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Report of the 1st Vice President of IUPS to the General Assembly at IUPS2017 in Brazil

In addition to being a member of the Executive Committee (ExCo), the 1st Vice-President of IUPS is the key Officer to liaise the ExCo with the Board of General Assembly (BGA), and serves as an *ex officio* member of the BGA. This report primarily concerns her latter role.

The BGA

The BGA, which is made up of representatives from different geographic regions and both large and small societies in the Union, is responsible to the IUPS GA and the ExCo and operates under the auspices of the IUPS Constitution and Bylaws. It was officially established in Birmingham during the 2013 IUPS Congress with Mike Spyer as the first Chair. Jayasree Sengupta was elected Vice Chair in 2014 and succeeded M. Spyer as the Chair in 2016; Susan Barman replaced J. Sengupta as the Vice Chair. Currently BGA comprises thirteen members representing North and South America, Europe, Asia, Oceania, and South Africa regions. Thus far, the BGA has met at least bimonthly via Skype, with the participation the 1st VP as an *ex officio* member. The BGA will convene its second in person meeting at IUPS2017 and thereafter every four years at the IUPS Congress.

In addition to her engagement in the missions of the BGA, the 1st VP also regularly updates the BGA members on activities of the ExCo and the progress towards the preparation for the IUPS2017 Congress in Rio de Janeiro.

Dues Revision

The BGA was requested to attempt a revision of the dues structure. This task was taken up by M. Spyer and the IUPS Treasurer, Peter Wager. The related information is provided in the report by the Treasurer. I wish to express my deep gratitude to both of them for their dedication to this arduous task.

Regionalism

Regionalism of the IUPS was initially proposed by M. Spyer during his tenure as the Chair of BGA, and was continued under the leadership of J. Sengupta. One proposal that ensued is to add regional representatives to Council. This proposal was adopted by the BGA and ExCo in their recommendation for amendment of the IUPS Constitution and Bylaws to include three representatives from designated

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regions (North/South America, Europe/Africa, and Asia/Oceania) plus a fourth “at large” representative to serve on Council. Further information is provided in the report by the Secretary General.

The BGA also consulted with the 1st VP on the proposal that the IUPS Congresses be rotated around geographic regions. This would allow the financial burden that currently falls on a single physiological society to be shared by member societies of the region. This initiative has led to the collaboration between the German, Austrian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swiss, and Scandinavian Physiological Societies with the Federation of European Physiological Societies in their bid to host the IUPS2025 Congress.

Report of the State of Physiology

The BGA was mandated by the IUPS Constitution to prepare a written assessment of the current status of the field of physiology world-wide, to be presented to the GA in Rio de Janeiro. The 1st VP was an active participant of this project, including comments on the content of the Report and consultation on the logistics for the launch of the Report. Detailed information on the preparation of the Report is provided by J. Sengupta and S. Barman. The official launch of the Report, along with panel discussion on the content, is scheduled for the afternoon of August 1st, 2017.

Acknowledgement

The 1st VP wishes to thank M. Spyer for his vision in moving forward the mission of BGA during his tenure as the Chair of BGA. Thanks also extend to J. Sengupta, S. Barman and all board members for their contribution to the BGA and their support to the IUPS.

Other Duties

The 1st VP, together with the Treasurer and Secretary General, represented the IUPS at the International Symposium of Physiological Sciences in Beijing in 2016. She also consulted with the Chinese Association of Physiological Sciences on the planning of the IUPS2021 Congress in Beijing.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie YH Chan

July 20, 2017