

# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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S. ORSONI, Paris, France



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**IUPS New Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday & Saturday 28 July & 1 August 2009**  
**12:30- 14:00**  
**International Congress Center, Kyoto, Japan**

1. A warm welcome was extended by President D. Noble to returning and new members: M. Gordon, O. Petersen, A. Campos de Carvalho (absent), Q. Pittman, D. Ricquier (absent), M. Rupnik, Y. Kurachi, X. Wang, W. Boron, P. Hunter, C. McMillen, P. Moody-Corbett, S. Semnanian, J. Rettig, T. Wang.

### 2. Finance

Further to the decision of the General Assembly, the Credit Lyonnais account will be maintained in Paris with the address to be changed as of 1 January 2010 to that of the Secretary General, W. Boron, at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

The President, Denis Noble, Treasurer, Malcolm Gordon, and Secretary General, Walter Boron will have signing powers.

Following the recommendations of the Long Range Planning Committee, the Treasurer is to be relieved of the routine administrative financial duties which will now be handled in the Secretary General's office.

The Treasurer's role will now be more concerned with financial policy matters.

While awaiting news from the APS as to whether they will continue to receive financing from the US National Science Foundation, D. Noble suggested that it might do our morale some good to think about some options other than dues. Perhaps we should go through some of the major world-ranking companies by using personal contact and intelligence guiding us to where their regional interests lie and what they might be prepared to do. One example would be to seek travel grants to attend regional meetings.

### 3. Commissions – (Chair limited to two terms by constitution)

<i>Commission I</i>	Locomotion – H. Hoppler has agreed to continue
<i>Commission II</i>	Circulation & Respiration – Y. Kurachi agreed to assume responsibility
<i>Commission III</i>	Endocrine, reproduction & Development – C. McMillen agreed to continue
<i>Commission IV</i>	Neurobiology – Q. Pittman agreed to continue
<i>Commission V</i>	Secretion & Absorption – a chair to be named

*Commission VI* Molecular and Cellular Biology – J. Rettig agreed to assume the responsibility

*Commission VII* Comparative – T. Wang agreed to assume the responsibility

*Commission VIII* Genomics & Biodiversity – a chair is to be named

#### 4. **Committees** – (No time limit placed on terms by constitution)

*Archives* – P. DeWeer is attempting to locate someone near Philadelphia to assume the responsibility and will work with S. Orsoni to find a solution.

*Education* – P. Hansen and X. Wang will co-chair the committee. They have already provided material to be posted on the web.

*Ethics* – P. Moody-Corbett will continue as chair and will renew the membership.

*Membership* – S. Semnanian has agreed to become chair. D. Noble would like to see contact made with all inactive members seeking to have them become more active. After consultation with the Executive Committee, Council members are authorized to speak on behalf of the IUPS. With regard to the situation in Africa, the AAPS is currently considered to be a Regional Member but given the current state of its membership, it should not be.

*Physiome and Systems Biology* – P. Hunter agreed to continue as chair. The question arose as to what role this committee should assume. He reported that they have been contacted by other organizations to become interactive, but that they would remain under the overall guidance of the IUPS.

*Nominations* – the chair is to be named in 2011 two years prior to the next GA.

#### 5. **Communications**

##### *Website*

Pictures and videos taken during the congress will be used to enliven the site. This is becoming ever more important and should be built up. The Education committee has added some projects, and other commissions and committees are asked to do so as well.

M. Rupnik will provide the council with data as to how often the site is visited and for what information.

##### *Physiology*

The current business model with the APS guarantees that no profit can be made, and perhaps this needs to be changed. The IUPS needs to name two new members from council, and the APS should also name two members, with the IUPS Treasurer to serve ex officio.

W. Boron and M. Gordon will suggest names for the IUPS representatives to the Managing Board.

#### 6. **Long Range Planning Committee** recommendations

As suggested in the report, the administrative duties will be transferred at the end of 2009 from the Paris office, which will be closed, to the new Secretary General's office in the US. An assistant to the Secretary General is to be hired to help manage these tasks.

## 7. International Scientific Program Committee, 2013

The Host Expectations document (May 2007) states that “*the ISPC consists of 18 persons, six representatives of the LSPC and twelve international members appointed by the IUPS Council, to be chaired by a member of the LSPC with a vice chair selected by the IUPS Council. In addition, the IUPS President and the Vice-President for Commissions are ex officio members.*”

*The Executive of IUPS seeks nominations for the international members of the ISPC from Adhering Bodies, Council and Commissions. A slate prepared by the Executive to show fair representation of the international scientific community as well as a balanced representation of all fields of physiology is submitted to Council for vote. No one person shall be appointed to serve on the ISPC for more than two congresses in succession.”* As Peter Hunter served in San Diego & Kyoto he will be unable to serve again. The first meeting will probably be held in the UK in conjunction with the 2011 meeting of council.

The Executive Committee will suggest a list of members from the IUPS.

8. **Named Lectures:** a brief introduction and overview was presented of the current named lectures. The question arose as to how best to manage a balance within the congress program and what policy to establish. It was pointed out that often those named to these slots have already been selected by the ISPC. Perhaps it could be helpful to enlarge the list, if the funds could be identified, without increasing the total number of lectures at the congress. Perhaps one of the Regional groups would like to sponsor a lecture. Y. Kurachi reported that of the 31 plenary lectures in Kyoto, 6 were “named” and funded by the IUPS.

Wallace Fenn (supported by Fenn Fund, managed by the IUPS)

T.P. Feng (supported by Feng Fund, managed by the IUPS)

Ernst Knobil (supported by Knobil Fund, managed by the IUPS)

Robert Pitts (supported by Renal section of Commission V)

August Krogh (supported by Scandinavian Physiological Society)

M. Gordon has offered to present some guidelines as to how this list might be increased with no extra cost to the IUPS.

Another aspect which needs to be considered is the importance of achieving both a better geographical and gender balance.

A group composed of D. Noble, W. Boron, Y. Kurachi, P. Hansen and C. McMillen will discuss the ongoing problem of how to keep potential spin-off groups within the field and as a part of the congress. They will meet by teleconference prior to the 2010 Executive Committee meeting.

## 9. Other International Organizations

**ICSU:** M. Gordon presented a brief overview. A new dues structure will come into effect in 2012 with hopefully somewhat lower dues to be assessed. A request has been made to have that happen sooner. D. Noble noted that this continues to be an important organization in the world because of the concept of universality.

## 10. Regional Members

**AAPS:** D. Noble and S. Orsoni met with P. Gathiram, the AAPS representative, prior to the meeting as he was not available for the council meeting. He has agreed that there are currently no fully paid society members at the present time and thus it no longer qualifies as an IUPS Regional member and may not use the IUPS logo. However, they will do their best to put their house in order prior to their 2012 congress and general assembly and thus ask for reinstatement at the 2013 IUPS general assembly. It is important that we nonetheless try to help them in their efforts. It may help to have a

representative of IUPS go to Africa and meet with members from the AAPS, PSSA, Nigerian and other African physiology societies.

Representatives of the other Regional members were invited to meet with the council, but only R. Iturriaga from the *ALACF* was available. He reported that this used to be a strong organization but has recently become dormant with no active society members. The next regional congress will take place in November 2009 in Chile, and members from the Brazil, Argentine and Chile societies will meet in an effort to resurrect the *ALACF*.

O. Petersen will attend the *ALACF* congress and has offered to work with them.

FAOPS (J. Chan) and FEPS (A. Verkhatsky) are both very active organizations but neither were able to participate in the discussion. It was noted, however, that the FEPS will be playing an active role in the 2013 congress.

It is very important that an effort be made to keep the communications channels open with all of these members.

A letter is to be sent to all Regional Members to more clearly define membership requirements but also to offer assistance to those regional groups if they so desire. This is to be followed up by the Executive committee and S. Semnanian

#### **11. Any other business**

A vote of thanks was given to Sue Orsoni prior to her retirement for many years of loyal service.

It was suggested that occasional teleconference meetings be organized to create and maintain collegiality within Council. The technical means of arranging this needs to be worked out.

The Executive Committee will meet in mid 2010 with a teleconference call with all of council to be included in the agenda. The date will be set before the end of 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 14:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Orsoni  
Executive Secretary

31 August 2009