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Report of activities and recommendations of IUPS Commission I: Locomotion

Commission Chair: Hans Hoppeler

Muscle Section

Chair: David A. Hood

Members: Roberto Bottinelli

Terence Partridge

Ronald Terjung

Exercise & Work Section

Chair: Asker Jeukendrup

Members: F.W. Booth

Mark Hargreaves

Joe Houmard

Biomechanics Section

Chair: Andrew A. Biewener

Motor Control Section

Chair: Serge Rossignol

Members: Sten Grillner

Jens Bo Nielsen

Andrew Schwartz

Kaoru Takakusaki

After representing the IUPS Locomotion Commission in the first preparatory meeting for IUPS 2013 Birmingham, in 2011 in Oxford, I contacted the Section Chairs of my commission with disappointing results. The response was minimal mostly due to the fact that the Section Chairs felt that their work for IUPS 2009 in Kyoto was not valued and that as a consequence the representation of "Locomotion" was not adequate and that they therefore did not feel that their contribution was valued.

Unfortunately, due to teaching obligations, I could not attend the second meeting of the Scientific Advisory in March 2012. A contact I had with David Eisner was positive as the Organizing Committee perceived a lack of "Locomotion Topics" in the programme. That we tried to mend.

A Plenary Speaker that I proposed (Bente Klarlund Pedersen; University of Copenhagen) did not find her way onto the final list of plenary speakers. She was replaced by J.R. Zierath with a

similar topic; also a very good choice. A Symposium on "Eccentric Exercise" (one of the most under-researched areas in actual exercise physiology) chaired by Walter Herzog, University of Calgary, likewise did not make it into the final program. The IUPS Schmidt-Nielsen lecture that I initiated for Kyoto which was then sponsored by the Journal for Experimental Biology and which was delivered by B.M. Barnes (University of Alaska) has found a different sponsor.

In the current IUPS Scientific programme I can only find a total of some 5-7 Keynote or Named Lectures and Symposia with an immediate interest for a scientist interested in Locomotion. I therefore come to the conclusion that I have not been able to defend the interest of the scientists that I should have represented sufficiently and I have decided to resign.

As a recommendation I have a number of suggestions that may help to get more input from locomotion centered physiology and also to promote activities outside the IUPS Congress on a more sustainable basis. For this funding is necessary that may be used to help support in-between Congress activities.

- 1) Rename Commission I: from Locomotion to Exercise Physiology
- 2) Appoint Physiologist as Chair of Exercise Physiology with affiliation to one of the two major organization that dominate this field internationally:
ACSM, American College of Sports Medicine (more applied, biomedically oriented)
ECSS, European College of Sport Science (broader focus and (arguably) better science)
- 3) Names that come to mind: Paul Greenhalf, Dela Fleming, Michael Kjaer (ECSS) and Michael Hogan, Mark Hargreaves, Bruce Gladden (ACSM).

I hope that my successor is more successful in bringing more active scientists of the fields of locomotion and exercise to the next IUPS.

Sincerely

Bern July 2013

Prof. Dr. med. H. Hoppeler

Chair of Commission I
Co-Direktor Institut fuer Anatomie, University of Bern
Member of Leopoldina
Member of the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences

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A muscular twist on the fate of fat.

[Pedersen BK.](#) Department of Infectious Diseases, Center of Inflammation and Metabolism, Rigshospitalet, and the Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen.