (which postponed conferences or turned them into online events) no funds were requested in 2021.
- Managing the Society's newly established Environmental Impact Committee.
- Managing the Society's Equal Opportunities Initiative (annual budget € 15,000). Four EO funds were granted in 2021 and no Congress Attendance Aid grants requested due to the Corona pandemic in which only virtual meetings took place.
- Managing the Society's Godfrey Hewitt Mobility Awards Initiative (annual budget € 15,000). Four projects from 2020 were extended and two were withdrawn due to the Corona pandemic. Three new projects were granted in 2021.
- Transforming the Society's Global Training Initiative into the Global Evolutionary Biology Initiative (annual budget € 12,000). No new project was selected for funding in 2021.
- Managing the Society's JMS Prize 2021 (annual budget € 5,000). The prize was awarded to Stefany Moreno Gomez in 2021.
- Managing the Society's newly established Policy Committee (annual budget € 10,000).
- Managing the Society's Outreach Initiative (annual budget € 20,000). Seven new projects were granted in 2021. Ten projects that were granted in 2019 and 2020, are ongoing and received an extension due to the Corona pandemic. One project granted in 2020 was withdrawn.
- Managing the Society's Progress Meetings Initiative (annual budget € 15,000). One project was granted in 2021 which has been postponed to 2022 due to the Corona pandemic. The project granted in 2020 will also take place in 2022.
- Managing the Society's Stearns Graduate Students Prize 2020 (annual budget € 1000). The Prize has been awarded to Jack Common.
- Managing the Society's Special Topic Networks Initiative (annual budget € 60,000). Eight STNs are running in 2021 as two have been extended without further funding until 2022.

These activities will be continued in 2021 in accordance with the Policy Plan 2021-2023 but dependent on the situation due to the ongoing world-wide pandemic.

**In addition, (the Executive Board of) ESEB has been involved in:**

- Preparation of a series of eight virtual seminars in 2021 managed by the Prague congress organisers.

- Maintaining the Society's contacts with Wiley Blackwell for publication of JEB, and, together with the sister society SSE, managing of the jointly owned journal EL.
- Managing the Society's memberships.
- Managing the Society's financial situation in terms of expenditures and income, as well as its bank accounts and investment portfolio.
- Preparing a budget plan for 2022, and a long-term spending plan; deciding to invest part of the capital of the Society.
- Managing the ESEB office and establishing and maintaining a JEB editorial office.
- General other businesses associated with the Society.

These activities will be continued in 2022 in line with the Policy Plan 2021-2023 but dependent on the situation due to the ongoing world-wide pandemic.

**Date: 6 May 2022**

**Name**

**Signature**

Astrid Groot



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ESEB President

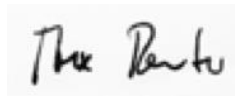
Koen Verhoeven



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ESEB Executive Vice President

Max Reuter



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JEB Editor-in-Chief

Mike Ritchie



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EL Officer

Ellen Decaestecker



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ESEB Secretary