



Minutes of the 5th Committee Meeting

Friday, September 12, 2003, 6.30pm to 7.30pm
University of Minho, Guimarães, Portugal

The meeting was organized in conjunction with the 1st Annual European Rheology Conference (AERC 2003). The President of the ESR, Jean-Michel Piau, opened the meeting welcoming ESR delegates and guests from the wider rheological community.

The officers of the ESR and delegates of nearly all European Rheology Groups were present (Appendix 1).

Top 1. Minutes of the 4th Committee Meeting, Erlangen 2002

The Minutes of the 4th ESR Committee Meeting as emailed by the Secretary, Manfred Wagner, on SEP 28, 2002, were accepted.

The agenda, as emailed by the Secretary on AUG 26, 2003, was accepted.

Top 2. Report by the ESR President, Jean-Michel Piau

Since the last Committee Meeting at Erlangen, one year ago, the Executive Council of the ESR has been conducting actively the business of the ESR. The ESR officers already met twice this year for that purpose:

- at Heraklion/Crete on MARCH 29, 2003
- and at Guimares on SEP 10, 2003.

At the Heraklion meeting, it was decided to call the attention of congress organizers as well as ESR subcommittee members to a list of important details related to the organisation of European rheology conferences and rheology schools. In addition, the Executive Council took the initiative to suggest that with the creation of AERCs, ESR Committee Meetings as well as the Weissenberg Award Ceremony should be organized in conjunction with the Annual European Rheology Conferences. This means that it is suggested to postpone until the next AERC in 2005 all the activities foreseen initially at the ICR 2004 in Seoul. This initiative was communicated to the Rheology Groups and will be submitted to the approval of the delegates under Top 7 of the agenda.

At the Guimarães meeting a series of important details had again to be looked after carefully. This includes ESR accounts and all the necessary explanations will be given during the report of the ESR Treasurer under Topic 3 of the agenda.

Nadia El Kissi and Georgios Georgiou had also been invited to come and to meet with João Maia and the Executive Council on SEP 10. The

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results of their cooperation will appear during their presentations under Top 5 + 6 of the agenda.

Finally the President emphasizes that though it is still a young Society, the ESR is strong and in a very good shape indeed. Many researchers in the field share the opinion that the ESR is becoming a more and more useful tool for rheologists in Europe.

The President concludes by expressing with great pleasure his thanks to all Council, Subcommittee and Committee members, to the organizers of the Guimarães Conference, as well as to Didier Blésès (who provides technical support to the ESR website) for their invaluable and kind help.

Top 3. Report by the ESR Treasurer, Jan Mewis

The financial report of the ESR Treasurer is attached as Appendix 2.

The financial report was approved unanimously by the ESR Committee, and the Treasurer was thanked, by acclaim.

Top 4. Report by Subcommittees of the ESR

a) Subcommittee for Thematic Rheology Conferences and European Rheology Schools

The report as prepared by Paula Moldenaers (chair) is attached as Appendix 3 and was given by Jan Mewis. Rheology Groups are asked to contact the Subcommittee (via the chair) as soon as planning of a European rheological activity starts. Also, use of the ESR website and e-mail list is highly recommended. The report was accepted, and the Subcommittee Members were thanked, by acclaim.

b) Subcommittee on Rheological Expertise in Europe

The report (Appendix 4) of the Subcommittee as communicated by Chris Petrie (co-chair) to the ESR Committee members on SEP 3, 2003, was presented by Nadia El Kissi (co-chair). The report contains important information on the operation of the ESR website. National Rheology Groups as well as individual rheologists are encouraged to make good use of this service provided by the ESR. National Groups are encouraged to update the National Pages at the website. The report was accepted, and the Subcommittee Members were thanked, by acclaim.

Top 5. Report on AERC 2003

João Maia, co-chairman and ESR liaison of AERC 2003, reported on a highly successful AERC 2003 with 250+ participants. As intended by the ESR Committee, deadlines were kept very short, and the Conference was organized as "... a high Weissenberg number flow with no instabilities allowed...". Thanks to the low conference fees, 30% of the participants were students. The preliminary balance sheet

reports a balanced budget with nearly €60,000.- income and expenditure. A full report will follow.

Top 6. Decision on locations for AERC 2005 and AERC 2006

Within the deadline set by the ESR Committee, expressions of interest were received from Nadia El Kissi (AERC 2005, Grenoble), and from Georgios Georgiou, President of the HSR (AERC 2006, Crete). The ESR Executive Council had endorsed both expressions of interest and had encouraged preparation of a formal application.

Nadia El Kissi presented the application for AERC 2005, Grenoble, which was accepted unanimously. The conferences will take place in APRIL 2005.

Dimitris Vlassopoulos presented the application for AERC 2006, Crete, which was accepted unanimously. The conference will take place presumably in the last weekend of April 2006.

Several applications were already received for organizing AERC 2007. Decision will be taken at the next Committee Meeting (presumably Grenoble, 2005).

Top 7. Constitution and Rules

The ESR Executive Council proposes that with the creation of AERCs, ESR Committee Meetings as well as the Weissenberg Award Ceremony shall be organized in conjunction with the Annual European Rheology Conferences. Specifically the proposals are:

- a) No ESR Committee Meeting shall take place at the ICR 2004 (Seoul), as it cannot be expected that all Committee members will travel to Seoul, but shall instead be postponed by a few months to AERC 2005.
- b) The next Weissenberg Award shall be delivered at AERC 2005.
- c) The term of office of the ESR officers shall be extended to AERC 2005.

The proposals were accepted unanimously.

Top 8. Any Other Topic

Morton Denn reports that the ICR 2008 is intended to take place at Monterrey, Ca, USA.

Top 9. Place and Date of next Committee Meeting

During the 2nd AERC, Grenoble, APRIL 2003

Manfred H. Wagner
Secretary

Jean-Michel Piau
President

Appendix 1

Participants of the 5th ESR Committee Meeting, Guimarães, SEP 12, 2003

Officers:

Jean-Michel Piau

Ken Walters

Jan Mewis

Manfred Wagner

Members-at-Large:

Crispulo Gallegos

Coopted Member:

Dimitris Vlassopoulos

Special Tasks:

Nadia El Kissi

Guest:

João Maia

Delegates:

Antonio Correja Diogo

Igor Emri

Antonio Guerriero

Georgios Georgiou

Roland Keunings

Romano Lapasin

Alexander Malkin

Geoff Maitland

Helmut Münstedt

Gerrit Peters

Petr Stern

Jean-François Tassin

Erich Windhab

Appendix 2

5th Committee Meeting of the ESR Treasurer's Report

This report covers the period August 2002- August 2003. It follows up on the treasurer's report presented at the 4th Committee Meeting of the ESR at Erlangen on Sept. 3, 2002. The details of the movements of the ESR bank account since that time are given below. The currency used is GBP, as the account is in a British bank.

INCOME:

Except for the net credit interest of the bank account, the income consists of two donations, related to rheological conferences. The first one is by the Hellenic Society of Rheology (179.88 GBP), the second by the organizers of the 6th ECR at Erlangen (Prof. Münstedt and his team) (3594 GBP).

EXPENSES:

The major expense is caused by maintaining the ESR website, including hardware and software costs, the total amount for this year being (840.70 + 853.47 + 4430 =) 6,124.17 GBP plus bank costs. It should be pointed out that 4430 GBP of this amount do not refer to the expenses for the current year. They correspond to the 3753.38 GBP which were debited from our account on March 15, 2002. Because of some difficulties with the bank draft, the amount was deducted from the account of the the recipient of this amount (Mr. D. Blésès) early this year. Therefore, the amount 6100 euro has been paid again by bank check in May (4,430 GBP). Our next account sheet showed that the original amount was still deducted from our account. This bank is now solving this problem. It seems to be normal in the UK that bank accounts can be debited before the bank actually has to pay anything. It has to be verified whether we can recover the interest on this amount that never left the bank.

Finally 41.37 GBP has been paid for one meal during the meeting of the executive committee of the ESR in Crete, as has been done at earlier meetings.

ACTUAL STATUS

At this moment our bank account contains 4,867.85 GBP. In addition the bank owns us 3753.38 GBP, for which we were debited but which was never paid. In addition we'll try to recover the interest on this amount.

The treasurer, Jan Mewis

sheet	date	particulars	payments	receipts	balance (GBP)
	02-08-16				7236,21
62	02-09-16	net credit interest		0,49	7236,70
63	02-10-16	Ellinikos Syllogos F/Flow		179,88	7416,58
	02-10-16	net credit interest		0,48	7417,06
64	02-11-15	net credit interest		0,51	7417,57
65	02-12-16	net credit interest		0,49	7418,06
66	03-01-16	net credit interest		7,56	7425,62
	03-01-16	EURHEO F/Flow		3594,00	11019,62
67	03-02-14	net credit interest		10,52	11030,14
68	03-03-14	INPG (PC)	840,7		
		Charges on payment	10,00		
		ADR (web)	853,47		
		Charges on payment	10,00		9315,97
		net credit interest		7,52	9323,49
69	03-04-16	net credit interest		7,92	9331,41
70	03-05-16	net credit interest		7,68	9339,09
71	03-06-16	net credit interest		7,93	9347,02
72	03-07-16	Mr. D. Blésès (web)	4430,00		
		Charges on payment	16,00		
		Prof. Dimitris Vlassopoulos	41,37		4859,65
		net credit interest		4,88	4864,53
73	03-08-14	net credit interest		3,32	4867,85
					4867,85

Appendix 3

Report of the Subcommittee on “Thematic Rheology Conferences and European Rheology Schools”

Report prepared for the committee meeting of the ESR on September 12, 2003 in Guimarães, Portugal

Members of the committee :

Paula Moldenaers (chair)

Chris Gallegos

Igor Emri

Pino Marrucci

Peter Szabo

The committee was installed at the European Rheology Conference in Portoroz (1998).

1. Thematic Rheology Conferences : (since Portoroz meeting)

The aim of thematic rheology conferences is to coordinate rheological activities in Europe and to avoid fragmentation.

Thematic rheology conferences since the Portoroz meeting :

1. Eurorheo 99-1

“Rheology, rheo-optics and flow-induced structures of liquid crystalline polymers, surfactants and block-polymers”

Organized by P. Navard (Cemef) and C. Schmidt (Freiburg),

Sophia-Antipolis (France), May 3-7, 1999

2. Eurorheo 99-2

“2nd International Symposium on Rheology-Chain structure relationships in polymers”

Organized by the EFCE Working Party on Industrial Rheology

Amsterdam (the Netherlands), April 22-23, 1999

3. Eurorheo 99-3

“Southern European Rheology Conference”

Organized by the Italian, Hellenic, Portuguese, Slovenian and Spanish Societies of Rheology

Sanginetto (Italy), September 7-11, 1999

4. Eurorheo 2000-1

”Workshop and Summer School on Non-equilibrium Thermodynamics and Complex Fluids”

Organized by a committee, chaired by Hans Christian Ottinger

Oxford (UK), August 14-18, 2000

5. Eurorheo 2002-01

“Joint meeting of British, Italian, Portuguese and Spanish Rheologists”

Torremolinos-Málaga (Spain), April 24-26, 2002

6. Eurorheo 2003-01

3rd International Symposium on Food Rheology and Structure

Zürich (Switzerland), February 9-13, 2003

2. European Rheology Schools (since Portoroz meeting)

5th European Rheology School
Process Rheology
Strathclyde (UK), November 2-6, 1998

6th European Rheology School
Rheological Measurements, Application to Polymers, Suspensions and Processing
Leuven (Belgium), September 6-10, 1999

7th European Rheology School
Rheological Measurements, Applications to Polymers, Suspensions and Processing
Leuven (Belgium), September 10-14, 2001

8th European School of Rheology
“Rheology for the Process Industries”
Torremolinos-Malaga (Spain), April 21-24, 2002

Upcoming

9th European Rheology School
Rheological Measurements; Applications to Polymers, Suspensions and Processing
Leuven (Belgium), September 15-19, 2003

Leuven, August 29, 2003

Paula Moldenaers

Appendix 4

Report on web and e-mail to the ESR Committee (5th meeting, September 2003)

Prepared by the Subcommittee on Rheological Expertise in Europe:

Chris Petrie [co-chair], Nadia El Kissi [co-chair];

Crispulo Gallegos, Dimitris Vlassopoulos;

with the assistance of Didier Blésès (who provides technical support).

Site activity

<http://www.rheology-esr.org/>

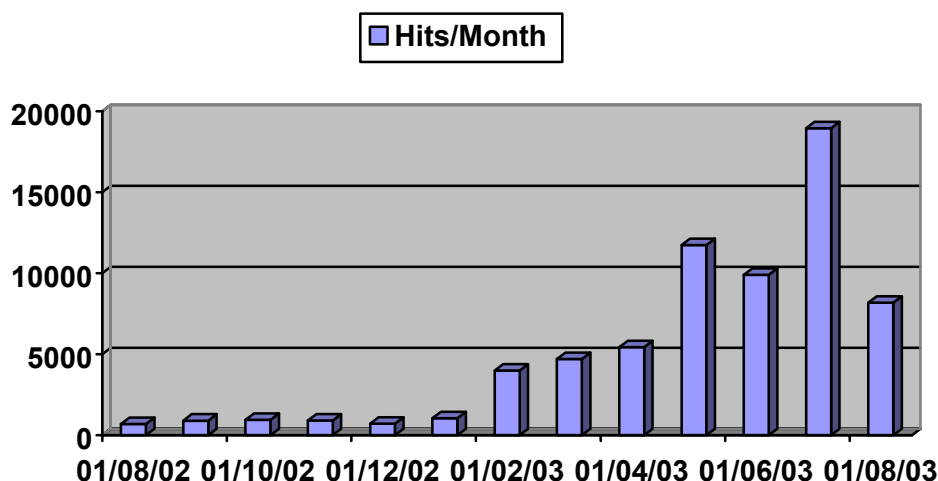
From 1st August, 2002 to 22nd August, 2003 the site received 68056 requests for connections and responded to 6395 different computers.

This activity represents an average of:

- 862 requests per month (= 203 per week) between 1st August, 2002 and 31st January, 2003.
- 8982 requests per month since February 2003, with a peak at 6418 requests during the week from 13th July to 20th July.

The increase in the frequency of requests in these last six months is explained by:

- automatic mailings concerning jobs,
- the installation, at the beginning of February, of the web pages for the AERC 2003 on the site,
- online registrations and abstracts submissions for the AERC 2003.



AERC 2003

The web pages related to the conference are operational (as noted above). They are completely accessible to the organizers, who profit, on their request, from the effective assistance of Didier Blésès for the updating of information on these pages.

Web site administration

The report presented in September 2002 proposed that the responsibility for the various parts of the ESR site would be shared between members of the sub-committee, ESR officers and others. The list of responsibilities then, as well as changes made since, is in the appendix to this report. Some detailed comments on the various sections are also given in the appendix.

A new service has been added to the site: jobs, meetings and links can be submitted by anyone. Once validated by one of the moderators of the relevant section, they are put on line on the site. Moreover, since November 2002, a short e-mail is sent automatically to the mailing list to inform users of the addition of information about a new job which can be consulted on the site.

The administration of the jobs section by Dimitris Vlassopoulos is quasi-instantaneous. It is the same for the meetings section (Crispulo Gallegos and, recently, Paula Moldenaers). Many other sections are quasi-inactive; the news and links sections have been modified from time to time (irregularly) by Didier Blésès, Nadia El Kissi and Chris Petrie.

Future plans

It is necessary to reconsider the responsibilities of the various moderators and to discuss with national society representatives the functions and uses of the national pages on the ESR site. The lack of content of certain sections needs to be considered and ways of making addition of information less time-consuming might be helpful, if they can be devised.

It is proposed that we put on line abstracts relating to conferences organized by, in association with or under the aegis of the ESR. The need is to do this as efficiently as possible and minimize the demands on the time of the section moderators and the Grenoble team.

The automatic mailing of information about new additions to the meetings list (as is done with jobs) is something we should consider asking to be implemented. This could also be done for additions to other sections of the site, but excessive automatic sending of e-mail can annoy users and should be avoided - we need to strike the right balance here to optimize the information flow to users of the site.

Questions

1. Should all ESR approved meetings and schools use the ESR web site as their primary site?
2. Should ESR Executive activities be reported on the ESR web site?

Acknowledgement

The sub-committee is extremely grateful to Didier Blésès for his continuing day-to-day work on the site under the management of Nadia El Kissi and Jean-Michel Piau in Grenoble.

The site continues to do an excellent job and the sharing of tasks across Europe has been a most important aspect of the design and implementation of the web site.

The responsibility for improvements and better use of the site is also widely shared - it lies with this sub-committee, the section moderators, the national society representatives and ultimately with all users of the site, from whom comments and suggestions are welcome.

The aims of site development are

- To make it easy for people to supply information for inclusion in the ESR web pages.
- To make it easy for people to find information on rheological activities and societies.

Addition: Some comments on the web pages (dated early August 2003):

Web page (section) administration:

	Section	Moderator(s) (September 2002)	Changes (2002-2003)
1	Home page & News	Jean-Michel Piau, Chris Petrie & Didier Blésès	
2	National pages	Oliver Harlen & Chris Petrie (& national presidents)	Add European delegates & presidents' nominees
3	About	Manfred Wagner & Chris Petrie	
4	Meetings & Schools	Paula Moldenaers & Crispulo Gallegos	
5	Publications	Ken Walters & David Binding	Add Evan Mitsoulis
6	Jobs	Dimitris Vlassopoulos (& another, to be found)	
7	Links	Jan Mewis & Chris Petrie	Add Francisco Chinesta
8	Emailing	Chris Petrie & Jean-Michel Piau	Manfred Wagner for Jean-Michel Piau
9	Forum	Dimitris Vlassopoulos & Jean-Michel Piau; Crispulo Gallegos (for Business Café)	
10	Users	(grouped with Users)	Didier Blésès, Nadia El Kissi & Jean-Michel Piau

Home page & News:

This functions well - till now featuring the Guimaraes conference; next the ICR in Seoul in 2004.

National pages:

These are almost content-free for many countries. There is no access except by designated person(s) for each country (the society President, Delegate or person acting with his/her authority).

There are 19 societies (and/or countries) listed - only 4 have added any news items.

Belgian Group of Rheology News ~ December 2000

British Society of Rheology News ~ August 2002 (recently updated, August 2003)

French Group of Rheology News ~ April 2003

German Society of Rheology News ~ June 2003

Most of the 19 countries have at least an e-mail address for a President and a Delegate, but many have no more information than that. This is in part because personal details (of Presidents etc) may only be edited by the person him/herself (or by the overworked people at Grenoble).

The status of the European News section in the BSR Bulletin and its relation to the national news items on the web site is unclear (and I believe the BSR President will have something to say or ask about this at the ESR Committee Meeting).

About:

The executive and committee members of the ESR are shown here. Obviously these need to be kept up to date. The sub-committees of the ESR are not shown, but can be found through the ESR Committee minutes.

Meetings and Schools:

Meetings listed: 11 in the future (at 5th Aug 2003)
Past meetings listed: 20 in year Aug 2002 - Aug 2003
16 in year Aug 2001 - Aug 2002
3 in June & July 2001 (start of records)

This works adequately - it depends on people supplying information.

Publications:

1. RHEOLOGICAL PHENOMENA IN FOCUS. The link merely gives a few publication details.
2. Abstracts from the 3rd Meeting, Hellenic Society of Rheology, 2001. Available online (125 pages)

Jobs:

13 jobs are visible, posted from 14th April to 4th August 2003. See the comments below (**E-Mailing**).

Links:

There are 102 links in the database. The administration of these is irregular. Links have been added, approved and edited by Chris Petrie. There is no testing for invalid links (out of date URLs). In some cases it is possible to track down a new URL for the link and correct the database. For example

<http://www.sik.se/sik/affomr/star/reointro.html> "Introduction to rheology"
has been updated (to the new Nordic Society page of the same title) but

<http://www.rmit.edu.au/departments/ch/rmpc> "RMIT Rheology & Materials Processing ..."
has not yet been updated.

Emailing:

The main use of the e-mail list (according to a subjective view) has been the alerting service for job adverts - when a new advert is placed in the ESR web pages, a brief e-mail goes to "everyone" on the database - currently (7th August 2003) 530 e-mail addresses.

Other e-mails are submitted by users (who need not be registered users of the site) and are sent out after approval by a moderator.

Since 12th April 2003 (4 months) there have been

13 job announcements and 8 other e-mails (meeting announcements mainly).

Previous activity:

6 job announcements and 3 other e-mails from 12th Jan 2003 - 11th Apr 2003

7 job announcements and 3 other e-mails from 12th Aug 2002 - 11th Jan 2003

13 e-mails (and 2 duplicates) in the period 22nd Feb - 11th Aug 2002

Message archiving was implemented (and past messages have all been archived and may be inspected).

Users:

The activity under this heading is the administration of individual rights of users of the site. For example the moderators may edit individual data or define a new moderator. The activity is not directly visible to users but the consequences of it are clearly most important.

Forum:

3 have been started:

Website discussion has two messages (no replies); the second message is really in the wrong forum.

How to start a discussion has one message and no replies.

ABC has 9 messages - 5 topics, one with 3 replies and one with 1 reply.

Postings in the last year:

Author	Date	Link (MAILTO:)
SIEGLER JF (---.abo.wanadoo.fr)	04-25-03 15:30	jfsiegler@yahoo.fr
Andy (---.uhu.es)	07-07-03 09:03	none
Francesca (---.pool80181.interbusiness.it)	05-03-03 15:55	piccarda86@hotmail.com
Antonio Jose Perez Alonso (---.uc.nombres.ttd.es)	10-27-02 20:49	ajparoko@hotmail.com

Usually the sender is recorded as a MAILTO: hyperlink, but one is not - effectively he is anonymous.

The old site (at Newcastle): <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/rheology/esr/>

This still exists and asks people to update their bookmarks and go to the new site. It should be continued (at no cost and with virtually no updating) because there are still a substantial number of visits to the site. The number of visits in the year before the new site went live on 8th February 2002 was 5559. There have been a further 1857 in the year to 10th February 2003 and a further 943 in the half-year to 7th August 2003. Hopefully all these visitors (or at least those that are real people) will follow the link to the new site.

Comments:

Some details which may be worth considering - depending on the effort involved in implementation. Some require policy decisions.

- a. There is a "visits counter" for the site - should this be visible to site visitors somewhere?
- b. The date shown as "last update" for pages is in fact a date for the whole site so one cannot tell when a particular page or section was last changed. It may require some effort to display the date when each page was actually changed on that page. Is it worth doing?
- c. Could links (URLs) in the database be checked automatically from time to time to determine if they are valid? This arises from consideration of the "links" section but is probably relevant for the whole site.
- d. The English of some pages still needs to be corrected.
- e. The sub-committees of the ESR and the names of section moderators (those with editorial responsibility for the different groups of pages) could be added to the "About" section.
- f. ESR Executive information (dates of meetings and any information from meetings that can be made public) could be added to the "About" section.