

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

November 23, 2011

Present: D. Noble, M. Gordon, W. Boron, L. Price **Excused:** P. Hunter, X. Chang

1. Approval of minutes of October 14, 2011 Executive Committee meeting

The minutes were approved.

2. Bio-unions

a. Support for ICSU grant proposal

W. Boron gave a report on the grant proposal:

There are six bio-unions who are willing to be supporting applicants for the ICSU grant proposal:

IUBMB (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology)
IUBS (Biological Sciences)
IUPHAR (Basic & Clinical Pharmacology)
IUIS (Immunological Societies)
IUPESM (Physical & Engineering Sciences in Medicine)
IUMS (Microbiological Societies)

D. Jaron is sending a grant application that was approved to use as a template for the IUPS application. This will be emailed to A. McCulloch who is writing the grant request. If the application is accepted, ICSU would give €30,000, some of which would be used to assist young scientists in attending the symposium. It would also help pay for providing activities that will attract the physiologists from many countries. The topic of the symposium will be "Systems Biology."

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- b. Another venue where IUPS and the bio-unions can participate is by having a Bio-Cluster Session at the 16th IUFoST World Congress next year in Iguaco, Brazil (August 5-9, 2012). Cosponsoring this with the other bio-unions would bring IUPS to the attention of the international community.

W. Boron suggested that the IUPS commissions be given grants for meetings in cooperation with the Bio-unions. All the ExCo participants agreed that IUPS should continue to be involved with these international unions. IUPS would be willing to make funds available for the bio-unions symposium to be held right after the 2013 Congress. The deadline for proposing satellites is February 1, 2012.

The discussion about having a presence at the IUFoST Congress will be placed on the December agenda. It was thought that it would be good idea. It was suggested that the commissions could attend. W. Boron will contact W. Spiess about the congress.

Action: L. Price will remind W. Boron to contact W. Spiess.

3. APS and *Physiology*

a. Choosing editor

P. Hunter sent an email saying that he thought the commission chairs should be part of the editorial board. The ExCo will delegate those powers to P. Hunter and T. Chang.

D. Noble will write a letter to the editor of *Physiology* about using IUPS as a resource for the journal. It will include:

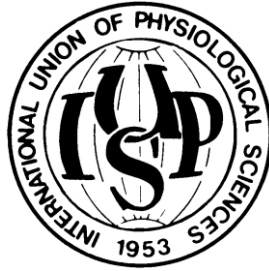
- congratulations to the editor as joint editor for IUPS and APS
- offering assistance to the editorial board to assure that the journal is international in scope
- having concerns about how the managing board is run and that IUPS would like to meet to discuss this.

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It was suggested that the IUPS members tell the chair that they want to open a discussion about the amount of money that IUPS pays and are actively concerned about the IUPS/APS relationship. W. Boron will write a paragraph for the letter. P. Hunter and T. Wang will also be asked to give input. The letter should be ready to send by December 7.

The possibility of a need for arbitration with APS about finances was considered. It was agreed that a proposal separate from the letter be written. The managing board of the journal will meet before the EB meeting. This might be a good time for discussion with APS.

M. Gordon thought that it was important to get APS to give IUPS a better deal in terms of the joint ownership. It was pointed out that IUPS needs to think about what would be a better deal. In any case, there will be open investigation of other publishers to publish *Physiology*.

b. Recent editorial

D. Noble has drafted an editorial to be published in the next issue of the journal *Physiology*. It has to be submitted in December. L. Price will recirculate the draft to the ExCo for input.

Action: L. Price will recirculate D. Noble's editorial for *Physiology* to ExCo for input.

4. Ratification of amendment to form Board of GA

On October 6, 2011 emails were sent to the 2009 delegates asking for a vote on the amendment to the constitution with a December 15 deadline. So far there have been 10 delegates voting "yes" and five "no." The positive votes were from the delegates of Belgium, Finland, Canada, Hungary, Iran and Turkey. The negative votes were from the U.S. delegates. There needs to be enough votes to constitute a quorum.

Action: L. Price is to send reminder emails twice a week to those delegates who have not voted. Starting December 12, she will send them every day.

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c. Governance proposals from TPS

D. Noble will write a letter to the president of TPS thanking him for the concern and interest The Physiological Society has in IUPS. Since there is an ongoing vote on the amendment, nothing can be done until the results are known. Any adhering body may give suggestions and they are welcomed. The General Assembly is an opportunity for delegates to submit ideas. The question of the balance of diversity on the Council did not seem to be addressed in the TPS proposal.

It was noted that the vote for the amendment needs to be completed to find out if it passed or not. It was recommended that in the letter to the president of TPS he should be asked to respond by December 7, one week before the voting deadline.

The ExCo agreed that the rest of the items on the agenda would be addressed at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Price