

# INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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DENIS NOBLE, UK, President,  
Y. KURACHI, Japan, First Vice President  
PETER HUNTER, NZ, Acting Vice President  
XIAN WANG, China, Second Vice President  
MALCOLM GORDON, USA, Treasurer  
WALTER BORON, USA, Secretary-General

LESLIE PRICE, USA, Manager



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TOBIAS WANG, Denmark

## IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Agenda

*May 8, 2012*

**Present:** D. Noble,

The meeting started at 12 noon.

### **1. Approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2012 Executive Committee meeting**

The minutes were approved.

### **2. India workshop**

Jayasree Sengupta, New Delhi, India emailed D. Noble saying she is planning to organize workshops and discussions on recent trends in physiological sciences in different areas of India under the auspices of the International Union of Physiological Sciences. It was decided that the workshops would be allowed to use the IUPS logo. Since the Commissions have modest funds to spend for meetings, it was agreed to send a list of commissions and chairs for her to decide who to approach based on the area of physiology for the workshops. Because of her initiative, it was recommended that P. Hunter approach Dr. Sengupta about helping with the documents for the Board of the General Assembly (BGA) of which she is a member.

Similarly, Brazil could request money from the Commissions for the PanAmerican Congress in 2014. A letter should be sent to B. Machado, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil explaining how he can get monetary support from IUPS for the congress.

A message also needs to be sent to the Commission chairs reminding them that they have certain powers which should be exercised. According to the IUPS constitution, the Union shall provide initial organization expenses and sustaining funding to the commissions. Each commission is allotted \$2,000 per year to use for support of events in their scientific field occurring in member countries.

**Action:** L. Price will contact J. Sengupta and B. Machado about funds from Commissions for events in their countries. She will also remind the Commission chairs of their authority to dispense these funds. P. Hunter will email J. Sengupta asking if she would like to work with him on the Board of the General Assembly's constitution and bylaws.

### **3. Revised countdown calendar**

No dates on the calendar were added since it was unknown when each item will need to be completed because of the new BGA. All agreed the Nomination Committee meeting should try to meet in June in Cleveland. It was noted that in the future all nominations for BGA and the Nomination Committee should be accompanied by a CV. The election could be on the new IUPS website with complete information about each candidate.

### **4. ExCo Nominating Committee selections**

The three Nominating Committee members selected were Malcolm Gordon, Ole Petersen and Ming Fan. These people will be the ExCo representatives unless the Board selections make the group unbalanced. Their names will be submitted to Council for approval. They will then be contacted to inform them of their selection and the dates and location of the Nominating Committee meeting. According to the bylaws, the Council selects the chair.

**Action:** L. Price will submit the names of M. Gordon, O. Petersen and M. Fan to the Council for approval as Nominating Committee members. She will then contact the three individuals to inform them of their selection and the dates and location of the Nominating Committee meeting.

### **5. Physiology JMB meeting**

P. Hunter, M. Gordon and W. Boron reported on the meeting of the Joint Managing Board of the journal *Physiology*. IUPS representatives at the meeting said that both IUPS and APS JMB members agreed on the following:

- Ex officio members should include the IUPS treasurer and the APS finance director
- The chair of the board should alternate every two years. The change will be made January 1, the year after the IUPS Congress.
- If there is the need for a tie-breaker, the board would discuss how to proceed.
- The JMB should meet at Experimental Biology once a year and teleconference six months later if needed or a request may be made that the chair call a meeting at six months.
- All decisions about the journal should be confirmed by JMB.
- The JMB annual report will be circulated to IUPS and APS councils.

- An audit must be done every two years using the APS auditor.

The members of the ExCo who know the APS auditor said he would answer any questions from IUPS impartially. It was also suggested that the JMB should meet at the IUPS Congress every four years. P. Hunter felt the meeting was fairly positive. T. Wang, another IUPS member of the JMB, will be asked how he felt about the meeting. The proposed agreement written by P. Hunter is appended to these minutes.

## **6. Bio-unions symposium meeting**

P. Hunter, W. Boron and A. McCulloch met at the EB to plan the ICSU Bio-unions' symposium to be held immediately after the IUPS 2013 Congress. P. Hunter has located a venue in the Peak district of England and has elicited help from the University of Sheffield. W. Boron will raise money for the symposium from the other Biounions. The goal of the symposium is to have the Biounions assemble and discuss the role of systems biology. W. Boron will form a programming committee by soliciting formal representation from each of these unions. A. McCulloch agreed to make a list of potential speakers. It was estimated that \$30,000 would be needed for 15 speakers with each being paid \$2,000. The Biounions will be asked to contribute funds plus an application will be sent to ICSU. P. Hunter will make sure A. McCulloch is kept informed and asked for input. Andrew suggested that the Biounions attempt to get an article into *Science*.

<p><b>Action:</b> W. Boron will form a programming committee and raise money for the symposium. A. McCulloch is to make a list of potential speakers. P. Hunter will be in charge of the local planning committee and logistics.</p>
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## **7. Board of the General Assembly**

### **a. Welcoming email from P. Hunter**

P. Hunter reported that he sent an email to the members of the Board congratulating them on being elected, listing their rights and responsibilities and reminding them of their first orders of business. He wants to promote the BGA by publicising it in the IUPS journal, *Physiology*.

### **b. Email from Dr. Siddiqui, Pakistan**

A. Siddiqui sent an email to D. Noble questioning why he was not selected for the BGA since the less prosperous countries are not well represented. There were several suggestions on how to handle this problem. The BGA will need to set up bylaws to deal with this kind of complaint and to establish rules about the cycles of Board members. P. Hunter suggested that Dr. Siddiqui be engaged on the Board. M. Gordon thought an email should be sent saying, "Thank you for your interest. You have raised important points that we will take into account as the bylaws are developed. Your name will be placed on a

standby list for being on the ballot for the permanent Board to be elected at the 2013 Congress." This was approved.

**Action:** D. Noble will draft an email to A. Siddiqui using the wording approved by the Executive Committee.

**c. First Board meeting**

M. Gordon indicated that the first meeting should be at a time of day that is convenient for each member. P. Hunter expressed the thought that when he holds the first meeting, he wants the Board to have a sense that it does not exist only for administrative purposes. It is a functioning body that should draft documents about the future of physiology and the strategy to maintain its vitality.

**8. VPH sponsorship of 2013 Congress**

P. Hunter reported that VPH (Virtual Physiological Human) is not giving grants and has no money to sponsor a congress. It was suggested that IUPS should contact people in industry. P. Hunter and D. Noble will be meeting with Adriano Henny and other contacts to get sponsorships.

**Action:** D. Noble and P. Hunter will meet with industry contacts about sponsorships for the 2013 Congress.

**9. Other business**

W. Boron reported that APS and TPS will have an online journal up in January 2013. They plan to use *Physiology's* lower rated papers for the e-journal. This will generate a profit. APS and TPS should be approached to ask for IUPS to be part of this. D. Noble will talk to M. Spyer and J. Ashmore of TPS. As president of IUPS, he would represent the intentions of the Union. He will point out to TPS that if IUPS is a part of the e-journal, it will generate good will internationally. It was decided that he should send a short email to both TPS officers to find a convenient time to speak with each of them about the e-journal.

The meeting ended at 1:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Price

## Appendix

### **Proposed Bylaws for the Joint Management Board (JMB) of the journal *Physiology***

1. Membership of the JMB shall include two members nominated by APS, two members nominated by IUPS, and the following two *ex officio* members: the IUPS Treasurer and the APS Finance Director.
2. Chairmanship of the JMB should alternate every two years between one of the APS-nominated board members and one of the IUPS-nominated board members, with the changeover occurring on January 1<sup>st</sup> in the year immediately following the IUPS World Congress<sup>1</sup>.
3. An agenda will be circulated by the chair to the JMB at least two weeks prior to the annual meeting with an invitation to submit further agenda items.
4. Other people expected to attend the annual JMB meetings as non-voting observers include the APS Chief Executive, the Editor-in-Chief of *Physiology*, the Chair of the APS Publication Committee, the APS Journal Manager and anyone else invited by the Chair who is relevant to discussion of a current agenda item.
5. The term of service for the JMB should be four years, coinciding with the four year cycle of the IUPS World Congress and with the changeover occurring on January 1<sup>st</sup> in the year immediately following the IUPS World Congress.
6. The JMB should meet in person once per year at the US Experimental Biology meeting. If two or more members of the JMB deem that another meeting is needed to discuss an urgent topic in the period between these face-to-face annual meetings, they can request the JMB Chair to call such a meeting by teleconference.
7. The JMB will always strive to achieve consensus in its decisions. However, should a formal tie-breaking process prove to be necessary, this will be discussed at a future JMB meeting.
8. All substantive policy and operational decisions relating to the journal, including selection of the Editor-in-Chief and major budgetary decisions, must be reviewed and approved by JMB well in advance of their implementation.
9. JMB is required to submit written annual reports describing all substantive activities relating to the journal to both IUPS and APS Councils. Those reports must be submitted in a timely fashion by the *Physiology* Editor-in-Chief before the annual main meetings of the two Councils.
10. The finances of the journal must be formally audited at least every two years by the APS auditor, who will act according to a set of standards proposed by APS and IUPS.

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<sup>1</sup> Note that an APS member (Kim) will chair the JMB in 2012 and 2013 and an IUPS member of the JMB will take over the chairmanship on 1 Jan 2014.