

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Meeting Beijing, China October 30, 2019

Minutes (abstract)

*Present: J. Chan, S. Wray, P. Hunter, U. Pohl, S. Webster
With regrets: P. Molina*

1. Meetings with major physiological societies in 2020

J. Chan spoke about the need to further develop the IUPS concept for the meeting with major physiological societies in 2020. U. Pohl stated that IUPS needs to improve its communication with its member societies. While IUPS did not have the financial or staffing resources, it did have personal connections that the societies did not.

U. Pohl stated that the next step was to meet with representatives of national societies during the next Experimental Biology meeting (April 4-7, 2020, San Diego, USA). Later in the year a meeting with major national societies be under the auspices of IUPS, possibly together with FEPS and FAOPS is planned at Europhysiology 2020.

2. IUPS Workshop at Europhysiology 2020

S. Wray submitted a proposal for a Workshop sponsored by IUPS to be held in Berlin (Europhysiology) in 2020. She reported that FEPS had already contributed, and was asking IUPS for further contribution. She reported that all but one of the proposed speakers had confirmed their participation. J. Chan noted that the proposed speakers included members of the IUPS ExCo, Council, and BGA. She stated that this would be a good opportunity for IUPS to “wave the flag” at a major international meeting. ExCo encouraged S. Wray to expand the scope of the workshop, but stated that funding would require the approval of the treasurer, P. Molina, who was unable to attend the ExCo meeting.

3. IUPS Academy

S. Wray reported on the progress in setting up the IUPS Academy. She reported that the list of nominees had been winnowed trying to achieve a balance of gender and geography. ExCo members agreed that those currently holding a position in the IUPS, or other societies should not be included. For further evaluation, a committee of Fellows to evaluate and propose other nominees will be installed. S.

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Wray volunteered to write a letter to five potential committee members, detailing the goals of the Academy, and asking for their input on the nominees list.

4. Website Redesign

U. Pohl reported on the proposal to revamp the IUPS website. He stated the original proposal did not include all the features requested by ExCo, but does now. A “Members’ Area” will be installed for a better internal communication. He stated the goal was to launch the website next spring.

5. *Physiome* journal

P. Hunter reported on the preparations for the launch of *Physiome*. He stated that everything was on track to launch on Jan 1, 2020.. U. Pohl asked about the possibility of setting up a prize on achievements in physiological model building to encourage young physiologists working in the field. P. Hunter stated that it would be something work considering once the journal was up and running. He said it might possibly attract some sponsorship as well.

6. Dues structure

J. Chan reviewed the progress in revising the dues structure to make it transparent and to improve acceptance by member societies. P. Hunter raised the point that some societies were paying much more per member than others. As a consequence it is planned to couple dues to the number of delegates which depends on the size of the society. It was also discussed how to deal with societies that were delinquent on dues. U. Pohl will discuss the planned dues structure with the treasurer, P. Molina.

7. Membership application

J. Chan reported that several countries were showing interest in joining IUPS, but were unsure about being able to pay dues. S. Webster provided an explanation of IUPS membership levels. He pointed out that associate members did not pay dues, and thus, did not get any votes at the General Assembly. He did say that associate members could send observers to GA meetings. S. Wray suggested offering The Philippines associate membership, and Portugal adhering body membership. ExCo agreed.

8. Fund raising for 2021 Congress

J. Chan brought up fund raising for IUPS-2021 speakers. She asked if national societies could be asked to sponsor symposia. U. Pohl stated that the system for 2017 was flawed due to very different financial support of symposia which led to some hurt feelings among symposia speakers. J. Chan suggested the amount for symposia sponsorship be set at a fixed sum. J. Chan will contact national societies and provide options for sponsorship.

9. Named Lectures of 2021 Congress

U. Pohl spoke about the IUPS Named Lectures for IUPS-2021. IUPS’s lectures in 2021 will include the President’s Lecture, as well as the Fenn (selected by Council) and Schmidt-Nielson (Commission VII) lectures. Additionally, the Feng and Krogh lectures will be sponsored by CAPS and SPS, respectively.

10. 2021 IUPS Nominations Committee

S. Webster asked ExCo to start considering names for the 2021 IUPS Nominations Committee. He stated that three members of the committee would come from ExCo, and three from BGA. The Nominations Committee would be charged with soliciting nominations for ExCo and Council positions in the coming 2021-2025 term.

11. 2018 IUPS Financial Report

ExCo gave permission to send the 2018 IUPS Financial Report to the societies that had requested it for their records. ExCo also discussed questions regarding details the IUPS's finances.