

# British Biophysical Society

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

Registered Charity No. 25474

**The 162<sup>nd</sup> Committee Meeting of the British Biophysical Society, held from  
12.30 pm – 4.30 pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014 in 2014 in the University of Warwick,  
Senate House, room 336, Coventry**

## Edited Minutes

**Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014

**Present:** Anthony Watts (Chair), Tharin Blumenschein (Secretary), Guy Grant (Meetings Secretary), Jeremy Craven (Treasurer), John Seddon, Mark Wallace, Tim Dafforn (co-opted), Gordon Roberts, Syma Khalid, and David Scott.

**1 Apologies:** Ehmke Pohl, Svetlana Antonyuk, Rob Cooke, Matt Hicks, Tuomas Knowles, Mark Leake, John Sanderson and David Sheehan.

**2 Approval of Minutes of the 161<sup>st</sup> meeting**  
The Minutes were accepted without change.

### **3 Matters Arising**

The committee thanked Alison Rodger for organising the committee meeting at the University of Warwick (and the excellent lunch).

The historic minutes from 1960 – 2014 (except Minutes 67 (Sept 1982) – 74 (Jan 1985)) have been collated by JS are now available on the BBS website.

The committee is encouraged to organise lectures around the UK by any potential speakers on sabbatical leave in the UK – these speakers can be called “The BBS International Lecturer”. These talks provide good publicity for the BBS at a low cost.

The committee approved a vote of thanks for the members involved in judging the BBS Young Investigator Medal: John Seddon, Guy Grant, Tim Dafforn and David Sheehan.

### **4 Chairman’s Report (Anthony Watts)**

As part of his activities between January and May 2014, the Chairman:

- Wrote to prospective new Honorary Members (Prof Alan Cooper, Glasgow; Prof Robin Leatherbarrow, Liverpool; Prof Sheena Radford (FRS), Leeds and Prof Helen Saibil, (FRS), Birkbeck), inviting them to permit their names to go

forward for election at the July 2014 AGM in Warwick.

- Maintained contact with the IUPAB Brisbane congress organisers about progress, advertising (EBSA and BBS), and planning for the 2017 IUPAB/EBSA/BBS/loP congress in Edinburgh. Contracts for the congress will need to be negotiated with all the involved parties.
- Wrote to all nominators for the BBS Young Investigator Medal, and thanked them for their interest and help.
- Wrote to and informed Tuomas Knowles (Cambridge) of his success in being awarded the BBS Young Investigator Medal, 2014;
- Arranged for the BBS Young Investigator Medal to be made and engraved by M Tags (Chestnut Farm, Norton, Gloucester GL2 9LH – [enquiry@m-tags.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@m-tags.co.uk)).
- Arranged a meeting in Oxford on May 28<sup>th</sup> with Claire Garland (loP conference team), Andrew Turberfield (co-chair to 2017 congress) to discuss planning and marketing of IUPAB 2017.

## **5 EBSA/IUPAB Activities (John Seddon / Gordon Roberts)**

Nominations are being sought for the Avanti Polar Lipids/EBSA Award (for established investigators – this award went to Prof Felix Goni, University of the Basque Country, at the EBSA Congress, Lisbon in 2013), and for the EBSA Young Investigator's Medal and Prize.

Nominations for the EBSA Young Investigator's Medal should come to the BBS committee, who will then forward nominations to John Seddon, as EBSA Secretary. The committee will need to decide on the nomination at the September meeting, and therefore nominations should be sent to Tharin Blumenschein, as BBS Secretary, by 31<sup>st</sup> August. CVs from nominations for the BBS Young Investigator Medal will be kept and considered when sending nominations for the EBSA Young Investigator Medal.

An email will be sent to the BBS mailing list asking for nominations for the EBSA Young Investigator Medal.

**Action:** John Sanderson

Nominations for the Avanti/EBSA Award can be either individual, self- or society nominations, and therefore can be sent directly to the EBSA President. An email will be sent to the BBS mailing list asking for nominations for the Avanti/EBSA Award to be sent to the EBSA President.

**Action:** John Sanderson

EBSA will give up to €2,000 in total for student bursaries for students from outside the UK to attend the BBS Biennial Congress in Warwick, July 2014.

EBSA Biophysics Workshop will be held 8-12<sup>th</sup> September, in Le Grande Motte, just outside Montpellier.

EBSA is also supporting the International School of Biophysics, in Croatia, 27<sup>th</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> October.

The next EBSA Congress will be in Dresden, in July 2015. Tony Watts is organising a satellite meeting for young investigators just before the Congress. These meetings have an important role for networking, with the attendees staying in touch during the Congress and beyond.

The abstract submission deadline for the 2014 IUPAB Congress (Brisbane, 3 – 7 August 2014) has been extended to 31<sup>st</sup> May. A number of Young Scientist travel bursaries are available.

A number of satellite meetings will happen around the IUPAB Congress. John Seddon and Calum Drummond (CSIRO) are organising a meeting on 'Lipidic Cubic Phases' from 31<sup>st</sup> July – 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

At the 2014 IUPAB Congress (Brisbane, 3 – 7 August 2014), the BBS will have two votes. Tony Watts and Syma Khalid have been selected by the committee to represent the BBS.

**Action:** Tharin to email the IUPAB

**6 IOP Activities**

Nothing reported. We are still looking at recruiting a new Committee member to represent IOP.

**7 Secretary's Report (Tharin Blumenschein)**

There were no items to report.

**8 Treasurer's Report (Jeremy Craven)**

**Current Financial situation**

Total reserves are ca. £41200. Uncertainty of approximately £2K due to possible outstanding bill from Durham for 2012 conference.

**Subscriptions to other bodies**

All IUPAB and EBSA subscriptions are up to date. The Royal Society contribution for 2014 has been received.

**Advertisements in newsletter**

Payment of £250 from Royal Society for an advertisement in the Feb 2013 newsletter has been received after sorting out some issues about how to invoice for it. Those issues are now rectified and we have invoiced for an advert in the latest newsletter for same amount. These are very useful sums, and if we could keep a trickle of similar things going it is an easy way to give us more funds.

**Bursary and meetings support**

It was suggested that we should set up a budget for supporting travel bursaries for meeting attendance, perhaps around £2000 per annum. It was discussed whether that support should be restricted to meetings directly organised or supported by the BBS, or if it could be offered for other relevant meetings in the area. The general consensus was that we should protect at least an amount of the budget for support of BBS meetings, particularly if applications will be trickling in, with no fixed deadlines. Bursaries could be made conditional on writing an article for the BBS newsletter about the meeting attended.

Another option was to turn it into a prize, and create a new initiative for BBS members, instituting a writing competition.

**Action:** Syma Khalid to define criteria for the writing competition

Bursary applications should be sent directly to Guy.

**Action:** Mark Wallace to update website

The committee approved support of talks organised by undergraduate Biophysics-related societies.

**Action:** Jeremy and Mark Wallace to coordinate

## 9 Meetings Secretary's Report (Guy Grant)

### 2014

The BBS Biennial meeting will happen on 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July at the University of Warwick. More details below.

A One-day Workshop on Teaching Biophysics, with £150 agreed support from BBS, will be organised in the future – postponed from September.

**Action:** Jeremy

ISIS Workshop – Neutron Characterisation in Fundamental and Applied Biochemistry, 3<sup>rd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> October.

To mark the International Year of Crystallography, a one-day meeting on complementary non-diffraction techniques will be organised in London, on the 11<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> December. Possible speakers and sponsors were discussed.

**Action:** Tony, contact speakers and Guy to book venue

**Action:** All committee members to think of speakers

### 2015

Short BBS meeting in Oxford, perhaps focusing around the new EM, or on optics / imaging. This could be 1.5 day spread over two days, and would also be an opportunity to have our AGM and hand in the historical minutes to the Bodleian Library. Perhaps in March/April, in Wadham College. This meeting could be connected to the new EM facility in Diamond / Oxford.

A future committee meeting could be organised at the same time in Oxford.

**Action:** Mark Wallace, Tony

EBSA Congress, Dresden, 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Organizer: Helmut Grübmueller, Göttingen. The BBS will fund bursaries.

A satellite meeting to engage and introduce younger participants to each other ahead of EBSA 2015 is planned.

**Action:** Tony

Possible joint meeting with the Biochemical Society, approaching them as a Society with a well developed proposal for a Harden Conference.

**Action:** Guy, David Scott

The RSC approached the BBS about co-sponsorship of meetings. Terms of co-sponsorship were reviewed by the committee, and there was interest in co-sponsoring the Faraday Discussion on Single Molecule Microscopy and Spectroscopy, 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> September, in London.

**Action:** Mark Wallace

### 2016

BBS Biennial Meeting. Possible locations are Southampton or Liverpool.

**Action:** Tony to contact Svetlana and Syma

Another cutting edge one-day meeting in London could be organised for 2016,

perhaps with Tuomas' involvement.

**Action:** Guy

## **2017**

IUPAB / EBSA Congress, Edinburgh. Cait McPhee and another local person should be brought onto the BBS Committee by the end of 2014 to help with the planning and organization.

IUPAB executive will need to come and look at the site in Edinburgh – perhaps in January 2016. Registration fees need to be decided by then.

Louise Mathieson (IUPAB admin support to the SG) and Hannah Pickford (ASN events), who are involved in organising the Brisbane IUPAB congress, will be consulted about organising the meeting in Edinburgh when Claire Garland (IoP) attends the Brisbane IUPAB meeting..

## **BBS Biennial meeting, 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> July, University of Warwick**

Approximately 100 participants registered so far, with 55% requesting accommodation, and 63% requesting membership. 60% of the paying speakers have registered, and the current gross profit is £1600 on registration.

Still missing some speakers for simulation, and looking for a replacement for Sheena Radford. Jennifer Potts will be invited.

Bruker has offered £500 sponsorship, while Jasco is still pending, and Scientific Laboratory Supplies has offered £400.

Timetable in the run-up to the meeting is:

- 14<sup>th</sup> May – meeting with Conference organisers and email to be sent – 2 weeks to go to abstract deadline.
- 21<sup>st</sup> May – email to be sent – 1 week to go to abstract deadline.
- 31<sup>st</sup> May – abstract deadline.
- 15<sup>th</sup> June – oral and poster presenters notified.

### **10 Newsletter/Publicity Officer (Syma Khalid)**

The newsletter is ready, just awaiting an article – Iain Campbell's obituary.

### **11 Website (Mark Wallace)**

No items were reported.

### **12 Membership**

A discussion on corporate membership was postponed to the next committee meeting and will be added to the agenda then.

**Action:** Tony

### **13 Irish Sub-section (Dave Sheehan)**

Names of possible speakers for the 2014 Irish Lecture Tour were discussed, and they will be approached.

**Action:** Tony

### **14 Honorary Members (Anthony Watts)**

Honorary members have been contacted and invited to allow their names to go forward for approval during the AGM in Warwick.

### **15 AOB**

No other items were raised.

**16**

**Date of Next Meeting**

September, possibly in London. Date to be decided.