

Activities of BPC

1. New executive board is in place and operational from 01.07.2017 until 01.07.2019. The Chairman rotation has shifted back to Estonia. New Estonian Chairman is Ott Rebane (University of Tartu), the Vice-Chairman for Lithuania is Daugirdas Kuzma (Eksma Optics) and the Vice-Chairman for Latvia remains prof. Janis Spigulis (University of Latvia, IAPS), who also retains the role of treasurer. From a total 25 members, the new board got 21 supportive votes and 4 members did not vote.
2. The [OPD2017](#) as well as the Photonics Workshop meeting in Oulu 29.05.2017 were attended by several BPC members. Invitation to attend came from Photonics Finland on the Photonics21 stakeholder meeting 2017.



Figure 1. Nordic Photonics Workgroup meeting in Oulu.

This was the 1st ever Nordic Workshop meeting and therefore was somewhat focused on itself (as a topic) to clarify the necessity of such meetings. The main idea is that coordinating the opinions of Nordic stakeholders gives a better chance to influence future funding and the overall photonics policy through Photonics21 stakeholder platform. Photonics Finland as well as PhotonicSweden both mentioned that they want to increase collaboration in the region with each other as well as with BPC. Private enterprises were invited to join the Photonics21 stakeholder platform since they have the best chance of influencing future calls and policy, which often prioritize getting applicable results in some value-chain (instead of funding pure research). Future calls were also introduced and it was emphasized that in order to have any chance at success the work aimed at 2018 calls must start right after the summer holidays 2017.

Plans for Q3&Q4 2017

1. Executive board meeting is to be held in August/September 2017. Various options for BPC priorities are discussed so that a concrete activity plan can be generated.
2. General meeting of members is to be held around the date of the Day of Photonics (after 21.10.2017) in Estonia or Latvia, depending on which location and date attracts the most members.

New products or services

1. Eksma Optics has been busy and released a new laser pulse picking system [MPI](#), new 1064nm laser pump dichroic [mirrors](#) and new 1064nm laser harmonic [separators](#).
2. Ekspla-led consortium has introduced 5TW laser system [Sylos 1](#) for the extreme light infrastructure.
3. Baltic Scientific Instruments has unveiled a new digital multi- channel analyzer [HEXAGON](#) and an extended energy-range HPGe detector model [GCDX](#).

Other info

1. Altechna has a [new](#) CEO, Mr. Per Moller.
2. Biophotonics – Riga 2017 2nd [conference](#) is held in the end of August.
3. The biggest project in the history of Latvian Science - [CAMART²](#) - has been launched.
4. prof. Spigulis (LU, IAPS) has recently [published a paper](#) about “Multispectral, Fluorescent and Photoplethysmographic Imaging for Remote Skin Assessment”.
5. The Lithuanian Laser Association has published a [new edition](#) of “Laser Technologies in Lithuania. 2017”. According to this the average yearly growth of Laser sector is still around 10% a year.