

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2011

Present : Denis Noble, Malcolm Gordon, Walter Boron, Xian Wang, Leslie Price

The meeting was called to order by the President at 10:30 a.m. EST.

1. Approval of minutes of March 7, 2011 Executive Committee meeting

The minutes were approved.

2. Physiology education lecture at 2013 Congress

X. Wang, co-chair of the Education Committee, reports that she and co-chair P. Hansen are working on the physiology education lecture. The Executive Committee believes this would be a needed addition to the lectures. X. Wang and P. Hansen need to determine how much such a lecture would cost and then contact T. Macknight to find out how many lectures ADInstruments may wish to fund. They should also decide whether or not they wish to propose establishing a single, one-time lecture or a lecture series. The treasurer felt they also should decide on how they wish to finance whatever option they choose. Financing options range from a one-time contribution for the 2013 Congress, to a larger contribution for a specified number of lectures at multiple Congresses, or a substantial endowment donated to IUPS (either as a lump sum or as installments, to be invested and managed by IUPS) the proceeds of which would finance an indefinitely long series. They should keep M. Gordon, the treasurer, informed about the outcome. W. Boron will ask D. Eisner if such a lecture could be added to the 2013 Congress since the deadline for submitting lectures has changed to May 1, 2011.

Action: X. Wang and P. Hansen will speak with T. Macknight about education lecture. W. Boron will contact D. Eisner about including the lecture at the 2013 Congress.

3. Title for Peter Hunter – acting or interim vice president

The Executive Committee agreed that the title should be Acting Vice President. L. Price will contact P. Hunter about his title.

4. Jaypee Brothers Medical Publishers

L. Price will send them an email asking if they would be interested in sponsoring the 2013 IUPS Congress.

This item reminded W. Boron that IUPS might work with publishers to generate funds for IUPS. IUPS pays APS \$15,000 a year to be a partner in *Physiology*, but does not receive anything from APS. APS has not made a profit on the journal because of bookkeeping procedures.

M. Gordon informed the ExCo that the Joint Managing Board for *Physiology* needs to be reconstituted with two new members from each side and with the IUPS Treasurer remaining as a voting member. Once that is done the Board should be activated on a regular basis to discharge the responsibilities that are clearly stated in the IUPS/APS contract. The contract with APS states that "The parties agree to found and own jointly a journal (hereafter *Athe Journal*@), which will report and describe trends, discoveries and events of interest to scientists and others working in the field of physiology...IUPS and APS shall each own a one-half undivided interest in the Journal... A joint board consisting of two representatives each of IUPS and APS shall decide general questions of policy in consultation with the Managing Publisher and Chief Editor." The ExCo agreed that this item should be included on the agenda for the Council meeting in July. They will invite APS and Phys Soc to meet for half an hour after the Council meeting. M. Gordon asked if *Physiology* should act more as a house organ for IUPS. W. Boron replied that he thought it should not. M. Gordon would like to have a more detailed discussion of the IUPS/APS Board at the July Council meeting.

5. NSF funding

Nothing will happen until NSF has a budget from the government. W. Boron will be talking with K. Bailey-Mathae from NAS at the Experimental Biology meeting. The ExCo decided they need to begin a discussion of plan B for funding IUPS since it is possible that the U.S. dues will not be paid any time soon.

6. Letter to Peter Wagner re mission, governance and finance

W. Boron sent an email to P. Wagner (president of APS) on March 22, 2011 and has spoken to him and the incoming president, Joey Granger. D. Noble suggested that IUPS indicate to presidents of member societies who are attending the Phys Soc conference that Council will have an open session to which may come on Friday, July 8, 2011 in the afternoon after the meeting has ended. L. Price will contact N. Boross-Toby to see what information Phys Soc has about who will be attending their conference. Council will need reports from the Membership Committee and the Education Committee. L. Price will remind the chairs of these committees to bring reports with them.

M. Gordon stated that what ExCo needs from the Membership Committee, for a full discussion prior to the July meeting, is a well worked out, overall proposal for a revision of the entire dues structure. Ideally they should have at least a draft proposal to submit in time for the May ExCo teleconference tentatively set for May 6, 2011.

Action: L. Price will contact N. Boross-Toby about society presidents attending the Phys Soc meeting. She will also remind the chairs of the Membership and Education Committees that they will be giving reports at the Council meeting.

7. Charge, structure and procedures for the Board of the GA.

The ExCo members decided that a document needs to be drafted outlining the structure, procedures and role of the Board of the General Assembly. This would include how members are chosen, how many people would be on the board (voting and non-voting) and the relationship between the Board and the Vice President who would be the liaison. W. Boron suggested that the ExCo create an outline and then give the Board some freedom to work with them to develop a model of how they would work. The creation of the Board may require a constitutional arrangement. If the larger societies who pay higher dues are voting members, this might encourage the non-voting societies to move up to the next level. The number of members on the board would be larger than 15. M. Gordon will write a first draft of an outline addressing the issues mentioned above. The relationship of the Vice President to the board needs to be determined.

Action: M. Gordon will write a draft about the structure, role and procedures for the Board of the General Assembly.

8. Letter of support to the Swedish Society of Clinical Physiology – Denis

Action: L. Price will remind D. Noble to write letter.

9. Letter to African Association of Physiological Sciences (AAPS) – sent March 9, 2011

There has been no response to the letter. ExCo will wait for replies from all the African physiological societies before proceeding.

10. Report on bids for redesign of website

W. Boron suggested that IUPS use the engine from the Case Physiology Department. He will check with Case to see if this is possible. M. Rupnik and L. Price will put together a list of specifications that IUPS requires. This will be sent to three companies for bids (N. Boross-Toby's company, Matrix and Firefly). W. Boron recommended a site with pages driven by databases running under Unix.

Action: W. Boron will ask Case if IUPS has permission to use the engine from the Dept. of Physiology website. M. Rupnik and L. Price will make a list of specifications for redesign of the IUPS website and get bids.

X. Wang asked if any ExCo members were going to attend the FAOPS meeting. Since she will be the only ExCo member there, she agreed to be the official IUPS representative. She was asked to give a report at the July Council meeting.

Action: X. Wang will give a report on the FAOPS meeting at the Council meeting in July.

11. Minutes of Membership Committee

M. Gordon does not want to decide now how IUPS will structure dues for member countries.

12. Appoint new archivist

Since Paul DeWeer did not respond to W. Boron's email, L. Price will set up a phone call for them to discuss a new archivist.

Action: L. Price set up phone conference for W. Boron and P. DeWeer.
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D. Noble suggested that in the area of transparency the monthly ExCo minutes should go to Council. The minutes of this meeting will be sent to ExCo members to approve and then will be sent to the Membership Committee and Council. They will be told that they may respond to the items discussed at the meeting if they wish to.

Action: L. Price will send minutes to ExCo and after approval to the Membership Committee and Council.
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Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Price