2017 ANNUAL REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

for AE Headquarters, London

28 February 2018
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1. OVERVIEW

1.1 The Academia Europaea

Academia Europaea

Founded in 1988, the Academia Europaea (AE) is an international, nongovernmental, not-for-profit association of individual scientists and scholars from all disciplines, recognised by their peers as experts and leaders in their own subject areas. The AE members collectively promote research, learning and education. The AE recognises genuine international excellence and supports the culture of European research through dialogue and collaboration. The AE membership now numbers well over 3000, including more than 75 Nobel laureates. The AE is pan-European, and its elected members are drawn from the whole European continent and also from non-European countries. The AE currently has 22 thematic sections. The current president of the AE is Prof. Sierd Cloetingh, from Utrecht University.

1.2 The Academia Europaea Barcelona Knowledge Hub

Academia Europaea

Barcelona Knowledge Hub

In 2012, the Catalan Autonomous Government (Generalitat de Catalunya), the Barcelona City Council (Ajuntament de Barcelona) and the “la Caixa” Banking Foundation (Fundació Bancària “la Caixa”) launched the Barcelona Knowledge Hub (from now on, AE-BKH) to promote activities of the AE at the southern European countries and the Mediterranean. These three organizations from Barcelona have the condition of “partners” of the AE-BKH. The three partners count on the support of the Institute for Catalan Studies (IEC) to hold and maintain the Hub’s office, which is located at the main site of the IEC, in the old city, with a long and historical relationship with hospitals and scientific institutions.

Operational since January 2013, the AE-BKH focuses on the promotion of activities of interest for the Members of the Academy and the scientific community in general, with special emphasis on multidisciplinary activities that include the transversal perspectives of the natural and social sciences and the humanities. The field of action of the AE-BKH covers, especially, but not uniquely, is the Mediterranean and southern Europe.

The AE-BKH office is located at the premises of the IEC, a mid-17th century historical building very conveniently located in the centre of the city of Barcelona. Since August 2014, Prof. Ricardo Guerrero, from the University of Barcelona and University of Massachusetts-Amherst, is the academic director. During 2017, the administrative staff was formed by Doina Bird, Griselda Ribas and Rubén Duro.

Doina Bird is the manager of the Hub, and Griselda Ribas gives the administrative support and relationship with the IEC. Rubén Duro is the Webmaster and Social Communication Manager. He produces the audio-visual section AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel. Other external collaborators for several activities include Carmen Chica, Mercè Piqueras, Mercedes Berlanga, Jara Duro and Maite Sanchez. The administrative and technical support of the Hub’s site at the IEC building is excellent and an essential part in the efficient every-day running of the Barcelona Hub of the Academia Europaea.
1.3 The Young Academy of Europe

Since 2007, the European Research Council (ERC) has supported excellent young scientists by awarding them with the ERC Starting Grants under the motto “Supporting the next generation of research leaders in Europe.” In this context, the ERC has also manifested its support to the Young Academy of Europe (YAE) as a bottom-up initiative of a dynamic and innovative group of recognized European young scientists with outspoken views about science and science policy. The YAE shares the objective of the ERC to widen participation across Europe and across the research domains.

The AE-BKH has provided administrative support to the YAE since 2013, by working closely with the persons occupying the Chair position during each period, as they have been Lynn Kamerlin, Stockholm (2014–2015), Nicole Grobert, Oxford (2015–2016), and Hagit Amirav, Amsterdam (2016–2017). The current Chair of the YAE is Marcel Swart, Girona (2017–).

1.4 The AE-BKH International Advisory Committee (IAC)

During the 26th Annual Meeting of the AE (held in Barcelona from July 16–18, 2014), the Board and the Council of the AE nominated an International Advisory Committee (IAC) for the AE-BKH. Eleven academics, most of them Members of the Academia Europaea (MAE) from Mediterranean countries with different fields of expertise were chosen.

The current members of the IAC are:

Enric Banda, BSC, Barcelona, enric banda@gmail.com
Pedro García-Barreno, Fellow of the RAE and RAMed, Madrid, pbarreno@gmail.com
M. Dolores García-Ramon, UAB, Bellaterra, mariadolors.garcia.ramon@uab.cat
Ramon Gomis, IDIBAPS, Barcelona, ramon.gomis@idibaps.org
Sergiu Hart, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel, hart@huji.ac.il
Genoveva Martí, ICREA Professor UB, Barcelona, genoveva.marti@gmail.com
Marc Mayer, Faculty of Philology UB, Barcelona, mayerolive@yahoo.es
Maria Paradiso, University of Sannio, Benevento, Italy, paradiso@unisannio.it
Regina Revilla, Merck Sharp & Dohme Spain, Madrid, regina_revilla@merck.com
Rosalia Vargas, Ciência Viva, Lisbon, Portugal, rvargas@cienciaviva.pt
2. FEATURE ACTIVITIES DURING 2017

2.1 THE AE-BKH WOMEN’S WEEK 2017 (1–3 MARCH)

An annual activity of the Academia Europaea-Barcelona Knowledge Hub

The ACADEMIA EUROPAEA-BARCELONA KNOWLEDGE HUB WOMEN’S WEEK is held every year during the first week of March, to commemorate the UN International Women’s Day, celebrated each 8th of March. This year, the Distinguished Lecture of the AE-BKH Women’s Week was given by Prof. Marie Farge on March 2. Marie Farge is Directrice de Recherche at Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) and École Normale Supérieure, Paris and Member of the Council of the Academia Europaea.

The day before, March 1, Marie Farge was received by the vice-president of the Institut d’Estudis Catalans (IEC), Joaquim Agulló, at the main office of the Presidency of the IEC, where she signed the honour book. In the afternoon of March 1 an Experts Meeting was held in the Puig i Cadafalch Room at the IEC. The Expert Meeting gathered several specialists in the Open Access policy in academic institutions of Barcelona. People representing the initiative of Open Science discussed with Marie Farge the EC current actions on the topic.

Marie Farge has a PhD in physics, a PhD in mathematics and is a specialist in turbulence, numerical simulation and harmonic analysis to study aerodynamics, geophysical flows and plasma physics. She has published more than 200 papers in peer-reviewed journals and proceedings. She is a member of the council of the Academia Europaea and of RISE (Research, Innovation and Science policy Experts of the European Commission). In 2011 she wrote the recommendation of the Ethics Committee of CNRS on the relations between scientists and publishers. In 2012 she participated in the declaration The Cost of Knowledge, calling to reform the scientific publication system. In 2015 she cofounded the non-profit organization CAPSH (Committee for the Accessibility of Publications in Sciences and Humanities) that develops the open source platform Dissemin, helping scientists to deposit their papers in open access.

Scientific publication in peer reviewed journals is the backbone of the current research system. Nowadays the process of peer reviewing and the dissemination of articles are controlled and privatized worldwide by publishers, who own the journals, peer review reports, and articles they
Researchers are not paid by publishers for writing articles and referee reports, but research institutions have to pay huge amounts of money to publishers to access those articles, while the referee reports are non-disclosable and lost to research. Unfortunately researchers are kept in the dark about the business model of publishers and how much it costs to their institutions. The business model of publishers made sense when they were printing houses, but it has become harmful for research now that Internet can be used instead.

Marie Farge first described the present system and then proposed alternative solutions that take advantage of the digital revolution and consider scientific knowledge as a commons. This new approach is inspired by the work of Elinor Ostrom, the only woman having ever received the Nobel prize in economic sciences for “showing how common resources can be managed successfully by the people who use them rather than by governments or private companies.”

Knowledge, like language, is not a merchandise to be traded but a commons that everyone should share worldwide and preserve for the generations to come. Scientific results that are not shared nor preserved are lost forever. On the contrary, when a researcher shows her results to a colleague he or she does not lose them but can instead improve them, correct errors and get new ideas. This is a positive sum game. Peer reviewing and publishing generalize such an exchange of results and ideas. This is why the research outputs (e.g., articles, data and codes) should belong to the knowledge commons one should collectively develop.

On March 2 in the Prat de la Riba Room of the IEC, Marie Farge gave a Distinguished Lecture entitled “Scientific knowledge as a commons: How to improve the peer review and dissemination of research outputs.” Prof. Arcadi Navarro, Secretary of Universities and Research (SUR) of the Catalan Government, chaired the lecture.

Marie Farge referred to scientific publication in peer reviewed journals as the backbone of the current research system. She described the present system of the process of peer reviewing and the dissemination of articles controlled and privatized by publishers that own the journals. She commented on the situation of researchers, who are not paid by publishers for writing articles and are not informed about the business model of publishers, and the huge amounts of money it costs their institutions. Farge proposed alternative solutions that take advantage of the digital revolution and consider scientific knowledge as a commons. Farge expressed that common resources should be managed by the people who use them, rather than by governments or private companies, so as not to be lost forever.
On March 3 different experts in Open Access publication from several universities of the academic area of Barcelona discussed at the IEC the future of academic publication and the impact of Internet in the diffusion of the scientific and humanistic knowledge.

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**THE AE-BKH WOMEN’S WEEK 2013–2017**

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 2013 | **March 6**th  Workshop: “Two cultures, three cultures, or one only culture?”  
Convenor: Nicole Skinner, AE-BKH. With the participation of: Dacha Atienza, Museum of Natural Science of Barcelona, Mercè Berlanga, University of Barcelona, and Genoveva Martí, Catalan Institution for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA). |
| 2014 | **March 5**th  Distinguished Lecture: “Arab Spring, or long desolate Arab Winter?”  
By Nadia El-Awadi, Egypt, former president of the World Federation of Science Journalists. |
|      | **March 6**th  Workshop: “The Earth is our body. Lynn Margulis and Gaia”  
Convenor: Marta Estrada, Ricardo Guerrero, Juli Peretó, Mercè Piñeras, Anna Omedes, Carme Puche, Joandoménec Ros and Nicole Skinner. |
| 2015 | **March 4**th  Workshop: “Women and the academic ladder”  
Convenor: Lynn Kamerlin. With the participation of: Clara Corbella, Margaret Luppino, Maryam Ghafouri, M. Dolors Garcia-Ramon and Lourdes Benéria. |
|      | **March 5**th  Short film "In the search of truth. In memory of Lynn Margulis."  
Convenor: Anna Alberni, (ICREA). Comments by the director of the film: Carme Puche.  
Distinguished Lecture: “Empowerment of women in the academic world.” By Lynn Kamerlin, University of Uppsala, chair of the Young Academy of Europe (YAE).  
Musical Concert: “Women’s Sephardic Songs.” By Olga Miracle, soprano, accompanied by Noemi M. Agell and Pere Olivé, string and percussion instruments. |
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 6th</td>
<td><strong>Guided visits:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Visit to the Museu Blau, the new Natural Science Museum of Barcelona. Guided by Marta Punseti.&lt;br&gt;- Visit to the Cercle del Liceu Pinacotheque. Guided by María Jiménez de Parga.</td>
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<td>March 3rd</td>
<td><strong>Distinguished Lecture:</strong> “Women and cultural transmission. The essential role of translation.” By Mary Ann Newman, Farragut Fund for Catalan Culture in the USA.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Lecture:</strong> “Greater than Life. In remembrance of Lynn Margulis (1938–2011).” By Ricard Guerrero, Academic Director of the AE-BKH.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Documentaries:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- “Symbiotic Earth.” Documentary produced for the TV. Directed by John Feldman, Hummingbird Films, New York.&lt;br&gt;- “L’In Espain.” How she stood our Spanish-Catalan accent. Several documentaries selected by Rubén Duro, AE-BKH.&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Musical Concert:</strong> “Songs from Syria and Kurdistan, a Nation without a State.” By the Gani Mirzo Band. Musicians: Neila BenBey (singer), Francesc Puig (clarinet), Juan Jose Barreda (flamenco guitar), and Gani Mirzo (ud, buzuk, composer).</td>
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<td>March 6th</td>
<td><strong>Guided visit:</strong>&lt;br&gt;- Visit to the Natural Park of the Corredor and Montnegre (Barcelona). Guided by Rubén Duro.</td>
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<td>2017</td>
<td><strong>Experts Meetings:</strong> “Open Access policy in academic institutions.” Convenors: Ricard Guerrero and Mercè Piqueras. With the participation of Marie Farge, Ignasi Labastida, Ernest Abadal, Lluís Anglada, Michaela Bertero, Regina Revilla, Pastora M. Samper, Jordi Mas and Lluís Rovira.</td>
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<td>March 2nd</td>
<td><strong>Distinguished Lecture:</strong> “Scientific knowledge as a commons: How to improve the peer review and dissemination of research outputs.” By Marie Farge, Directrice de Recherche at Centre national de la recherche scientifique (CNRS) and École Normale Supérieure, Paris, and Member of the Council of the Academia Europaea.</td>
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2.2 CO-ORGANISATION OF THE SUMMER COURSE “BARCELONA DIALOGUE 2017” WITH NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, BOSTON (21 MAY–19 JUNE)

Northeastern University
College of Arts, Media and Design

Between 21 May and 19 June 2017, Prof. Xavier Costa-Guix (Northeastern University, Boston), Member of the Council of the AE, co-organised with the AE-BKH the Summer Course “Barcelona Dialogue 2017—Art and design in Barcelona” that was held in different locations of Madrid and Barcelona.

The Course was conceived as an introduction to the creativity, art and design of cities of Madrid and Barcelona, focusing on the past few decades, yet keeping in mind historical trajectory since classical times. The Dialogue included a comparative approach between European and American cultures and an intensive introduction to Spanish culture and civilisation. In Barcelona the course focused on the changing role of the city’s creativity in today’s economy in the European, Mediterranean and Spanish contexts, and examined some cases of entrepreneurship and innovation resulting from applying design to fashion, gastronomy (Ferran Adrià), media, advertising, and other fields, such as visual and performance arts, which are relevant fields of social, economic and technological innovation. The creation of Barcelona’s cultural arts district in the Raval and the 22@ area for creative industries constitute two urban case studies that were explored during the programme for understanding the importance of design and cultural industries and their heritage as a source of wealth in one of Europe’s most innovative and culturally rich cities.

Northeastern University provides well known comprehensive programs, very strong academics, an unrivalled experiential learning programme with a wealth of Co-op opportunities (by which as part of their undergraduate degree, students can spend up to three 6-month periods working in a range of positions related to their interests in locations all over the world). The College of Arts Media and Design has programmes in Music, Drama, Architecture, Art + Design (including Game Design and Media and Screen Studies), Journalism and Communication Studies. In addition to having a wealth of dedicated programmes, the university particularly promotes interdisciplinary relationships, encourages students to create their own path, both combining disciplines across our fields and also with other colleges across Northeastern USA, including flexible joint programmes with Business, Computer Science, and Engineering, and students can create their own combined major in just about any area of interest.
The twenty American visiting students from different majors at Northeastern University interacted with creators, designers, entrepreneurs and economists, visiting inspiring start-ups, exhibits, performances, and attending lectures, debates and special events. In the Institute for Catalan Studies, the site of the AE-BKH, the students had lecture sessions addressing the transformed contemporary cultural, economic and technological status of design, and the AE-BKH explored exchanges and intersections with architecture, urban identities and lifestyles. The course aimed to address the implications for cities of the ascendancy of design as a process, a transdisciplinary mode of creative thinking, and as a specialized field of study. The city as a site of creativity, with visits to some outstanding architectural and design examples (Antoni Gaudi), and the observation of Barcelona’s artistic and design-based vitality (CCCB, the Centre for Contemporary Culture in Barcelona) culminated in a creative project through drawing, photography, video and other media.

On 16 June, Prof. Ricard Guerrero, academic director of the AE-BKH, met Prof. Elizabeth Hudson, dean of the College of Arts, Media and Design of Northeastern University, at the AE-BKH headquarters.
### 2.3 Disputatio of Barcelona 2017 (24 November)

An annual activity of the Academia Europaea-Barcelona Knowledge Hub

**About the medieval Disputationes**

In the scholastic system of education of the Middle Ages, the *Disputationes* offered a formalized method of debate designed to uncover and establish truths in theology and in sciences. Fixed rules governed the process: they demanded dependence on traditional written authorities and the thorough understanding of each argument on each side. The famous *Disputatio* of Barcelona, called in the summer of 1263 by King James I of Aragon, was the most important and well-known of the inter-faith *Disputationes* that took place between Christian and Jewish theologians in the late Middle Ages. In 1263, the disputants were Friar Paulus Christianus (Dominican, and a convert rabbi from Judaism) and rabbi Moses ben Nachman (also known as Nachmanides, or Benastruch Sa Porta), from Girona’s community, the most important scholar of Judaism in his time. They discussed theological questions in front of the king and his court, in the presence of the most important men of the prosperous and influential city of Barcelona.

![Disputatio of Barcelona](image)

**The modern-day Disputatio of Barcelona, 2013–2016**

The modern *Disputatio* of Barcelona has been successfully recovered. In November 2013, the AE-BKH celebrated its inaugural event by commemorating the 750th anniversary of the medieval *Disputatio*, and organised a modern-day *Disputatio* on “Social and state-of-the-art Medicine”, featuring philosopher Thomas Pogge (Yale University; leader of the Health Impact Fund) and neuroscientist Mara Dierssen (Centre for Genomic Regulation, UPF, Barcelona; president of the Spanish Society for Neuroscience).

After the success of the first modern-time *Disputatio* of Barcelona (2013), the AE-BKH organised a second modern-day *Disputatio* on November 27, 2014, together with the United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM). The topic was “The Mediterranean, bridge of cultures”. The *Disputatio* of Barcelona 2014 was held at the Saint Paul Historic Site, where the UNU-GCM is located. Two MAEs, Maria Paradiso (geographer, Professor of Geography and Planning at the University of Sannio, Italy), and Enric Banda (geophysicist, Director of Science and Environment at the “la Caixa” Foundation, Barcelona), presented several different aspects of the Mediterranean history, culture, opportunities and present difficulties.

On December 9, 2015 the third modern-day *Disputatio* of Barcelona was held in the Royal Chapel of Saint Agatha, in the Gothic Quartier. This *Disputatio* of Barcelona 2015, was also a success. Two scholars, Núria Sebastian (vice-president of the European Research Council), and Ulises Cortés (from the Barcelona Supercomputing Center), discussed on “Natural vs. Artificial Intelligence”.

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*2017 Annual Report of Activities, AE-BKH page 11/30*
On **November 21, 2016** the fourth modern-day *Disputatio* of Barcelona was held at the Palau de la Generalitat, under the presence of the president of the Government of Catalonia, M. Hon. Carles Puigdemont. It was devoted to the topic: “**Natural Life vs. Synthetic Life**”. Two scholars, **Anna Veiga** (Centre for Regenerative Medicine, Barcelona) and **Ricard Solé** (Complex Systems Lab, PRBB, Barcelona), debated on the new challenges that the current scientific advancements present to human societies. The impressive knowledge of both *disputantes* allowed them to clearly expose their ideas to the audience. An active debate among the public and the speakers helped to better understand several critical questions previously exposed by the disputants.

We can consider that the modern-day *Disputationes* are a distinctive feature of the AE-BKH, and must be continued in future years.

**The Disputatio of Barcelona 2017**

This year, the Barcelona Knowledge Hub of the Academia Europaea (AE-BKH) held the fifth modern-day *Disputatio* of Barcelona on **23 November 2017**, at the Institute for Catalan Studies (IEC). The *Disputatio* debated on “**SUPERCOMPUTERS: An instrument for science, technology and the progress of society.**” The two *disputantes* were **Mateo Valero**, director of the Super Computing Center of Barcelona (BSC), who presented the “science and technology” aspects, and **Alison Kennedy**, director of the STFC Har- tree Centre (Daresbury, Warrington, UK), who presented the “progress of the society” aspects. The debate was coordinated by **Enric Banda** (BSC) and **Fabrizio Gagliardi** (BSC), and was followed by a Colloquium with the audience, in which the attendants addressed questions of relevance to both speakers.
Mateo Valero, director of BSC, spoke about the science and technology aspects of Supercomputers. The BSC is the Spanish National Supercomputing Center, housing the MareNostrum supercomputer, one of the largest in Europe. Prof. Valero explained how MareNostrum is used in designing precise medicine, climate and weather monitoring and prediction, and development of new materials for science and technology. He then described the potential for a level of precise modelling enabled by Exascale computing, inconceivable so far, and the technical and economic challenges in achieving it. He also reviewed the current plans in Europe to develop an entire European High-Performance Computing (HPC) stack software and hardware, including a low power HPC processor. To this end seven first European countries signed an agreement, EuroHPC, in Rome on 23 March 2017. The European Union and its member states felt that without a European supercomputer entirely designed with European technology and competitive enough to be in the top three supercomputers in the world, the very same independence and security of Europe would be compromised. BSC leads this effort with major contribution from the major European industrial players in France, Germany, Italy and other countries. The first Exascale system is planned for 2023.

Alison Kennedy, Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC), Hartree Centre Director (UK), talked about the progress of society aspects. The Hartree Centre is funded by the UK Government to improve the global competitiveness of UK industry by facilitating the adoption of HPC, High Performance Data Analytics and Cognitive Computing techniques by companies of all sizes. Prof. Kennedy spoke about how Europe has an ambitious challenge-led programme of research that reflects the policy priorities of the Europe 2020 strategy and addresses major concerns shared by citizens of Europe and elsewhere. Supercomputers enable sophisticated computer simulation and modelling and complex data analysis across a range of data sources to be undertaken, she explained. They play an increasingly important role in helping us to study and solve societal problems and challenges that are too big, too complex, or which extend over too long a period of time, to be tackled by traditional methods such as observation or experiment. Priority areas for Europe include: health, demographic change and wellbeing; food security, sustainable agriculture and forestry, marine and inland water research, secure, clean and efficient energy, smart, green and integrated transport, climate action, environment, resource efficiency and raw materials. Her talk presented examples of how research in these areas, enabled by supercomputers, is contributing to the progress of society and underlines their continuing importance in shaping our future.
Allison Kennedy, director of the STFC Hartree Centre (Daresbury, Warrington, UK), during her lecture for the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017 in the Prat de la Riba Hall of the IEC on 23 November 2017.

Several views of the Prat de la Riba Hall, IEC, during the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017. 23 November 2017.
2.4 MUSICAL CONCERT: THE EUROPEAN DIMENSION OF FELIP PEDRELL (22 NOVEMBER)

In conjunction with the main *Disputatio* event, a concert was organised on the day before. The concert was given by soprano Marta Mathéu and pianist and composer Albert Guinovart. Guinovart played an Érard piano from the late 19th century loaned by the Music Museum in Barcelona. The concert, under the title “The European dimension of Felip Pedrell,” was a presentation of songs and music by Felip Pedrell, Manuel de Falla, Joaquín Turina, Enric Granados and Albert Guinovart. The concert was very well attended, drawing people from the sciences, arts and humanities fields of knowledge.

![Poster of the Musical Concert “The European dimension of Felip Pedrell” held in the Prat de la Riba Hall, IEC, on 22 November 2017.](image)

**PROGRAMME**

**PART I**

**FELIP PEDRELL (1841-1922)**

*Cançons d’amar que he dictades*
*De celistia matinera*
*L’estel dels Pirineus*

**MANUEL DE FALLA (1876-1946)**

*Oración de las madres que tienen a sus hijos en brazos*
*Pan de ronda*
*Preludios*
*Olas gigantes*

**Joaquín Turina (1882-1949)**

*Poema en forma de canciones*
*I. Dedicatoria*
*II. Nunca olvida...*
*III. Cantares*
*IV. Los dos miedos*
*V. Las locas por amor*

**PART II**

**ENRIC GRANADOS (1867-1916)**

*Allegro de concert (piano)*
*I. El majo tímido*
*II. Callejero*
*III. El tralalá y el punteado*
*IV. El majo discreto*
*V. Elegia eterna*

**ALBERT GUINOVART (1962)**

*Tánit*
*I. Tu el mar, jo el blau*
*II. Del meu sud ets el nord*
*III. Era que et somniava*
*IV. T’estim*
*V. Què és el desig?*
Performers:

**Marta Mathéu** studied piano, singing and organ at the Conservatories of Tarragona and Valencia. She has received many awards in singing contests. She has recorded the complete songs of Frederic Mompou, as a soloist, and the St. John Passion by Bach with the distinguished Baroque Camerata Orchestra of Barcelona.

**Albert Guinovart** studied at the Conservatory of Barcelona and in London. He has collaborated with artists such as Victòria dels Àngels, Barbara Hendricks, and Nacho Duato, among others. He has recorded albums with works by Joaquín Turina, Enric Granados, Isaac Albéniz and Xavier Montsalvatge. His operas include *Atzar (Chance)* (1998) and *Eternal Dawn* (2009), and the ballet *Terra Baixa* (1999). His musicals include *Mar i Cel* (1988, 2004), *Gaudi*, the musical of Barcelona (2003) and *Paradise* (2005). His soundtracks include *The Long Winter* (1992) and he won an Oscar prize for the orchestration of the film *The Artist* (2011).

**Felip Pedrell** (1841–1922) sang as a boy soprano at Tortosa Cathedral from age 9, where he was educated musically. In 1873 he co-directed a zarzuela troupe in Barcelona and studied the guitar with José Brocá. He wrote over 100 compositions: salon music for piano, songs, and works for the stage. After living in Italy and France, he met Isaac Albéniz and Enrique Granados, who became his first pupils. Other notable pupils included the composers Rosa García Ascot, Manuel de Falla, and Joan Lamote de Grignon. Between 1891 and 1904, in Madrid, he became a member of the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando in 1895. In 1894, the first volume of his *Hispaniae schola musica sacra* appeared, a series of edited scores of renaissance and baroque church music from Spain. He returned to Barcelona in 1904, when his opera *Els Pirineus* was eventually performed.

**Romà Escalas**, musician and musicologist, has directed and organised the cycle “Música al Claustre” (Music at the Cloister) in July, September and November 2017, on behalf of the IEC.
3. OTHER ACTIVITIES DURING 2017

(Activities and collaborations in chronological order)

3.1 COLLABORATION WITH THE CONFERENCE “CONTEMPORARY NARRATIVES IN ENGLISH” (UNIVERSITY OF ZARAGOZA, 26–28 APRIL)

In collaboration with the University of Zaragoza, Spain) and the Barcelona Knowledge Hub of the Academia Europaea, Prof. Jessica Aliaga Lavrijsen and Prof. José M. Yebra Pertusa, from the “Contemporary Narratives in English” Research Group, organised a three-day conference entitled “Transmodern Perspectives on Contemporary Literatures in English,” which explored the traces of what has been called “transmodernity” in contemporary literatures in English. Its working hypothesis is that, although still largely unnoticed, there is evidence of a paradigm shift taking place since the 1980s that involves the assimilation and transcendence of Modernity and Postmodernity into what we have provisionally called “Transmodernity.” Contemporary literary texts, literary theory and cultural studies test the applicability of this concept and its utility as a tool to better understand contemporary trends in literature.

3.2 PARTICIPATION IN THE AE-YAE-ALLEA CONFERENCE (BUDAPEST, 3–7 SEPTEMBER), AND VIDEO IN REMEMBRANCE OF PROF. ANNE BUTTIMER (1937–2017)

This joint meeting was entitled “Sustainability and Resilience,” in line with the commitment of both AE and ALLEA, in partnership with the Young Academy of Europe (YAE) and with the host, the Hungarian Academy of Sciences.

The main conference and the pre-conference events were held in the Main Building of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences in Budapest. Topics in the categories of natural sciences, life sciences, social sciences and humanities and the arts focused primarily on Europe, enlightening on various aspects of Europe’s sustainability, resilience, heritage, social system, health, economy, climate, science and research landscape.

The Conference started on the morning of Sunday, September 3 with the ALLEA Board Meeting and carried through till the afternoon with numerous events held during the day, such as the European Research Council (ERC) Pre-Conference, entitled “A Success Story for Europe.”

Meanwhile, the Young Academy of Europe (YAE) Pre-Conference Sessions were launched, and the pre-conference workshop Sections on History and Archaeology, an Exact Science workshop on Physics and Engineering Sciences dedicated to the advancement and propagation of excellence in physics and engineering sciences, as well as the advancement of public education in Europe. The other two section workshops for the day were dedicated to Literature and Drama, and Film and Visual Studies.
The day ended with the **AE Board meeting**, including Prof. Ricard Guerrero, Academic Director of the Barcelona Hub and Dr. David Coates, AE Executive Secretary. The meeting began with the president, Prof. Sierd Cloetingh, welcoming members of the Board and thanking the generous hospitality of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He then asked Trustees for a minute of silence in memory of Anne Buttimer. Prof. Guerrero screened the audiovisual from the AE-BKH Video channel entitled “**Homage to Prof. Anne Buttimer (1938–2017)**” produced by Rubén Duro for the AE-BKH. This audiovisual homage is available on the AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel (Vimeo and YouTube networks) through the link <http://vimeo.com/233712556 >.

Prof. Ricard Guerrero presented the plans for the *Disputatio* of Barcelona 2017. He also explained that in 2018 there would be an increased activity in the AE-BKH, focused on the concept of “**Building Bridges**.” More detailed ideas would be presented at the next meeting of the AE Board. AE president, Prof. Sierd Cloetingh, proposed to use the Barcelona Hub as a host and extend the consolidated *Disputatio* to include an AE annual meeting of shorter duration, focused on new Members, which would also include the Erasmus Medal, the Balzan’s and other prizes and meetings of the YAE. Prof. Cloetingh proposed that, in the future, the AE should scale back the length of its annual meetings and use the same venue every year. A previous fixing of the date would allow members to always put the event in their calendars. Prof. Guerrero said that the partners of the Barcelona Hub will be willing to facilitate the organisation. There was general agreement to fix the 2018 Meeting in Barcelona organised by the AE-BKH and chaired by Prof. Guerrero.

The AE Board was also invited to have an initial exchange on a proposed four-year strategy document on a series of common questions, including the President’s priorities that formed the basis for his re-election mandate. The Strategic Plan would be ready for roll-out during 2018.
3.3 PARTICIPATION IN THE SAPEA (SCIENCE ADVICE FOR POLICE BY EUROPEAN ACADEMIES) WORKSHOP ON ACADEMIES’ INTERACTION (MADRID, 21-22 SEPTEMBER)

The Science Advice for Policy by European Academies Project (SAPEA) brings together the expertise of Fellows from over 100 Academies and Learned Societies in over 40 countries across Europe, working closely with the High Level Group of Scientific Advisors, as part of the Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM), of the European Commission. The SAPEA workshop on Academies’ interaction took place on 21-22 September 2017 at the Spanish Royal Academy of Engineering (RAI) in Madrid, with the aim of strengthening cooperation among Academies and supporting individual Academies in providing evidence-based policy advice. The workshop was attended by members of several Academies of science and engineering from across Europe as well as by representatives of the European Commission. The workshop was split into five sections, spread across two days. The participants filled in a short survey prior to the event.

The first session introduced the participants to the structure of the workshop and was used as an opportunity for the participants to discuss their activities and challenges and what they wanted to get out of the workshop. The second session focused on the role of the European Academies and the challenges and opportunities they face. Five speakers gave brief presentations on topics ranging from organisational structure, funding, staff resources, large vs. small academies, and more. The third session focused on activities and best practices in academies, helping Academies of all sizes to raise their profile at the European level. Participants discussed strategies used for promoting activities and topics selection in policy advice; quality assurance and peer review of scientific advice; stakeholder engagement and impact. After the group discussions, participants came back together to present reports from each discussion group. The fourth session was about enhancing networking and collaboration among European academies. Presentations were given by representatives of various European academies on the topic of the added value of academies and how they can help, opening an activity in which well-resourced and less-endowed academies were twinned together to share insights and offer advice. The fifth session provided potential policy advice topics. Following this, there was a panel discussion on various European academies. The final session broke out into groups to discuss strategies and options for how academies can best engage with the SAPEA project.

Participants of the SAPEA Workshop on “Academies’ Interaction” held in the Royal Academy of Engineering, Madrid, on 21-22 September 2017.
3.4 LECTURE AT THE BANYOLES REGIONAL STUDIES CENTRE (7 OCTOBER)

MUSEU ARQUEOLÒGIC DE BANYOLES

The Banyoles Regional Studies Center (CERB) conducted a new monographic course entitled “Our Paleontological Heritage,” directed by Salvador Sarquella. Characteristic of all the courses of the Studies Centre, the lectures are accompanied by field trips to go deeper into the subjects that are discussed during the sessions. For this 2017/18 course, seven conferences and six field trips were scheduled. All the conferences took place in the lecture room at the Darder Museum of Banyoles, one of the oldest museum in the area. Opened in 1916, it underwent few changes until its complete renovation, which began in 2003. In 2007 the museum opened again, incorporating the natural history collections dedicated to explaining the phenomenon of the hydrological basin of Lake Banyoles.

The inaugural lecture was held on October 7, by Prof. Ricard Guerrero, who talked about “Possible origins of life on Earth ... and beyond.” Invited by two institutions, the CERB and Astro-banyoles, Prof. Guerrero also presented the AE to the audience and invited them to the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017, which was to be held a month and a half later.

3.5 CO-ORGANISATION OF THE BOARD MEETING OF COSCE (CONFEDERATION OF THE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES OF SPAIN) IN BARCELONA (17 OCTOBER)

COSCE (Confederation of Scientific Societies of Spain) held their Government Board Meeting on 18 October 2017, in the Puig i Cadafalch Room of the Institut d’Estudis Catalans, co-organised by the Barcelona Hub of the Academia Europaea. COSCE contributes to the scientific and technological development of Spain, acting as a qualified and unified voice, both before the civil society itself and before its representative public powers in matters that affect science by promoting the role of science and contributing to its dissemination as a necessary and essential ingredient of culture. COSCE develops several projects and programmes. The DECIDES 2017 Project analyses the policies announced and implemented by the Government of Spain. The CONOCEROS+ Project promoted conversations between members of the Parliament and scientists representing different fields and centres. The 2017 ENCIENDE Project promotes the teaching of sciences at the earliest ages. The meeting in Barcelona also brought up different topics, among them the COSCE 2018 Award, the Day of Societies 2018, the creation of a COSCE Commission for the Pact for Science 2018, the protocol for the admission of new Spanish scientific societies and the contacts with the network of Spanish scientists abroad, and the association with the Federation of Spanish Medical Scientific Associations (FACME).

*Left: Board Meeting of COSCE in Barcelona. Puig i Cadafalch Room, IEC, on 17 October 2017. Right: Members of the Board of COSCE and AE-BKH staff, at the Mercè Rodoreda Hanging Garden of the IEC. 17 October 2017.*
Board of COSCE at the Cloister Courtyard of the IEC. From left to right: Domingo Sánchez (Spanish Association of Theory of Literature); Alicia Alonso (Spanish Society of Biophysics); Ricard Guerrero (AE-BKH); Nazario Martín (Spanish Royal Society of Chemistry); Jaume Estruch (Rubes Editorial); Gregorio Montero (Spanish Society of Forest Sciences); María J. Zuel (Spanish Society of Physics) and Francisco Tirado (Society of Architecture and Computer Technology). 17 October 2017.

As a special part of the meeting, Prof. Nazario Martín, President of COSCE, and Prof. Ricard Guerrero, Academic Director of the AE-BKH, had a conversation that was filmed and edited by Rubén Duro (AE-BKH). The topic was to discuss the mission of COSCE in promoting science, technology and humanities in Spain and the development of relationships between Spanish scientific societies. The AE-BKH offered collaboration with COSCE in organizing their annual meeting in Barcelona under the auspices of the Hub. The talk is available on the AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel through the link <http://vimeo.com/242089657>.

Prof. Ricard Guerrero interviews Prof. Nazario Martín about the role of COSCE in supporting science, technology and humanities in Spain. A film produced by Rubén Duro for the AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel.
3.6 DIRECTION OF THE VISITS TO THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM OF CATALONIA AND THE NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM OF BARCELONA (9 NOVEMBER)

Following Prof. Guerrero’s lecture in Banyoles on October 7, on November 9, thirty persons from the Banyoles course “Our Paleontological Heritage” went to Barcelona to visit the Archaeological Museum of Catalonia, during the morning, and the Natural Science Museum of Barcelona in the afternoon. The Archeological Museum in Barcelona has the most complete chronological and territorial division of archeology in Catalonia and one of the most important archeology libraries. In addition, the Museum manages the archaeological collection of the Generalitat de Catalunya in Cervera (Catalan Cultural Heritage Agency), and is called to become the largest archaeological site in Catalonia.

About 7,400 years ago, a group of prehistoric farmers and ranchers settled on the banks of the lake of Banyoles, becoming the most important Neolithic town in Catalonia, and where there was a real revolution. La Draga is the only lacustrine archaeological site in the Iberian Peninsula and one of the oldest and most important in the Western Mediterranean, which allows us to exemplify it through the extraordinary preserved heritage, partly underwater, a key stage in our history: the beginnings of agriculture and livestock. The thrill of being in an unrepeatable site leads an innovative museographic proposal that uses audiovisual resources and virtual recreations to transport us to the Neolithic. The impact generated by the discovery of the settlement of the village of La Draga presents a unique collection of original archaeological pieces representing the site: fauna, plant and food remains, objects of everyday life and elements connected with social sphere or beliefs. The reconstruction of the panorama of what happened in La Draga for about 400 years is thanks to the huge amount of data obtained by a large multidisciplinary scientific team, more than two hundred archaeological pieces from the Banyoles Archaeological Museum.

The same day, November 9, in the afternoon, the visitors from Banyoles went to the Natural Science Museum of Barcelona (MCNB). The visit was guided by Prof. Guerrero, curator of the permanent exhibition on the “History of Life” of the Museum. The MCNB is located in an outstanding building at the Barcelona Forum made by the famous Swiss architects Herzog & De Meuron.
3.7 LECTURE AT THE CATALAN SOCIETY FOR BIOLOGY FOR THE ST. ALBERT’S DAY CELEBRATION (15 NOVEMBER)

On 15 November 2017, in the Prat de la Riba Hall of the IEC Prof. Ricard Guerrero gave a lecture organised by the Education Section of the Catalan Society for Biology (SCB). The title of the lecture was "Life that flows from the dark". It was a Commemorative Lecture in honour of Saint Albert Magne Day, traditional patron Saint of chemists and other scientists.

The SCB is one of the oldest and most active scientific societies in Catalonia. It has approximately 1,500 members, of which 80% do active research in universities or research centres. The scientific sessions of the SCB have a long tradition and are meeting points that allow researchers to network and collaborate effectively. The SCB organises activities around its 19 thematic sections in the most current aspects of basic or applied biology, and six territorial sections. It also brings together a large number of high school teachers and other people related with the BIO area. The SCB is the point of reference for those interested in Biology in Catalonia.

Prof. Guerrero described our planet as a tiny blue dot lost in the immense space of the Universe, and in the chronology of time he described humans’ presence on Earth as only a short moment in the long arrows of time. He discussed the living systems of the Earth; the atoms of our body, those of animals, fungi, plants and microorganisms that were organized and evolved from the atoms of the galaxy trapped by our planet and were part of the great stellar disc that gave rise to the Solar System about 5,000 million years ago.

"Life that flows from the dark". A lecture by Prof. Ricard Guerrero in commemoration of Saint Albert Magne Day, traditional patron Saint of chemists and other scientists: Catalan Society for Biology, Prat de la Riba Hall, IEC. 15 November 2017.
In the lecture, Prof. Guerrero went on to discuss how life appeared on Earth about 3,850 million years ago, following with the first 2,000 million years of evolution of prokaryotic microorganisms, then the only inhabitants of the Earth, and highlighted ecopoiesis in the chronology. A film by Rubén Duro (AE-BKH) “Microbial mats. Life from Light, Light for Life,” devoted to the supposed first ecosystems on Earth (the first appearance of ecopoiesis) is available on the AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel through the link <http://vimeo.com/154780343>.


Covering the climate and light conditions for the development of extremophilic microorganisms, Prof. Guerrero took the audience on the adventure of wondering where “life” could have developed in the Solar System or in planets that orbit around other stars. The possibility of the investigation of primary ecosystems extended by many ridges of different oceans, especially in the Pacific and the Atlantic, in which primary production does not depend on photosynthesis, triggered reflection about the discovery of the existence of other places in the Solar System where life could have arisen, although possibly only on Earth, thanks to the phenomenon of the ecopoiesis.
3.8 PARTICIPATION IN THE ACTIVITY OF THE LILLY FOUNDATION-REAL ACADEMIA ESPAÑOLA (MADRID, 29 NOVEMBER)

On 29 November 2017, Prof. Guerrero was invited to the presentation of the book by Fernando A. Navarro Medicina en Español III, sponsored by the Lilly Foundation with the support of the Real Academia Española (RAE), at the headquarters of the RAE, in Madrid.

The author of the book, Fernando A. Navarro, is a member of the technical committee of MEDES (MEDicina en ESpañol), a programme sponsored by the Lilly Foundation. Etymologies, mistakes, recommendations and other curiosities of medical language in Spanish are collected in this book promoted by the Lilly Foundation. "Medical language, with twenty-five centuries of history behind it, has reached a degree of richness and complexity that is hardly imaginable for those who see it from the outside," says author Fernando A. Navarro. This work is aimed at bringing doctors closer to the pleasure of language. With this publication, framed within the initiative MEDES, the Lilly Foundation aims to contribute to improving the prestige of Spanish as a language of transmission and dissemination of scientific knowledge.

The presentation was chair by Darío Villanueva, Director of the RAE, and José Manuel Sánchez Ron, Deputy Director of the RAE. Also participating were José Ramón Zárate, Deputy Editor of Diario Médico, José Antonio Sacristán, Director of the Lilly Foundation, and Fernando A. Navarro, author of the book.
3.9 COLLABORATION WITH THE MARIE SKŁODOWSKA-CURIE EUROPEAN TRAINING NETWORK DIAPHORA PROJECT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA (12–15 DECEMBER)

The Marie Skłodowska-Curie European Training Network DIAPHORA serves as a European research and training platform for collaborative research on the nature of philosophical problems, their resilience and the sources of persistent divergence of expert opinion about them, and their relation to conflicts in the practical sphere. DIAPHORA undertakes to provide 14 Early Stage Researchers with the knowledge and skills necessary to meet the demands of top-level research within its remit, as well as professional complementary skills training in both the academic and non-academic sectors, with the goal of widening their potential societal contributions and improving their individual career prospects. Diaphora holds a mid-term review so the fellows can present and get feedback on their work carried out so far. The 8 evaluated work package topics are: The Sources of Disagreement, Logic and Paradox, Determinism and Open Choices, A Priori Knowledge, The Nature of Representation, The Structure of Warrant, Self-Knowledge, Management & Dissemination and Training Days. This provides the recruited Early Stage Researchers with skill training at network level that complements their training in the context of internship with the partner organisations.

The meeting was funded by the European Commission and by the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Barcelona. Sven Rosenkranz (ICREA Research Professor; coordinator of the LOGOS Research Group in Analytic Philosophy, Department of Logic, History and Philosophy of Science, University of Barcelona) coordinated this meeting, which lasted one working day.

The AE-BKH prefers the month of November for hosting research fellow interns, as November is the month with one important activity of the year, the Disputatio of Barcelona. At this time of the year, AE-BKH can offer comfortable office space for the respective interns, and this year we hosted Matthew Jope from Edinburgh University. He got his undergraduate and master’s degrees at KU Leuven, Belgium. His Ph.D. research is on the structure of epistemic justification. His supervisors are Prof. Duncan Pritchard and Dr. Aidan McGlynn.

Prof. Ricard Guerrero, Academic Director of the AE-BKH and Doina Bird, manager of the AE-BKH, attended the meeting, held at the Philosophy Department at the UB, as representatives of the AE-BKH, one of the five partners of this initiative. The other partners are United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility (UNU-GCM), Search for Common Ground, Idea-born international consultants in Human Rights, and the International Catalan Institute for Peace.
4. ANNEXES

4.1 ANNEX 1

Updates on the Website
A new feature was added to the barcelona.acadeuro.org website: a PhotoGallery section within the “Barcelona in Action” page with a selection of photographs related to the different activities organised in the AE-BKH.

The AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel
The AE - BKH audiovisual “Barcelona in Action” video channel, running on the YouTube and Vimeo platforms represents the activities organised by the hub and as support to other institutions related to the Academia Europaea. Rubén Duro, webmaster and social network manager of the AE-BKH, is responsible for this development, and has offered technical support to the YAE for the production of several interviews included in the YAE Project “Dialog Project”. Some of the videos produced by the AE- BKH audiovisual team are included into the “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel and linked through the “Video” section of each “BarceloNEWS”, the digital newsletter of the Barcelona Hub.

The latest videos in the AE-BKH “Barcelona in Action” Video Channel
From the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017, held on November 23, in which Mateo Valero, director of the Supercomputing Center of Barcelona (BSC) and Alison Kennedy, director of the STFC Hartree Centre (Daresbury, Warrington, UK) explained different aspects of the topic “SUPERCOMPUTERS: An instrument for science, technology and the progress of society.”

![Image](vimeo)


The video “Homage to Anne Buttimer (1938–2017)”, was added onto the Vimeo-YouTube network, in which YAE member Alexander Fidora interviewed Anne Buttimer on 10 December 2015, at the Cercle del Liceu (Barcelona Opera House). In the interview, Prof. Buttimer reflected on aspects of her career such as integration of knowledge, innovation that arises from dialogue, and her concern about the lack of dialogue and sharing ideas among students in the present digital whole-environment.
4.2 ANNEX 2

Diffusion of the activities of the AE-BKH

The AE-BKH office, with the purpose of informing about the activities developed by the hub, created the barcelona.acadeuro.org website and the corresponding accounts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram platforms. Through these accounts it has been possible to introduce information about the activities related to the AE-BKH through these the social networks. The average number of visits to the Hub website per month in 2017 was 1,681 and the average number of page views on the Hub website per month in 2017 was 8,264.

WEBSITE

FACEBOOK

Facebook activity (data from the 4th Quarter of 2017)
TWITTER

Twitter activity (Data from 4th quarter of 2017)

INSTAGRAM

The Instagram account of the AE-BKH has been less active than the other networks during 2017. This has been due to the difficulties in managing all social accounts. This has been the cause of the small number of publications and followers of the account. To improve the positioning of the AE-BKH in Instagram is a task that should be addressed during 2018.
4.3 ANNEX 3

Promotion of the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017 via email and social networks

In order to ensure a high turnout for the Disputatio of Barcelona 2017, we began promoting it via e-mail and social networks four weeks ahead of the date. Given the broad appeal of the topic “Supercomputers: An instrument for science and the progress of society,” a wide range of scientists, academics and members of the public would be interested in attending.

We contacted many university departments and e-mails were sent out to each department and institution that could be found, explaining the nature of the event and politely asking whether they would disseminate the information internally. Where possible, contact details of individual researchers at each institution were included in our mailing list. The final number of individual researchers contacted was 189.

Social Networks

In addition to promoting the event via e-mail, a social media campaign was carried out via our Twitter, Instagram and two Facebook accounts. By the day of the event, the number of followers of the Academia Europaea Twitter account was almost 700. This meant each of our promotions was being seen by thousands of people. A new Facebook page for the Disputatio was created that allowed sharing with, and inviting, our followers. Finally, on the day of the event, live-Tweeted updates were made while the Disputatio was taking place. This allowed people who were unable to attend the event to follow along with the debate in real-time.

It is always difficult to assess the effect this kind of promotion has on the actual number of attendees at a given event. However, these campaigns had positive effect because names recognised from researchers located and e-mailed, as well as individuals from Twitter were appearing in our AE inbox requesting reserved seats at our sessions. Using social networking was also a good way of letting more people know what was going on at the Barcelona Hub, even for those who were unable to attend. The other AE hubs also interacted with us via Twitter, helping to promote our activities by sharing our tweets leading up to and during the events.

How to contact AE-BKH. Websites:

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