

Minutes of the 135th Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society

12 May 2005, 1.00pm

MINUTES

Present: R Cooke
C Cooper
G Grant
D Hornby
E Hounsell
G Roberts
A Rodger
D Sheehan
J Seddon
S Tilley
C Veigel
M Walkinshaw
A Watts

Action

John Seddon was thanked by the Committee for organising the meeting room and lunch

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from J Ladbury, A Wilkinson

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

Item 3: The Tools and Infrastructure group of the BBSRC is now up and running.

Information on Centreparks as a possible venue for a “Young Biophysicists Day” has been passed on to John Ladbury.

The deadline for submission of proposals for the 2006 BAAS meeting is imminent. It was suggested to aim for the 2007 meeting. Advice from someone who had previously submitted a proposal would be sought, a group would be formed at the September meeting, and a solid proposal would be developed for January.

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

IUPAB had been advised that the BBS will remain affiliated at category 1.

5. **EBSA 2007**

The proposed dates for the EBSA 2007 congress are Sunday 8 July till Wednesday 11 July. The 2005 meeting in Montpellier is 4.5 days, but this is running in association with the IUPAB congress. A potential conflict of dates with Biosciences 2007 in Glasgow was highlighted.

The only aspect fixed so far is the room bookings. The largest meeting room is the Great Hall, with a capacity of 750, but this will not hold all the expected attendees.

540 beds have been booked in student accommodation at an average cost of £44.

The social events will be expensive.

Imperial College conference link will do bookings, catering etc. but not registrations. It may be appropriate to hire an event manager.

Members of the BBS committee were requested to mail the Rector of Imperial, asking him to release funds for the congress.

All

Mike Ferenczi was asked to chair the organising committee.

It was proposed that the organising committee met in the mornings before the BBS committee. Members of the BBS committee who would like to participate with the organisation of EBSA 2007 should contact Mike Ferenczi.

All

The BBS committee will continue to meet in London (either IC or UCL) until EBSA 2007.

The scientific committee is likely to be formed jointly by EBSA and the BBS.

A formal contract between the congress and the BBS was not considered appropriate.

The BBS agreed to underwrite the congress to a maximum of £20,000 (payable as two instalments of £10,000). This money is provided with the expectation that any profits are shared by underwriting organisations, in proportion with their commitments.

R Cooke

6. **Treasurer's Report (presented by David Hornby)**

The membership database needs to be revamped and updated. A way forward, which could also include the partnership with the RSC will be identified.

D Hornby /
S Tilley/
A Rodger

7. **Meetings Secretary's Report (presented by Guy Grant)**

A report was distributed for the meeting in Leicester

A report from the Systems Biology meeting in Sheffield will be chased up.

D Hornby

The BBS medal lecture will not take place at EBSA. It is likely to happen at the Response to DNA Damage meeting at Sussex in September.

The EBSA/IUPAB satellite on simulations is proceeding (underwritten to £1K).

It is still not certain if the Royer satellite will happen.

There have been no applications for bursaries to attend the EBSA/IUPAB meeting.

The Harden conference organisers do not require financial support.

The EM meeting at Warwick in September will coincide with the opening of the facility. Bursaries will be distributed by Guy Grant (up to £1000 total, £100 maximum for each).

G Grant

The CD summer school will be held in September. Financial support was not requested for this year.

The Bionanotechnology meeting will not happen in late 2005.

A summer school on Physics of Molecular Machines has been proposed for Les Houches in May 2006. Underwriting to £2000 was offered, and the possibility of having this as a joint meeting with the BBS will be investigated..

C Viegel

The Biochem Soc. will be approached to see if sessions or talks at their meetings could be associated with the BBS, possibly including a page in the pre-conference flyer.

**G Roberts /
C Cooper**

A multi-technique forum (topics could include CD, EM, MS, SPR, AUC, NMR?) was suggested for the Midlands in Sep. 2006.

NACON VII is planned for April 2007. This will become a BBS meeting.

A speaker will be supported at the Harden conference organised by Sheena Radford in 2007.

Events should be considered for Liverpool to coincide with its spell as city of culture in 2008.

There is likely to be an NMR meeting at Birmingham (organised by Michael Overduin) in Easter 2006.

A formal proposal to help support an Optical Technologies course (David Ogden) was requested for the next meeting.

C Veigel

8. **Irish sub-section (presented by Dave Sheehan)**

The Irish lecture tour by Nigel Scrutton (Leicester) is currently underway. Attendances were approximately 35 in Cork and 40 in Dublin. The Belfast lecture was the day of this meeting.

A report will be written for the BBS newsletter.

D Sheehan

It was suggested to change the timing of the lecture tour, possibly to February, and it could be made part of a formal course.

Future reports could be written by students, with the best to be published in the newsletter, and attract a prize of £100.

A lecturer for Feb 2006 will be identified.

D Sheehan

9. **Publicity Officer's report**

The new website has been registered.

A payment of £100 was approved for Tim Burgis to re-design the website.

10. **Biosciences Federation**

The AGM was held on April 19. A high-profile remit statement has been produced.

A new chief executive is required, and there may be a call to increase membership dues.

11. **AOB**

The 2006 AGM will be held at the Easter NMR meeting.

John Seddon and/or Gordon Roberts will be able to represent the BBS at EBSA

12. **Date of the next meeting**

Post-meeting note: The next meeting has been arranged for 15th September 2005 at Imperial College.