Letter from the board

Dear colleagues and members,

The Experimental Finance 2017 demonstrated the growth and vitality of our society and field. Close to 70 presentations and 90 participants enjoyed the hospitality of the University of Nice Sophia Antipolis and spent three days hearing about the latest research and discussing ways to further advance experimental approaches in finance. Similarly, the first Experimental Finance Summer School attracted 25 participants, guaranteeing that we will organize another such school next year. Special thanks go to the organizers of the conference (Nobuyuki Hanaki, Michael Kirchler) and the contributors to the summer school (Elena Asparouhova, Peter Bossaers, Sean Crockett, Felix Holzmeister), who laid all the groundwork for these successes!

Apart from a short recap of this year’s conference, this edition contains news from the general assembly. Our managing director, Utz Weitzel, reported about a successful year in which membership grew by an impressive 100 members, to 299. Our auditors confirmed that our finances are in order and that the society is standing on solid feet. We welcomed Elena Asparouhova, Brice Corgnet, and Stefan Zeisberger as new members to the Scientific Board. For their extraordinary contributions in setting up and running the society for many years, the society unanimously decided to award to both Juergen Huber and Michael Kirchler the status of honorary members in the society.

Best regards,

Stefan Palan, Utz Weitzel and Stefan Zeisberger
Report from the EF 2017

The Experimental Finance 2017 is over and it once again expanded upon the previous year. With some 100 participants and close to 70 presentations, the conference again provided a good balance between specialized parallel sessions and general-interest panel sessions. Furthermore, the keynotes by David Hirshleifer and Matthias Sutter were very well-received and provided plenty of fodder for discussions and new ideas.

Our greatest thanks go to the local organizer Nobuyuki Hanaki and his team, who did a great job organizing the conference and manning the conference desk.

Report from the SEF general assembly

The general assembly started with Utz Weitzel's report on the past year. The society is enjoying solid growth and is professionalizing itself. Utz Weitzel thus made the attendees aware of the many SEF members who serve on editorial boards of (top) journals.

Michael Kirchler, the SEF’s conference officer, then presented the upcoming conferences: the Experimental Finance Regional Conference North America 2017 at the Virginia Commonwealth University, the Experimental Finance 2018 in Heidelberg and the Experimental Finance 2019 in Copenhagen. Michael then handed over the position of conference officer to Matthias Stefan from the University of Innsbruck.

The incoming president, Peter Bossaerts, then reported on the first Experimental Finance Summer School, held just prior to the conference in Nice. With 25 participants, it was a great success, such that the society will organize it again next year.

Following this report, the auditors confirmed that the finances are in order and the general assembly unanimously accepted the managing board's budget proposal. The general assembly then voted unanimously to bestow the honorary membership on Jürgen Huber and Michael Kirchler, for founding the society and for all the work they accomplished over the years as managing director and conference officer.
Please find the full minutes of the meeting here.

News about journal cooperation

As the vast majority of our members has access to the Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance (JBEF) via their institutional accounts, we have decided to discontinue the payments of the SEF for free access to the journal for society members.

This does not limit the society’s strong support for this affiliated journal to become the premier outlet in experimental and behavioral finance. One of the co-editors (Jürgen Huber) and four of the associate editors (Stefan Palan, Patrick Roger, Stefan Trautmann, Utz Weitzel) are SEF members. Furthermore, we believe that fostering a dedicated journal for experimental finance will help the field grow. Such a journal offers an outlet particularly for younger researchers, or for papers which may be too innovative or too narrowly focused on experimental finance to fit well into traditional finance and economics journals. Note that JBEF’s CiteScore has recently been calculated as 1.13. The journal aims for applying for an impact factor by 2019.

Call for information about EF paper publications

The SEF website contains a list of papers which were presented at an Experimental Finance conference and have since been published by a journal. Please be sure to let us know when your own paper was published so we can include it on the website. Simply send us a short mail containing the citation and the year of presentation at an EF conference to office@experimentalfinance.org. We believe that presenting such a list on our website not only helps document the scientific heft of the society, but also increases the visibility of your work.