

Assembly Set in Motion

J. Borgman, formerly Professor of Astronomy and Space Research at the University of Groningen and currently President of the Dutch national research council (The Netherlands' Organization for Scientific Research: NWO in Dutch) was elected as the President of the new European Science and Technology Assembly (ESTA) at its first General Assembly on 6-7 September in Brussels. ESTA has some 100 members nominated as individuals, including the entire CODEST committee of scientists that, among other activities, has been reviewing proposals to the 3rd Framework's Human Capital and Mobility Programme from a fairly narrow, essentially scientific perspective (CODEST ceases its activities at the end of the year). Also included are the three advisers to Professor A. Ruberti, the European Union's Commissioner for science whose term of office ends at the end of the year (these advisers are E. Gros, who is a molecular biolo-

gist, I. Prigogine and C. Rubbia). ESTA elected half of the members of a 20-person bureau chaired by Professor Borgman with the ESTA Vice-Presidents (Professor D. Donnelly from University College, Dublin, and



H. Danielmeyer, a Senior Vice-President at Siemens and President of the German Physical Society) as Vice-Chairs. The bureau's 10 other members are *ex officio* (see insert).

ESTA's tasks according to Commissioner Ruberti who was largely responsible for its creation are to give opinions and advice and to help the European Commission implement the EU research policy. The EC's first request was for advice regarding the 4th Framework programme 1994-98 preliminary expressions of interest in view of formal calls for proposals in the 13 specific R. & D. programmes (some calls are being announced - p. 154 - and more are expected before the year's end). The Assembly indicated that it intends to review work programmes, including referring procedures for the scientific component of proposals (these have not yet been announced). Some nine working parties are therefore being set up right away to examine groups of specific programmes as well as each of the three remaining 4th Framework activities (international cooperation, dissemination of information, and the Human Capital and Mobility follow-on) since the new Framework includes for the first time all the R. & D. activities of the European Union. The Assembly will meet next in December.

ESTA Bureau

Chair: J. Borgman (President, NWO)

Vice-Chairs:

H. Danielmeyer (Senior Vice-President, Siemens)
D. Donnelly (University College, Dublin)

Members:

G.A.C. Acres (Director, Johnson Matthey); * EU's International Research Advisory Committee, IRDAC
S. Barabaschi (Deputy General Manager, Ansaldo); *European Industrial Research Managers Association, EIRMA
A. Bensoussan (President, INRIA)
R. Bryssinck (Royal Belgian Academy Council of Applied Sciences); Vice-Chair, *European Council of Applied Sciences & Engineering, EURO-CASE
Sir. A. Burgen (Cambridge Univ.); Secretary, *Academia Europaea

(*: *ex officio* affiliations)

Ch. Dambrine (President, *UNICE/ERT – European Round Table of an association of European companies)
T. Drenth (President, Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences); *All European Academies, ALLEA
P. Fasella (Director-General, DG-XII, EC)
G. Martinotti (Milan Univ.)
Y. Neuvo (Senior Vice-President, Noika Mobile Phones)
E. Praestgaard (Roskilde Univ.)
I. Prigogine (Univ. Libre de Bruxelles)
Sir. D. Rees (UK Medical Research Council); President, *European Science Foundation
G. Ramirez (Univ. Autónoma de Madrid); *CODEST
C. Rubbia (EC & CERN)
H. Seidel (Hannover Univ.); *CRE – a committee of European university rectors
E. Winnacker (Munich Univ.)

NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Societies Declare Memberships

Following acceptance by the EPS Council in March of a revised *EPS Constitution and Bye-laws*, a questionnaire was sent in June to all the National Physical Societies which are members of EPS asking them to summarize their memberships in order to determine the number of individual National Society Members (NSMs). NSMs are entitled to Join EPS Divisions and Interdivisional Groups and to receive *Europhysics News* (except those declared by the German Physical Society and the UK's Institute of Physics who will receive an EPS information news sheet). Well over one-half of the societies replied (see table). The questionnaire will be sent again to societies that have not yet responded in order to finalise the membership so that EPS is in a position to begin full implementation of the new NSM category next year.

NATIONAL SOCIETY MEMBERS (NSMs)

Number of NSMs = number of Full Members declared + number of Student Members declared. NSMs are entitled to receive *Europhysics News* and to join EPS Divisions/Groups.

If the actual number of Full Members + actual number of Student Members for a national society exceeds its number of NSMs, the society has to make a proper selection. Second, if the society does not pay the full fee for the number of NSMs then the number is scaled according to the fee paid.

Memberships Declared by National Physical Societies

	Full members	Students
Austria	822	285
Belgium	321	17
Bulgaria	31	12
Croatia	281	11
Denmark	401	216
Finland	835	124
France	1743	419
Germany	8357	8465
Iceland	60	—
Israel	250	—
Italy	1351	—
Lithuania	100	—
Norway	700	50
Poland	450	90
Romania	285	10
Russia	2000	—
Slovakia	210	10
Slovenia	118	29
Spain	400	—
Sweden	1000	—
Switzerland	1429	—
The Netherlands	2139	531
Turkey	50	—
UK	1392	3688