JM welcomed all the members and the incoming Deputy Chair Lise Piquilloud (LP) and thanked the outgoing Deputy Chair – Luigi Camporota (LC).

JM discussed the steps leading to the ESICM LIVES 2020 becoming fully virtual in view of the COVID-19 pandemics. Digital ESICM 2020 received ~1100 abstracts – ARF has contributed to ~ 20% of the abstracts. ESICM 2021 will be held in Copenhagen – hopefully in person rather than virtual. JM encouraged members of the ARF to submit proposals – as detailed as possible – (i.e. Objectives, Type and Title of session, suggested chair/s, title of presentations and suggested speaker/s) for topics for the ESICM 2021 meeting. Also, JM reminded that the choice of presenters should be as inclusive and diverse as possible.

T. Mauri – proposed mixed presentation fellows and seniors – where the presentation may represent a further occasion for learning for the fellow.

John Laffey gave an update on the Lung Translational Biology Group. TBG will become a full section within the ESICM during this Digital conference and proposed collaborative working between the two sections for new initiatives e.g., a biological definition of ARDS/COVID-19 ARDS.

Chiara Robba, presented the results of the VENTILO SURVEY (published in Critical Care) and the recommendations of the ESICM on the ventilation of the brain injured patients published in ICM. Also introduced the observational study VENTIBRAIN on the practice of ventilation in neuro-ICU – for information you can contact kiarobba@gmail.com.

Lise Piquilloud gave an update on the courses supported by the ARF, including 2 successful masterclasses (e-masterclass on mechanical ventilation: https://www.linkedin.com/posts/european-society-of-intensive-care-medicine-esicm-weareicu-togethericu-criticalcare-activity-6717833711867498496-QN_5/); and the advanced bedside monitoring in ARF. Also, LP presented the ARF educational activities for 2021. A proposal was to prepare pre-recorded educational videos on mechanical ventilation in respiratory failure – particularly in areas with more limited resources. LP and JM invited more proposals for educational activities.

T. Mauri gave an update on the activities of the PLUG in 2020 and the activities planned for 2021.

LP also gave an update on the educational activity of the ARF: including graded teaching videos (from basic to advanced level) based on the concept of “how to...”. LP invited the submission of expression of interest from anyone who would like to participate and collaborate (contact lise.piquilloud@chuv.ch). Hadrien Roze gave an update on mechanical ventilation web simulations and simulators. LC gave an update on the ESICM-sponsored surveys.