

Report on the Activities of the ISEE European Chapter

Period December 2020 – March 2021

Organization

The European chapter, including elected and associated members, has continued its work with monthly conference calls and committee interactions.

Currently the committee consists of 7 elected members and 11 associated members. We are constantly looking actively for new members, in particular from Eastern Europe and young researchers. We have currently one member from Eastern Europe and 2 Young researchers.

ISEE Young Conference

The virtual **ISEE Young** conference was held in Basel on February 17-19, 2021. The meeting was very successful with 211 registrations, generating 122 new student and early career memberships from various regions worldwide (see table below):

ISEE Chapter	Early career researcher	Student (MSc, PhD)	Grand Total
Africa		1	1
Asia and Western Pacific		2	2
Europe	30	79	109
Latin America and the Caribbean		1	1
North America	2	7	9
Grand Total	32	90	122

We had a dense 2-day scientific programme including 3 plenary sessions (uploaded to ISEE global education YouTube channel) and 3 parallel sessions of orals and speed talks. We had 74 views on YouTube within 1 day of posting the special plenary: "**Learning from COVID19 pandemic: opportunities and challenges for young environmental epidemiologists**" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E2Km17OT56g>

We would like to thank to the ISEE Executive council for sponsoring 3 awards (ISEE 2021 Virtual Conference registration!). The awardees are:

- Michiel van den Dries, ISGlobal (Spain) - Best Abstract (1st place)
- Léa Maitre, ISGlobal (Spain) - Best Tweezer (1st place)
- Alexandra Bürgler, Swiss TPH (Switzerland) - Best Speed Talk (1st place)

The programme was complemented with formal and networking opportunities (peer monitoring, pub quiz, meet the editors/president, meet ups in the online cafe "Buvette")

The initial feedback during and immediately after the conference indicate it was a big success. The next steps will be to wider announce of all award winners (update Swiss TPH conference website, news item for ISEE), collect and process the evaluation forms, publish abstracts in EE, as well as capture the lessons learned from this meeting.

Swiss TPH and Europe Chapter thank everyone who supported, helped organise and participated in ISEE Young 2021.

Education and communication

ISEE Europe, The Health Effects Institute, and the European Respiratory Society, organised a webinar on environmental health research needs and policies to inform the European Green Deal in these challenging times. This virtual meeting, titled "**Air Pollution and COVID-19: Clearing the Air and Charting a Post-Pandemic Course**," was held on December 2 2020. A report of this meeting is currently drafted and will be published.

ISEE Europe, the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine and Oeschger Center for Climate Change Research, also organised a webinar to discuss current developments in climate change attribution, in particular with regards to health impacts, and the potential implications of attribution and detection studies for defining the 'cause' in law. This virtual meeting, titled "**Attributing health impacts to climate change**," was held on December 3 2020.

We are planning two additional webinars on different topics related to climate change and health in early 2021. In addition, we have preliminary plans for a follow-up meeting on air pollution and health in 2021 together with WHO and others.

We published our Winter newsletter in November 2020. The newsletter was sent to all ISEE Europe members to keep them abreast of the latest activities. We continuously revamp our website to keep it up to date with courses and news.

<https://mailchi.mp/2a5823183dd3/isee-newsletter-winter2020-13112020>

Other activities

We are working hard to increase our membership from different regions in Europe, especially from Central-Eastern Europe, and are developing strategies on how to increase our Chapter activities in Central-Eastern Europe, a region with particularly high air pollution.

We are working actively together with members of the HERA project to get actively involved in the HORIZON Europe program.