



**EUROPEAN PHYSICAL SOCIETY**  
*Quantum Electronics and Optics Division*

<b>München</b> Room 2.160 in the ICM Center München	<b>69<sup>th</sup> BOARD MEETING</b>	<b>Friday, 25 February 2005</b> <b>9:00 to 12:30</b>
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**PRESENT:**

**BOARD** G. Björk, R. Blatt, A. Boardman, S. De Silvestri C. Fabre, P. French, G. Huber, U. Keller, D. Lenstra, G. Leuchs, P. Mataloni, G. Roosen, L. Torner, I. Veretenicoff, N. Zheludev

**EPS** D. Lee, P. Helfenstein

		<b>Action</b> Who/with whom when
<b>1.</b>	<b>Approval of agenda</b> The agenda was approved.	
<b>2.</b>	<b>Apologies for absence</b> A. Brignon, V. Bužek, M. Dawson, M. Ducloy, D. Hall, P. Loosen, P. Mandel, R. Menzel, E. Riedle, A. Tuennermann, P. Törmä, V. Zadkov	
<b>3.</b>	<b>Minutes of the previous Board Meeting</b> The minutes of the previous Board Meeting were approved.	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Chair's report (P. French)</b>  The chairman welcomed the new Board members. It was noted that J. Dalibard and J. Faist had declined the invitation to join the Board. Pierre Glorieux was accepted as a replacement Board member.  The chairman reminded the members that, as agreed at the 68 <sup>th</sup> Board meeting, the primary agenda item was a discussion about QEOD's mission and future development.  The chairman reported that the present status, in terms of submitted papers to this year's CLEO/Europe-EQEC conference, was very promising and should give QEOD a much needed solid financial basis. There was some discussion that the co-branding with Messe München and "World of Photonics Congress" may lead to a dilution of the CLEO Europe-EQEC brand name. It was agreed that the CLEO/Europe-EQEC steering committee would negotiate this issue.  The chairman reported earlier discussions about possible cooperation with EOS. EOS had emphasised that they are an self-governing organization and free to act independently of other organisations such	

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	<p>as SPIE. One suggestion to strengthen the ties between QEOD and EOS is to co-opt Board members across the organizations; another is to arrange one or more joint conferences. G. Huber mentioned that there is already a group, ECHOP that is meant to coordinate conferences.</p> <p>The chairman reported that the EPS 13<sup>th</sup> general meeting preparations were essentially running according to schedule. The post-deadline paper submission deadline is 1 June 2005, and the meeting will be held in Bern on 11-14 July.</p>	
<p>5.</p>	<p><b>Election of the QEOD Board secretary.</b></p> <p>Gunnar Björk was elected.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Mission and future development of QEOD</b></p> <p>QEOD is entering a new phase, partly due to the economic surplus generated by successful conferences that has provided it with resources to direct towards achieving its goals. Accordingly, it is important that the QEOD Board reaches a consensus concerning its mission. At the same time, recent changes in the membership rules of EPS (see the 68<sup>th</sup> Board meeting minutes, agenda item 8) may affect QEOD in a negative fashion unless steps to preserve or increase the membership size are taken. Thus it is clear that QEOD needs to present a clear message concerning its purpose and the benefits of joining EPS and QEOD.</p> <p>The chairman reiterated that the mission of EPS and QEOD were intimately linked and proposed six reasons why scientists may wish to join with EPS/QEOD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– To be able to organise major quality conferences (CLEO/Europe-EQEC)</li> <li>– To be able to organise small meetings and workshops (Europhoton conferences)</li> <li>– To be able to provide (or receive) travel support for students to attend conferences</li> <li>– To be able to provide a forum for students to interact (summer/winter schools)</li> <li>– To benefit from a newsletter linking the QEOD community</li> <li>– To facilitate contacts within the European Optics community and to be able to present a co-ordinated message to the European Union</li> </ul> <p>The two first items are already functioning relatively well, and steps have already been taken to develop them further. For all the items, A. Boardman suggested a yearly review of how well QEOD fulfils its ambitions as a valuable instrument. There was some concern about the work this would entail and no decision was taken.</p> <p>Several suggestions were made regarding travel support and/or prizes for students. N. Zheludev reminded the Board about the new <i>networks of excellence</i> within the EU sixth framework. These networks arrange summer schools and P. French suggested that we might encourage student participation by offering travel support. <i>N. Zheludev volunteered to gather information about what summer school are presently being organized.</i></p> <p>A. Boardman suggested that QEOD could offer a Ph.D. thesis prize. N. Zheludev pointed out that a potential problem may be the language, as many theses are not written in English. The Board appointed <i>A. Boardman to present a concrete proposal for the PhD thesis prize at the next Board meeting.</i></p> <p>N. Zheludev suggested that QEOD should write a letter and/or a poster to explain the benefits of joining the QEOD, perhaps in cooperation with the EPS. The Board appointed <i>N. Zheludev and I. Veretenicoff to make a draft of such a letter/poster until the next Board meeting.</i></p> <p>The Board appointed <i>P. French and G. Björk to propose concrete measures for a recruitment campaign to be presented at the next meeting.</i> One suggestion is to offer every PhD student graduating in the field a free, one year membership in EPS/QEOD, at a cost of 10 Euro per student. Another suggestion was to offer free entrance to the CLEO/Europe-EQEC conference.</p>	<p>N. Zheludev</p> <p>A. Boardman</p> <p>N. Zheludev</p> <p>I. Veretenicoff</p> <p>P. French</p> <p>G. Björk</p>

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	<p>There was not much enthusiasm for the newsletter, which is published intermittently. The Board did not think it was useful to provide the community with yet more reading material.</p> <p>Interaction between the European Union and the European optics community was discussed. A. Boardman informed the Board about OPERA, a concerted action to lobby to EU. The first attempt was rejected by the EU because some of the major European optics societies were not represented. OPERA is now funded, has an office in Brussels, and will create, among other things, a platform of information exchange and coordination of the European optics and photonics community. The EPS is not involved in OPERA at the moment. The Board appointed A. Boardman to involve QEOD in the program and to serve as QEOD's liaison. G. Leuchs suggested that we could request to join OPERA. It was agreed that at least there should be links between the websites of QEOD and OPERA</p> <p>A discussion was initiated by E. Arimondo whether QEOD should go through EPS or not if/when QEOD wants to lobby Brussels. D. Lee informed the Board that one of the main tasks of EPS is to represent physics vis-à-vis the EU. As an example, he informed the Board that the next EPS president wants to enhance the image of physics education as a means of raising the awareness of physics for EU decision makers. Several members of the Board voiced concern about QEOD's possible effectiveness as an independent lobby organization. D. Lee reminded the Board about the possibility of writing position papers, having them approved by the EPS steering committee, and then publishing them.</p> <p>S. De Silvestri informed the Board about the Consolidated European Photonics Research Initiative's paper "Strategy and Vision Paper, Photonics for the 21<sup>st</sup> century" written to influence the priorities of the EU 7<sup>th</sup> framework program, to promote optics, and to point out the importance of optics for European industry and competitiveness. <i>It was agreed that this document should be posted on the QEOD website.</i></p> <p>There was further discussion about a possible closer cooperation between EOS and QEOD. G. Huber recapitulated the history of the EOS and the QEOD and the efforts to rejoin the two societies. He surmised that if QEOD leaves EPS to merger with EOS, others will fill our space, returning the situation to nearly <i>status quo</i>. Creating an affiliated society to EOS seems to be difficult to arrange. P. French suggested that QEOD could run some EUROPHOTON conferences in cooperation with EOS. A discussion about the viability and means to establish closer bonds with EOS ensued. The Board was positive toward approaching EOS. <i>G. Leuchs, R. Menzel, P. French, and D. Lenstra were appointed to investigate a joint conference, in cooperation with EOS, probably in the area of imaging and microscopy. E. Arimondo suggested to initiate a joint session for CLEO/Europe-EQEC 2007 and volunteered to initiate these discussions.</i></p>	<p>A. Boardman</p> <p>S. De Silvestri</p> <p>G. Leuchs R. Menzel P. French D. Lenstra E. Arimondo</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p><b>CLEO/Europe–EQEC 2005 Technical program</b> (General and Program Chair report)</p> <p>C. Fabre reminded the Board that 2005 is the second CLEO/Europe–EQEC conference arranged in the current fashion. Online submission was a new feature this year. The automated submission procedure is a very good tool, developed in-house (by the EPS staff with considerable input from Peter Loosen), that provides new capabilities for coming meetings. Roughly the same numbers of papers were submitted this year as in 2005. ~ 1300 attendees are expected and hence the conference is expected to generate a profit. The organization of the program and sessions is progressing according to schedule. The rejection ratio this year may be slightly above 20%, indicating a good quality of accepted papers.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>QEOD sponsored meetings: EUROPHOTON</b></p> <p>A proposal has been submitted by M. Pollnau to arrange a conference on Solid State and Fiber Coherent Light Sources in Isola d'Elba, Italy in 2006 as a Europhoton conference. The QEOD Board agreed to sponsor this conference with 3000 Euro, to be returned if the conference runs with a profit.</p> <p>S. De Silvestri agreed to write one page of information about the Europhoton QEOD sponsorship, its</p>	<p>S. De Silvestri</p>

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	rules, and the application procedure, to be posted on our web page.	
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>QEOD Prizes 2005</b></p> <p>The chairman reminded the Board that the deadline for nominations is Feb. 28. The prizes no longer have a sponsor. Therefore a short discussion about the size of the prize was held, a suggestion was to use some of QEOD's money and give each of the EPS Quantum Electronics price-winners 1000 Euro + travel expenses. No decision was taken. Each Board member was asked to suggest one candidate for the price and send to the chairman within a week.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>QEOD Website</b></p> <p>The chairman suggested that QEOD creates a private, password protected area for the use of the Board members, and it was decided to do so.</p> <p>A discussion was held whether we should post the QEOD Board minutes in the public area of the website. No decision was taken.</p>	V. Bužek
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>G. Leuchs is currently comptroller of CLEO/Europe-EQEC but will step down this summer after CLEO/Europe-EQEC 2005. The steering committee will take suggestions for the next comptroller. G. Leuchs suggested R. Menzel as his successor. The Board approved the suggestion.</p>	G. Leuchs R. Menzel
<b>12.</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>15:00-18:00 hrs, Sunday June 12, 2005 in München.</p>	
<b>13.</b>	<p><b>Reserved business</b></p> <p>D. Lee reported that the QEOD Board had approximately €90k in its account and showed the budget for CLEO/Europe-EQEC 2005 was projecting a profit of about €125k assuming 1200 participants. EPS would receive the first €30k of any profit and the remaining profit would be shared equally between the sponsoring organisations: EPS, IEEE-LEOS and OSA.</p> <p>D. Lee suggested that the QEOD Board vote €10k to support student attendance at CLEO/Europe-EQEC 2005. The Board agreed and decided to provide €200/student up to €10k for student members of EPS with a restriction of no more than 2 students from the same institution receiving this support. If more students applied than could be supported, the submitted paper scores would be used to rank the applications. <i>E. Arimondo was appointed to manage this allocation of student support.</i></p> <p>There was some discussion that the above arrangement may not help students from "less-favoured" countries and the QEOD Board also agreed to underwrite a further €10k to support students from such countries. It was hoped that this money could be raised from other sources but QEOD would provide up to €10k if no other money was forthcoming.</p>	E. Arimondo