


EAGE


EUROPEAN
ASSOCIATION OF
GEOSCIENTISTS &
ENGINEERS

Minutes

Annual General Meeting for Members #28

 Wed June 8th, 2022

 2:15pm - 3:15pm CEST

 IFEMA Madrid (Retiro) and Online

In Attendance

Remco Bax, Caroline Le Turdu, Marcel Loon van, Alireza Malehmir, Dirk Orłowsky, Jean-Marc Rodriguez, Peter Rowbotham, Lucy Slater, Aart-Jan van Wijngaarden, Peter Verweij

I. 90+ members attended the meeting (online/in-person)

II. Opening of the meeting.

The meeting is opened by Marcus Arthur Project Manager at EAGE. The program is briefly explained. Dirk Orłowsky, President of EAGE is welcomed and the agenda and voting system is explained.

III. Approval of the minutes of AGMM #27 (online).

Members are asked to vote for approval of the minutes of the (online) AGMM #27, 2021.

IV. Results of ballot, confirmation of new board members.

On behalf of the Secretary-Treasurer (Pascal Breton), Dirk Orłowsky presents the results of the 2022 ballot. Outgoing board members are Colin MacBeth (Education Officer) who will be replaced by Maren Kleemeyer; Alireza Malehmir (chair NS Geoscience Division) who will be replaced by Esther Bloem. Simultaneously, Andi Pfaffhuber will take over the position of Esther Bloem within the Division as Vice-chair NS Geoscience Division.

The new incoming Vice-President is Edward Wiarda. Jean-Marc Rodriguez will take over the EAGE presidency position.

Aart-Jan van Wijngaarden, EAGE's Technical Program Officer, and Caroline Le Turdu, Membership and Cooperation Officer, have both been re-elected for their third term.

V. **President's report.**

Several activities of the board together with the head office are mentioned.

- in June 2021 it looked like, that global circumstances will return to old normality
- a successful Near Surface Conference in Bordeaux took place with the first hybrid format and later the annual conference in Amsterdam
- after a difficult period due to COVID, EAGE ended up with a good 2021; more details will be presented by Jean-Marc Rodriguez in the presentation of the annual accounts
- EAGE stays committed to connecting (to its) members and fulfilling its objectives
- Core values: diversity, multidisciplinary & member-centric

The EAGE Board has unanimously expressed their shock and dismay at the ongoing Russian invasion of Ukraine and offered support to the millions of people affected, in particular the geoscience community and our Local Chapter in Kyiv.

A dedicated registration fee waiver program is introduced for Ukraine. Some members contacted EAGE with interest to support the cost of event attendance of their Ukrainian colleagues.

The EAGE Board approved creating a dedicated EAGE Ukraine Professional Development Fund to support the continuous professional development of Ukrainian students and the academic community, as well as the community of Ukraine professionals involved in career development activities aimed at Ukrainian students in the fields of geoscience and engineering.

EAGE members are welcome to contribute to this initiative and support Ukrainian colleagues with donations via the Student Fund.

EAGE's commitment to connecting its members is being realized among others through its many technical communities, special interest communities (WGE and YP), and its local communities (the many Local and Student chapters).

Several new technical communities are in development: The board recently approved a petition of members interested to create a new technical Community on Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV); there is interest to create other technical communities such as communities interested in nuclear waste storage or geohazards.

Activities to establish a community can also commence at the initiative of at least ten EAGE members who expressed in writing their wish for such a membership group.

Many EAGE local communities - the EAGE Local Chapters - are substantially contributing with their many online events to connect our members worldwide. The latest addition to the LC family is the LC Stavanger consolidating a network around our important existing community in the area.

It was launched last January and has created an ongoing collaboration with the AI Community and conducted a successful technical meeting on Digitalization.

Online meetings (a format that allowed members to connect in times of COVID) for Local Chapters and communities are expected to stay popular going forward.

To support the increasing number of their initiatives, a new portal was tested in the first half of the year to create an integrated EAGE space for all communities to not only meet but also

- discover all services and benefits offered by EAGE
- engage existing and new members
- create new multidisciplinary connections

Further collaboration with sister- and associated societies in multiple areas is continuous: organizing joint workshops, sharing high-quality speakers through mutual “Best paper” presentations, and joining activities in new emerging topics or in publications.

The EAGE Board took note that the proposed AAPG and SPE merger plans were terminated. EAGE is happy to continue the collaboration with both societies however is not planning mergers with other “big” societies.

An enhanced multidisciplinary collaboration both within the EAGE communities, universities, industry, and other societies will contribute to solutions for the Energy transition.

While Oil&Gas keep playing an important part in the energy mix for decades to come, geoscientists and engineers have a key role to mitigate climate change.

EAGE Education, as part of EAGE’s core mission, is to provide members worldwide access to education programs fulfilling their needs in continuous professional development (currently growing demand connected to ET).

The EAGE Education Committee conducts a review of the existing education portfolio with a focus on transferable skills:

- relevant courses were updated to include ET applications
- identify possible gaps in ET training
- source new courses

The New Energy Transition category and label for courses covering topics and skills applied within ET have been added to the EAGE Short Course Catalogue.

EAGE's main focus is currently on online education through the EAGE Learning Geoscience online platform which consists of three main pillars - free learning material offered to our members and in some cases also non-members, EAGE short courses in various online formats catering to the needs of different audiences and training programs from our partner organizations.

EAGE continues with various activities to attract young people: to participate in for example student webinars and e-summits. Student chapter activities: - recently the EAGE Student Chapter in Uppsala organized a Conference on Energy Transition and Raw Materials.

The MINUS CO2 Challenge - with finals during the GET conference. The Laurie Dake Challenge: - teams propose a field development plan for a discovered hydrocarbon resource.

EAGE's Students and Young Professionals programs are accompanied by activities like mentoring, career guidance, and lifelong learning!

Some mentoring programs are activated at specific events, such as EAGE Digital and the EAGE Annual; others are coordinated by our special interest communities: Young Professionals and Women in Geoscience & Engineering.

In the publications field, EAGE is striving to bring new value to our members.

Together with the Geological Society of London, a new sister journal - The Geoenergy Journal - will be launched next year.

Key topics include:

- Carbon capture and storage
- Energy storage
- Geothermal energy
- Critical minerals

One of EAGE's core values is multidisciplinary and diversity of topics. Along with EAGE's traditional O&G disciplines and the new energy transition applications, there are several other key topics EAGE is focusing on, such as the digital transformation or near-surface geoscience topics.

A few key recent or upcoming events in these fields are highlighted:

EAGE's flagship digital transformation event (March 2022) the 2nd EAGE Digitalization Conference & Exhibition, took place in Vienna. This was the first EAGE's physical event in 2022 with 200 participants in-person and more than 120 participants online.

The strategic program attracted key leaders and executives adding a new dimension alongside the strong technical program.

EAGE's members and community interested in the topic of digitalization, EAGE recently launched a Digitalization Hub page with all EAGE's activities on this topic: events, education programs, community activities, publications, etc.

EAGE's flagship near-surface event is coming up in September in Belgrade, Serbia.

Two parallel conferences are scheduled in addition to the European Meeting of Environmental and Engineering Geophysics - the 4th Conference on Geophysics for Mineral Exploration and Mining and the 3rd Conference on Airborne, Drone, and Robotic Geophysics

Our flagship event when it comes to the energy transition is the so-called GET conferences (EAGE Global Energy Transition Conference & Exhibition).

This multi-disciplinary event requires expertise from both the oil and gas and the near surface professionals. However, the main driver of this conference as well as of the GET-Community is the European Oil and Gas Industry! Besides offshore wind, CCUS and (deep) Geothermal Energy the energy storage (gas storage hydrogen storage in the underground) play a key role in this conference. There is a need for presenting the integration processes, the cross-uses (O&G and renewables) for solutions to the society, all under the umbrella of environment & sustainability.

The conference also includes YP and student activities, such as the already mentioned Minus CO2 Challenge or mentoring.

For members and community interested in the topic of energy transition, EAGE also launched an Energy Transition Hub page where all EAGE's activities on this topic can be found - events, education programs, community activities, publications, support programs etc.

The board continues diligently to work on the strategy for the next 5 years which was earlier interrupted by COVID.

The main focus areas are:

- EAGE core values
- Energy Transition
- Financial Viability
- Structure

While the discussions of the working groups are still ongoing, it is decided that the Divisions will be turned into Main Interest Communities; a third one to add is the Sustainable Energy Community!

VI. **Secretary Treasurer report & annual accounts 2021.**

Jean-Marc Rodriguez is introduced. Presidents and board members are thanked for their support to get EAGE through difficult times.

2021 showed a fierce recovery after 2020, despite the continued Corona crisis

- Significant positive result of the EAGE Holding BV* activities
- Good result of the investment portfolios

The Association focused on maintaining membership service level and was committed to maintaining (reduced) Fund spending.

EAGE Funds

In 2016 the board decided to spend 5 million euros in five years from the reserves for:

- Education
- Support
- International Cooperation

Up to 2020, 3.721k euros were spent (453k in 2021). For 2022 and on, 1.279k euro is currently available. The EAGE Green fund spent 4k euros.

EAGE Student Fund Foundation net spending was 23k euros in 2021. Result of EAGE Student Fund Foundation over 2021 was -23k euros (2020: -166k euros).

The balance sheet as of 31 December is shown as well as the financial outlook for 2022 and beyond. A positive result is achieved of 1.8 million against -2.8 loss in 2020 (COVID year). Association's reserves went from almost 8 million in 2020 to almost 10 million in 2021.

VII. Request for approval of annual accounts, discharge of the Board for management of the Association in 2021.

Everyone is requested to cast their vote.

VIII. Q & A

On stage board members Dirk Orłowski (President), Jean-Marc Rodriguez (Vice-President), Aart-Jan van Wijngaarden (Technical Program Officer), Caroline le Turdu (Membership & Cooperation Officer), Peter Rowbotham (Publications Officer) Lucy Slater (Chair O&G) and Alireza Malehmir (Chair NS), are present to answer questions.

In room questions:

by former EAGE President Jean-Jacques Biteau: *Geology is very important especially when we dealing with a world with energy transition, what is EAGE doing to increase this?*

Aart-Jan van Wijngaarden firstly thanks Jean-Jacques for all the work he has done and still is doing for EAGE. A healthy balance in dedicated sessions is present. 1,5 session is dedicated to energy transition storage and geothermal. Communities that are supported by the board should come forward and propose dedicated specific sessions. CIT confirms this and emphasizes that the communities should be leading in the specific technical sessions.

by former EAGE President Everhard Muijert: *Divisions are now being changed into interest groups, can you elaborate on that and does this have consequences for the constitution?*

Jean-Marc Rodriguez answers that divisions are no longer desired. The intent is to work all together as entities. The by-laws will have to be adjusted which is part of the process.

Dirk Orlowsky comments the Oil&Gas industry will increase the next years and the new entity is an add on to what we already have to make EAGE more sustainable in the future.

Lucy Slater comments that sustainable energy is the future; recognizing many sustainable energies who have a huge history and need to a place within EAGE; 3 communities need to be integrated to make EAGE more sustainable.

by a member: *Does EAGE support more students coming from the regions and will there be a full travel waive available?*

Caroline le Turdu answers this already being done for the annual and other local events. Different programs are available. Currently, due to COVID, only registration fee waiver is available. This is something that can be discussed within the board.

Former EAGE President Gladys Gonzales says in case of a full waive, criteria are necessary and commitment from both sides is required.

by a member: *An observation is made in a shared post on LinkedIn about Award winners, in terms of diversity. The member feels disappointed when one sex is only being represented (at least in the LinkedIn post). Secondly the member would like to volunteer as chair or co-chair for sessions.*

Peter Rowbotham answers only people who are nominated can be awarded prizes; it is the responsibility of the membership to ensure a diverse range of candidates is brought forward.

Aart-Jan van Wijngaarden comments that in the strategy 2 chairs are selected per session however finding people who are committed is a challenge. Sometimes they drop out at a very late stage. This might get better in the future when COVID no longer has an impact.

IX. **Announcements of voting results.**

Jean-Marc Rodriguez announces the final results:

Approval of minutes 2021:

90% in favor, 2% against and 8% abstain

Approval of annual accounts:

94% in favor, 6% abstain

X. **Closure of the meeting.**

Dirk Orlowsky closes the meeting and thanks the outgoing board members, fellow board members and EAGE staff for working on communities, and publications. He says it has been a challenging year and was honored to have been president of the EAGE.

On behalf of the board, Jean-Marc Rodriguez thanks Dirk Orlowsky, who joined EAGE 2002, 20 years ago for his services and wishes him well for the future.