

# British Biophysical Society

<http://www.britishbiophysics.org.uk/>

Registered Charity No. 25474

**Minutes of the 157<sup>th</sup> Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September '12 at Imperial College London, Chemistry Building, room 234**

**Present:** Anthony Watts (Chair), Jeremy Craven, Matt Hicks, John Seddon, Mark Wallace

1.	<p><b>Apologies for Absence</b> Apologies were received from Tharin Blumenschein, Rob Cooke, Guy Grant, Syma Khalid, Mark Leake, Paul O'Shea, Ehmke Pohl, Gordon Roberts, and Dave Sheehan.</p>
2.	<p><b>Minutes of the Previous Meeting</b> Tony thanked Jeremy for obtaining the original BBS Minutes from 1960. The first meeting was a working party which met on 4<sup>th</sup> February 1960, Chaired by J.V. Butler, and attended by D.D. Eley, L.H. Grey, A. F. Huxley, J. C. Kendrew, C. F. A. Pantin, R. D. Preston, J. T. Randall, F. J. W. Roughton, G. B. B. M. Sutherland and P. M. B. Walker. J. C. Kendrew was invited to become Secretary. At the second meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1960 the name 'The British Biophysical Society' was adopted.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising</b> For clarification, John confirmed that the Unedited Minutes were supplied to the BBS Committee, but that Edited Minutes are put up on the BBS website, and are available for wider distribution.</p> <p>Andrew Turberfield is happy with the correction made to the last Minutes in item 6.</p> <p>Tony commended the new BBS Committee member Syma Khalid, Southampton for her work with the Newsletter and setting up Facebook and Twitter accounts.</p> <p>Jeremy commented that although Guy had received 3 applications for bursaries to attend the Durham meeting, he has received only a single request for payment.</p> <p><b>Chairman's Report</b> EPSRC Physics of Life Initiative: Graham Leggett presented this at the Durham meeting, and it was well received. BBS is keen to follow, and when appropriate, get involved in any developments in the programme.</p> <p><b>Irish Lecture Tour</b> Hagan Bayley is confirmed for the Tour, either 25<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> Oct 2012.</p>

	<p><b>11th Greta Pifat-Mrzljak International School of Biophysics</b> 80 people are currently signed up for this, two from the UK.</p> <p><b>EBSA and IUPAB Activities</b> Tony commented on the EBSA Membrane School, held towards the end of June 2012 in Arcachon. There were many bursary applications to EBSA, including a good number of British ones.</p> <p>IUPAB congress, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2014. John Seddon will discuss with Calum Drummond and Charlotte Conn (CSIRO, Melbourne) the possibility of organising a satellite meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: John</b></p> <p><b>Meetings Secretary Report</b> “Biothermodynamics Today”: University of Oxford. This meeting was initially postponed owing to overlap with another meeting last Easter, but now cancelled for the foreseeable future due to the IoP meeting entitled “Biomolecular Thermodynamics”, 26 -27 November 2012</p> <p><b>Membership</b> Ehmke to update.</p>
3.	<p><b>Matters Arising.</b></p> <p>No new matters.</p>
4.	<p><b>Chairman’s Report (Anthony Watts)</b> <u>Biennial Conference, Durham July 2012 (see also conference report)</u> The Durham BBS meeting was another scientific and society success, to follow that of the Cambridge, July 2010 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting. The talks and sessions were of particularly high quality, and many remarked on the number of outstanding talks from younger participants.</p> <p>The Conference Banquet was held spectacularly in the Great Hall (14<sup>th</sup> Century) and attended by the VC of Durham, Professor Chris Higgins, and several Honorary Members of the BBS.</p> <p>Six Poster Prizes were awarded, the recipients being:</p> <p>Louic Vermeer, KCL; Stephen Fleming, Cambridge ; Stephen Muench, Leeds; Patricia Djikman, Oxford; Ollie Castell, Oxford; Alex Graham, Oxford.</p> <p>They received their prizes at the Banquet from Professor Pauline Harrison, Hon Member of BBS.</p>

	<p>Photos of the meeting were posted at PICASSA, which can be reached by a link on the BBS web site.</p> <p>The BBS Young Investigators Award was awarded to Dr Marina Kuimova, Imperial College London. Her medal, certificate and cheque were presented by Professor Judith Howard, FRS, CBE (Durham).</p> <p>Marina's permanent position at Imperial College has been confirmed following on from her current EPSRC Career Acceleration Fellowship. Tony, on behalf of BBS, has congratulated Marina on her appointment, and requested that Mark Wallace mention Marina's success on the BBS website.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Mark W</b></p> <p>The committee thanked Ehmke Pohl, Alex Probert and all the local organizers at Durham for their superb efforts with running the 2012 BBS conference, and especially in the way they ensured that it was profitable financially for BBS.</p> <p><u>BBS Biennial Meeting, 2014</u>  IUPAB will hold its triennial Congress in Brisbane in 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2014, and a clash should be avoided with the BBS Biennial Meeting. UNESCO has deemed 2014 the "Year of Crystallography", and many events are being planned. BBS has been approached to hold a joint meeting in 2014 together with the BCA (British Crystallographic Association). One location that has been suggested for the 2014 BBS meeting is the Midlands, together with the local Midlands Biophysics Group, with the organization headed by Matt Hicks. Further discussions are needed.</p> <p><u>IUPAB/EBSA/loP/BBS 2017</u>  The Edinburgh International Conference Centre (EICC) is nearing full refurbishment and a similar sized meeting will be held there, organized by the loP, on 8<sup>th</sup> &amp; 9<sup>th</sup> July 2013. Tony and Andrew Turberfield (loP, Biological Physics sub-group Chair) will visit Edinburgh at that time to view the newly refurbished EICC and assess the facilities for the 2017 meeting. John will possibly also attend.</p> <p>A joint planning meeting will be held 2 years before the 2017 Congress with EBSA, loP, and IUPAB in Edinburgh; this will need to avoid the dates of the EBSA Dresden Meeting. BBS will cover BBS Committee members' expenses in attending this planning meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Tony</b></p> <p><u>Honorary Members of BBS</u>  Hagan Bayley and Mike Ferenczi were informed by AW of the ratification of their election as Honorary Members of BBS at the Durham AGM.</p>
5.	<p><b>EBSA and IUPAB Activities</b></p> <p>The Springer Encyclopaedia of Biophysics, edited by Gordon Roberts, is currently</p>

	<p>being printed will be moving to online updates.</p> <p>Nominations required from BBS for the Avanti Medal – this is an EBSA prize worth \$3K.</p> <p>Nominations needed for the EBSA Young Investigators Award; deadline is the end of December 2012.</p> <p><b>IUPAB</b>  An article on Andrew Huxley, written by David Trentham, FRS (BBS Hon member) that appeared in the last BBS Newsletter, will also appear in the next IUPAB Newsletter.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Tony</p> <p>EBSA is now an adherent body of IUPAB (elected in Beijing, Nov 2011) and Peter Bayley (Hon BBS member) has written an article about EBSA for the next IUPAB newsletter.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Tony</p>
6.	<p><b>IOP Activities (Paul O’Shea/Mark Leake)</b>  Nothing to report</p>
7.	<p><b>Secretary’s Report (John Seddon)</b></p> <p><b>Previous BBS Minutes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Previously circulated; Edited Minutes put up on BBS Website. John to resend Edited Minutes to Mark W for the BBS website.</li> <li>- Jeremy has located missing BBS Minutes 1 – 65, 75 – 89 and 106 – 120. Syma to write something about the find for the Newsletter. A further suggestion was to scan in the Minutes for the BBS website.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: John</b></p> <p><b>Meetings / Lectures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We provided sponsorship to Oxford University Biochemistry Society for their Lecture of the Year, given by Brian Kobilka this year.</li> </ul> <p><b>EBSA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- John is holding Mike Ferenczi’s collection of EBSA documents for the time being, until these can be collected by Tony Watts.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Tony</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We provided a list of possible UK speakers for EBSA 2013, Lisbon.</li> </ul> <p><b>AGM</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The BBS 2012 AGM was held in Durham on 12<sup>th</sup> July, and was attended by 10 Committee members, and a number of other BBS Members.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The nominations of Hagan Bayley and Mike Ferenczi as BBS Honorary Members were ratified.</li> <li>- The re-election of the BBS Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer was approved unanimously. Jeremy mentioned that the byelaws need to be read to make sure that the Committee is operating as it should.</li> <li>- A Chairman's Overview by Anthony Watts was followed by brief Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports by John Seddon and Jeremy Craven.</li> </ul> <p><b>New BBS Committee members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A number of people approached Tony and John at the BBS 2012 Durham meeting and would like to be considered to join the BBS Committee, and three people have supplied brief CV's. Tony will contact all three prospective committee members to discuss them joining the committee.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Tony</b></p>
8.	<p><b>Treasurer's Report (Jeremy Craven)</b></p> <p>Jeremy presented an overview of the BBS Current and Savings accounts. The Savings account has accrued interest, Jeremy to check with bank how much.</p> <p>The IUPAB invoices for 2012 and 2007 have been paid at the lower rate. The 2006 invoice is in principle still to be paid.</p> <p>The BBS subscription to EBSA is 400 – 500 Euros (2 Euros per member). Tony Wilkinson needs sterling for part of the EBSA operating budget so Tony suggests that the BBS subscription be paid in sterling rather than Euros. Jeremy suggested we pay a number of years EBSA subscription in advance, and Tony encouraged this.</p> <p>The BBS Indemnity Insurance has been renewed.</p>
9.	<p><b>Meetings Secretary's Report (Guy Grant)</b></p> <p><b>2012</b></p> <p>11/7 – 13/7: <i>BBS Biennial Meeting</i>; University of Durham (Ehmke Pohl, John Girkin) <b>Congratulations to Ehmke!</b> The Sound Bites worked very well.</p> <p>22/8 – 23/8: <i>Biomolecular Motility</i>; Heythrop Park House. (Co-organised by Mark Leake and Richard Berry).</p> <p>3/9 – 5/9: <i>Physics meets Biology 2012</i>; St. Anne's College Oxford. (Andrew Turberfield, Mark Leake and others)</p> <p>11/9 – 13/9: <i>Faraday Discussion Meeting: Lipids and Membrane Biophysics</i>; Burlington House, London (John Seddon)</p>

## **2013**

March: *Molecular Biophysics*; Joint meeting with the German BPS (Tony Watts, Karin Hauser (Konstanz). List of possible UK speakers has been sent, and invitations have been sent.

July: 13/7 – 17/7 2013 EBSA Congress, 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July (Lisbon).

“*Bionanotechnology – recent advances*” Satellite to EBSA congress; possibly in Sesimbra, Portugal (Tony Watts). 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> July, joint BBS and Swiss Biophysical Society. Horst Vogel, Lausanne, CH is co-organiser.

Tony has applied to IUPAB for funding asking for 5K Euros and EBSA 5 – 10K Euros for a satellite meeting “*Bionanotechnology – recent advances*”. IUPAB need a teaching element in the satellite, eg: 1 hour teaching and then research talks. Proposed people on the programme: Ces Dekker, Stefan Hell, Hagan Bayley, Horst Vogel, Tony Watts for workshop.

*Protein Dynamics Workshop*, 2 days, Autumn, Durham (Ehmke Pohl, Tom McLeish).

April 2013, 2 days followed by 2/3 day workshop with 100 participants. BBS to endorse and support. IoP also supporting.

John to inform Ehmke (cc to Guy) that BBS is happy to support this with 4 travel bursaries (for UK participants) of up to £200 each. People to apply to Guy for bursaries. BBS is also happy to sponsor a £100 Poster prize.

## **2014**

*BBS Biennial Meeting*, University of Birmingham. The Committee decided that the best date for the Meeting would be in the week commencing 14/7/2014, just before schools break up for summer. The topics to be covered are not yet decided.

**Action: Tony**

## **2015**

*EBSA Congress* – Dresden

The Committee needs to think about a couple of small BBS meetings for 2015.

**2016** – The committee needs to consider whether we will run any meetings in this year, or whether all our efforts will be directed towards planning Edinburgh 2017?

## **2017**

*Joint IUPAB/EBSA/IoP/BBS Congress*, Edinburgh, 16<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> July 2017. Some 3000 rooms are reserved and the venue (EICC) booked through the IoP (conference organizers). Timescales for booking a venue for the banquet are being explored: Holyrood House, Dynamic Earth (can cater for 600 people sitting or 1200 people standing), Royal Museum, Chambers Street (can cater for 900 people).

10.	<p><b>Report on 2012 BBS Meeting in Durham</b> (Ehmke Pohl)</p> <p><b>BBS meeting 2012: Collingwood College, Durham University, 11-13 July</b></p> <p><b>Participation</b> The meeting featured five plenary talks, including the prize lecture by Dr Marina Kuimova, eight sessions with 33 lectures, and a poster session with more than 70 contributions. Overall 179 participants were registered (including representatives from the commercial sponsors) and all but 3 attended the meeting. In addition, there were four speakers from the LMS (London Mathematical Society) Durham Symposium. A couple of requests for late registration had to be turned down due to limited capacity. Three student bursaries were awarded to Geoff Nelson (Oxford), Scott Jackson (Leeds) and Cheng Ma (Leeds). So far only Cheng Ma has claimed the bursary.</p> <p><b>Sponsors</b> 18 companies supported the meeting either directly or by sponsoring speaker or poster prizes. 12 companies joined the commercial exhibition and showcased their services and products. The overall financial contribution added up to £10,213 (including in-kind contributions such as book vouchers). All companies but Agilent (£275) and JPK (£500) have paid. Invoices for the remaining two have been raised by Durham.</p> <p><b>Feedback</b> The quality of the light lunches and the first dinner was possibly less than average, and in hindsight we could have been more generous on the first dinner. The poster session started with some delay and only after some scrambling. We received lengthy apologies from both Collingwood College as well as EventDurham for the shortcomings so that we did not feel we had to raise this issue again. General feedback was very positive, the quality of the science was considered extremely high, the exhibitors were very happy with the contacts, in particular during the poster session. A couple of companies asked about a more regular association with the BBS. This is something we might discuss at future BBS committee meetings. The venue/food of the conference dinner in the castle was generally highly praised. A big thank you should go to the local (student) helpers, Sam Lear, Janet French and Nelly Hajizade, and of course to Alex Probert. The BBS meeting in Durham was a great success. For future planning, registration should be done differently. Having the PayPal facility is suggested; however, it has proved to be difficult matching up payments with payee and for those who require an invoice. Alternatively, having a conference organiser to deal with the admin element would be the way forward. Matt Hicks will be leading the next BBS Biennial meeting 2014. Tony asked Matt</p>
-----	--

	<p>whether he had considered the admin implications of organising such an event. He will definitely need assistance to organise. The question regarding the cost of employing a professional organiser was asked. Based on the numbers of the last meeting, this would cost in the region of £3-4K. Matt has decided to focus on holding the meeting in Birmingham instead of Warwick owing to costs, Warwick being too expensive. Matt was encouraged by Tony and John to use a professional organiser; the cost can be built into the registration fee. Tony prompted Matt regarding having someone in place for the website and registration requirements for the meeting well ahead of time.</p> <p>Matt to provide feedback at the next BBS Committee meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Matt</b></p>
11.	<p><b>Newsletter /Publicity officer</b> Nothing to report.</p> <p>Tharin to send news group email informing the EBSA Avanti Prize (\$3000) and EBSA Young Investigator's Prize (€2000); deadline end Dec. Nominations through BBS.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Tony</b></p> <p>Syma to arrange Newsletter for Dec '12. This should include a half-page report from the Durham meeting, and a brief report from Faraday Discussion 161.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>Action: Ehmke and John</b></p>
12.	<p><b>Website</b> (Mark Wallace) The BBS website is looking good. It appears that the newly redesigned website has led to an increase in BBS membership.</p>
13.	<p><b>Membership</b> (Ehmke Pohl) Ehmke has up to date details, not presented at meeting.</p>
14.	<p><b>Irish Sub-section</b> (Dave Sheehan) Hagan Bayley will be going on either 25<sup>th</sup> or 31<sup>st</sup> October, and he is saving both dates until Queen's University confirms. BBS will not be covering the local costs. We would like a photo and report for Newsletter.</p>
15.	<p><b>Honorary Members (Tony Watts)</b> Nominations needed at the January 2013 BBS Committee meeting. We plan to elect two members for 2013, Gerald Elliott and one other.</p>
16.	<p><b>AOB</b> None.</p>
17.	<p><b>Date of the next meeting</b> Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 12.30 – 4.00, <b>University of Sheffield.</b></p>