

## ESGB Newsletter July 2025

Dear ESGB member,

This is the first Newsletter of the new executive committee (EC) of the ESCMID Study Group for Biofilms (ESGB).

The new executive committee consists of two members from the former EC, Marilo Dolores Macia Romero (Son Espases Hospital, Microbiology, Palma de Mallorca, Spain) and Claus Moser (Rigshospitalet, Department of Clinical Microbiology, Copenhagen, Denmark) and three new EC members Luis Daniel Rodrigues Melo (University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal), Helena Bujdakova (Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia) and Margreet C Vos (ErasmusMC, Rotterdam Netherlands).

The positions of the EC were divided as follows:

Marilo – Secretary

Luis – Scientific Officer

Helena – Educational Officer

Margreet – Treasurer

Claus – Chair

As a Study Group we are encouraged by ESCMID to include ad hoc position, for example from the Trainee Association of ESCMID or other young scientists, for example with special interests. The person cannot vote or take action independently. We are again aiming at having an associated person to manage the ESGB related activities on the social media.

Economy and support plans:

At the ESGB business meeting during the ESCMID Global in Vienna in April 2025, surplus of the ESGB account around 20,000 € were revealed. In addition, we have another 10,000 € from a surplus of the EUROBIOFILMS 2024, Copenhagen not yet registered. ESCMID has requested us to reduce the account, since we are not allowed to accumulate money due to tax rules. During the ESGB meeting it was agreed to transfer 5,000 € to the joint-project "Interkingdom interactions in vulvovaginal infections" already supported by ESCMID. In addition, we still have money to support travel and publish fee's, in total 4,000 € for travel and 2,000 € for publishing

In addition, the new EC decided to budget:

2,000 € for Travel Grants of 500 € for four Young Scientists to participate in the ESCMID Global meetings (we are working on the criteria – see next Newsletter).

2,000 € for one young researcher for a Travel and Stay grant to visit another Research Lab on Biofilm for support such trip (we are working on the criteria – see next Newsletter).

2,000 € to support one person for a Travel and Stay grant to visit another Research Lab on Biofilm (we are working on the criteria – see next Newsletter).

2,000 € to Support Fee for Publication in Peer Review Q1 Journals (we are working on the criteria – see next Newsletter).

We will budget 5,000 € for the new EC to meet in person to work on the Aims and Goals for the ESGB and plan the activities expected from a SG, such as educational courses, webinars,

study grants, proposals for the next ESCMID, collaborations with other SG and societies. We will update you on our achievements after we had this meeting!

Status of EUROBIOFILMS 2026: We are looking very forward to participate in next year's EUROBIOFILM 2026, Guimaraes, Portugal 2026 June 17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, headed by Joana Azeredo and Nuno Azevedo. There has been appointed both a Local Organizing Committee and an International Scientific Advisory Board. A website is under construction.

Next BiofilmCorner: We have also planned the next Biofilm Corner after the summer holiday – specific title and date will follow.

For the questionnaire on biofilms and the ESGB we aim at sending this out with the next Newsletter.

Ideas and proposals for ESCMID Global 2026 and 2027(!): This year, we submitted proposals in close collaboration with other SGs for the ESCMID Global 2026 meeting. We managed to submit seven proposals, several of the co-organized with other study groups. We are now awaiting the decisions of the program committee. We will send these decisions out with the next Newsletter.

After the summer holiday, we will begin to think about new proposals for ESCMID Global 2027. If you have ideas for such proposals don't hesitate to contact any of us in the EC. The sooner the better – It does take some time to arrange these proposals, not the least the co-proposals with other study groups, and to find good presenters.

Finally, we also encourage our members to think about the host of the EUROBIOFILMS 2028.

On behalf of the executive committee of ESGB

Claus