

Minutes of the 143rd Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society

16 Jan 2008, 1.00pm

MINUTES

Present: R Cooke
C Cooper
M Ferenczi
G Grant
D Hornby
E Hounsell
J Ladbury
G Roberts
A Rodger
M Szczelkun
A Watts

Action

Mike Ferenczi was thanked by the Committee for organising the meeting room and lunch.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from J Butt, M Miles, J Seddon, C Veigel, M Walkinshaw.

2. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

3. **Matters Arising**

John Ladbury has agreed to be the third BBS delegate at the IUPAB congress.

Phil Gribbon is no longer based in the UK and the IOP will nominate another delegate to the BBS.

The total number of registrants at EBSA 2007 was 1020. The UK was the best represented country (approx 250 delegates), followed by France and Germany. The representation from Eastern Europe was very encouraging.

Only two payments from sponsors are outstanding – Beckman and SanofiAventis. The participation of Beckman had not been fully clarified, and payment will not be sought. Rob Cooke will contact Sanofi Aventis re their payment.

R Cooke

The committee formally thanked Mike Ferenczi for his tremendous efforts in successfully staging the conference, and coming close to breaking even on the event.

4. **Publicity Officer's Report (presented by David Hornby)**
- Geoff Ford at Sheffield is willing to help out with web maintenance. Chris Cooper will explore whether two new biophysicists at Essex can help with web content. **C Cooper**
- All members will be asked to provide old information to help compile the BBS history.
- The standard newsletter format will be discontinued. In future it will form an integral part of the website, and membership will be notified three times a year. **D Hornby**
- The BBS banner will be kept at Birkbeck and Liz Hounsell will co-ordinate its deployment at appropriate meetings. **E Hounsell**
5. **Secretary's Report**
- John Seddon, Gordon Roberts and John Ladbury will be IUPAB delegates.
6. **Treasurer's Report**
- The Treasurers responsibilities have now been handed over to John Ladbury.
- Accounts will be prepared in the next few weeks.
- The current balance is approx. £30K, which is similar to before, and income of approx. £3K a year is close to break even.
- It was suggested to set up a building society account to simplify matters.
- Liz Hounsell volunteered to be second signatory for BBS accounts.
- David Hornby volunteered to act as membership secretary, separate from treasurer.
- The status of payments to IUPAB and EBSA needs to be clarified. **R Cooke / D Hornby**
- Proposals for balancing membership fees and outgoings will be presented at the next meeting. **J Ladbury**
7. **Irish sub-section**
- Helen Saibil will be the next Irish speaker.
- The request to sponsor a speaker not based in the UK was not supported.
- David Klenerman, Rob Cross, Yuri Korchev and Hagan Bayley were suggested as potential future speakers.
8. **Meetings Report**
- The CD/LD winter school had 25 attendees.
- Possibilities for other training courses will be considered and a report prepared. **J Ladbury / A Rodger**

The CTCB opening symposium proposed by Malcolm Walkinshaw will be supported to £250 for a non-industrial speaker. This could also be the venue for the AGM.

The joint meeting with the Spanish and Portuguese Biophysical societies is proceeding well. Bursaries will be offered. British speakers will be supported. Further details will be presented at the next BBS committee meeting.

G Grant

It is unlikely there will be a BBS-specific meeting in Sep 2008, although it could be possible to have one in Dec 2008. Venues in Oxford and London will be investigated for the week of Dec 15th.

**A Watts /
M Ferenczi /
J Ladbury**

The nucleic acid meeting tentatively scheduled for Easter 2008 will not happen.

The European Muscle Conference (Sep 2008) will be offered £500, with the BBS logo on the web site and programme, a BBS-sponsored lecture, the opportunity to display the BBS banner and distribute BBS material.

The calorimetry meeting will be endorsed by the BBS.

Another training meeting could potentially be held in December.

The BBS is willing to support the Williamson/Sutcliffe meeting on protein protein interactions (Easter 2009).

A multiscale simulations meeting is scheduled for September 2009 in Cambridge.

The Topo2008 meeting in July will be supported via a sponsored speaker for £250. Mark Szczelkun will contact Andy Bates to decide on a speaker.

M Szczelkun

The new Biophysics institute in Durham will be approached to see if they are happy to host a meeting in 2009, and possibly also provide a member of the committee.

D Hornby

NACON-18 will happen in 2010 (Easter or summer) in Sheffield.

Guy Grant was asked to head the organising committee for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the BBS in 2010.

Bursaries will be opened up to non-BBS meetings, set around specific deadlines before BBS committee meetings. Recipients will be expected to provide a report and join BBS. This will be publicised on the next BBS news update.

9. **Biosciences Federation**

Responses have been made to emails concerning open data access.

Rob Freeman has been sponsored by BBS for the BSF council.

10. **International Unions**

Matters concerning IUPAB and EBSA were covered in earlier business.

11. **AOB**

The BBS medal will be awarded in 2008. David Hornby will circulate a request for nominations, and John Ladbury, Alison Rodger and Rob Cooke will judge nominations received.

**D Hornby /
J Ladbury /
A Rodger /
R Cooke**

No response was considered necessary to the topic of QAA documentation.

A Biophysics encyclopedia is being constructed under the auspices of EBSA and Springer. It will take approx 3 years to complete, and will be available to all members of national societies.

The purchase of Ipods was approved for Pauline Harrison and Tony North, in recognition of the support they have given in compiling the BBS archives.

Alison Rodger will report back from the Young Biophysicists' meeting planning session.

A Rodger

John Seddon will be approached re the secretarial role for BBS.

A Watts

David Hornby is willing to take on the role as membership secretary.

Dave Dryden will be approached as a possible new committee member.

D Hornby

12. **Date of the next meeting**

Post-meeting note: The date for the next meeting has been set as Thursday May 15th.