

BRITISH PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY: FEPS REPORT

Report for BPS Council Meeting January 2022.

1. FEPS Website.

<https://www.facebook.com/FEPSalgae/>

2. Next FEPS President

Prof. Peter Kroth, University of Konstanz, Germany.

3. FEPS Publication

Feedback from the consultation of FEPS member societies has indicated that there is not a large interest in publishing a new phycological journal. The publication of the FEPS journal, *Perspectives in Phycology*, has been discontinued. It is planned to have discussion with the wider phycological community on future FEPS publication policy at the EPC8 meeting in Brest.

4. FEPS European Archive of Algal and Cyanobacterial Materials for Molecular Biology Research (EURARCH)

Progress continues on the construction of a database of collections of documented dried, archived algal and cyanobacterial materials throughout Europe, which are suitable and available for molecular biology and modern analytical biochemical analysis.

Data on relevant collections from 64 herbaria and/or research groups have been obtained so far (from Belgium, the Czech Republic, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Macedonia, Poland, Spain and the UK) with further data awaited.

Discussions are in progress on the possibility of integrating the FEPS EURARCH database with that of the Distributed System of Scientific Collections (DISSCO) and EU infrastructures, whilst ensuring that the FEPS EURARCH retains high visibility on the FEPS website and ready access by FEPS members.

5. EPC8: the 8th European Congress, Brest, France, 2023.

Feedback from the FEPS Council on the programme draft has been gathered and provided to the local EPC8 organisers.

It was pointed out that currently the only proposal for attendance is for this to be fully in person, with no option of online participation, whether by partial or full online attendance. FEPS Council has expressed concern about this and the matter is being pursued. It is being pointed out that many conferences are now providing some form of online participation (e.g. the International Seaweed Symposium also scheduled for 2023), and that online conference participation is consistent with the increasing wish to contribute to Climate Change mitigation efforts.

Geoffrey A. Codd
BPS Representative to FEPS
12 December 2022