



European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE)

Minutes of the 2019 EARIE General Assembly
Barcelona, Spain – August 31, 2019

The 2019 General Assembly (GA) of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE) was held on August 31, 2019, at 18:00, in the auditorium of the Ciutadella Campus of the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF). EARIE President John Vickers chaired the GA; approximately 50 delegates / EARIE members were present, including several EARIE Executive Committee members.

The President called the meeting to order at 18:05 by welcoming the EARIE delegates / members attending the 46th EARIE Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain – thanking those who were present at the General Assembly for their participation in this important annual EARIE business meeting.

[NOTE: The EARIE General Assembly slides (as well as most EARIE Executive Committee reports) are available to members via the EARIE Secretariat, upon request. The Minutes of recent EARIE GAs are available on the EARIE website www.earie.org (under the Community & Governance tab).]

AGENDA

1. Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 EARIE General Assembly (Athens)
2. Approval of the Accounts 2018
3. Membership Situation
4. Nominations & Elections
5. Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs) 2019
6. Report on the EARIE 2019 Conference
7. Future EARIE Annual Conferences
8. Any Other Business / Q & A

President Vickers reviewed the proposed GA Agenda (which had been duly circulated via e-mail to the current EARIE membership, as per the Statutes) and asked whether there were any updates or additions or to be made to the Agenda. No remarks to this effect were voiced.

The EARIE 2019 General Assembly Agenda was approved.

MINUTES

1. Approval of the Minutes of the EARIE General Assembly held in Athens, Greece, on September 1, 2018

The President asked if there were any comments on or final revisions to be made to the 2018 General Assembly Minutes. (The link to this document had been circulated via e-mail to the current EARIE membership along with the GA announcement.) No remarks were made.

The Minutes of the last EARIE General Assembly were unanimously approved.

2. Approval of the Accounts 2018

The 2018 Accounts (which had been duly circulated to the EARIE membership prior to the GA) were summarised by President Vickers as he went over the Income & Expenditures and then the Balance Sheet for the calendar year 2018.

The President asked if there were any questions regarding the EARIE Accounts. No questions were raised; the President thus put forward a motion to the GA to approve the 2018 Accounts.

The 2018 EARIE Accounts were unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

3. Membership Situation

The President reviewed the EARIE membership figures over the past decade:

<i>Total # members per calendar year</i>	<i>Top 10 countries in 2019</i>
2019 → 461 (<i>to date</i>)	1. Germany (67)
2018 → 414 members	2. United States (49)
2017 → 422 members	3. France (43)
2016 → 430 members	4. United Kingdom (42)
2015 → 472 members	5. Italy (35)
2014 → 446 members	6. Japan (35)
2013 → 551 members	7. Spain (28)
2012 → 388 members	8. Netherlands (18)
	9. Switzerland (17)
	10. Belgium (14)

[NOTE: The EARIE membership statistics by country are based on the professional affiliations of EARIE members (as per the information stored in their profiles), which do not necessarily reflect their nationalities or countries of origin.]

4. Nominations & Elections

By way of background, the President reviewed the current EARIE Officers and Directors.

EARIE Officers:

- **President** (2018-2020):
 - **John VICKERS** – All Souls College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom
- **Past President** (2018-2019):
 - **Xavier VIVES** – IESE Business School, University of Navarra, Spain
- **Executive Secretary** (*ex-officio*):
 - **Ene KANNEL** – European Institute for Advanced Studies in Management (EIASM), Brussels, Belgium

EARIE Directors:

- The 19 **Directors** currently serving on the EARIE Executive Committee are:
- **Reiko AOKI** – Japan Fair Trade Commission, Japan
 - **Mark ARMSTRONG** – All Souls College, University of Oxford, UK
 - **Roberto BURGNET** – University of Central Florida, USA
 - **Giacomo CALZOLARI** – University of Bologna, Italy | CEPR London, UK
 - **Ramon CAMINAL** – Institut d'Anàlisi Econòmica (CSIC) | Barcelona GSE, Spain
 - **Jan DE LOECKER** – KU Leuven, Belgium
 - **Mikhail DRUGOV** – New Economic School, Moscow, Russia
 - **Chiara FUMAGALLI** – Bocconi University, Milan, Italy
 - **Alessandro GAVAZZA** – London School of Economics (LSE), UK
 - **David GENESOVE** – Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel
 - **Paul HEIDHUES** – Düsseldorf Institute for Competition Economics, Germany
 - **Steffen HOERNIG** – Nova School of Business and Economics, Lisbon, Portugal
 - **Elisabetta IOSSA** – Università di Roma Tor Vergata, Italy
 - **Bruno JULLIEN** – Toulouse School of Economics (TSE), France
 - **Tobias KRETSCHMER** – Munich Ludwig-Maximilians University (LMU), Germany
 - **Kai-Uwe KÜHN** – University of East Anglia (UEA), School of Economics, UK
 - **Volker NOCKE** – UCLA, USA | University of Mannheim, Germany
 - **Lars PERSSON** – Research Institute of Industrial Economics, Sweden
 - **Michelle SOVINSKY** – University of Mannheim, Germany

Farewell to the EARIE Past President:

The President announced that the 2019 EARIE General Assembly marks the end of term for the current EARIE Past President **Xavier VIVES** (IESE Business School, Spain) who has completed his official presidential mandate on the EARIE Executive Committee (as per the Statutes). The current procedure was outlined: upon completion of the presidential term, the Past President continues to serve on the EARIE Executive Committee for one more year to ensure a smooth transition and continuity for the Association – and will hopefully continue to participate in an advisory capacity for many years to come (as per the ongoing and much appreciated tradition for many EARIE Past Presidents). Xavier received warm & appreciative applause from the GA.

Welcome to the EARIE President-Elect:

The President also announced that the EARIE Executive Committee has recently endorsed the nomination of **Massimo MOTTA** (ICREA-Universitat Pompeu Fabra | Barcelona Graduate School of Economics) as the next EARIE President (2020-2022) – who has agreed to officially serve one year on the EARIE Executive Committee as EARIE President-Elect (2019-2020) – pending the formal ratification of the GA (to ensure the full support of the EARIE membership).

The nomination of Massimo Motta for the role of EARIE President (2020-2022) – as endorsed by the EARIE Executive Committee – was fully supported and unanimously approved by the EARIE membership at the 2019 EARIE General Assembly.

Term Renewals of EARIE Directors:

The following four EARIE Directors whose first terms end today have been invited by the EARIE President to continue on – and have all accepted to serve a second 3-year term (2019-2022):

- **Giacomo CALZOLARI** – University of Bologna, Italy | CEPR London, UK
- **Steffen HOERNIG** – Nova School of Business and Economics, Lisbon, Portugal
- **Kai-Uwe KÜHN** – University of East Anglia (UEA), School of Economics, UK
- **Volker NOCKE** – UCLA, USA | University of Mannheim, Germany

The above four term renewals were formally ratified by the EARIE General Assembly.

Nomination of future EARIE Directors:

There were no empty Director slots available on the Executive Committee for this year since no (second) terms are ending, so no EARIE elections were held this past spring. Next spring any new EARIE Director nominations will be confirmed by President John Vickers, and, if required, e-ballots will be circulated to the EARIE membership for the election of EARIE Directors for the 3-year term 2020-2023. Note that to be eligible to vote, one must be a fully subscribed EARIE member. Anyone who is interested or wishes to propose nominees can contact John Vickers (President), Ene Kannel (Executive Secretary), or any member of the Executive Committee.

President Vickers thanked the Directors serving on the EARIE Executive Committee for their collective contributions over their years of service and acknowledged their dedication to the cause. He also thanked those present at the GA for exercising their right to vote and for their support of the EARIE election process which is fundamental for the future of the Association.

5. Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs) 2019

The President thanked the EARIE 2019 Scientific Committee (SC) Chair, Jan De Loecker, for his management of the process used by the SC to select the papers accepted for presentation at this year's EARIE conference – and for determining the three winners of the Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs). Jan took the floor, thanking the EARIE 2019 SC for their diligence in reading and reviewing the submissions, as well as for their helpful comments which assisted the SC Chair in assigning accepted papers to sessions. The SC selected the top papers (with the best rankings), and the final selection was made with the input of the EARIE Presidents and other notable IE/IO professionals. Jan was pleased to report that the refereeing process worked well overall. The SC Chair decided not to have any Rising Stars sessions this year – to ensure equilibrium and a high quality of IO/IE papers. The EARIE 2019 conference received 665 submissions (including 12 invited submissions featured in the Invited Sessions), of which 500 were accepted. The EARIE 2019 Barcelona program includes 442 papers (including 12 invited); approximately 70 papers were withdrawn at various stages of the process.

Compared with recent previous EARIE conferences, the number of submissions is substantially higher, allowing for a more selective screening – with the overall acceptance rate of 76%. The SC members provided useful and timely reports, providing detailed commentary which helped to decide on marginal cases and in assigning accepted papers to sessions. Jan is grateful to the SC members for their help. Relative to previous editions, he changed the composition of the SC by adding a more diverse set of reviewers, reflecting the change in the field of IO/IE as broadly defined (e.g., topics in health, experiments, macro-IO, etc.). Current IO editors (of various journals) were requested to act as EARIE 2019 SC members. The outcome of this approach was that the following journals were represented: *American Economic Review*; *Journal of Political Economy*; *American Economic Journal*; *Rand Journal of Economics*; *Journal of Industrial Economics*; *Economic Journal* – along with *International Journal of Industrial Organization* (IJIO) – EARIE's associated journal.

The composition of the EARIE 2019 SC is based on various vital dimensions, such as gender, geography and topics in IO – in addition to ensuring a healthy mix between senior and junior conference delegates / EARIE members. A new feature of this year's EARIE conference is the inclusion of a theme session on Saturday (31/8): *Market Power and Competition Policy*. Both invited sessions ("Common Ownership" and "Mergers") are lined up with the Panel on Market Power ("Technology and Labour Markets") – this is a heavily debated topic amongst academic, policy and antitrust professionals, so it is appropriate that EARIE is a place where a high-level discussion on these issues can take place. Jan opted to run this theme throughout one day, potentially pulling in interested parties from the policy and antitrust / law community (as well as many excellent contributed papers across a variety of sessions throughout the entire EARIE 2019 conference). It was remarked that ending the 2019 EARIE Annual Conference on the last Sunday of August at 5 p.m. is difficult as school starts the following day in many countries.

When asked why there were no EARIE 2019 Rising Star sessions, Jan explained that this was mainly to not separate senior scholars from the juniors – since he as SC Chair does not see a clear-cut definition of what a 'rising star' constitutes – it could mean the job market candidates (i.e., right after or leading up to the job market season), so there tends to be a focus on PhD students from top programs who already get plenty of attention and feedback on their work. Jan opted to mix this class of submissions with other EARIE 2019 submissions and thus line up PhD students, post docs, junior and very senior established IO economists in one session on a common topic; this approach is an experiment, and of course, there is no reason why the next SC Chair and EARIE 2020 and/or future editions could not reinstate the Rising Star sessions.

Of the 103 submissions eligible for the EARIE 2019 YEEAs; 67 papers are on the conference's final program. All submissions to the 2019 EARIE YEEA prize were initially reviewed by the SC Chair, after which a shortlist based on the (unconditional) grades given to the submissions was

made (i.e., A: Definite accept). These papers were shared with the members of the selection committee, and each SC member individually selected possible candidates for the award. This procedure provided consensus on a relatively small number of papers, leading to consensus on the three EARIE 2019 YEEA award winners. Potential conflicts of interest were shared amongst the members of the EARIE 2019 YEEA Selection Committee members. In general, the process ran smoothly and the input of the local organizers (especially LOC Chair Albert Banal-Estañol and LOC member Anna Ventura, along with the entire local team), past SC Chairs (especially Volker Nocke and Paul Heidhues through their terrific SC memory aid document!), as well as former and current EARIE Presidents Xavier Vives and John Vickers (who were particularly helpful in addressing issues as they arose). Jan acknowledged and thanked all involved – including past SC Chairs, the EARIE Presidents, the 2019 Local Organizing Committee (LOC), and the many members of the Scientific Committee, the YEEA Selection Committee, as well as numerous senior IO economists who agreed to chair sessions, review papers, and offer their views on specific aspects of the conference. Jan also thanked the keynote speakers (Kate Ho, Alessandro Gavazza, John Sutton and John Van Reenen), and the 12 excellent invited speakers for participating in what he hopes will turn out to be an exciting 46th EARIE Annual Conference.

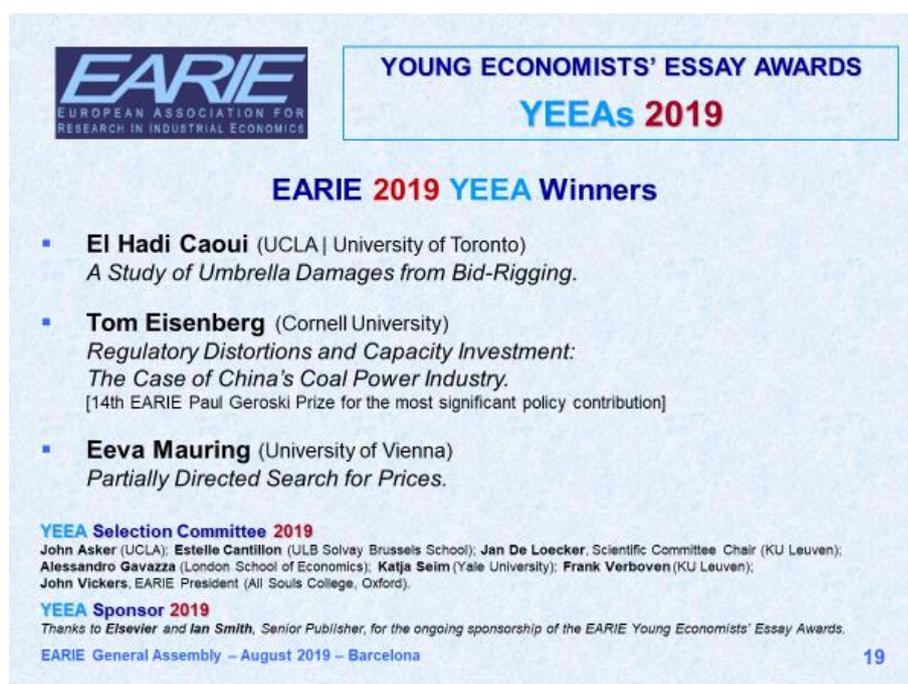
Elsevier is the long-time sponsor of the EARIE Young Economists' Essay Awards (YEEAs) and the three prizes of €1,000 EUR each have been awarded. The prize winners were notified that they were short-listed and have been asked to attend the award presentation (where a formal announcement of the YEEA winners will be made). Paper titles and names of prize winners are posted on the EARIE conference and association websites. Although he could not be present, IJIO Elsevier Publisher Ian Smith is organizing the money prizes for the 2019 YEEA winners.

EARIE 2019 YEEA Winners:

- **El Hadi Caoui** (UCLA | University of Toronto)
A Study of Umbrella Damages from Bid-Rigging.
- **Tom Eisenberg** (Cornell University)
Regulatory Distortions and Capacity Investment: The Case of China's Coal Power Industry.
[14th EARIE Paul Geroski Prize for the most significant policy contribution]
- **Eeva Mauring** (University of Vienna)
Partially Directed Search for Prices.

YEEA 2019 Selection Committee:

Jan De Loecker (KU Leuven | EARIE 2019 Scientific Committee Chair), John Asker (University of California Los Angeles), Estelle Cantillon (ULB Université Libre de Bruxelles), Alessandro Gavazza (London School of Economics), Katja Seim (Yale University), Frank Verboven (KU Leuven), and John Vickers (EARIE President | Oxford University)



The slide features the EARIE logo (European Association for Research in Industrial Economics) on the left. To the right, a blue-bordered box contains the text 'YOUNG ECONOMISTS' ESSAY AWARDS' and 'YEEAs 2019'. Below this, the title 'EARIE 2019 YEEA Winners' is centered. The winners are listed in a bulleted format with their names, affiliations, and paper titles. At the bottom, the YEEA Selection Committee 2019 members are listed, followed by the YEEA Sponsor 2019 (Elsevier and Ian Smith) and the event details: EARIE General Assembly – August 2019 – Barcelona. The page number 19 is in the bottom right corner.

EARIE 2019 YEEA Winners

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- **Eeva Mauring** (University of Vienna)
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YEEA Selection Committee 2019
John Asker (UCLA); Estelle Cantillon (ULB Solvay Brussels School); Jan De Loecker, Scientific Committee Chair (KU Leuven); Alessandro Gavazza (London School of Economics); Katja Seim (Yale University); Frank Verboven (KU Leuven); John Vickers, EARIE President (All Souls College, Oxford).

YEEA Sponsor 2019
Thanks to Elsevier and Ian Smith, Senior Publisher, for the ongoing sponsorship of the EARIE Young Economists' Essay Awards.

EARIE General Assembly – August 2019 – Barcelona

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The President thanked those involved for their various roles in ensuring the smooth process & handover of the 2019 EARIE YEEA prizes – as well as Elsevier for their ongoing sponsorship.

6. Report on the EARIE 2019 Conference

The President invited LOC Chair Albert Banal-Estañol to say a few words, officially thanking the entire EARIE 2019 Barcelona team for organizing the 46th EARIE Annual Conference taking place in Barcelona, Spain, August 30 – September 1, 2019, at the Ciutadella Campus of Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) – and is jointly hosted by the Barcelona Graduate School of Economics (GSE) and the PPSRC-IESE (Public-Private Sector Research Center). Address of the EARIE 2019 venue: Ciutadella Campus, Ramon Trias Fargas 25-27, 08005 Barcelona, Spain.

Albert thanked the EARIE President for this opportunity and acknowledged the LOC members with some slides as well as giving a brief overview of EARIE 2019 Barcelona, reporting that this year's conference has attracted the second-highest number of submissions since Rome (2012).

EARIE 2019 Barcelona submission, acceptance & registration numbers (on August 27, 2019):

- 653 papers were received
- 501 (76%) were accepted and 152 (24%) were rejected
- 426 (85%) were included in the program and 75 (15%) withdrew from the program

The deadline for presenting authors to register and be listed in the program was June 2, 2019. A total of 425 presenters and 9 invited speakers registered and paid their fees either online by credit card or by bank transfer. In addition to some waived fees (sponsors, keynotes, etc.), there are 52 non-presenting participants and 10 PhD students supporting the organization, so a total of 515 delegates – plus 12 accompanying persons (non-delegates), making the running total number of EARIE 2019 participants to date 527 (i.e., as on August 27, 2019).

EARIE 2019 in numbers

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME	
Submissions (call for papers)	653
Acceptances	501 (76%)
Presented	426 (85%)

PARTICIPANTS	
Presenters (including invited/keynotes)	442
Participants	52
LOC, Sponsors	21
Total	515

The LOC in charge of the overall logistics and organization is an amazing team to whom Albert is greatly indebted. In addition to the EARIE 2019 Barcelona LOC, ten student helpers along with five management employees from Barcelona-GSE & IESE are supporting the conference. Albert acknowledged the work and collaboration of Jan De Loecker (KU Leuven) who chaired the EARIE 2019 Scientific Committee (consisting of 103 members) for an exceptional program.

LOC Chair, Albert Banal-Estañol (representing both hosting institutions UPF & Barcelona GSE), has effectively headed up the EARIE 2019 team with excellent support from the LOC members: Bruno Cassiman (IESE & PPSRC); Ines Macho-Stadler (UAB & Barcelona GSE); Bruno Guallar (Coordination, Barcelona GSE); Miquel Rodriguez (Coordination, PPSRC IESE); Anna Ventura (Secretariat, Barcelona GSE) – an amazing team to whom Albert is greatly indebted.

The EARIE 2019 LOC has also shown great initiative in planning an interesting social program with limited financial resources. The local sponsors are: RBB Economics (Global partner); Google (main sponsor); Banco de España (partner). All sessions (i.e., keynote, invited, panel, parallel) as well as lunches and coffee breaks take place on the UPF Ciutadella campus. The social events include a Welcome Cocktail on Friday evening at Born Cultural Center and the EARIE 2019 conference dinner (a standing buffet) on the Saturday evening at MNAC (Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya) – where the Romanesque rooms will be opened exclusively to EARIE conference participants for an hour. The team have hired an official photographer for the EARIE 2019 Barcelona opening session and the social events.

On behalf of EARIE, the President thanked LOC Chair Albert Banal-Estañol for the roles he and his teams have performed by hosting the 46th EARIE Annual Conference in Barcelona, Spain. The President also warmly thanked all delegates & members for participating in EARIE 2019.

7. Future EARIE Annual Conferences

The President noted that the 47th EARIE Annual Conference is to be held August 28-30, 2020, in Bologna, Italy – at the University of Bologna campus. The EARIE 2020 Bologna program follows the typical 3-day Friday-to-Sunday schedule. Leslie Marx (Duke University) will act as Chair the Scientific Committee. Luca Lambertini will serve as Chair of the Local Organizing Committee. Luca was invited to give a brief overview of next year's EARIE Annual Conference.

EARIE 2020 Bologna:

The EARIE 2020 conference, hosted by the Department of Economics, will be held in the main building of the School of Economics, University of Bologna. In addition to Luca Lambertini (LOC Chair), the LOC consists of Flavio Delbono, Vincenzo Denicolò, Giulio Ecchia, and Enrico Santarelli. Parallel / invited sessions will take place in 12 lecture rooms located in the main building, and a number of additional rooms as needed in the adjacent building (Department of Statistics). The auditorium for plenaries and the General Assembly (450 places) is just a few minutes' walk from the Department. Lunches & coffee breaks will be organized along the arcades of the School of Economics building and in the nearby square (Piazza Scaravilli) in front of the School. For the gala dinner, the team is seeking a location in the medieval centre. The EARIE 2020 Bologna website will soon be available at the URL www.earie2020.earie.org.

The President thanked Luca Lambertini and looks forward to seeing many EARIE members at EARIE 2020 in Bologna, Italy, next year.

EARIE 2021 Bergen:

President Vickers also briefed the GA on the recently accepted proposal of the University of Bergen in Norway for the 48th EARIE Annual Conference in 2021 – and invited the LOC Chair Øivind Nilsen to give a brief introduction to EARIE 2021 Bergen. Øivind began with a bit of levity by guaranteeing everyone a 'cool' environment in August 2021! The bid from Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) in cooperation with the University of Bergen (UoB) has just been approved by the EARIE Executive Committee to jointly organize EARIE 2021 in Bergen, Norway – to be held on the NHH premises from Friday to Sunday, August 27-29, 2021. In addition to himself as Chair of the Local Organizing Committee, the EARIE 2021 LOC will consist of the following members: Malin Arve (NHH), Tommy S. Gabrielsen (UoB), Trond E. Olsen (NHH).

The NHH Norwegian School of Economics is an independent, public business school established in 1917. NHH has since 1963 been located at its own campus 5 km. north of the Bergen city centre. NHH has almost 3,500 students in Bachelor, Masters & PhD programs. NHH is a member of the CEMS network and awards the CEMS MIM degree. NHH has had full EQUIS accreditation since 2001 and has 170 international partner institutions in 50 countries. NHH has six academic departments and 10 research centres, one of which is CBE – the Centre for Business Economics – a research group that combines elements from economics, strategy, marketing and management science, focusing on firms, markets and organizations. CBE group members participate regularly in the EARIE Annual Conference, and three current / former members have served as Directors on the EARIE Executive Committee. NHH provides an excellent setting for EARIE members to meet & collaborate at an international conference.

President John Vickers congratulated the Bergen team on their successful bid for EARIE 2021 and requested the formal ratification of the EARIE General Assembly. He noted that the Scientific Committee Chair for EARIE 2021 would be sought & selected within the coming year.

The EARIE General Assembly unanimously ratified the proposal as endorsed by the Executive Committee to host the 48th EARIE Annual Conference in Bergen, Norway – to be held at NHH Norwegian School of Economics, from Friday to Sunday, August 27-29, 2021. Øivind A. Nilsen will serve as Chair of the Local Organizing Committee for EARIE 2021 Bergen. (The 2021 Scientific Committee Chair will be selected soon.)

[EARIE 2022 & beyond:](#)

The President reported that for 2022 and beyond, no bids or expressions of interest have been received for hosting a future EARIE Annual Conference. EARIE members are urged to follow up any inquiries or possible leads, and to contact the EARIE President with any suggestions.

8. Any Other Business / Q & A

The President asked the GA if there were any other issues or questions related to EARIE and addressed the few comments that were raised. He thanked the EARIE members at the 2019 General Assembly for their time. President Vickers again congratulated the Barcelona team for their warm reception & for hosting EARIE 2019 – and looks forward to EARIE 2020 in Bologna. He also congratulated the Bergen team for their successful bid for EARIE 2021 – this is sure to be another great conference. Finally, he thanked EARIE Executive Secretary, Ene Kannel, and the team at EIASM for their ongoing support behind the scenes to support and promote EARIE.

The 2019 EARIE General Assembly meeting was officially adjourned at 18:20.