

# Event Report

## 27th EUROGRAPHICS General Assembly

The Twenty-seventh General Assembly of the EUROGRAPHICS Association was held at the Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria, on September 7th 2006, at 17.00. The Chairman, Professor Hans-Peter Seidel welcomed the 53 members present.

### 1. Minutes of the Twenty-sixth General Assembly

The Minutes of the Twenty-fourth General Assembly, published in *Computer Graphics Forum*, Vol. 24, No. 4, pp. 851-857 (2005) were received.

### 2. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

### 3. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave an annual report of the activities of the Association.

#### 3.1. Workshops Board

The Chairman stressed the importance of the workshop series. The key role of the Association is to provide services to the community to enable the community to organize events with little overhead.

There are eight Working Groups: Animation, Geometry Processing and Geometric Modelling, Graphics and Cultural Heritage Hardware, Multimedia, Parallel Graphics, Rendering, Sketch-based Interfaces, and Virtual Environments.

Symposia and workshops have been held, or are planned, during 2006 on Computer Animation (with ACM SIGGRAPH), EuroVis Visualization Symposium (with IEEE vgtc), Geometry Processing, Graphics Hardware (with ACM SIGGRAPH), Natural Phenomena, Parallel Graphics, Point-based Graphics (with IEEE vgtc), Rendering, Sketch-based Interfaces, VAST Graphics and Cultural Heritage, Virtual Environments, Volume Graphics (with IEEE vgtc).

The draft programme for 2007 includes Animation EuroVis, Geometry Processing, Hardware, Parallel Graphics, Point-based Graphics, Rendering, and Volume Graphics, Other proposals are under discussion with the Workshops Board.

#### 3.2. Publications Board

The Association runs a journal and also produces high quality proceedings of events.

The flagship publication is the journal, *Computer Graphics Forum*, and the Chairman thanked the Editors-in-Chief, David Duke and Roberto Scopigno.

EG events proceedings have been produced by EG Publishing since 2004. Five titles were published in 2005 including the proceedings of three partner events. The Chairman welcomed the new cooperation agreement between Eurographics and A K Peters Ltd; the event series will in future be distributed by A K Peters Ltd. As a consequence, all Eurographics members will be entitled to a discount of 20% on all A K Peters' titles.

The Chairman explained that Eurographics Publishing offers services to Eurographics events and partner events. These include:

- Submission review management system (SRM and MCP)
- Production of printed proceedings
- Production of DVD/CD
- Registration and payment services

Eurographics is now in a position to offer a complete package for research event organisers; individual events are free to choose which components of this service they require.

The Chairman reported that the Eurographics Digital Library continues to grow. Contents include *Computer Graphics Forum*, workshop and conference publications, including state-of-the-art reports. The proceedings of partner events are also included in the Digital Library. Easy access is provided for members and non-members alike. Downloads of papers have increased by 230% since 2004 and overall usage by 50%.

### 3.3. Operations Board

The Chairman explained that the Operations Board looks after membership matters. The number of members has risen to 765 (a 2.8% increase over the corresponding number in 2005). The four top countries are Germany 123, USA 109, UK 69, Spain 63, France 61 and Portugal 53. 107 (14%) of the members are student members.

The Association also has 24 Organizational Members and 12 Educational Members.

The Chairman reported that electronic access is well-established as the preferred means for accessing the journal; the fraction of members taking print subscriptions has continued to decline; 68% of the members have electronic-only subscriptions. The electronic voting system is now in its fourth year. The Chairman said that the time had now come to make the issue of paper ballot forms an option; members will in future be asked to indicate whether they wish to receive electronic or paper ballot forms.

The Chairman said that he believed that many more groups could benefit from Organizational Membership and he encouraged all members to encourage others to join the Association. He pointed out that there are many reasons for joining a professional organizational at both the institutional and personal levels.

### 3.4. On-line Board

The On-line Board is responsible for the provision of online services to members and to other Boards and Chapters. The Chairman reported improvements to the web presence that had taken place during the past year.

### 3.5. Professional Board

The Chairman reported that the Professional Board supports the Association's ten chapters worldwide. The Professional Board maintains the Association's conference guide and a new Wiki-based version has been developed in conjunction with the Eurographics 2006 organisers. He reported that event cooperations continue to be popular and the Professional Board has made some revisions to the criteria for event cooperations following a review.

Finally, the Chairman reported that Nigel John has handed over the organisation of the Eurographics Medical Prize to Dirk Bartz.

### 3.6. Promotions Board

The Chairman highlighted the importance of the work of the Promotions Board to the Association. He noted the efforts of the Board in organising the EG25 celebrations, the

Eurographics stand at the SIGGRAPH conference and the Eurographics publicity brochure.

### 3.7. Education Board

The Chairman reported that four sessions on computer graphics education are being held at the Eurographics 2006 conference. The Education Board in conjunction with ACM SIGGRAPH was also organising a workshop after the conference on defining an international computer graphics curriculum. One of the longer-term goals of the Education Board is to make high-quality resources available to the community.

### 3.8. Fellows

The Chairman stressed the value of the Fellows to the Association. Fellowships are awarded to individuals in recognition of impact on the field and contributions to shaping the Association. David Duce acts as Chairman of the Fellows. Three new Fellows have been elected – David Duke, Markus Gross and Roberto Scopigno. The Chairman said that all had made an impact through their technical contributions and significant service to the community through the Association. The General Assembly congratulated them on their election.

## 4. Presentation of Accounts

The Treasurer, Werner Hansmann, presented the accounts for the period 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2005.

### 4.1. Internal Accounts

The Treasurer explained that he would first present the internal accounts of the Association and then the official accounts. The euro is the official Eurographics currency and hence the Internal Accounts of the Association have been calculated based on the euro. As the legal and fiscal seats of the Association are in Switzerland, the Audited Accounts are calculated in SFr. but translated to euros (using the Association's official exchange rate for 2005) for presentation to the General Assembly.

These show a deficit of 39K euros compared to a budgeted deficit of 5K euros. Table 1 reports income and expenditure on the membership account and compares this with the budget for the period, which was agreed by the General Assembly in September 2004.

Notes

- Income was close to budget. Income from bookshops and events was less than expected as a result of some payments due in 2005 not being received until 2006.
- The overall deficit in 2005 was matched by a surplus in 2004.

**Table 1:** Internal Accounts 2005

Income	Actual	Budget	Difference
Membership fees	70,652.40	68,000	2,652.40
Events	12,017.32	28,000	-15,982.68
Royalties	19,185.36	19,000	185.36
Bookshop/proceedings	31,130.69	18,000	13,130.69
Bank interest	3,007.14	6,000	-2,992.86
	135,992.91	139,000	-3,007.09
Expenditure			
Executive Board	10,336.35	12,000	-1,663.65
Prof. Board	0.00	3,000	-3,000.00
Chapters	4,099.65	5,000	-900.35
Workshop Board	260.20	2,000	-1,739.80
On-line Board	3,763.40	3,000	763.40
Ops - Secretary	21,830.73	24,000	-2,169.27
Ops - Services	35,891.26	32,000	3,891.26
Ops - Treasurer	5,958.55	8,000	-2,041.45
Ops-Taxation	11,384.13	6,000	5,384.13
Promotions Brd	14,373.30	8,000	6,373.30
Education Brd	2,000.00	5,000	-3,000.00
Publicns Brd			
- CGF&WS Proc	55,970.39	15,000	40,970.39
- Travel	249.60	2,000	-1,750.40
Bookshop	186.27	18,000	-17,813.73
Strategic Pjts.	8,080.00	0	8,080.00
Contingency	403.92	1,000	-596.08
	174,787.76	144,000	30,787.76
Surplus/Deficit	-38,794.85	-5,000	-33,794.85

#### 4.2. Audited Accounts

The Auditor's Report is reproduced at the end of these minutes. In these minutes the accounts are presented in euros; the official accounts are in Sfr and the official Eurographics exchange rate for 2005 has been used for the conversion. The Profit and Loss Account for 2005 is shown in Table 2 and the Balance Sheet in Table 3. There were some small differences between the exchange rates used in the presentation of assets and budgets to the previous General Assembly and to this General Assembly, which resulted in slightly different numbers for the 2004 financial year to those reported previously.

The audited accounts report a deficit of 38K euros.

For information, Table 4 summarises the capital and results reported in the audited accounts over recent years.

The Auditor's Report was presented to the General Assembly.

Professor W. Heidrich proposed that the audited accounts be approved, seconded by Professor P. Brunet. The motion was carried, *unanimously*.

#### 5. Appointment of Auditors

Dr F. Melero proposed that Audit & Co. SA of Geneva be appointed auditors for the financial year commencing

**Table 2:** Profit and Loss Account (January 1 to 31 December 2005) with comparative figures for 2004

	2004	2005
	Euros	Euros
Income		
Subscription	76,235.85	72,984.61
Repayment on book sales	67,911.76	30,942.67
Bank interest	2,019.61	1,787.67
Events	48,125.50	10,416.80
Royalties et al.	17,842.61	19,185.36
Exchange diff.	0.00	1,408.75
Result on prev. period	1,246.93	0.00
	213,400.25	136,725.87
Expenditure		
Executive Board	9,709.87	10,336.34
Professional Board	203.91	0.00
Workshop Board	113.85	260.20
Education Board	0.00	2,000.00
Chapters	3,217.40	4,099.65
Online Board	8,921.03	3,763.40
Operational Serv.	32,716.76	35,891.26
Secretariat	21,261.25	21,667.59
Treasurer	6,173.21	17,411.22
Promotions Board	4,102.61	14,373.30
Bkshp. and Publ. Brd.	83,527.69	56,454.80
Strategic Projects	0.00	8,080.00
Contingency	226.21	403.92
Exchange difference	03,637.16	0.00
	173,810.67	174,741.69
Result		
Profit or loss for period	39,589.59	-38,015.82

**Table 3:** Balance Sheet as at December 31st, 2005 with comparative figures for 2004

	2004	2005
	Euros	Euros
Assets		
Cash	6.53	8.03
Banks	358,727.95	295,928.28
Federal withholding tax	1,209.37	488.89
Account receivable	54,109.48	59,500.00
Deposit	498.53	0.00
EG' 04 account	6,484.63	8,066.99
EG' 05 account	0.00	10,983.30
EG' 06 account	0.00	10,000.00
	421,036.49	384,975.49
Liabilities		
EG' 05 account	484.98	0.00
Other events	0.00	3,969.21
Accounts payable	16,627.45	15,098.04
Fortune	403,924.06	365,908.24
	421,036.49	384,975.49

**Table 4:** Capital Assets 2002–2005

Euros	2002	2003	2004	2005
Capital at year end	288,083.22	364,334.47	403,924.06	365,908.24
Surplus/(Loss)	(53,158.24)	76,251.25	39,589.59	(38,015.82)

**Table 5:** Estimates for 2006

(KEuros) Income	End March	Year End	Budget	Difference
Membership fees	51	73	75	-2
Events	-18	14	28	-14
Royalties	20	19	19	0
Proceedings	2	50	60	-10
Bookshop	-12	5	5	0
Bank interest	0	4	5	-1
	43	165	192	-27
Expenditure				
Executive Board	1	10	12	-2
Prof. Board	0	3	3	0
Chapters	0	4	4	0
Workshop Board	0	2	2	0
On line Board	1	3	3	0
Ops - Secretary	4	22	23	-1
Ops - Services	9	35	35	0
Ops - Treasurer	1	7	8	-1
Ops-Taxation	3	6	5	1
Promotions Brd	0	5	6	-1
Education	0	4	5	-1
Bookshop	5	7	7	0
Publins: proc.	9	56	60	-4
Publins: travel	0	2	2	0
Publins: CGF	0	19	17	2
Strategic pjts.	0	2	0	2
Contingency	0	1	1	0
	33	188	193	-5
Surplus/Deficit	10	-23	-1	-22

1 January 2007. Professor T. Ertl seconded. The motion was carried *unanimously*.

## 6. Estimates for 2006

The Treasurer presented an estimate of income and expenditure for 2006 shown in Table 5. A small end-of-financial-year deficit is currently predicted, compared to a small deficit envisaged in the budget for 2006. He explained that costs for Computer Graphics Forum and some proceedings depend on exchange rates between the euro, UK pound and the US dollar and cannot be predicted accurately.

## 7. Budget and Forward Look

The Treasurer, Werner Hansmann, presented the budget for 2007 and forward look until 2011, shown in Table 6. Figures

**Table 6:** Budget for 2007 and Forward Look

(KEuros) Income	07	08	09	10	11
Member fees	76	76	77	77	78
Royalties	19	20	21	22	23
Events	28	29	29	30	31
Proceedings	61	61	61	61	61
Bookshop	8	8	8	8	8
Interest	4	4	4	4	4
	196	198	200	202	205
Expenditure					
Exec. Brd.	11	11	12	12	13
Prof. Brd.	3	3	3	3	3
W'shps Brd.	2	2	2	2	2
Chapters	4	4	4	4	4
On line Brd.	3	3	3	3	3
Operations					
Secretary	23	24	24	25	26
Services	35	37	38	40	41
Treasurer	7	7	8	8	8
Taxation	5	5	5	5	5
Promotions	6	6	6	7	7
Education	5	5	5	6	6
Publications - CGF	17	17	18	18	19
Publ. procs.	60	60	60	60	60
Publ. B'shop & trav..	12	12	13	13	13
Strat. pjts.	2	2	2	2	2
Contingency	1	1	1	1	1
	196	199	204	209	213
Surplus/(Deficit)	0	-1	-4	-7	-8

are Keuro. He explained that the forward look beyond 2007 was provisional. A conservative view of income from membership fees has been taken. Membership is assumed to be flat over the period of the forward look with a small increase in the number of Organisational and Educational Members. The forward look takes into account the continuing trend to electronic options rather than print. Now that the EG25 celebrations have finished, the Promotions Board budget has been reduced to the normal level. The forward look shows a nearly balanced budget over the period.

The budget and Treasurer's report were accepted *unanimously*, proposed by C.E. Vandoni, seconded by Dr A. Sheffer.

The Chairman thanked the Treasurer for his efforts on behalf of the Association.

**Table 7: Election Results**

Candidate	Region	Votes	
Baranoski	6	68	Elected
Brunet	4	134	Elected
Dodgson	1	52	
Duce	1	96	Elected
Ertl	2	129	Elected
Gröller	5	115	Elected
Helfer	6	64	
Klein	2	84	Elected
O'Sullivan * 1	108		Elected

## 8. Executive Committee Elections

### 8.1. Results of the 2006 Elections

The Chairman reported the results of the 2006 elections (see Table 7). There was one regional vacancy in region 1.

The Chairman congratulated those who had been elected and thanked those who were not elected for their support of the Association. Those elected commence their three-year terms of office on 1 January 2007.

The composition of the Executive Committee for 2007 will be:

*Until 31 December 2007.* Coquillart (3), Duke (1), Gross (3), Müller (2), Scopigno (3), Seidel (2), Torres (4).

*Until 31 December 2008.* Cani (3), Fellner (5), Navazo (4), Pulli (5), Rushmeier (6), Skala (5), Wyvill (6).

*Until 31 December 2006.* Baranoski (6), Brunet (4), Duce (1), Ertl (2), Gröller (5), Klein (2), O'Sullivan(1).

The numbers in brackets after each name indicate the region to which the member belongs.

The composition of the electoral regions, approved by the General Assembly in 2005, is given below.

1. United Kingdom, Ireland.
2. Germany.
3. Italy, Switzerland, France, Monaco, Malta.
4. Spain, Portugal, Andorra.
5. All other European countries.
6. All non-European countries.

The Chairman stated that there would be one regional vacancy in region 2 and one in region 3 in the 2006 elections.

**Table 8: Executive Board 2007**

Chairman	D.A. Duce
Vice-Chairs	R. Scopigno T. Ertl
Secretary	C.E. Vandoni
Treasurer	W. Hansmann
Asst. Treasurer	F. Melero Rus
Education Board	I. Navazo
Executive Board	D.A. Duce
Operations Board	C.E. Vandoni
On-line Board	M. Magnor
Workshops Board	H. Müller
Publication Board	D. Fellner
Promotions Board	C. O'Sullivan
Professional Board	N. John
Strategic issues	D.A. Duce

### 8.2. Appointment of Nominating Committee

The General Assembly appoints two members to a Nominating Committee whose function is to nominate candidates for the Executive Committee elections. The Executive Committee has appointed P. Brunet and D. Fellner.

H. Carr and M.-P. Cani were elected by acclaim to represent the General Assembly.

## 9. Executive Board 2007

The Chairman announced the composition of the Executive Board for 2007 (see Table 8).

The Chairman thanked all the Board members for their work during the year. He welcomed Tom Ertl to the Board as Vice Chairman and Carol O'Sullivan who replaces Pere Brunet as Promotions Board Chair. He thanked Pere for his hard work and contribution to the Association as Promotions Board chair.

## 10. Future Conferences

The Chairman announced that the decision has been taken to move the annual event to a spring-time date for a trial period. He explained that Eurographics and SIGGRAPH, the two major conferences in the field, are currently only one month apart, which creates many problems for submitters, reviewers, and programme committee members and attendees alike. He invited the Vice Chairman, Dr Scopigno, to explain the background to this decision.

Dr Scopigno explained that in response to pressure from the community, the Executive Committee launched a consultation in May 2005. Many in the community had expressed the view that there is a need for more than one high quality general computer graphics conference, and in order to organise

the work of researchers and students, the deadlines for these needed to be several months apart. In order to firmly establish the place of Eurographics as one of these two major events, the Executive Board looked at three possible options. Initial indications within the Executive Board showed a preference for an event in spring time with a submission deadline in the first week of October and an IPC meeting at the end of November. Wider consultation then took place and a paper explaining the three options and summarising the views expressed in the consultation was presented to the Executive Committee in April 2006. The consultation phase included former conference chairs, workshop and symposia organisers, working group chairs and local chapter chairs. The Executive Committee debated the paper and based on the strong steer from the consultation agreed to move the conference to a spring-time slot, with submission deadlines as above, for a three-year period starting in 2008.

The Chairman thanked Dr Scopigno for his presentation. He explained that negotiations are underway with a site well-suited to hosting a spring-time conference in 2008. He stressed the importance of spreading the message within the research community that EG 2008 will be in the spring time.

The Chairman announced that the annual event in 2007 will take place on 3–7 September in Prague, Czech Republic.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held during EUROGRAPHICS 2007 in Prague, Czech Republic on Thursday 6 September 2007.

## **12. Any Other Business**

A member asked for an explanation of the event surplus line in the accounts. The Chairman and Professor Fellner explained that Eurographics operates a contract model in which the risk of organising an event rests with the local organisers. The Association receives an income from each non-member attending the conference that is equal to the difference between member and non-member rates for the event.

The Vice Chairman, Professor Duce, noted that Professor Seidel's term as Chairman would end on 31 December 2006. He thanked Professor Seidel on behalf of the membership for his leadership of the Association. He said that Association and conference had both grown in size and stature during this period and he said that Professor Seidel left the association in a very healthy state.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 18.00.