

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Committee

The twentieth meeting of the Committee took place at 2.45 p.m. on Thursday, 2nd February 1967, at the Physics Department, Queen Elizabeth College, Campden Hill Road, London, W.8.

Present: Professor D. D. Eley + Prof. B. Katz.
Professor R. E. Burge
Dr. H. E. Huxley
Dr. R. A. Kekwick
Professor M. Pollock
Dr. M. Tombs
Dr. J. B. Finean (Meetings Secretary)
Dr. A. C. T. North (Treasurer)
Dr. A. R. Peacocke (Secretary)

Apologies for absence were received from Professor N. Symonds and Dr. M. Perutz.

67/1 Professor D.D. Eley was elected as Chairman.

67/2 The Minutes of the 19th Meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.

67/3 Matters Arising from the Minutes.

- (a) The referendum of members concerning publications and the expression of opinion at the A.G.M. were discussed. It was decided:

(i) that the Society should nominate three editors to serve on the Editorial Board of the Biochemical Journal to edit papers addressed to them and submitted by members of the Society. The following were proposed as the Society's editors for this purpose: Dr. A.C.T. North, Dr. M. Tombs, Dr. A.R. Peacocke. This appointment should be for one year in the first instance.

(ii) not to enter into arrangements with the Biochemical Society so that members of the Biophysical Society should be able to purchase the Biochemical Journal without themselves joining the Biochemical Society, since there was very little need expressed for such an arrangement.

- (b) Correspondence from Pergamon Press Ltd. was reported by the Secretary and it was agreed to accept the offer of

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this Press which would enable members of the Society to purchase "Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology" at the reduced price of 45/- instead of the commercial price of £5.5.-. This arrangement should be available in time for members to purchase volume 17, due to be published in April 1967.

- (c) A report was received from Professor D.C. Phillips concerning the Summer School held at Oxford in September 1966. This report was received and approved and a resolution was passed unanimously that a letter should be sent to Professor Phillips expressing the Society's appreciation of the work he had done in organising this very successful Summer School. It was noted that the Extra-Mural Delegacy of the University of Oxford was very pleased with the success of this School and had expressed willingness to co-operate in a similar venture in the future. The possibility of future summer schools was discussed and it was noted that Professor P.M.B. Walker of Edinburgh University was thinking of organising such a school in 1969 or 1970, and that other possibilities might include Birmingham in 1968, Plymouth (possibly Professor Denton) and Norwich (possibly Professor Dainty). The Meetings Secretary was asked to make enquiries about these possibilities.
- (d) It was noted that the International Union for Pure and Applied Biophysics proposed to publish a journal entitled "Quarterly Reviews of Biophysics."

67/4

Correspondence

- (a) In response to a letter from M.S.E. Ltd., it was agreed that this Company should be allowed to exhibit its new ultracentrifuge at the forthcoming April meeting (providing local arrangements could be made), but that it would not be allowed to exhibit general scientific equipment on this occasion, and that the Society should maintain its practice of not having trade exhibitions associated with its meetings.
- (b) In response to a letter from the American Elsevier Company, the Society's policy of not circulating publication information to its members was reaffirmed and the Secretary was asked to write accordingly.

67/5

Reports on Meetings

- (a) Winter Meeting on "The Genetic Code", December 19th-20th 1967: This meeting was held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers in London and the attendance was 650.

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The net cost to the Society was £540 and the total receipts were £520, including 34 £2 subscriptions from new members. So the net cost to the Society was £20 at the date of the Committee meeting.

- (b) Physical Biochemistry Group: A meeting was held on 4th January 1967 at the Biophysics Department, King's College, London, on "Applications of the Computer to Problems in Physical Biochemistry." 55 attended.

67/6

Future Meetings

- (a) 11th-13th April 1967, Oxford: "The Spectroscopy of Biological Macromolecules." The Local Secretary, Dr. A.R. Peacocke, reported on arrangements for this meeting. Posters had been circulated and applications were now being received.
- (b) 18th, 19th, 20th December 1967, in the Botany Theatre of University College, London: a meeting on "Muscle" to be organised by Dr. H.E. Huxley and Dr. D.R. Wilkie. The charge for the lecture theatre would be £15.15.-.
- (c) 1st-3rd April 1968, at Nottingham University: a meeting on "Biological Semi-conductors" to be organised by Professor D. Eley. Rutland Hall had been booked for the period of the meeting.
- (d) December 1968: a meeting on "Quantum Processes" at University College, London (organiser: Dr. Fatt) was possible.
- (e) Physical Biochemistry Group:
- (i) 24th May 1967: M.R.E., Porton, Wilts.
"Physico-chemical Properties of RNA in Ribosomes and Viruses". Organiser: Dr. K.A. Cammock.
- (ii) 3rd October 1967: Queen Elizabeth College, London, on "Dielectric Properties of Biological Macromolecules". Organiser: Dr. E.H. Grant.

67/7

Abstracts

It was agreed that there should be no change in the format of the abstracts, and that these should not be printed in "Progress in Biophysics and Molecular Biology", as had been tentatively suggested by Professor J.A.V. Butler.

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67/8 The Royal Institution

The Secretary reported that Professor G. Porter, at the Royal Institution, London, had raised the possibility of the Royal Institution becoming a possible centre for the Society's administration and activities. The Committee authorized the Officers of the Society to have informal discussions on this matter with Professor Porter.

67/9 Investments

The Treasurer was authorized to make enquiries concerning possible future investments for the Society's funds.

67/10 Printing of Rules

It was agreed that the printing of the rules of the Society should be deferred until the Inland Revenue had finally assented to them.

67/11 Trustees

The Treasurer reported that Trustees would have to be appointed under the new rules in order to meet the requirements of the Inland Revenue. It was agreed to consider this matter at the next meeting.

67/12 List of Members

It was agreed that a list of current members of the Society should be printed as soon as possible, in a quarto format.

67/13 Signatures on Membership Forms

It was agreed that the requirement for signatures from a proposer and from a seconder on membership application forms should still be insisted upon.

67/14 Membership

The Treasurer reported that the Society now had 530 members.

67/15 Abstracts

It was agreed to circulate information about the French Biophysics Abstract List to members.

67/16 Professor Harker

The Committee authorized the Treasurer to provide a maximum sum of £60 towards the travelling expenses of Professor Harker, in order to enable him to lecture on "The Structure of Ribonuclease" on the evening of April 12th, during the Spring Meeting at Oxford.

67/17 New Members

The names of 74 proposed members were presented to the Committee and accepted. Three resignations were noted.

67/18 Accounts

The Treasurer proposed, and the Committee accepted, that the accounts of the Society should be based on a new financial year beginning on 1st September of each year. The Treasurer was authorized to make the necessary arrangements with the Auditors.

67/19 Biological Council

It was agreed to circulate information concerning the next meeting organised by the Biological Council on "The Interaction of Drugs and Sub-cellular Components in Animal Cells", to be held in London on the 10th and 11th April.

67/20 Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Committee meeting should be held at 2.45 p.m. on the 18th May 1967, at the Physics Department, Queen Elizabeth College, London.

DD
18 May 1967.