

NOTE OF FAREWELL

Dear Presidents and Secretaries of National Societies,

Dear individual members of National Societies

As you all know, from next October 1st EAA will have a new Board with Manell Zakharia (France) as President, Birgit Rasmussen (Denmark) as Vice-President, Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp (Germany) as Vice-President, Paul Lepper (United Kingdom) as Secretary and Belen Casla Herguedas (Spain) as Treasurer. This Board was elected in the last General Assembly of EAA held in Aachen, on the occasion of ICA and EuroRegio2019.

For me, and for my colleagues of the current Board, it was a pleasure working with you all for the development and promotion of acoustics, not only in the European countries, but also worldwide. We lived grateful moments and worked as best as we could to serving the European Acoustics Association, and the overall community. During our term we had three successful Congresses, the Forum Acusticum in Boston, the Euronoise in Greece and the EuroRegio, in Aachen. We supported young students, both as community framed by the Young Acousticians Network, and with grants and awards. We are happy with this, as they will be the Acousticians of the future. We also have institutionally supported a several European Symposia and other Acoustic Gatherings, in different fields of Acoustics.

I also can't forget the Pan-European competition for young students in the frame of INAD 2017, and the produced video thereof, as well as the continuous support given by the Head Genuit Foundation to the EAA Best Paper and Presentation awards and to the production of the video Sounds in my Place. And, as cherry on the top of the cake, another important aspect deserving to be mentioned was the collaboration with the DG-ENV of the European Commission (EC) for the organization of an important event held in Brussels on March 24th,

called Noise in Europe. For the first time EAA was working together for a better environment.

Naturally, not all were roses. Throughout our mandate, we had difficulties, contingencies, misunderstandings, but with all the help you kindly gave to us, we had the change to overcome everything.

During this term and following the decision taken in Oporto by the EAA General Assembly, we put on the table all our efforts to move the EAA Journal "Acta Acustica" to Open Access, which will be published by EDP from next January on, thus changing the paradigm of close community of readers to a wide spread of potential readers. This move was one of the most important actions the current Board has taken as one of its duties. We have accomplished it as timely requested by the EAA GA of 2016.

But be sure, the EAA is not just Acta Acustica. It is much more than that. EAA is a large community of researchers, professors, companies, citizens, institutions, that find in all EAA Products, Technical Committees, and EAA Events a link to connect them, enhancing their contributions for a better and sustainable world.

We, the current Board, wish to the new Board the best success in their endeavours, and to all "EAA individual members" lots of great achievements in all associated branches, and....I would say: be happy.

Jorge Patrício, (on behalf of Giovanni, Brigitte, Jerzy and Salvador)