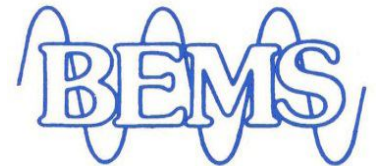
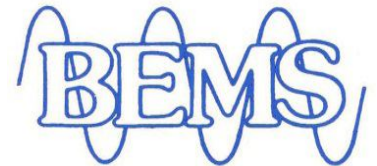


Options for merging BEMS and EBEA into one bioelectromagnetics society



Background

- Joint committee set up in 2015 to investigate possible merger scenarios
- Work of committee informed by surveys of members of both Societies
- Committee reported to BEMS Board and EBEA Council in April 2016
- Report sent to members of both Societies, tabled for discussion here



Members

BEMS

Phil Chadwick (co-Chair)

Nam Kim

Meike Mevissen

Andrew Wood

Jim Lin

EBEA

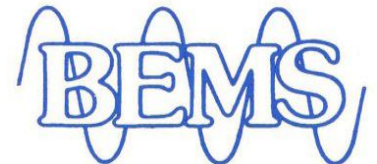
Eric van Rongen (co-Chair)

Isabelle Lagroye

Niels Kuster

Micaela Liberti

Lluís Mir



General approach informed by survey results

To be considered in order to move forward:

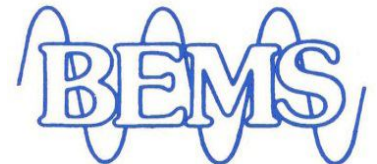
- Whether to merge
- Structure and governance options
- Merger mechanism
- Other Societies

To be decided as matters progress:

- Contractual arrangements
- Financial matters
- History & records
- Location
- Name

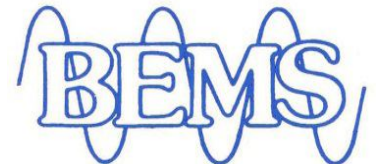
Proposed merger mechanism

- Initial ballot of all members by both Societies to set up/not a new Society with one or other proposed structures (Option 1 or 2)
- Set up shell Society, resolving details of name, location etc
- Final (2/3 majority) ballot by each Society of all members on dissolution by merger into the new Society



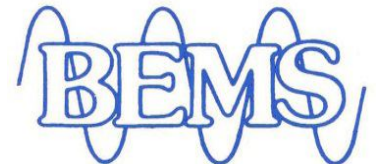
Other Societies

- Consider inclusion of other bioelectromagnetics societies of equal scientific stature
- Don't allow the process of trying to locate such societies, or the process of including them in merger negotiations, to slow down the BEMS/EBEA merger



Merger Option 1 summary

- One single global society, no regional chapters, with government a similar structure as the current BEMS and EBEA.
- Includes the explicit ability for members to propose and run semi-autonomous bioelectromagnetics events (e.g schools, regional meetings) within the umbrella of the society and with the prior agreement of the central administration.



Merger Option 2 summary

- One single global society with regional chapters (e.g. Europe, Asia, the Americas).
- Chapters are local organisations with semi-autonomous finances and governance operating within a looser umbrella of a single global body.
- Central government consists partly of chapter governors plus the “traditional” society officers, i.e. President, Secretary etc as in Option 1

Options details, and pros and cons

- The Merger Options document circulated to members of both Societies contains more details of both Options
- The committee has listed pros and cons for each Option but leaves the decision as to which, if either, should be adopted to members

Next steps

1. EBEA Council and BEMS Board to consider the committee's recommendation to ballot on how to proceed
2. If acceptable, ballot in coming months
3. Depending on ballot outcome, detailed work to set up new Society and resolve outstanding issues (name, location etc)
4. Final ballot of all members of both Societies to merge into the new Society

