

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the 61st meeting of the Committee held on Tuesday, 30th September 1980 at the Biochemical Society Rooms.

Present: Dr. G.L. Kellett: Secretary, and in the Chair.
Dr. S.D. Dover: Meetings Secretary

Dr. P. Bayley, Prof. D. Chapman, Dr. R. Dwek, Dr. P. Goodford,
Prof. P.M. Harrison, Prof. B. Jennings, Prof. A. Keller, Dr. P.F. Knowles,
Prof. A.C.T. North, Dr. D. Rees.

Apologies: Dr. R. Henderson, Dr. M.J. Holwill, Prof. C.F. Phelps, Prof. D. Wilkie.

80/18 The Minutes of the 60th Meeting were approved and signed by the Secretary in the absence of the Chairman.

80/19 Matters arising from the Minutes

(a) The Techniques Group: Minute 80/15(a).

Dr. Bayley presented a paper examining the various options open to the Committee concerning the status of this group and the Society's representation. It was agreed that the Society should maintain its representation at one out of ten committee members and contribute £50 p.a. towards the funding of the group. The Secretary was to put this proposal to the Secretary of the Techniques Group.

(b) Accountability of the Society's Representatives: Minute 80/14.

Arising out of the discussion on the Techniques Group, further comments were made on the effectiveness of our representation. The Committee agreed that in future all its representatives should be members of the Committee and should rotate on and off extra-society committees as they became or ceased to be members of the Committee. This policy is to be implemented from January 1981.

80/20 Report of the Secretary

(a) Support for the Biological Council: The Committee agreed to donate the sum of £20 to the Biological Council for support of a symposium on "Mechanisms of Steroid Action" to be held in April 1981.

(b) The Biochemical Journal: The Secretary reported that he had forwarded a list of names composed of suggestions elicited from the Committee for the new editorial advisory board of the Biochemical Journal. Dr. Bayley agreed to find out how far the final board compiled by the Journal represented biophysical interests. Dr. Bayley noted that Dr. Spragg would be retiring shortly from the Editorial Board and that a replacement would be needed.

(c) IUPAB Congress, Mexico 1981: The Secretary reported that forty three members had expressed interest in obtaining funds from the Royal Society through a block grant to the BBS. The official travel agents had quoted £540 per person.

(d) European Federation of Biophysical Societies

It was agreed that the Secretary should write to Professor Kreutz about the possible formation of a European Federation of Biophysical Societies.

80/21 Report of the Meetings Secretary

(a) December 1980: 'Nucleic acids: interaction with drugs and carcinogens'

Dr. Neidle (present for this item) presented the provisional balance sheet for this conference. £1300 in donations had been received and the conference was assured of financial success.

(b) Easter 1981: 21st Birthday Meeting

Professor North presented a list of those speakers who had agreed to participate. The cost of the conference was tentatively estimated at £2,400 to be covered by donations and registration fees. It was agreed to set up a bursary fund for young people up to £1000 depending on finance. The selection of students for these awards is to be decided by a sub-committee comprising Professors North and Phelps and Dr. Knowles.

(c) December 1981: Trigger Processes in Biology

Dr. Knowles presented a second draft of the programme and reported that income to date was £700.

80/22 Report of the Treasurer (Dr. S.D. Dover in the absence of Professor Phelps)

(a) Lancaster Meeting, Easter 1980

Dr. Dover presented the final balance sheet which showed a surplus of £753.

(b) Biophysics Booklet

It was agreed that 1000 copies of the booklet should be produced in the first instance. The final choice of cover for the booklet was to be left to Professor Phelps.

(c) Committee Members Liabilities

It was agreed that Professor Phelps should be asked to clarify the position regarding Committee members financial liability.

80/23 Physics within Biophysics

Professor Jennings reported that there was a move within the Institute of Physics to set up a Biophysics group because the people concerned felt that the British Biophysical Society did not represent their interests. The Secretary of the Institute wished to know the feelings of the Committee on this matter. The Committee asked Professor Jennings to convey the following points: The people concerned could: (i) propose and organise a meeting for the Society; (ii) if need be, form a sub-group within the Society; (iii) advance nominations for committee members who might represent their view.

80/24 Circulation dates

It was agreed the circulation dates would be as near as possible to 15th January, 15th June and 15th September. Copy is to be sent to the Meetings Secretary by the 1st of the relevant month.

80/25 Committee Membership

- (a) The Secretary reported that Dr. Holwill might be in a position to act as Membership Secretary if required.
- (b) The Secretary reported that there will be six vacancies caused by retirement of Committee members and asked for nominations to be sent to him by 17th November. Dr. S.D. Dover had agreed to allow his name to go forward for election as Honorary Secretary.

80/26 Representative's Report

Professor Harrison reported that the Inorganic Biochemistry Discussion Group had a bank balance of £1250 and that its new secretary is to be Dr. R.N.F. Thorneley.

80/27 Committee Structure

It was agreed that a sub-committee comprised of Drs. Holwill, Dover and Bayley should produce a paper on Committee Structure and Responsibilities for the next meeting.

80/28 The Date of the Next Meeting: Monday 5th January at 2.15 p.m. in the Biochemical Society Rooms.

Dr. G.L. Kelleff
6th October 1980.

5.1.81.