



## Protocol General Assembly

November 24, 2021, online

### Agenda:

1. Welcome note of MaxBI spokesperson Wiebke Möbius, MPI ExMed
2. Closed session: Discussion: Facility management software, presented and moderated by Antonio Politi and Peter Lenart, Light Microscopy Core Unit, MPI BPC

### Public session

1. Talk by Jan Huisken (Excellence Cluster MBExC, Humboldt Professor):  
"Putting advanced light sheet microscopy in the hands of biologists"
2. Talk by Melina Schuh (MPI BPC, Director, Meiosis Department):  
"Illuminating the beginning of life"
3. Talk by Christian Dienemann (MPI BPC, Molecular Biology Department):  
"Electrons expose the mechanism of SARS-CoV2 antivirals"

### Internal Part

1. Reports from the WG1, Steering group, WG3 and financial officer
2. Elections
3. Miscellaneous

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**Topic 1:** Report from the Workgroups and financial officer

**WG1:** Elisa D'Este , [Elisa.Deste@mr.mpg.de](mailto:Elisa.Deste@mr.mpg.de): report from the WG1 - Communication

Elisa updated us on the growing network since more people and facilities joined, while the number of participating institutes stayed the same. She mentioned the web presence of MaxBI thanks to Stefan Volkery and the numerous activities on twitter thanks to Christian Kukat.

Concerning the Spotlight lectures format: 10 lectures were organized this year with speakers who concentrated on the technical aspects of their work. Elisa reminded us to make her

aware of anyone who does great imaging related work to fill in the next rounds of Spotlight lectures.

Coffee breaks: This format covers topics of interests to share between members in an informal meeting. The next planned coffee break in January 2022 will be dedicated for FACS operators to get to know each other within the network and to bring this technique on the agenda.

In the end Elisa was reminding us that anyone who would like to support the network in the area of communication is very welcome and should contact her.

**WG2:** Wiebke Möbius [moebius@em.mpg.de](mailto:moebius@em.mpg.de): report from Steering Group

Wiebke introduced the current members of WG2 and reports on the re-arrangements after Tobias Rasse left MaxBI. She pointed out that Stefan Volkery was now essential contributor to the MaxBI Network. Therefore, he would be a great member of the WG2 and needed to be elected later as a member of this group.

Then she summarized the current networking activities: After introducing MaxBI to German Biolmaging (GerBI) during their annual meeting in March, closer contacts were established with the aim to join forces. One outcome was the launch of a joined seminar series – “Ask the expert”. Two sessions were held so far. In addition, Wiebke became a member of the GerBI workgroup “training and knowledge transfer”.

Further, contact to Zeiss was established and a successful first joined virtual workshop was organized in July 2021. Herbert Schaden from Zeiss offered discussions on what we expect from companies and what kind of training we would like to get. Based on this, training opportunities could be organized next year.

In general, MaxBI is planning for hands-on courses in the future once the COVID situation allows. However, she pointed out that the next opportunity for in person get-together meetings could possibly happen by the end of September/early October supposing that circumstances allow. The idea would be to hold a real in-presence meeting in Göttingen.

Jan Peychl called on the participants to consider joining German Biolmaging since this community supports our ideas and has similar aims also outside the Max Planck Society. Private Membership fees to GerBI might be reimbursed by the administration.

**WG 3:** Gabriele Malengo, [gabriele.malengo@synmikro.mpi-marburg.mpg.de](mailto:gabriele.malengo@synmikro.mpi-marburg.mpg.de): report from WG3 -Staff and users training

Gabriele pointed out that MaxBI exists in the first place to exchange know-how: The idea is to concentrate on facility staff first. Trainers will have full freedom to structure their courses. However, ideally in a long run WG3 prefers to offer hands-on sessions. As a next initiative Mišo (MPI ExMed) will teach a JOBS module and Elisa D’Este will talk about multiplexing strategies for STED.

If the situation allows this next year, WG3 would like to organize visits too - between facilities - sending staff to different facilities - to learn new techniques

Furthermore, Gabriele mentioned that “Maintenance courses” are useful and required to assure reproducibility of instruments. These courses should be dedicated to to have better control over the instrument without replacing the service of the company. To be better partners with the service personnel a common vocabulary should be established and access should be allowed to diagnostics software.

WG3 is looking for volunteers to organize hand-on course in selected microscopy methods.

These online-courses took place:

Image Analysis Courses with Antonio Politi [apoliti@mpibpc.mpg.de](mailto:apoliti@mpibpc.mpg.de)

Basics in Python (GWDG)

Basics in Image Analysis

Basics in FIJI

These courses were so successful that they need to be repeated. It was also discussed that a Git repository for on-line courses would be useful.

Jan Peychl pointed out that the BioImage Analysis unit, part of the Scientific Computing at the MPI-CBG, will not be staffed soon. They are now searching for a new staff. A Senior BioImage analyst position is just open, junior position will be open as of December. Currently Robert Haase from Physics of Life Cluster of Excellence is closely associated with the MPI-CBG, so Robert might possibly support further Image Analysis courses. More volunteers are needed! Interested people should contact Antonio Politi.

**Financial officer:** report by Christian Kukat, [christian.kukat@age.mpg.de](mailto:christian.kukat@age.mpg.de)

Christian explained retrospectively that MaxBI requested funding from the MPS in June 2020 for General Assemblies, user training, job shadowing/staff exchanges –the money should be used to support training and networking. After the MPS approved the network and granted it for 5 years, we did not spend much so far, due to the SARS-Cov2 pandemic. Most planned activities were supposed to take place as in-person meetings, which we cannot do these days. Any idea for meaningful expenses is welcome.

Gabriele proposed to give money to people who wish to attend company workshops on maintenance and provide reimbursement to people to who attend courses. Ideas can be handed in via email to the WG3 or other representatives. One opportunity that was discussed were laser safety courses or other courses with external trainers. Hiring a student helper was identified as one of the most urgent tasks for the near future.

**Topic 2:** Elections - only delegates can vote. Voting procedure is performed electronically

Vote : Stefan Volkery will become a member of WG2 - steering committee: 19 votes present: YES 18 votes, 1 vote - abstained (no answer)

Vote : Arun Sampathkumar will become deputy spokesperson for the MaxBI - 18 votes present : YES 17 votes , 1 vote - abstained (no answer)

**Topic 3:** Miscellaneous

Christian Kukat proposed to organize a coffee break for FACS operators - to get together - and to learn from each other. We aim for the beginning of 2022 for a first coffee break on this topic

Wiebke announced the SAB meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> of December.