

IUPAC – Division 1 Committee

Minutes of the General Assembly Meeting 2007

The 2007 meeting was held during the IUPAC General Assembly at Torino, Italy Aug 4-5 2007.

Present: Christopher Brett (President)
Ron Weir (Past President)
Michel J. Rossi (Vice President)
Ruth Lynden-Bell (Secretary)
Jeremy Frey (TM)
Jim McQuillan (TM)
Albert Goldbeter (TM)
Zhong Qun Tian (TM)
Kaoru Yamanouchi (TM)
Sung-Jin Kim (AM)
Assaf Friedler (NR)

Young Observers:

Katherine Holt (UK)
Eric Borguet (USA)
Ponnadurai. Ramasami (Mauritius) - Sunday

Bryan Henry (IUPAC President) - Saturday morning

1. Introduction, welcome and apologies.

Christopher Brett welcomed Bryan Henry, the committee members and the Young Observers. Apologies had been received from other members (TMs and AMs). He invited Bryan Henry to address the meeting.

Bryan Henry stated that he was here primarily to listen and to answer questions. He noted that the Streamlining Committee has introduced changes to the Council Agenda which should facilitate the business of the Council and Bureau.

2. Agenda.

The agenda was approved without changes. It was agreed to be flexible over timing. Note in these minutes the order of business in the Agenda is followed.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting.

The proposal by Ron Weir, seconded by Ruth Lynden-Bell that the minutes of the 2005 Beijing meeting should be accepted was approved unanimously.

The proposal by Ron Weir, seconded by Chris Brett that the minutes of the 2006 off-year meeting should be accepted was approved unanimously.

4. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising which did not appear in the agenda.

5. Finances.

The secretary reported that the Division budget contained some \$12,000 available for new projects in the current biennium 2006-07. The split between operating costs and projects was well within the guideline of 30%.

She reported that a letter had been received from the outgoing IUPAC Treasurer, Dr Buxtorf. This urges Divisions to be careful in their budgeting and, in particular, not to exceed the 30% agreed for operations. There is an increase in the funding for the strategic Opportunities fund which supersedes the former Division Reserve Fund.

Bryan Henry emphasized the opportunities that the Strategic Opportunities Fund could provide Divisions and urged us to make use of it.

6. Elections.

Ron Weir, as chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported that 25 proposed names had been received for TMs and AMs for the next biennium. They drew up a list of 3 pairs of candidates with expertise to replace the retiring members and to give geographical and gender coverage. An election was held. As the result of the election, the TM and AM members of the committee for 2008-9 will be:

Titular members:

President: Michel J. Rossi (Switzerland)
Vice-President: Jim McQuillan (New Zealand)
Secretary: Ruth Lynden-Bell (UK)
Past President: Christopher Brett (Portugal)
John Dymond (UK) (2008-11)
Albert Goldbeter (Belgium) (2006-9)
Jiang-Guo Hou (China) (2008-2011)
Roberto Marquardt (France) (2008-11)
Brian Sykes (Canada) (2008-11)
Kaoru Yamanouchi (Japan) (2006-9)

Associate Members (max.6):

Clive Prestidge (Australia) (2nd term)
Angela Wilson (USA) (2nd term)
Anthony Goodwin (USA) (1st term)
Geoffrey Moore (UK) (1st term)
Manuel Rico (Spain) (1st term)
Sung-Jin Kim (Korea) (2nd term)

There was some discussion over naming National Representatives. The final list was agreed to be:

National Representatives (max.10):

M. Chalaris (Greece)
A. Friedler (Israel)
O.V. Mamchenko (Ukraine)
S. Riazuddin (Pakistan) (Biochemistry)
S. Stolen (Norway) (Phys Chem)
M. Witko (Poland) (Theoretical Chem)

At the time of the meeting it was believed that the maximum allowable number of NRs was 6. It was then discovered that the maximum was 10, and the officers agreed to add the names of two other people nominated by their National Adhering Organisations namely V. Tsakovska (Bulgaria) and F. Akhtar (Bangladesh).

7. President's Report for the Biennium 2006-7.

Chris Brett introduced his report and noted the structure with an Executive Summary. The report will be available on the IUPAC website <http://www.iupac.org/divisions/I/index.html> under reports of activities 2007.

8. Current Projects

The accounts of projects in the President's report are mostly up to date. There were no serious concerns.

Project monitors added updates as follows:

2004-035-1-100 Tennyson. This project is going well with many intensities and line positions tabulated.

2006-02102-100 Rouquerol. The task group has met twice, first to assign tasks and secondly to discuss the first short draft document. A revised draft should be ready for circulation to equipment manufacturers in November 2007. Ruth Lynden-Bell agreed to be monitor.

The President agreed to contact Fabienne Meyers to seek no-cost extensions for projects which needed them.

A paper is attached with a list of current projects and their monitors.

9. Green Book

Roberto Marquardt (President-elect of Commission 1.1) attended for this item.

The committee congratulated Jeremy Frey and Commission 1.1 for the revised Green Book which has just appeared (Third Edition, published by RSC).

Jeremy Frey reported that the Commission wished to find some way of reimbursing ETH - Zurich (Martin Quack and Jürgen Stohner) for its unforeseen expenditure on this project since 2001 and for IUPAC to obtain rights to the original Latex files. It was agreed that Chris Brett and Jeremy Frey should consult the President as to possible ways of achieving this. [This was done and a satisfactory conclusion reached].

Jeremy outlined possible projects arising from the Green Book

- a. Production of a 'Light' (= light version, condensed and adapted for students) Green Book-shortened for student use. It was suggested that the Commission and CCE should apply to the Strategic Fund for funding for this project.
- b. Translation projects. He thinks that it is essential that such projects be authorised and overseen by the Commission and that translators should work from the Latex files. It was suggested that a possible project would be to hold an initial workshop for those interested in translations and possibly final workshops to review translations. He emphasized the possibility of creating a technical dictionary from such projects. Albert Goldbeter asked whether it would be better to translate the 'Light' green book rather than the complete green book (Third Edition, 2007).
- c. Publicity. Jeremy Frey emphasized the importance of publicity and suggested that there might be projects associated with buying copies to send to journals; preparing leaflets. He would also seek a link from the IUPAC website to at least the contents page of the Green Book.

10. New projects and projects in review.

- a. Letcher has been asked to revise his proposal for a book on Renewable Energy to give more details.
- b. Division V has asked for co-funding of a project on "International Harmonized Protocols in neutron activation analysis". It was decided to offer up to \$2000.
- c. Reports were being received on a no cost project proposal by DeLoos
- d. A project was expected shortly from Angela Wilson.

- e. After some discussion, Kaoru Yamanouchi, Katherine Holt, Eric Borguet and P. Ramasami suggested ideas for proposals and agreed to prepare them in the next few months.
- f. Chris Brett agreed to circulate a recent successful proposal to show people an example. [Rouquerol's proposal has now been circulated with his permission].
- g. Possible projects in Biophysical Chemistry. Albert Goldbeter explained that in his field (systems Biology) he does not see a role for IUPAC. Either the data are not available or databases exist or there is already a mechanism for curating models. Assaf Friedler believes that there are possible projects in his area (protein-protein and protein-biological molecule interactions). He mentioned: (i) a glossary of biophysical terms for biophysicists and biologists; (ii) standardisation of reaction conditions and of methods of data analysis. He suggested the possibility of a joint task group with the International Union of Biology.

The Division President encouraged these people to formulate projects, preferably by the end of September. He urged all committee members to be on the look out for projects.

11. Interdivisional Activities:

a) COCI

The President, Dr Cesa, Secretary, Dr Booth and Dr Ishitani from COCI visited the Division I committee. They outlined their work and stated that they wish to increase interaction with the divisions and have appointed Dr Akira Ishitani (a Physical Chemist) as their representative for Div I. Our representative on COCI is Dr Dymond.

b) Other Activities

Communications with the Materials Group (Division 2) need to be improved

We have a representative (C. Brett) on the Green Chemistry Sub-Committee of Div 3.

12. Chemical Education Committee

Peter Mahaffy and Eva Åkesson attended for this item and presented their biannual report to Council. Their remit includes Education in the widest sense including Public Understanding. The proposed International Year of Chemistry in 2011 would provide a focus for publicity. It was suggested that the IUPAC website could contain a portal for Chemistry with answers to common chemical questions. At present, it is good for the use of members, but not for chemists in general. Jim McQuillan is our representative on CCE. He and Z-Q Tian have a joint project with CCE.

13. Off year meeting.

Michel Rossi (who will be President) will arrange this meeting in Switzerland. It will be after the Bureau meeting, probably in April.

14. Advisory Sub-Committee. The role of the Advisory Sub Committee is to help in project review and to initiate projects. The present number is about 40 members.

It was agreed that the policy of fixed terms was impractical as most members were appointed at the same time. It was agreed to aim for a turnover of about 25% (10 people) each biennium. It was agreed to add the names of retiring TMs to the Advisory Sub Committee and Division Committee members were urged to send suggestions for names to Chris Brett with a copy to Ruth Lynden-Bell by the end of August. Chris Brett undertook to send a copy of his biannual report to the members.

15. 45th General Assembly - Glasgow 2009

As yet there is no Division involvement. The Division President undertook to write to the organisers to ascertain whether we could help.

15. Any other business - Conference Support.

A letter had been received from the Bureau concerning the future of conference support. It was agreed that hot topics were difficult to identify and that support of Visiting Speakers to developing countries was very valuable, It was suggested that bursaries for students and young researchers from developing countries would be valuable and the president agreed to forward these views.