

Minutes of the EUCAS Board Online Meeting
24 September 2025, 16:00–17:00

Participants:

- Guido Band
- Elena Cavallini
- Mihalis Doumos
- Stephan Getzmann
- Gizem Hülür
- Monique Lorist
- Louise Phillips
- Ludmila Zajac-Lamparska

Agenda

1. Preparations for the *Aging & Cognition* conference planned for 2027 in Belfast
2. Organizational meeting in Belfast in 2026 to prepare the conference
3. Other business

Proceedings

1. Preparations for the Aging & Cognition Conference (Belfast 2027)

The Board revisited the proposal previously presented by Mihalis in Pavia.

The conference is planned for spring 2027, most likely in late April or early May, depending on venue availability at the university, which Mihalis will further investigate.

The proposed venue remains consistent with Mihalis's earlier suggestion and is considered optimal in terms of both facilities and proximity to accommodation.

Based on previous conferences, attendance is expected to be around 120 participants.

The registration fee has not yet been determined, but it is expected to be comparable to, or only slightly higher than, the previous conference. Different fee categories should be established, including rates for EUCAS members, non-members, and students.

Budget planning should begin as soon as possible. Elena will provide Mihalis with the budget from the Pavia conference as a reference.

It was noted that approximately €3,000–€4,000 from the EUCAS budget should be allocated to support the conference and related expenses (e.g., a conference app – although past experience suggests purchasing such services locally is preferable, as well as travel and accommodation for keynote speakers). This allocation is necessary, as EUCAS funds cannot be accumulated indefinitely.

The conference will be supported by a professional organizer (not a company), with an estimated cost of approximately £15 per participant.

Mihalis will assemble the Organizing Committee; at present, no team has been finalized. A Local Organizing Committee will be required to oversee on-site logistics.

The Scientific Committee will consist of EUCAS Board members and representatives from The Queen's University of Belfast, with responsibilities including abstract review.

Regarding the conference structure, it was agreed that there will be two to three parallel sessions, depending on the number of submissions. Poster sessions will also be included. In the case of a very high number of submissions, poster presentations may become the primary format, as has occurred in previous conferences. With approximately 100 participants, parallel sessions are expected; with significantly higher attendance, poster sessions may dominate.

Efforts should be made to increase participation among researchers in cognitive aging. The Belfast location may be particularly attractive to participants from the United States and Canada. Invitations and conference information can be targeted to specific individuals, and it was suggested to compile a list of potential invitees, for example based on attendees of the 2022 conference in Atlanta (Mihalis).

Information and recommendations regarding hotel accommodation may also be prepared for participants.

2. Organizational Meeting in Belfast (2026)

A preparatory meeting will be held in Belfast in May 2026. Mihalis will circulate proposed dates. The meeting is planned to last two days: the afternoon of the first day and from morning to noon on the second day.

It was emphasized that any remaining funds from the Pavia conference must be spent by the end of 2026.

3. Other business

There were no changes regarding finances or membership.

Regarding the website, it was suggested to update the "Projects" and "Experts" sections. Additionally, photos from various *Aging & Cognition* conference locations should be added.

The meeting was minuted by

Ludmila Zajac-Lamparska

Signed by

President Guido Band

A stylized, handwritten signature in blue ink, likely belonging to Guido Band. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'G'.

Vice-President Louise Phillips

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Louise Phillips. The signature is cursive and includes a large, looped initial 'L'.