

Minutes of the 123rd Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society

8 May 2001, 1.00pm

MINUTES

Present: R Cooke
M Ferenczi
G Grant
E Hounsell
A Lane
J Murray-Rust
A North
M Sansom
A Watts

Action

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from S Harding, J Helliwell, D Hornby, M Miles, G Roberts, M Sternberg, A Thomson, G Taylor, A Wilkinson.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Brian Handford was incorrectly referred to as Brian Hanford. With this change the minutes were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

Item 3: The Foundation for Science and Technology has been informed of the decision of the BBS to cease payments.

The proposed BBS award would be implemented by a sub-group of the Committee.

**A Watts/
G Roberts/
M Ferenczi**

Item 5: Justin Molloy would be approached as to whether he would represent the BBS in a lecture series in Ireland this year.

A Thomson

The question of whether the list of all BBS members had been circulated to all Committee members required clarification.

**R Cooke/
A Wilkinson**

Item 6: A consideration of the question of gift aid is contained in the Treasurer's report.

£15,000 has been invested with National Savings.

The membership list with details of abnormal payments has been circulated.

Item 8: Details of the Mill Hill meeting have been provided to Judith and are now on the website.

Details of possible joint meetings with the Swedish Biochemical Society are contained in the Meetings Secretary's report.

The BBS secretary would write to Simon Phillips enquiring as to whether Leeds would be willing to host the EBSA meeting.

R Cooke

Item 9: Rob Cross (Marie Curie, Oxstead) and John Seddon (Imperial) were suggested as possible future members of the BBS committee. A list of names produced at a previous Committee meeting would be forwarded to Andrew Thomson

E Hounsell

Paul Malthouse would be approached to see if he wished to join the Committee.

A Thomson

A list of independent organisations able to help organise meetings would be produced.

E Hounsell

4. **Publicity Officer's Report (presented by Judith Murray-Rust)**

The flyer for "Physics in the Life Sciences" would be circulated in the next BBS newsletter.

Several suggestions were made for potential topics and contributors to the What is Biophysics web site: Sound and Ultrasonics (Tom Duke), Electricity (David Ogden), Imaging (Paul Matthews or Rob Lewis), Thermodynamics (Babur Chowdhry).

5. **Secretary's Report (presented by Rob Cooke)**

It was agreed that the BBS would fund up to two fellowships to attend the IUPAB congress in Buenos Aires. These would be for the sum of £500 each, for British-based members of the BBS, normally under the age of 28. The deadline for applications will be November 1st, and will require provision of an abstract and commitment to produce a report of the congress.

Delegates to IUPAB should be decided at the next committee meeting.

Tony North informed the committee that he intended to stand down as IUPAB Secretary General after the next congress. The committee should consider people appropriate for election to the IUPAB council (12 to be appointed).

It was considered that the activities of the Learning and Teaching Support Network were more relevant for university departments. The LTSN would be informed of the decision of the BBS not to take matters further, and directed towards the BBS website if they wish to access the resources there.

R Cooke

6. **Treasurer's Report (tabled by Tony Wilkinson)**

It was agreed that the likely returns meant it would not be worth suggesting to make subscriptions the subject of gift aid.

The request to pay the additional £96 for the solvation meeting was approved.

7. **Irish sub-section**

Held over until a later meeting.

8. **Honorary Meetings Secretary's Report (presented by Liz Hounsell)**

The possibility of future collaborative meetings will be discussed with the Swedish Biophysical Society (cc Tony Watts).

G Grant

The NACON V organisers would be contacted confirming that the BBS had pledged £500 support.

G Grant

The solid state NMR meeting planned for September 2001 has been moved to Easter 2002, due to the scheduling of a related meeting in September.

A meeting on minaturisation may be held in Oxford in April 2002. Details would be available by the September committee meeting.

A Watts

The BBS AGM will be held during the 7TM meeting in Oxford in December.

A fee structure of £85 (members) and £100 (non-members) was suggested for the Oxford meetings in December and April.

It was agreed that the BBS would support a speaker at the MGMS meeting on Binding Sites in Bristol next Easter.

It was agreed to provide £500 to support a speaker at the "Proteins: from chemical to physiological mechanisms" meeting organised by David Trentham.

G Grant

The EBSA meeting in Alicante in 2003 would be added to the BBS web site.

J Murray-Rust

9. **IOB and UKLSC**

Through the Affiliated Societies Forum the IOB has produced a bulletin on Science Policy Priorities.

There had been no significant progress towards merging the IOB and the UKLSC.

12. **Any Other Business**

It was agreed that EBSA dues should be paid at the rate of 2 euros per fully-paid BBS member, provided this did not seriously disadvantage the BBS.

A Wilkinson

The question of whether paid secretarial support should be utilised to maintain the membership list should be considered.

A Wilkinson

Committee members were reminded to consider nominations for Honorary membership of the BBS to be discussed at the September meeting.

13 **Date of the next meeting**

Post-meeting note: The next meeting has been arranged for 25 September 2001 at the Novartis Foundation, 41 Portland Place.