

Students General Assembly, Student Section of the EAZWV  
The Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference, 25th of May 2017, Berlin

0.	Welcome and Adoption of the Agenda	SA
	<p>This meeting took place at The Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference 24-27 May 2017 in Berlin, Germany. It was chaired by the representatives of the Student Section (SS) board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Johanna Kasberg (JK) as Interim President of the EAZWV Student Section;</li> <li>- Rafaela Fiuza (RF) as Student Representative of the EAZWV Student Section and Education Committee;</li> <li>- Sara Abreu (SA) as EAZWV Webmaster.</li> </ul> <p>An email was sent to all student members of the EAZWV containing documents for analysis and approval of the members (namely the Activities and Financial reports, and the proposal for the SS Constitution) on the 12th of May 2017. A link for online voting was also provided to the members who would not be able to attend the Students General Assembly (SGA) in Berlin. Online voting opened on the 12th and closed before the SGA on the 25th of May.</p> <p>A total of 60 student members of the EAZWV were present and eligible to vote at the SGA.</p> <p>Rafaela Fiuza was appointed as rapporteur. The meeting was opened at approximately 18:10.</p>	
1.	Activity Report	
a.	<b>Student Workshop 2015</b>	RF
	<p>The Student Workshop 2015 was hosted by Jardim Zoológico de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal. The main theme was “Conservation strategies: ex-situ population management and reintroduction”, and a total of 14 students attended. The students had the opportunity to visit the National Centre for the Reproduction of Iberian Lynx. All participants in this event (lecturers, students, hosts and organisation) were satisfied with the outcome. No questions were raised.</p>	
b.	<b>EAZWV Strategy Meeting, Barcelona 2016</b>	JK
	<p>Representatives of the Student Section (Sara Abreu, Johanna Kasberg and Rafaela Fiuza) had the opportunity to attend the EAZWV Strategy Meeting in Barcelona 2016. This event consisted in a two-day strategy development meeting that put together the board and advisory board of the EAZWV, to discuss the future of the Association. The representatives of the SS gave valuable input from the students point of view in all strategic areas explored during the meeting. The outcome was very positive and the students opinion was considered valuable. Costs for traveling were included in the SS budget for 2016. No questions were raised.</p>	
c.	<b>Student Summer School 2016</b>	RF
	<p>The Student Summer School 2016 was hosted by Parc Zoologique de Paris, Paris, France. One of the days was hosted by the Ménagerie, le Zoo du Jardin des Plantes, Paris, France. Organisation of this event was shared between the Student Section board and representatives of the Education Committee namely Maya Kummrow and Marcus Clauss. The general theme was “Diagnostics” and an ambitious programme was put together. A total of 23 students attended. All participants of this event (lecturers, students, hosts and organisation) were extremely satisfied with the outcome. No questions were raised.</p>	
d.	<b>Student Grants for the Atlanta Conference 2016</b>	SA
	<p>Grants were offered by the Student Section to students members of the EAZWV wishing to attend the first joint AAZV/EAZWV/IZW conference in Atlanta, Georgia, USA 2016. A total of 10 grants covering the student fee were available, but only 7 students applied. All students that applied received the grant. The SS board feels this was a significant incentive to student attendance. No questions were raised.</p>	

<b>e.</b>	<b>Student Placement List</b>	<b>SA</b>
	A list of student placements among institutions with EAZWV members is under development by the SS board. A questionnaire has been created by the board and sent out to all members, but compliance is low. Improvement is necessary during the next term, as the board feels this is/should be one of the most important member benefits. No questions were raised.	
<b>f.</b>	<b>Email list with European Vet School contacts</b>	<b>SA</b>
	An email list for all European Vet Schools is under development by the SS board. The idea is to be able to share information on the association, the sections, the events and available grants (namely Zebra Foundation) to all students that may be interested. Improvement is needed during the next term to finish the list and start putting it to use.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Financial Report</b>	<b>JK</b>
	The financial report for 2015 and 2016 was previously sent to all student members for analysis. In short, the budget was not exceeded during this term, and the positive balance of 205€ from the Student Summer School 2016 will be used for the Student Mentor Mixer during this conference. The Student Section budget for 2017 is 1500€. No questions were raised.	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Voting and Dismissal of the Board</b>	<b>SA</b>
	<p>Sara Abreu (in name of the SS representatives) thanked the remaining members of the Student Section board who were not chairing the meeting or present at the SGA in Berlin, for their contribution to the work conducted during this term: Javier Martínez (President), Julia Schultz (Newsletter Editor), Raquel Palma (Scientific Corner) and Lara Hueston (Proofreader).</p> <p>The members were asked to vote by show of hands on the following proposal: “On the basis of this information, I accept the 2016 financial report and agree to discharge the SS board for the financial year ending 31/12/2016.” All student members present at the SGA voted in favor. Online voting yielded 1 abstention and 2 votes in favor.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Constitution Proposal</b>	
	The proposal for the Student Section Constitution was previously sent to all student members of the EAZWV for analysis.	
<b>a.</b>	<b>New Member Categories and Fees</b>	<b>JK</b>
	<p>The proposal to divide the student members of the EAZWV into two categories (undergraduate and postgraduate) was addressed by the chairs. The SS board explained that this proposal came from a shared concern with the EAZWV board regarding members that have been paying student fees for much longer than expected. The SS board therefore aims at establishing a fairer system in which students which receive, or are able to receive, a stipend or salary for their work, are differentiated from students who are still in vet school. The SS board also proposed that the difference in income resulting from the increase in postgraduate fee is allocated to the Student Section, and is converted into student grants (the specifics of which would be open for discussion after approval of the SS Constitution).</p> <p>Sanatana Soilemetzidou asked how many student members are postgraduate students, to which the board replied that at least half of the approximately 150 student members should be postgraduate, most likely more than half. May Hokan said she felt it was a good idea to have grants to help students, but that other students should not pay for it. Sara Abreu intervened to explain that in Europe the differences between countries are too big to have a perfect system, that this was the best way the board found to differentiate the students, and that if students feel they can't pay the extra fee they should apply for the grants that will be created for that purpose. May Hokan asked if the grants will be for conference fees and Sara Abreu explained the grants will be up for discussion once the Constitution is approved, and that they should aim at helping underprivileged student members. Lucille Sanz said that it will be difficult to judge who should get the grants, to which Rafaela Fiuza replied that guidelines regarding the attribution of grants will be established in due time. Eva Greunz said that postgraduate students should know what the money is going to be used for, before accepting the proposal. It was voted and agreed that the Student Board would ask the Board to hold on implementing the fee change until the way the money will be allocated is better defined.</p>	

<b>b.</b>	<b>New Board Positions</b>	<b>JK</b>
	The proposal to reduce the number of SS board positions, as well as redefine their specific tasks was addressed by the chairs. The board expressed the concern that too many positions with small attributed tasks were not beneficial for the cohesion of the group, and that four people were enough to fulfil the proposed tasks. Therefore the board puts forward the proposal to have the following board positions: President, Secretary, Communication Officer and Education Officer. No questions were raised.	
<b>5.</b>	<b>Approval of the Constitution</b>	<b>SA</b>
	The members were asked to vote by show of hands on the following proposal: "I approve that the proposed constitution becomes the official constitution of the EAZWV Student Section" with the addendum that the increase in fee for the postgraduate students would be discussed at a later stage (not mentioned in the constitution). The majority of student members present at the SGA voted in favor, with 7 abstentions and 1 vote against. Online voting yielded 2 votes in favor and 1 abstention.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Future Plans</b>	
<b>a.</b>	<b>Student Workshop 2017</b>	<b>SA</b>
	The Student Workshop 2017 will be hosted by Zoo Budapest, Hungary, between the 24th and 27th of August. The general theme will be "Avian Medicine". Further information on this event will follow shortly. No questions were raised.	
<b>b.</b>	<b>Student Summer School 2018</b>	<b>SA</b>
	Plans to have the Student Summer School 2018 in Zurich, Switzerland, are under discussion. The SS board is concerned about the costs but believes that a compromise between a great programme with great facilities in Zurich, and acceptable costs, can be found. The SS board believes the cost should not go over 350€, and will do the best to keep it at that price while having a great programme. The main theme under discussion is "Elephant Medicine".  One student member from the audience said it was already too expensive for a student from eastern Europe, to which Rafaela Fiuza replied that the SS board understands and respects, but students also need to understand that 350€ for one week with food, housing and a great programme with great lecturers, is already very cheap. Events like this are usually much more expensive. Nevertheless the SS board is committed to always finding the best options for the lowest prices. No further questions were raised.	
<b>c.</b>	<b>Student Placement List</b>	<b>SA</b>
	As previously mentioned the Student Placement List will need further work during the next term, especially in getting more full members to reply to the questionnaire and create more student placements.	
<b>d.</b>	<b>Email list with European Vet School contacts</b>	<b>SA</b>
	As previously mentioned the Vet School Email List will need further work during the next term to complete it and put it to use.	
<b>e.</b>	<b>WDA/AAZV Mentorship Programme</b>	<b>JK</b>
	The chance for the EAZWV to join the WDA/AAZV mentor programme has come up, and the SS board already took this topic for discussion with the EAZWV board and advisory board. The programme consists in pairing students from one of the associations to full members who are interested in mentoring them. This would imply regular email/skype meetings to help guide the student in their professional life. Scientific work is not the focus of the programme, and authorship problems should be avoided. The SS board believes this would be a good member benefit, as many students feel somewhat lost in the best way to move forward in their professional life. No questions were raised.	

<b>f.</b>	<b>Student Mentor Mixer and Student Night Out in Berlin 2017</b>	<b>JK</b>
	<p>This year's Student Mentor Mixer will be held on Friday 26th at 19:00 in the food hall of the venue. The students are required to read the short introduction from each mentor before of the event. Finger food and drinks will be provided to create a good environment.</p> <p>This years Student Night Out will take place after the Student Mentor Mixer at Karakas Bar (Kurfürstenstrasse 9, 10785 Berlin). Board representatives will lead the students from the conference venue to the bar. Food and two drinks per student are included in the entry price. Only students who have signed up and paid will be able to join the party in the first hours. Later in the evening everyone is welcome.</p> <p>No questions were raised.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Elections for the Student Section Board 2017-2019</b>	
<b>a.</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>RF</b>
	<p>The future President will be responsible for coordinating the work of the Student Section and connecting the SS to the EAZWV board; for managing the budget; and helping with the organisation of general activities. Candidates were Natascha Hedegaard, Johanna Kasberg and Sara Abreu. The student members present at the SGA were asked to vote by ballot paper. Results yielded a total of 15 votes for Natascha, 18 votes for Johanna and 24 votes for Sara, electing Sara Abreu as the new Student Section President.</p>	
<b>b.</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>RF</b>
	<p>The future Secretary will be responsible for updating the list of student members, writing the minutes of SS board meetings and SGA and share them with the members, preparing the agenda for the SGA and share it with the members, ensuring that all activities are carried out in agreement with the SS Constitution, and helping with the organisation of general activities. Candidates were Lucille Sanz and Johanna Kasberg. The student members present at the SGA were asked to vote by ballot paper. Results yielded a total of 25 votes for Lucille and 33 votes for Johanna, electing Johanna Kasberg as the new Student Section Secretary.</p>	
<b>c.</b>	<b>Communication Officer</b>	<b>RF</b>
	<p>The future Communication Officer will be responsible for liaising with the Communication Working Group of the EAZWV, including feature articles in the email newsletter, managing the Student Section's social media accounts, and helping with the organisation of general activities. Candidates were Alex Haake and Felix Husemann. The student members present at the SGA were asked to vote by ballot paper. Results yielded a total of 17 votes for Felix and 39 votes for Alex, electing Alex Haake as the new Student Section Communications Officer.</p>	
<b>d.</b>	<b>Education Officer</b>	<b>RF</b>
	<p>The future Education Officer will be responsible for managing the Student Placement list, answering questions and requests from student members, liaising with the Education Working Group of the EAZWV, defining a committee for the organisation of SS events, and helping with the organisation of general activities. Candidates were Mareike Conrad, Natascha Hedegaard and Felix Husemann. The student members present at the SGA were asked to vote by ballot paper. Results yielded a total of 7 votes for Felix, 10 votes for Mareike and 40 votes for Natascha, electing Natascha Hedegaard as the new Student Section Education Officer.</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Closure of the Meeting</b>	<b>SA</b>
	<p>The past and new boards of the EAZWV Student Section thanked all student members for being present at the Student General Assembly and contributing to the improvement of this group and the association as a whole. The meeting was closed at approximately 19:20.</p>	