

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting

February 14, 2018

Minutes

Present: J. Chan, P. Hunter, S. Wray, U. Pohl, S. Webster

With regret: P. Molina, C. Ball

1. Approval of the minutes of the previous ExCo meeting.

J. Chan outlined two new procedures for ExCo meetings. One is for S. Webster to distribute proposed agendas at least one week prior to skype calls, and ExCo members are to submit brief abstracts on their topics; and two is the addition to meeting agenda of Manager's monthly report.

The minutes were accepted as written.

2. Manager's report on work performed during the previous month.

S. Webster reported on his activities for the month. He reported that he was still having difficulty distributing the last of the Travel Awards from the IUPS Congress. The remaining awardees are from Nepal, Nigeria, and Russia. Wells Fargo does not allow online wire transfers to these countries. He is still working on a solution. U. Pohl asked if it were possible to have their home societies pay the travel award, and offer them a discount on their dues. S. Webster stated that out of the three countries, only Russia paid dues to IUPS.

S. Webster further reported that he was still working on updating the membership rolls for IUPS's member societies, as well as getting the IUPS Google Drive organized. He expected to have both tasks complete before the EB meeting in April.

3. Physiome Journal update

P. Hunter gave some background on the upcoming journal, *Physiome*. Currently, the business plan is to charge authors a \$300 processing fee to submit their models. He stated that he is reluctant to set a more formal business plan until he had a better idea of what kind of submissions will be submitted. For now, *Physiome* is being hosted on the University of Auckland's servers, and funded by a NIH grant.

J. Chan asked what was the most crucial thing ExCo could do to help *Physiome*. P. Hunter stated that with an increasing number of journals, feedback was always needed on the *Physiome* website.

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4. Establishment of Publication Task Group

U. Pohl suggested that settling a managing board for *Physiome* would be the first task of the Publications Task Group (PTG). ExCo agreed unanimously. J. Chan suggested that either the ExCo or PTG itself could designate a chair. S. Webster suggested that the call for membership in the PTG be extended to Council and BGA at the very least. ExCo agreed. J. Chan stated that one of the charges of the 2021 BGA will be to establish formal terms for the PTG.

U. Pohl stated that in addition to their work with *Physiome*, the PTG will be responsible for strengthening dialogue between APS and IUPS on *Physiome*, and getting the proposed “Methods” journal and text book translation up and running.

5. Outreach activities of IUPS

U. Pohl reported that he and S. Webster had discussed the IUPS’s outreach efforts. S. Webster had established an IUPS presence on Facebook, but it had not attracted many followers yet. He suggested that IUPS publish twice-monthly “did you know” articles to increase the visibility of the page. He stated that S. Webster did not have the time to manage all the content of the Facebook page, and suggested that committee and commission chairs furnish items to post. U. Pohl also suggested that IUPS establish lectures at major physiological meetings, such as EB and Europhysiology. He speculated that setting up new lectures would probably take a couple years to get set up.

S. Wray liked the suggestion of having members of the commissions and committees post items to the Facebook. She also had a number of suggestions for the IUPS website. She suggested that the IUPS could hold a contest for students to design a new website from the ground up. S. Webster stated that the IUPS already had a developer “on retainer” in the physiology department at CWRU.

S. Wray also proposed hosting an IUPS Open House at Europhysiology 2018 in September. She had already secured a free room at the QEII Centre for a lunch time meeting. She suggested that member of the IUPS ExCo, Council, and BGA who will already be in attendance for Europhysiology take part in the meet and greet. The purpose of the meet and greet is to talk to young physiologists about mentoring and possible committee membership. J. Chan was enthusiastic about the idea, and hoped it could lead to further Open Houses at EB 2019 or PanAm 2019.

6. 1st Vice President's reports on BGA activity

S. Wray gave a brief overview of the BGA’s proposed Mentor-Mentee Workshop in Sri Lanka. She stated J. Sengupta had run similar meetings with much success. She stated that the BGA was seeking preliminary approval for a different kind of workshop than what the Education Committee traditionally held. J. Chan stated that the workshop was a good idea to grow the future of physiology and IUPS.

U. Pohl asked what the concrete aims of the workshop were. S. Wray stated that the BGA was still working on metrics. She stated that they would be restricting any relationships to strictly mentor/mentee, with no expectation of co-authorship or lab membership. U. Pohl stated the workshop was a good expression of the goals of the IUPS, and true to its spirit.

7. Agenda of the face-to-face meeting in San Diego and for meetings with national societies

J. Chan stated that the agenda for ExCo’s meeting at EB should focus on 3-4 major issues, and set up a road map for the next four years, in addition to meetings with APS, PhysSoc, and CAPS. She stated the larger issues would be focused on internet visibility, the Publications Task Group, and revival of the commission and committees. She asked that ExCo submit their ideas for agenda items by April 15th.

8. Further discussions with CAPS about Beijing meeting

J. Chan suggested that S. Webster write to XM Wang asking who among CAPS will be available at the EB meeting to meet with ExCo to discuss the contract for IUPS-2021. S. Webster reported no incoming suggestions from CAPS to revise the contract submitted in Rio. U. Pohl suggested that perhaps CAPS could meet in Taiwan, but J. Chan stated that the political situation between the two governments made that difficult. She suggested Hong Kong as a possible location.

U. Pohl asked if there was a checklist or timeline for contract negotiations. S. Webster stated that there was, established by P. Wagner and W. Boron. The primary task for the first year between congresses is to sign a contract between IUPS and the host society.

9. Nominations to ICS Governing Board and World Data Scientific Committee

U. Pohl proposed nominating past Secretary-General W. Boron to the ISC Governing Board. He stated that W. Boron was already familiar with the people and issues involved with ICSU. ExCo agreed with the nomination. U. Pohl asked if an additional candidate should be nominated, such as D. Noble. ExCo agreed that D. Noble was best used elsewhere, and not to dilute the nomination pool. S. Webster suggested that J. Chan submit an endorsement for the IUPHAR nominee for Treasurer, and ask them to do likewise for IUPS. J. Chan agreed.

Action Items

1. For future ExCo meetings, S. Webster to submit draft agendas at least one week in advance.
2. S. Webster to arrange meetings with CAPS, APS, Physoc at EB.
3. S. Webster to forward contract timeline to U. Pohl.
4. ExCo to nominate W. Boron to ICS Governing Board.