



## ICA General Assembly 2017

Approved Minutes of the **ICA General Assembly** held on Wednesday 18 October 2017 at 17.00 at Louvain House, Université Catholique de Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium, on the occasion of 7<sup>th</sup> ICA Rectors and Deans Forum 2017 - ***Life Science Universities Deliver Impact in Addressing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)***.

**Chair:** Marek S Szyndel President of ICA & Warsaw University of Life Sciences

<b>Present Voting:</b> ICA Institutional Representatives representing:		11
BE	Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Leige	Frederic Francis
BE	Université catholique de Louvain	Philippe Baret
DK	Aarhus University	Kurt Nielsen
FI	University of Helsinki	Marketta Sipi
FR	Institute Polytechnique LaSalle Beauvais	Philippe Choquet
HR	University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture	Zoran Grgic
IE	University College Dublin	Alex Evans
LT	Aleksandras Stulginskis University (formerly Lithuanian University of Agriculture)	Antanas Maziliauskas
LV	Latvia University of Agriculture	Irina Pilvere
NL	Wageningen University and Research Centre	Arthur Mol
RO	University of Agr. Sciences and Vet. Medicine, Bucharest	Sorin Mihai Cimpeanu

<b>Present Voting:</b> Delegates given Proxy votes by their ICA Institutional Representative		10
AT	University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna	Josef Glössl
BE	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven	Matt Tips
CZ	Czech University of Life Sciences, Prague	Michal Lostak
ES	University of Lleida	Astrid Ballesta
IT	Catholic University of the Sacred Heart	Ettore Capri
IT	Free University of Bozen – Bolzano	Guido Orzes
PL	Warsaw University of Life Sciences	Zdzisław Wyszynski
PL	Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences	Agnieszka Kita
RO	Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary	Teodor Trasca
UA	National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine	Vadym Tkachuk
<b>Proxy votes given the Chair</b> Marek S Szyndel		2
RO	University of Agric Sciences and Vet. Medicine, Cluj-Napoca	Cornel Cătoi
SK	Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra	Peter Bielik

### Quorum:

Total numbers of ICA members institution (full members)	52
Members not eligible to vote due to non payment of membership fees for 2016	3
Associate member not eligible to vote	1
Total number of members eligible to vote	48
Total number full members voting	11
Total number of proxy voters	12
Total numbers of voters	23
Quorum is reached when 1/3 of members eligible to vote are represented at the GA	16

The General Assembly meeting was quorate.

The following also attended the General Assembly:

Mottouille Blaise UC Louvain  
 Frank Delvigne Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, University of Leige  
 Simon Heath ICA General Secretary  
 Barbara Hinterstoisser University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna  
 Yvan Larondelle ICA Treasurer, UC Louvain  
 Céline Feoux-Milan IAAS  
 Renata Bažok University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture  
 Florin Stanica University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine – Bucharest  
 Antoine Van Steenbergh UC Louvain  
 Dana Vylupkova ICA secretary, Czech University of Life Sciences

## Agenda

1	<b>Welcome</b>
2	<b>Presentation</b> of the Université Catholique de Louvain by Philippe Baret, Dean of the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering
3	<b>Minutes of the General Assembly held on Wednesday 21 October 2016</b> - to be approved and signed
4	<b>Report of the President on behalf of the ICA Board</b>
5	<b>Report of the ICA Treasurer</b> – to be approved Paper 1 Treasurer’s report for 2016 Paper 2 ICA Budget 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal to allocate up to 15.000 € from reserves for the Action Plan 2018 – 21</li> <li>• Proposal to reduce the minimum level of reserves to be held to 50.000 €</li> </ul>
6	<b>Membership subscription rates 2018</b> – to be approved
7	<b>Report of ICA-Board Bioeconomy Committee – ICA-Bio</b>
8	<b>Report from ICA-Board Committee: Network for Innovation in Life Sciences Higher Education – ICA-Edu</b>
9	<b>Report of GCHERA</b>
10	<b>Reports from the ICA Standing Committees</b> CASEE IROICA
11	<b>Report from IAAS</b> Céline Feoux-Milan
12	<b>ICA Board Elections</b> <b>Marek Szyndel</b> , Warsaw University of Life Sciences and <b>Alex Evans</b> , University College Dublin are proposed to fill two vacant positions on the ICA Board. No other nominations were received.
13	<b>Proposal of new Full member of ICA</b> Miguel Hernandez University of Elche (ES) Scottish Rural College (SRUC) (UK)

	<b>Proposal of new Associate member of ICA</b> Agreenium l'Institut agronomique vétérinaire et forestier de France (AGREENIUM) (FR)
14	<b>Appointment of Auditors for the 2017 accounts</b> – to be approved
15	<b>Any other business</b> Wageningen University Challenge
16	<b>Closure</b>

## Minutes

1	<b>Welcome</b> Marek S Szyndel (MS), ICA president, welcomed all participants of General Assembly and informed, that General Assembly was quorate
2	<b>Presentation of the Université Catholique de Louvain by Philippe Baret, Dean of the Faculty of Bioscience Engineering</b>
3	<b>Minutes of the General Assembly held on Wednesday 21 October 2016</b> The GA members voted and approved the minutes of GA held on 21 October, 2016. Marek S Szyndel and Simon Heath signed the agreed minutes.
4	<b>Report of the President on behalf of the ICA Board</b> Marek Szyndel outlined the activities since the 2016 General Assembly. The 6th ICA Rectors and Deans Forum “The Life Science University in the 21stC Global World” had been successful and Alex Evans had prepared a summary which had been circulated “Challenges for Life Science Universities in delivering future global leaders”. This summary is available on the website.  The elections to the ICA Board which had been initiated at the General Assembly in 2016 were finalised after the General Assembly by email with the ICA Institutional Contacts. The new members of the Board were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Peter Bielik, Slovak University of Agriculture in Nitra, Slovakia representative the Central and South Eastern Europe constituency.</li> <li>• Prof. Yvan Larondelle, Catholic University of Louvain, new ICA Treasurer.</li> <li>• Prof. Antanas Maziliauskas, Aleksandras Stulginskis University, Lithuania, representative the Northern Europe constituency</li> <li>• Prof. Arthur Mol, Wageningen University and Research (WUR), NL representative the Western Europe constituency</li> <li>• Philippe Choquet co-opted as ICA Board Representative on the GCHERA General Assembly and is Treasurer of GCHERA</li> </ul> <p>ICA had resigned a Co-operation agreement with the University of Eastern Finland for the management of the University’s project funds.</p> <p>He reported that the Board had taken in the ICA-Edu Standing Committee to become the “ICA-Edu Committee of the Board for Innovation in Life Sciences Higher Education”. This ICA-Edu Committee is in parallel with the ICA Bioeconomy Committee of the Board. The ICA-Edu Committee aims to provide the opportunity to discuss, evaluate and deliver innovative approaches in higher education in the life sciences in support of the European and global agenda for a sustainable bioeconomy (biomass production, and the food and non food value chains), for the protection of biodiversity,</p>

	<p>for a vibrant rural development and for a sustainable environment. Barbara Hinterstoisser is the Chair and reported under minute 8.</p> <p>ICA had collaborated with the European Confederation of Agronomists Associations (CEDIA) in a joint conference focusing on <b>Defining Agronomist Professional Profiles and Agricultural and Life Science Degree Programmes</b>. The Conference was held on 4 &amp; 5 May in BOKU, Vienna. An ICA-Edu Colloquium was held at the University of Zagreb from 12 to 14 June.</p> <p>Marek Szyndel highlighted that 2018 would be the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ICAs. It is proposed to hold a conference with our North American partners in April and the annual Rectors and Deans Forum in October with the theme High Tech to Feed the World.</p> <p>The President's report is online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>
5	<p><b>Report of the ICA Treasurer – to be approved</b></p> <p>Paper 1 Treasurer's report for 2016          Paper 2 ICA Budget 2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal to allocate up to 15.000 € from reserves for the Action Plan 2018</li> <li>• Proposal to reduce the minimum level of reserves to be held to 50.000 €</li> </ul> <p>Yvan Larondelle presented his Treasurer's Report which had been circulated as Paper 1 with the reminder that the ICA is registered in Belgium where it also has its bank account.</p> <p>The Income and expenditure account showed a positive balance at the year end of 16.124 €. This positive balance was largely as a result of the un-budget income of 13.500 € from ICA's partnership in the ELFRUS project led by the Warsaw University of Life Sciences. This income is not secure until the ELFRUS project has been audited and agreed by the EU Commission. Apart from this income there was a positive balance of 2.624 €.</p> <p>The Balance sheet showed that ICA's net assets stood at 31 December 2016 124.407 €. These assets were made up of 114.107 € in cash at the bank after deduction of the creditors at 31 December 2016 plus 10.300 € of debtors, totalling 124.407 €.</p> <p>However, all these assets were not secure because ICA was owed 9.800 € for outstanding membership subscriptions. Deducting these unsecure debtors reduced the secure assets to 114.607 € which could be also be further reduced by 13.500 € of income received for the ELFRUS Project in 2016. Thus the total secure assets of ICA totalled 101.107 €.</p> <p>The Budget for 2018 had been circulated as Paper 2. The powerpoint Budget presented at the General Assembly by Yvan Larondelle had changed the circulated budget to allow for the proposed use of 15.000 € from reserves to be used to support special activities proposed by the Board. It is proposed that 4.500 € should be set aside for the development of the ICA Board Committees, ICA-Bio and ICA-Edu, and 6.000 € for other activities designated by the Board. The budget presented at the General Assembly showed an income from the reserves of 15.000 € and expenditure under the above items totalling 15.000 €. The budget of 2018 was still balanced to 0€.</p> <p>The General Assembly was asked to approve in turn</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the Treasurer's Report for 2016, the revised</li> <li>2. the transfer of reserves of 15.000 € for the specified activities in 2018, at the GA in 2016 the General Assembly had approved the use of 15.000 € from reserves for use in special activities in 2017..</li> <li>3. The revised Budget for 2018 as set out by Yvan Larondelle to take account of the use of 15.000 € from reserves.</li> </ol>

	<p>The General Assembly approved the above proposals 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>Yvan Larondelle reported that the ICA Board wished to propose that the level of reserves to be held at all times should be reduced from the current agreed level of 80.000 € to 50.000 €. The level at 50.000 € equated to the annual expenditure after deducting the payment of the membership subscriptions collected on behalf of AGRINATURA and CASEE. It was proposed by the Board that keeping the reserves at 50.000 € was adequate.</p> <p>The General Assembly approved the reduction of the safe level of reserves to 50.000 €.</p> <p>Thus with the secure assets standing at 101.107 €, 51.107 € was available for special projects. In 2018 the General Assembly had already agreed, see above, that 15.000 € could be used for special projects approved by the Board.</p> <p>The Treasurer's Report and the revised Budget 2018 are presented report is online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>
6	<p><b>Membership subscription rates 2018</b></p> <p>MS reported that the ICA Board proposed that the ICA membership subscriptions will be unchanged for 2018. For full member universities with more than 1000 full time equivalent (FTE) students the fee is 1.250 EUR. If the university/faculty has less the 1000 FTE students the fee is 625 EUR. Associate members pay 625 EUR per year.</p> <p>The level of ICA membership fees was approved by ICA General Assembly.</p>
7	<p><b>Report of ICA-Board Bioeconomy Committee – ICA-Bio</b></p> <p>Josef Glössl, Chair of the ICA Board's Bioeconomy Committee stated the aims of the committee as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define ICA as representing the European Life Science Universities in the development of the Bioeconomy at the European level</li> <li>• Contribute to the implementation of the EU action plan for bioeconomy in education, research and innovation by seeking synergies among ICA members and other EU and international institutions, industries, and networks</li> </ul> <p>He reflected on continuing need for ICA to focus on the Bioeconomy in supporting universities to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. embed the concept of the Bioeconomy in the ethos of the life science university at the strategic level</li> <li>2. to embed the concept of the Bioeconomy in the mind set of academic staff, (in the same way as sustainability should be embedded across the degree programme curricula)</li> <li>3. support the development of curricula so that the concept of bioeconomy is clearly embedded in the mind sets of the graduates.</li> <li>4. support the concept of the circular economy for the bioeconomy and vice versa</li> <li>5. support universities to engage in developing the concept of bioeconomy regional clusters for enterprise engagement in the circular bioeconomy</li> </ol> <p>To this end Josef Glössl was developing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a proposals for a Workshop focusing on the education and training of skilled workforce for the Bioeconomy at the <b>Global Bioeconomy Summit</b> to be held in April 2018</li> <li>• a joint proposal for a workshop at the <b>European Forum Alpbach 2018</b> by BIOS Science Austria, Ecosocial Forum Austria and ICA focusing on "CAP and Bioeconomy - Contributions to a Sustainable and Resilient Future Economy".</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal to join forces with Academia Danubiana, an initiative of BOKU University for Further Education in European networks, with a focus in the Danube Region</li> </ul> <p>Josef Glössl's full PowerPoint report is on the ICA website under GA 2017.</p>
8	<p><b>Report from ICA-Board Committee: Network for Innovation in Life Sciences Higher Education – ICA-Edu</b></p> <p>Barbara Hinterstoisser, Chair of ICA-Edu, presented her report for the development and plans for ICA-Edu. A successful ICA-Edu <i>Colloquium Delivering graduates to meet the challenges of the sustainable development goals (SDGs): embedding the development of ethical and sustainable values in the curriculum</i> was held on 13 &amp; 14 June, 2017 at the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, Croatia.</p> <p>At the same meeting a ICA-Edu General Assembly was held when the ICA-Edu Executive Committee was elected – see the ICA-Website. The ICA-Edu Action Plan 2018-21 was approved and draft Terms of Reference for the relationship between ICA-Edu and the ICA Board were agreed to be submitted to the ICA Board.</p> <p>Barbara Hinterstoisser invited all ICA member institutions to <b>nominate a member of academic staff</b> who has a particular interest in developing innovative approaches in teaching and their students learning to be a key contact for your university/faculty for ICA-Edu activities. The aim is to build a community of practice within the ICA membership.</p> <p>ICA-Edu had supported the development of ERASMUS+ Strategic Partnership project led by BOKU focusing on <i>Innovative Teaching for Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Leadership in Life Sciences</i>: an open transnational ePlatform to support teachers and educators to adopt innovative teaching methods in Higher Education in the Life Sciences. Unfortunately the application was unsuccessful but another submission will be made in 2018.</p> <p>A colloquium is planned for 2018 to be hosted at TUM in May to be followed with Webinars to further support the theme of the Colloquium.</p> <p>Barbara Hinterstoisser's report is online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>
9	<p><b>Report of GCHERA – Global Confederation of Higher Education Associations for Agricultural and Life Sciences</b></p> <p>Philippe Choquet, one ICA's Representative on the Steering Committee of GCHERA, reviewed the aims and scope of GCHERA. He hoped that next Biennial GCHERA Conference would be in Europe in 2019.</p> <p>Philippe Choquet's report is online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>
10	<p><b>Reports from the ICA Standing Committees on the current and future activities</b></p> <p>CASEE by Barbara Hinterstoisser, representing CASEE Chair Martin Gerzabek IROICA by Matt Tips</p> <p>The reports are online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>
11	<p><b>Report from IAAS</b></p> <p>Céline Feoux-Milan Introduced IAAS as the largest Student Association with over 10.000 students worldwide. She highlighted the IAAS study abroad programme, international internships, village concept project, alumni database, and women in agriculture</p> <p>Céline Feoux-Milan's report is online on the ICA Website under the TAB "ICA General Assembly".</p>

12	<p><b>ICA Board Elections</b></p> <p>Marek S Szyndel (ICA President) and Alex Evans (ICA Vice President) were stepping down as ICA Board members after one term of office but were eligible for re-election. A call for nominations had been made to fill the vacant positions on the Board. Marek Szyndel and Alex Evans had been nominated and proposed. No other nominations had been received. Arthur Mol proposed Marek Szyndel, Warsaw University of Life Sciences and Alex Evans, University College Dublin to fill two vacant positions on the ICA Board</p> <p>The proposal was approved by those present at the ICA GA.</p>
13	<p><b>Proposal of new Full member of ICA</b></p> <p>Miguel Hernandez University of Elche (ES) Scottish Rural College (SRUC) (UK)</p> <p><b>Proposal of new Associate member of ICA</b></p> <p>Agreenium l'Institut agronomique vétérinaire et forestier de France (AGREENIUM) (FR)</p> <p>The new universities were introduced by ICA Board members. The ICA General Assembly approved the new Full Members and the Associate Member.</p>
14	<p><b>Appointment of Auditors for the 2017 accounts</b></p> <p><b>Simon</b> Heath informed the General Assembly that the current auditors were Marzena Ganc from Warsaw University of Life Sciences and Krzysztof Prymon from Wroclaw University of Environmental and Life Sciences.</p> <p>The ICA General Assembly approved the GA approved the reappointment of the auditors.</p>
15	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>Arthur Mol informed the General Assembly about the WUR student challenge “Green Urban City”.</p>
16	<p><b>Closure</b></p>

### Representation at the General Assembly

The General Assembly is open to all staff and students from ICA Member Institutions, **all** are most welcome to participate in the meeting. The General Assembly is validly constituted when one third of the Member Institutions are represented. Decisions are reached by a simple majority of the votes cast. Each ICA Member Institution [who has paid the ICA membership subscription for 2016] has a right to cast one vote in the meeting. This vote will normally be cast by the ICA Representative (rector, head of college/school, or dean) of the Member Institution. A **Proxy form** was enclosed with the full papers for the General Assembly

Dr Simon B Heath, Secretary General

Minutes approved at the ICA General Assembly held on 24 October 2018 at the Hotel-De Wageningsche Berg, Wageningen, NL



Professor Marek S Szyndel  
Chair & President of ICA



Dr Simon B Heath  
Secretary General