

FEMS Winter Newsletter 2021



MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

from the FEMS Committee



A reflection on 2020 by FEMS President Prof Eric Le Bourhis



Natalie Daniels, Web and Social Media Executive catches up with President Prof Eric Le Bourhis as his Presidency for FEMS draws to a close at the end of 2021.

How's your time as FEMS President been?

This period has been very particular given the pandemic situation. We had to take hard decisions when cancelling the Junior EUROMAT at Granada and moving to an online EUROMAT conference this year. On the other hand, I have experienced a great resilience of our community. We ended up with a very successful EUROMAT 2021 conference comprising a nice series of invited lectures and a fantastic group of symposia. We could organise the FEMS Master Thesis Awards as well as Communication Award for Excellence in MSE awards. We have also been able to publish an important position paper on 'The role of materials in the post-COVID society' while we participated to the launch of webinars series with our new associate member Texas A&M. I am very grateful to FEMS community for its strength and optimism.

What has been your highlights/challenges?

The main challenge was of course the pandemic situation. Thanks to our new Strategic advisory group (SAG) we could set a risk analysis and handle the situation rationally. I am very grateful to the Management committee (MC) and Executive committee (EC) for their strong support. A great challenge was to launch our *European Journal of Materials* (EJM) with Taylor & Francis. This is another important milestone that we have achieved in this difficult period. I'm looking forward to this new partnership, establishing FEMS on the European materials publishing scene. This new journal will cement and strengthen our longstanding dissemination vocation. I hope this journal will be the platform for materials scientists and engineers to publish and share their work.

What advice would you give to the incoming President?

The situation has been so unexpected, that hopefully, the next term will be smoother. So far, we are far from being recovered from the pandemic. Hence, it will be important to observe the situation and consult SAG, EC, MC as well as our materials societies so as to take the best path through the crisis.

What's next for you?

I will take the post of FEMS Past president and support our new President Anna Zervacki. There are great perspectives, namely Junior EUROMAT in Coimbra next year and EUROMAT in Frankfurt in 2023. It will be also important to support EJM, in particular its Editor-in-Chief Nikolaos Michailidis.

We would like to thank Eric for all his hard work throughout 2020-2021 for what was an unprecedented 18 months.

Introducing the new President and Vice President



Following a secret voting process, the General Assembly confirmed Assistant Professor Anna Zervacki (National Technical University of Athens) and Professor Aldo Boccaccini (University of Erlangen-Nuremberg) as FEMS President and Vice-President respectively for 2022-2023.

Speaking of her appointment, Anna, said 'I'm very much looking forward to a Presidency full of outsourcing activities in the post Covid era.'

Her aims for her presidency include the following:

- Continue to provide and extend benefits to our members (networking, educational activities)
- Broaden our network in Europe (new member societies and new associate members)
- Overseas collaborations (USA, Canada, Australia and Asia)
- Strengthen bonds with our younger members, involve younger people in FEMS activities
- Engage industry in FEMS activities
- Promote the 'European Journal of Materials' journal published by FEMS and T&F

Aldo Boccaccini, adds, 'I am honoured to have been elected Vice-President of FEMS and am looking forward to working together with President and the Management Team to enhance the visibility of FEMS in the materials science community in Europe and worldwide. Materials science plays a key role in tackling today's important challenges in areas ranging from energy, environment, transport, healthcare, and security among others, and FEMS has a central part to play in raising awareness of materials as an essential contributor to modern technologies for a better future.'

FEMS 2022 Awards

The 2022 FEMS Awards are open for nominations closing on 1 April 2022

The following awards are available:

FEMS Communication Award for Excellence in MSE 2022.

The Award goes to young European materials scientists (aged less than 40 at the time of nomination) who have distinguished themselves by the significance of their work and their ability to communicate effectively whether that be in Industry or Academia. The Award encourages promising materials scientists and engineers to communicate on a materials topic within Europe acting as 'ambassadors' for the materials community. The award will be presented at FEMS EUROMAT 2023 in Germany.

FEMS Master Thesis Award 2022

The FEMS Masters Thesis award is intended to recognise the best Masters Thesis on Materials Science and Engineering, presented in any Academic Institution from the country of any FEMS Member Society. To be eligible, the Masters' Thesis should have been obtained up to a maximum of two academic years before the FEMS final takes place. The FEMS Masters Thesis

Award in 2022 will take place during FEMS Junior EUROMAT conference in Coimbra, Portugal on 19–22 July 2022.

More about the awards can be found online at: bit.ly/3HhBDHI

A final farewell

In September 2021, our FEMS Past President (2020–2021) and FEMS EUROMAT 2021 Scientific Committee co-chair, Paloma Fernández-Sánchez stepped down from FEMS. You can find a full interview with Paloma about her 10+ years with FEMS and what's next for her.

Read the full interview at: bit.ly/33NeRZi

FEMS EUROMAT 2021

Earlier this year, FEMS EUROMAT 2021 took place virtually for the first time due to COVID-19 restrictions. The conference was organised by ASMET and welcomed more than 1500 delegates with over 270 poster presentations and 1250 oral presentations as well as 6 plenary speakers across the 5 days. Experts joined together to discuss the important issues facing the industry and share research in materials science. Watch highlights from the event at: bit.ly/32kyJJJ

FEMS Junior EUROMAT 2022



FEMS Junior EUROMAT 2022 International Conference will be held from 19– 22 July 2022 at the University of Coimbra, the oldest in Portugal and one of the oldest in the world.

We would like to invite you to participate in the conference.

The scientific programme and satellite events proposed for this event will clearly contribute to the development of the skills of young materials scientists and engineers. In addition, the conference will promote close contact between academia and industry.

Save the date and submit your abstract on FEMS Junior EUROMAT 2022.

Find out more via the website at: <https://junioreuromat.org>

European Journal of Materials



Did you also know about the FEMS T&F Journal?

The European Journal of Materials by FEMS in association with Taylor and Francis, is a fully open access materials science and engineering journal that covers the functional and structural behavior of materials. We encourage you to submit your articles now for review and share among your societies. All articles are freely and permanently available online through gold open access publication. FEMS members can receive a 20% discount code for publishing in the open access journal. To do so, please login to get access to the code at: bit.ly/2ZFBMQK

Promote your Member Society news and events via FEMS

A reminder if you wish to promote news or events within your society to the wider European community, then please do send them in for us to promote. Send contributions to FEMS Web & Social Media Executive at communications@fems.org

Follow us on social media

You can find FEMS on social media, give us a follow at:

Twitter: [@FEMS_EU](https://twitter.com/FEMS_EU)

Facebook: [FEMS.EU](https://www.facebook.com/FEMS.EU)

LinkedIn: [FEMS](https://www.linkedin.com/company/FEMS)

And remember to visit our website at: <https://www.fems.org/>