

EASM NOMINATION COMMITTEE FINAL REPORT

2018 EASM ELECTION

The Nomination Committee, which was elected by the General Assembly (GA) in September 2017, is composed of four EASM members (D.Papadimitriou, M. Taks, A. Gerke and H. Gammelsæter), and presents the following report to the GA, in regards to the EASM elections 2018.

The Nomination Committee's (NC) major responsibility is to present the EASM GA with well-qualified candidates running for the EASM Board positions available for the 2018 election. To accomplish this mission, the committee began its activity immediately after its appointment by the 2017 GA in Bern. Criteria and special competencies for board membership are published on the EASM website: <http://www.easm.net/how-to-become-an-easm-board-member/>

In addition to these criteria the NC has worked according to the following guiding principles:

- (i) The 2018 EASM election procedure requires a considered and timely preparation to arrive at a strong and functional board, given the large number of opening positions (Vice President, several board member positions).
- (ii) The experience, views and aspirations of the current board members are of vital importance in order to create a strong board, and thus should be respected as much as possible.
- (iii) The newly elected board members, besides complying with the provisions of the bylaws, should signal renewal and ensure smooth continuity in order to fulfill the Board's Charter and to best serve the needs of its members
- (iv) Concentration of nationalities (same citizenship) among the board, and particularly in the Exco (president, vice president, treasurer, secretary general) should be avoided.
- (v) The academic profile of EASM should be reflected in the board.

This report has been developed after listening closely to the recommendations of the current EASM board members but also in recognition of the views and concerns of a diverse number of active EASM members in face to face discussions or via email exchange. The communication with the board has been open, but there has been some confusion about how many positions would be available for the next election (see point 6 below).

An extensive number of regular NC skype meetings were held to discuss the recruitment of candidates and the challenges related to the EASM bylaws, which are up for amendment in order to overcome complexities related to the election process. During this period, the NC regularly communicated with the EASM board to learn about their views and concerns regarding the elections, which were also considered while preparing this report.

The 2018 situation and recommendations

At the AGM 2018, the board proposes a revised constitution for EASM taking effect from 2019. In the revised constitution the number of elected board members is eight (8), compared to eleven (11) in the current constitution. To avoid electing a board that must later be reduced, the NC recommends that the AGM agree to let the new constitution take effect immediately for those statutes and byelaws that concern the composition of the board. If following the revised statutes, there are four (4) open seats to be decided by the 2018 AGM. The 2018 EASM election procedure requires a considered and timely preparation to arrive at a strong and functional board, given the large number of opening positions (Vice President, possibly Treasurer, and four board member positions).

The NC asks the AGM to have a special eye at the gender balance in the board. This year the NC has been particularly concerned with recruiting competent female candidates to run for election. When it comes to gender mix, the situation before the 2018 GA is as follows:

- 1) According to the current byelaws at least three (3) members of the Board shall be male and at least three (3) members shall be female (appointed members included). In the revised byelaws, this number is raised to four (4).
- 2) In the previous board, there were four female members. Two of these have withdrawn for the next period, and the two others are at the end of their first period. This means that the AGM must elect at least four (4) female members to meet the requirements of the revised constitution.
- 3) According to §8.16 in the current and revised byelaws, the board may establish an executive committee (ExCo) comprising the President, the Vice President, the Treasurer and the Secretary General. One of the female members withdrawing from the board is currently Vice President and she was the only female member on the ExCo. While it is not a requirement of the byelaws, the NC recommends that both genders shall be represented in the ExCo.
- 4) For the 2018 elections, the Vice President position is open. In accordance with principles (ii) and (v) above, the NC recommends that the current Treasurer, Claas Christian Germelmann shall be elected Vice President.
- 5) If the AGM elects Mr. Germelmann as Vice President, the position as Treasurer will become vacant. In accordance with the recommendation in 3) the NC recommends Aila Ahonen, female candidate with the highest seniority up for reelection, is elected as Treasurer. Aila Ahonen has served as board member for three years. She is currently the longest serving female member of the board. After consultation, the NC confirms she is well qualified for the Treasurer position.
- 6) According to §8.2 in the current byelaws, the AGM should strive for geographical balance in the membership of the Board and not more than two elected members of the Board may be from any one country. However, a person may opt to be regarded as being from the country of their nationality or the country in which they live or work. Moreover, a person must be a member of EASM and be a citizen of a country in membership of the Council of Europe or live or work in a country in membership of the Council of Europe (§8.3). In the revised byelaws (§8.2 a) “not more than half the members of the Board may be from any one nation”. The NC has no information that the election of the applicants in table 1 will violate these paragraphs in either version of the constitution.
- 7) Table 1 shows the applicants for board membership for the 2018 elections.

TABLE 1: NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE EASM BOARD 2018 ELECTIONS, Malmö

POSITION	CANDIDATE NAME	Previous service	Passport/Residence
EASM Vice President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C. Germelmann (m) 	2017-20	Germany
EASM Treasurer	?	?	?
EASM Board members at large:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ahonen, Aila (f) • Book, Karin (f) • Charalambos-Papamiltiades, Mary (f) • Olukoya, Bob (m) • Valentine, Irena (f) • Willem, Annick (f) 	2015-18 2017-18	Finland Sweden Cyprus UK Lithuania Belgium