

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2013

Present : D. Noble, J. Chan, P. Hansen, W. Boron, M. Gordon, P. Wagner

1. Approval of Executive Committee minutes of October 29, 2013

The minutes were approved.

2. Letter to B. Machado about the essence of the financial report and the invitation to attend meetings

There has been no reply from B. Machado answering the questions sent to him by the Executive Committee (ExCo). He was present at the New Council meeting on July 26, 2013 when N. Boross-Toby gave the financial report about the 2013 Congress. It was felt that this provided sufficient information to proceed with a firm follow-up letter drafted by D. Noble and M. Gordon. B. Machado had said in earlier conversations that it will be difficult to get government funding so far in the future. P. Wagner suggested that a phone call be made by D. Noble before sending the letter.

3. Cost for all Commission and Committee chairs at the ISPC meetings in Brazil

The issue of costs to IUPS for meetings in Brazil was discussed. SBFis is to provide free housing for ExCo and Council with travel being paid by IUPS for the meetings. B. Machado had indicated he wanted to have the ISPC meetings at a physiological conference which was already paid for to save money. W. Boron commented on the need to rally support from people with money. It was agreed that B. Machado should know that ExCo is waiting for replies to their questions. He has enough financial information for the contract to be completed by end of December.

4. Invitation for francophone African societies to become IUPS members

D. Noble's video, to be sent to the Congress in Dakar, Senegal, will include an invitation for the societies to become members of IUPS.

5. IUPS support for Nigerian teaching and research workshop in September 2014

P. Hansen, former Education Committee chair, confirmed that the committee's usual grant is \$2,000. A request form to fill out is sent from the Committee chair, who is now R. Carroll. Funds to support the research part of the conference might be requested from specific commissions. P. Wagner recommended that the American

Physiological Society (APS) and The Physiological Society (TPS) be given a chance to financially support this conference, brokered through IUPS. There would need to be a substantial document from Nigeria showing the program of the meeting and budget. IUPS will try to coordinate the cooperation of the larger societies. D. Noble and P. Hansen will put together a letter to Nigeria. IUPS might be able to help. W. Boron will send a letter to the ICSU regional office in Africa to see about getting assistance in promoting this as a regional meeting.

6. New Year's message and video to adhering bodies

D. Noble will produce a New Year's message and video which will be sent at the beginning of 2014. ExCo agreed that this should be done and placed on the IUPS website. It could incorporate a forward look at what will be coming up. It was suggested that there be a private area of the website to place items for ExCo only.

7. Council meeting in Jan. 2014 about starting an IUPS journal

Currently the IUPS Council meets only once every two years, but would like to meet twice a year. L. Price will form a group contact to use on Skype for a trial run for the December ExCo meeting with the help of P. Wagner's assistant, Lisa Richter.

W. Boron reminded ExCo that at the Council meeting in July 2013 the issue of financial stability came up. It was suggested that along with dues, IUPS should have other revenue streams such as journals. At the 2013 Congress, C. McMillen and W. Boron talked together about IUPS owning the rights to a journal and selling them to a publisher who would produce the journal. Possible content could be physiome science, systems biology from the physiological aspect or a focus on Asia with translational physiology. They both agree that this ought to be discussed at the first 2014 Council meeting. W. Boron and C. McMillen will put together a report of their conversation for ExCo and present it to Council.

P. Wagner voiced concern that something be presented to Council which has a clear direction. As the next Treasurer, he was afraid of trying to start a journal with the minimum income which IUPS has. It might be best to have a journal which is part educational and part traditional to appeal to physiologists in developing countries. This would assure that it would not be in competition with APS or TPS journals. L. Price will organize a Council meeting for early 2014.

W. Boron also brought up financial support for the IUBMB teaching workshops in 2014 along with other Bio-unions. He suggested that IUPS should set aside \$5,000 each year for inter-union activities. IUBMB has a one week meeting with 8-10 faculty. It is looking for four other unions to help support the workshop along with applying for an ICSU grant. Signaling, obesity and receptors would be the topics. IUBMB is negotiating with a major publisher to have them handle all of their meetings. Twenty percent of registration fees would be given to IUBMB with 10% going to IUPS. P. Wagner requested an organizational chart of ICSU and a list of bio-unions. L. Price will also forward to him A. Azzi's email asking IUPS for support.

W. Boron will call A. Azzi to get more information about the type of students who are selected to attend the workshop. This will be sent to the ExCo members and they will be asked to vote by email for or against providing financial help. He remarked that there could be two categories of joint bio-union activity - regional meetings requiring a small donation and an interunion recurring activity

P. Wagner pointed out that IUPS needs to have a formal process for those requesting funds.

8. ExCo meeting in San Diego at Experimental Biology conference

All ExCo members will be attending the April 2014 EB meeting except for D. Noble who could join the group via Skype. L. Price will help organize a time and place for an ExCo meeting during the conference. D. Noble would like IUPS to meet with APS representatives for one hour to talk about IUPS and its programs. D. Noble will send an email.