



**Minutes of the General Assembly
Belief Functions and Applications Society (BFAS)**

*UTC Compiègne, France
18 September 2018*

Assembly: 26 participants including the following board members:

1. Thierry Denoeux (President)
2. Frédéric Pichon (Treasurer)
3. Anne-Laure Jousset (Secretary)
4. David Mercier (Webmaster)
5. Prakash Shenoy
6. Arnaud Martin
7. Johan Schubert (LinkedIn group)

Tuesday 18 September 2018, 17h00—17:30

Thierry Denoeux (BFAS President) opened the meeting and first reviewed the agenda of the meeting with four items: Missions of the society, Presentation of the new board, Approval of financial statement, Next event: BFAS school 2019.

Thierry Denoeux reminded the mission of the BFAS since its creation in 2010 which is to *promote belief functions theory and tools through different means* such as conference, school, special session, special issues, LinkedIn group, supporting actions like student grants, etc. Announcements of PhD positions or special sessions can also be made through the BFAS website, which do not require being a member. Any registrant to the conference (this year BELIEF and SMPS) is automatically member of the BFAS society.

The new BFAS board of directors has been renewed in November 2017 and its current composition has been presented to the Assembly:

- **Thierry Denoeux (President)**
- Fabio Cuzzolin (Communication)
- Zied Elouedi (Communication)

- **Anne-Laure Jusselme (Secretary)**
- Zhunga Liu (Webmaster)
- Arnaud Martin
- David Mercier (Webmaster)
- **Frédéric Pichon (Treasurer)**
- Johan Schubert (LinkedIn group)
- Prakash Shenoy

New elected members are Fabio Cuzzolin, Zied Elouedi, Zhunga Liu, Frédéric Pichon, Johan Schubert for a 4-year term.

As a recall, the board is renewed by half every 2 years. Next election will be held in 2019.

Arnaud Martin (former BFAS Treasurer) presented the income statement for the year 2017, which exhibits a (negative) net income of -2114 euros, due to student grants and speakers travels fees related to the 2017 BFAS school in China. The BFAS balance at the end of the year 2017 is positive: **16941 euros**.

The financial report for the year 2017 has been formally approved by the Assembly through a silent vote. No vote against.

Frédéric Pichon (Treasurer) talked about the 2018 budget: Five grants covering registration fees have been awarded to students whose paper was accepted at the BELIEF conference. Beside these expenses, there will also be some small bank fees for 2018. The revenue for 2018 will be half of the BELIEF2018 conference profit.

Several means on how to use the positive balance of BFAS have been discussed, such as: funding visiting projects proposed by society members (promoting and developing belief functions), support students for conferences or schools, joint action with other societies (such as this year with SMPS), develop the communication, or define important problems deserving a prize if resolved.

David Mercier (Webmaster) presented the new BFAS website soon available at <https://bfasociety.org> and proposed to open an area restricted to members only, where working papers could be available (suggestion by P. Shenoy). It has also been discussed the possibility of moving from Springer proceedings to open-access proceedings. Finding a mailing list system is a priority.

Anne-Laure Jusselme presented the current status of the organization of the next BFAS school to be held in Italy in autumn 2019. Dates will be between the last week of September and the last week of October 2019. Four possible venues are currently under investigation in the areas of Siena, Como, Perugia and La Spezia.

Finally, the location and organization of the next BELIEF conference (in 2020) has been discussed. Possible locations such as China and Japan have been evoked, with possible links with IUKM. The idea of an Asian BFAS chapter has also been mentioned. Organizing a joint event with again SMPS or ISIPTA (which will be in Brazil) has attracted interest due to the success of this joint BELIEF/SMPS 2018

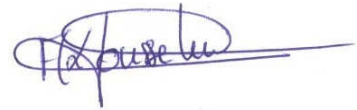
conference. Sébastien Destercke is considering solutions to federate `sibling` conferences and societies such as BELIEF, SUM, IPMU, ISIPTA, to foster the organization of joint events, or to avoid conflicting dates for similar events.

The meeting closed at 17h30.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'T' followed by 'Denoeux' and a long horizontal underline.

Thierry Denoeux, Président

Compiègne, September 2018, 18th

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Jouselme' with a long horizontal underline.

Anne-Laure Jouselme, Secretary