

**Minutes of the SIPTA General Meeting at the ISIPTA'2017 conference in Lugano, on
July 13th, 2017.**

1. Matthias Troffaes informs the SIPTA members about the results of the last elections to the Executive Committee, which have given the following composition:

President- Sébastien Destercke (outgoing Executive Editor)

Secretary- Enrique Miranda

Treasurer- Alessio Benavoli

Executive Editor- Fabio Cuzzolin

At Large Members- Cassio P. de Campos, Marco Cattaneo, Jasper de Bock (continuing), Gert de Cooman and Thomas Augustin.

He also thanks the Teller Committee (Mauro Scanagatta, Stavros Lopatzidis and Julia Plass) for handling all the practical details of the organization of the Elections.

2. The following change in point 1 of the SIPTA bylaws is proposed:

To change

1. Candidacies from all Members are requested by the Executive Committee [...]

into

1. Only SIPTA members can be candidates for the Election of the SIPTA Executive Committee. Candidacies from all Members are requested by the Executive Committee [...]

The change is approved by unanimity among the members present.

3. Matthias Troffaes presents the report from the Treasurer, Alessio Benavoli. There are currently 10724.88 euros in the SIPTA account, which is an increase of 669.34 euros (6.65%) with respect to the situation in July 2015.
4. Matthias Troffaes informs about some of the workshops and special sessions organized by members of the society in the past two years.
 - The Group Methodological Foundations of Statistics and Their Applications organized the Eighth International Workshop on Principles and Methods for Statistical Inference with Imprecise data (WPMSIIP'2015) in Munich.
 - Gero Walter organized a special session on imprecise probabilities at IPMU'2016 in Eindhoven.
 - Matthias Troffaes, Gero Walter, Andrea Wiencierz and Olivier Strauss organized the SIPTA School'2016 in Durham.

- Matthias Troffaes and Gero Walter organized WPMSIIP'2016 in Durham.
- Alessandro Antoucci, Giorgio Corani and Cassio de Campos organized the PGM'2016 conference in Lugano.
- Enrique Miranda organized a special session on imprecise probabilities at SMPS'2016 in Rome.

5. Matthias Troffaes shares some reflections about the state of the Society and of Imprecise Probabilities activities:

-There is a large grant activity on IP related projects, as well as a healthy presence in other conferences;

-The idea of giving a more applied approach to the last SIPTA School and to collocate it with WPMSIIP worked very well;

-Still, ISIPTA remains very much theory focused;

-The number of submissions has decreased steadily from 1999 (72) to 2017 (35).

6. The meeting continues with the new President, Sebastien Destercke, who thanks Matthias Troffaes for his work in these past years and informs the members about - WPMSIIP'2017, that will be held in Compiègne in early September.

In other upcoming activities:

-Matthias Troffaes informs about the UTOPIAE Opening Training School in Glasgow, in November 2017, organized by M. Vasile;

-Enrique Miranda and Ignacio Montes inform about the special session on imprecise probabilities they will be holding at IPMU'2018 in Cádiz;

-A number of special sessions on imprecise probabilities will be held in ASCE-ICVRAM 2018 in Florianópolis, organized by E. Patelli or S. Ferson, among others.

6. Preliminary discussion about the SIPTA School in 2018 is held. Enrique Miranda informs about the possibility of holding it in Oviedo.

7. Preliminary discussion about ISIPTA'2019 is held. The possibility of holding it in Ghent is presented.

8. Sébastien Destercke shares with the members a number of reflections on the future of the society:

-We should debate whether the collocation with ECSQARU should be pursued in the future, if we should stay as we are now or if it would be better to form a much larger event with other conferences such as ECSQARU, SMPS or Belief.

-There are a number of measures that could be pursued in order to increase the visibility of IP, such as broaden further the scope of the school, increase the participation in other conferences, advertise ISIPTA more personally, move the efforts towards applications of IP, or creating a journal.

A discussion follows, where:

-Paul Fink mentions that the poster he has presented with the bibliometrics of the ISIPTA conferences shows that number of authors and papers has increased significantly with the collocation with ECSQARU, but that the applications are very little present in the keywords;

-Linda van der Gaag attributes part of the decrease to the increasing pressure to attend large conferences, and says that this is a phenomenon shared by other conferences of the size of ISIPTA;

-Sebastien Destercke says that we should try to take more advantage of the unique features of the ISIPTA conferences, and Linda van der Gaag that we could also try to have several collocated conferences to increase the number of attendants;

-Marco Zaffalon says that a committee should be created to come up with a few proposals that should be then discussed by all the members, and that in his opinion the situation is critical. Alessio Benavoli adds that the conference is also in a hard situation financially when few papers are submitted.

-Teddy Seidenfeld suggests the possibility of recording the proceedings of the conference in video and making them available online. Matthias Troffaes adds the possibility of live streaming the conference, but Alessandro Antonucci says that this may be expensive.

-Giorgio asks whether the move to electronic proceedings was satisfactory to all the participants, and Teddy Seidenfeld says that he would have preferred having a hard copy for his institution library. Erik Quaeghebeur mentions the option of printing a copy on demand, and Cassio de Campos says that JMLR offers this service in some cases.

-Erik Quaeghebeur asks if anybody has objections about the creation of an IP journal.

-Alessandro Antonucci suggests to consider SUM and perhaps PGM as possible conferences to collocate with. Erik Quaeghebeur says that even without the collocation it would be a good idea to coordinate the dates with these other conferences.

To conclude the meeting, Sebastien Destercke gives presents to the members that are leaving the Executive Committee.

And, with no more questions or comments by the SIPTA members, the meeting is adjourned at 19:15 on July 13, 2017.

Sébastien Destercke, President

Enrique Miranda, Secretary