



The European Carbon Association

<http://www.europeancarbon.eu>

The - a s s o c i a t i o n - o f - t h e - n a t i o n a l - C a r b o n - G r o u p s - f r o m - E u r o p e

Annual Meeting of the ECA Council

18th July 2023 at 16:00-17:30

1. Welcome Address

Natalia Martsinovich, Treasurer of the British Carbon Group, welcomed the representatives of the European Carbon Groups on behalf of Geoff Fowler, the current chair of ECA who could not attend the conference.

Attendees:

Alex Theodosiou (BCG)
Nathalie Job (SFEC)
Miguel Gilarranz (GEC)
Manuel Fernando Pereira (PCG)
Elzbieta Frackowiak (PCS)
Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta (PCS)
Marcus Franz (AKK)
Arndt-Peter Schinkel (AKK)
María Jesús Lázaro (GEC)

The agenda of the meeting was accepted:

1. Welcome Address
2. Approval of the Minutes from online meeting 20th December 2021
3. Carbon conferences
 - a. London, 2022 (short summary)
 - b. France, 2025
 - c. Portugal, 2028
 - d. Early discussion for 2031
4. ECA Award 2025 (no need for action yet)
5. Information of changes in National Members Councils (for updating ECA Website)
6. Website - <https://europeancarbon.eu/>
 - a. Thanks to [Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta](#) who is maintaining it at present.
7. National Group Activities
8. Other items
 - a. Ukrainian Carbon Group status



2. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of 5th July 2022 were accepted.

It was noted that the minutes are missing reports about national group activities from BCG and AKK.

Action: BCG and AKK to send a report on their activities to Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta to complete the minutes.

3. Carbon conferences

a. London, 2022

Natalia Martsinovich presented a short summary of Carbon 2022 (with thanks to Chris Ewels who provided Powerpoint slides). There were 317 registered attendees from 45 countries, 210 Talks, 176 Posters. Most of the attendees (60%) were early bird registrations, and ~15% student early bird registrations and late registrations. The topics covered were similar to this year's conference. There was uncertainty over the finances during preparation of the conference due to restrictions on travel post Covid. But the conference covered its costs and made a profit in the end. Due to the uncertainty over finance, we did not hire a professional conference manager; conference management done by BCG members and a student intern. BCG is aware that there were complaints about catering, and Geoff Fowler complained to Imperial College after the conference. The banquet was very good, and the venue was good, although some problems with the technical support. Overall, we did a good job under the circumstances as one of the first post-Covid conferences.

Natalia Martsinovich also informed everyone that NanoteC23 conference will take place in Brighton, UK, on 29th August – 1st September 2023.

b. France, 2025

Update from Nathalie Job: Carbon 2025 will be in Saint-Malo. The conference centre has already been booked. It is expensive and needs >300 attendees to cover the costs, but these attendee numbers should be OK. SFEC will use a professional conference manager. The call for abstracts will be announced before Christmas 2024. SFEC have a schedule of actions and will divide actions between members. Will start on the website soon.

The dates will be 29th June – 4th July 2025. Accommodation is not too expensive, but recommended to book early because it is a small city. The nearest airport is Rennes, or trains from Paris. SFEC are looking for sponsors.



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They were approached by a European organisation for Promotion of Carbon Research and will meet them on the 18th October.

Nathalie Job will present this information on Friday.

Carbon 2024 will be in China.

c. Portugal, 2028

Fernando Pereira reported that they will start planning next year. It will be organised by the Portuguese Carbon Group (~40 people). It will be either in Porto or in Lisbon, depending on expected numbers. Nathalie Job will share the numbers of Carbon 2025.

d. Plans for Carbon 2031

Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta proposed to hold this conference in Poland. Costs and expected numbers were discussed.

It was agreed to hold Carbon 2031 in Poland.

4. ECA Award 2025

Need to re-discuss the rules on eligibility for the award, how to vote, which countries are eligible. Previously had unsuitable candidates nominated. Geoff Fowler said in a previous meeting that he had suggestions.

Action 1: To remind Geoff Fowler to share his suggestions.

Action 2: Geoff Fowler to organise a separate meeting to discuss the rules in December.

5. Information of changes in National Members Councils (for updating ECA Website)

France: new secretary Jean-Charles Arnault

Britain: new secretary Samantha Wilkinson, new treasurer Natalia Martsinovich

Spain: will change membership in autumn.

Action: Send any changes in membership to [Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta](mailto:Aneta.Fraczek-Szczypta).

6. Website - <https://europeancarbon.eu/>

Thanks to [Aneta Fraczek-Szczypta](mailto:Aneta.Fraczek-Szczypta) who is maintaining it at present.

7. National Group Activities

a. National Group Activities



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British Carbon Group

BCG: (i) organised its annual meeting on Carbon (Energy Futures: The Role of Carbon) in March 2023 with ~20 attendees, Ubbelohde medal awarded to Tony Wickham, and student poster prizes, (ii) taking part in organising NanoteC23, (iii) awarded student travel bursaries.

The Francophone Carbon Group

SFEC held their annual meeting in Guadeloupe, with 80-90 attendees.

The Spanish Carbon Group (GEC)

GEC organized its First Course on carbon materials and their applications at the end of November 2022, and its First Meeting of Young Researchers at the beginning of December 2022. Both held in Baeza, with 30 and 41 participants, respectively, and a week of joint duration.

The Polish Carbon Society (PCS)

Conference-events

In 2022 we had one Conference: XIV Scientific-Technical Conference of the Polish Carbon Society “Carbon Materials and Polymer Composites” Science-Industry’2022 – Ustron-Jaszowiec, 18-21 November, 2022.

Moreover, in this year we organized 4th Scientific Workshop of the Polish Carbon Society, “New trends in the science of carbon” Nowym Sączu, 23 June 2023. The meeting was organized at the headquarters of our supporting member, i.e. the TokayCobex company. The total number of participants was 23, including 9 speakers from various universities in Poland.

Also in this year we will organize XV Scientific-Technical Conference of the Polish Carbon Society “Carbon Materials and Polymer Composites” Science-Industry’2023 – Ustron-Jaszowiec, 18-20 October, 2023.

Additionally, next year we will organize The 11th Torunian Carbon Symposium - TCS 2024, 15-19.09.2024 Toruń (Hotel Copernicus).

PCS Award for young scientists

- Award of Polish Carbon Society for young scientists: For four years, the Polish Carbon Society has been awarding prizes to young scientists in the form of financing a conference fee for participation in the international conference connected with carbon. This year we decided was used to cover the conference fee



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CESEP 2023. This year the award was given to Marcel Zambrzycki from the AGH University of Krakow.

b. Suggestion by BCG to have special rates for ECA members for any conferences or events organised by national carbon groups (attended from other countries' carbon groups to have discounted rates). This was discussed and decided against, because it would inflate the costs not other countries that do not have carbon groups. It is OK to have preferential rates for students, but no preferential rates for ECA members.

8. Other items

a. Ukrainian Carbon Group status.

The Ukrainian group has not been in contact for a while. It was agreed that now is not the right time to make any decisions.

Action: Ask Sergey Mikhalovsky to contact the Ukrainian group and find out.

Update 1/08/2023 from Natalia Martsinovich: I contacted Sergey Mikhalovsky, who said that he knows the Ukrainian Carbon group and their chair personally, the group still exists but they are not currently active internationally because male researchers cannot leave the country, while many female researchers are abroad with their children.

There were no more topics to deal with. The session closed at 17:30.