

- The ENABLE Conference, planned for Novembre 2020 in Milano, and run online on May 6-8, 2021 with the Scuola Europea di Medicina Molecolare (Milan) in charge of arrangements
IUBMB support **USD 1,747.00**
- the IUBMB Advanced School on “Physiology and Pathology of Cofactor Assembly and Insertion”, organized by Maria Barile (Bari) and Stefania Iametti (Milan), planned for May 2022 in the “IUBMB-Clark Lecture Hall” in Spetses (Greece)
IUBMB support **USD 3,494.00 paid (16,506.00 USD to be paid)**

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|---|--|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| - | IUBMB support to young scientists attending online meetings (through thr Millipore-Sigma Fellowship scheme) | IUBMB support (2 students) | USD 468.00 |
| - | Direct IUBMB support to Italian young researchers attending the FEBS/IUBMB/ENABLE planning event in Seville, November 2021 | IUBMB support (15 students) | USD 3,494.00 |

Therefore, the 2021 fiscal year has seen direct support to Italian scientists from IUBMB for a grand total of USD **9,203.00**, in return of dues remaining at **USD 6,000.00**, bringing up a **positive balance for USD 3,203.00**. Such a result is impressive, in particular when considering the impact of the pandemic on all sorts of international activities all through 2021.

5. Evaluation of Italians' attendance and how to improve interest and involvement

Aside from the pandemic-related considerations, the Italian attendance to IUBMB-related meetings and congresses has remained below what expected from the overall size of the Italian Scientific community in this area, and from the SIB membership. However, decreasing attendance is a general trend for large and non-specialized meetings. This is why IUBMB has changed his meeting policy, supporting small and high-quality events - likely more attractive in times of budget constraints - instead of massive and broadly focused events.

Attendance figures to IUBMB-related activities improve when considering events targeted to young scientists, such as Advanced Schools or the yearly Young Scientists' Programs or Young Scientist Forums. The same is true for even less formal events specifically aimed at junior researchers, that include also some career-related aspects, as is the case – among others - of the ENABLE events.

Francesco Bonomi has been collaborating very actively with SIB in presenting opportunities offered by IUBMB to the Italian scientific community. This has been carried out through contacts with the SIB Council and the SIB Officers, and by presenting IUBMB related activities at SIB-related events.

6. Italian experts with important roles within the Union or within related Commissions and Programs

7.

As stated above, prof. **Francesco Bonomi** has been the IUBMB Treasurer and EC member since 2012. His mandate came to an end on December 31, 2021. Six EC meeting were held in 2021, all online. Prof. Bonomi worked very closely with prof. Pollegioni to ensure a smooth transition, acting both as a “trainer” as for handling day-to-day chores and as a liason with the various legal and financial entities involved in managing the IUBMB assets.

Prof. **Stefania Iametti** (CNR delegate to the General Assembly IUBMB in 2015, 2018, 2021) served on the IUBMB Nominating Committee, that met online on a regular basis in early 2021. She completed in mid-year her duties on the IUBMB Fellowship Committee, where she has been very active in promoting Italian participation in the highly competitive IUBMB programs. The 2021 IUBMB General Assembly has unanimously appointed prof. Iametti as Internal Auditor for the 2021-2023 triennium.

The 2021 General Assembly has elected prof. **Loredano Pollegioni** as the new IUBMB Treasurer. In this function, prof. Pollegioni is also a member of the IUBMB EC and - *ex-officio* – of the IUBMB Publication Committee. The latter role is of relevance both in terms of scientific policy and because of its financial relevance, given that roughly 80% of the IUBMB income comes from editorial activities. Prof. Pollegioni has started his apprentice in late Summer 2021, in close collaboration with prof. Bonomi, and his expected to be fully autonomous in early Summer 2022, after the External Auditors will complete their review for the fiscal year 2021 and the resulting figures will be approved by the appropriate Authorities in the Netherlands, where IUBMB is formally registered as a not-for-profit organization..

8. If Union with CNR Commission, short summary about the 2021 CNR Commission activities

Not applicable

9. Notes (if any)

None

10. Conclusions

Maintaining and expanding the Italian presence within the IUBMB governing and counseling bodies is expected to have a positive impact on Italian participation in IUBMB activities. The perspective budget for the 2021-2023 triennium makes ample space for providing significant contributions to novel and less stereotypical initiatives, that will have to take in due consideration at least some of the new or emerging trends in the post-COVID worldwide scenario of scientific communication and in the ways of exchanging people and ideas.

Indeed, aside from the fellowship or exchange IUBMB programs, it appears very likely that the whole panorama of international scientific discussion through meetings, schools, and “live events” at large will undergo substantial changes in a much close future. Italian representatives in international entities will surely be busy, and hopefully attentive to grasp suitable opportunities, as demanded by their mission of keeping Italy – where creativity has always been the main local resource (and way too often, the only one) – in the limelight on the international scientific scene.

Prof. Francesco Bonomi, Defens

University of Milan

Milan, April 22, 2022

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'F. Bonomi', with a stylized flourish at the end.