

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

April 15, 2020

Present: J. Chan, S. Wray, U. Pohl, P. Molina, S. Webster. C. Ball

With regrets: P. Hunter

1. Review and approval of prior meeting minutes.

The minutes were approved, pending a final confirmation by U. Pohl.

S. Webster reported on the action items from the prior meeting minutes. He reported that J. Chan had sent out invitation letters to potential members of the IUPS Nominations Committee. The Council contingent of the committee was comprised of J. Chan, P. Hunter, and T. Wang. The committee has already met via teleconference, and released a call for nominations for the 2021-2025 Council term.

W. Boron met with his home institution's Intellectual Property lawyer to discuss the contract with Elsevier. They were able to modify the contract to better protect the IUPS's interests. The contract is now under review by the Publications Committee.

J. Chan reported that she had reached out to discuss the status of the contract for the IUPS-2021 Congress, and is waiting for the final confirmation from the CAPS.

U. Pohl distributed website templates for ExCo members to fill out. He is still waiting for some members to complete their assignments.

S. Webster reported that invitations have been sent to society presidents to meet with ExCo at EB. However, these meetings were postponed indefinitely due to EB's cancellation.

The letter explaining the new dues structure was approved by ExCo, and included in the 2020 dues invoices.

2. ISPC Meeting 2

U. Pohl reported on his conversation with Y.S. Chan regarding preparations for the IUPS Congress in general, and the ISPC-2 meeting in particular, given the current situation with COVID-19. He stated that the discussion were to try to hold the ISPC-2 meeting in October, or hold it entirely online. He stated the same choice was present for the main IUPS Congress.

P. Molina stated that due to home institution policies, she, and likely others, would be unable to travel to China before the scheduled Congress date. She felt that any international travel would be highly restricted until a vaccine is available. J. Chan presented two options: delaying the Congress to 2022, or canceling it entirely, and holding the next Congress in 2025 in Beijing and 2029 in Munich. S. Wray opined that IUPS could have a much reduced presence at a future CAPS meeting, perhaps a tacked on “IUPS Day”. U. Pohl stated that until a vaccine was formulated, there would be no point to plan for any in-person meetings. U. Pohl also noted the difficulty the ISPC was having in getting speakers to agree to come to the Congress under the current pandemic.

After further discussion, ExCo decided to recommend that CAPS delay the IUPS Congress to at least 2022. U. Pohl will discuss it with Y. S. Chan after the CAPS meeting later this week.

3. Dues

J. Chan brought up a letter sent to the ExCo from the Slovak Physiological Society, explaining they would be unable to pay dues under the revised system. P. Molina stated there was no fair solution under the current system of dues. J. Chan stated that they could reduce their membership level to Associate Member, but that would deprive them of a vote on the General Assembly.

S. Wray suggested that IUPS offer the Slovak society a “credit” on their dues, as a reward for being regular dues payers. P. Molina and C. Ball stated that this would be possible. U. Pohl asked if dues could be made a percentage of member fees. P. Molina said this was not feasible for several reasons. For instance, the APS has several tiers of membership, and derives most of its income from publishing. P. Molina would work with C. Ball to draft a credit plan for those societies that cannot pay their dues, but current on them otherwise.

U. Pohl brought up the Scandinavian Physiological Society. He stated that the SPS proposed to take on the dues of its member societies. U. Pohl stated that it still needed to be decided how many delegates the SPS would have at the GA, and thus, what its dues payment it would have. He noted that the member societies had five delegates between them, but the proposal was for three delegates from SPS. He would write to SPS to formalize the arrangement.

J. Chan presented the letter sent to her from Y. Kubo, on behalf of the Japanese Physiological Society. She reported that the adhering body, the Japanese Science Council, was pleased at the reduction in dues. She also reported that JPS asked how it could support IUPS-2021, such as supporting a speaker or symposium. S. Webster reported that at the ISPC meeting, support was set at \$2,500 USD for airfare for a plenary speaker, and \$1,500 USD for airfare for a keynote speaker. Both also included hotel and registration to IUPS-2021. He reported that the support level for symposia was set at \$4,000. He stated that in IUPS-2017, societies selected which symposia and speakers to sponsor *after* they were picked. This allowed the ISPC to pick the strongest possible program, without having to factor in funding. J. Chan would forward this information to JPS.

4. Any other business

U. Pohl would like to compile an “IUPS Report” and has sent writing assignments to members of ExCo. He asked that the ExCo finish their assignments at their earliest convenience.

Action Items

1. S. Webster to forward January meeting minutes to U. Pohl for final approval.
2. S. Webster to post January meeting minutes upon approval.

3. U. Pohl to propose to CAPS that the IUPS Congress be delayed to 2022, as well as the corresponding ISPC meeting.
4. P. Molina and C. Ball to draft dues credit proposal for smaller societies.
5. U. Pohl to draft letter to SPS, formalizing dues arrangement and delegate numbers.
6. J. Chan to write back to JPS, informing them of congress support levels.