

INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2014

Present: D. Noble, P. Hansen, J. Chan, W. Boron, P. Wagner, V. Antunes

1. Review and approval of July 24 Minutes

P. Wagner requested wording and spelling changes, which he would submit to S. Webster via email. ExCo will approve revised minutes via email.

Action: P. Wagner to send meeting minutes revisions to S. Webster. S. Webster to resubmit to ExCo for approval.

2. Update on 2017 Congress from V. Antunes

B. Machado was unable to attend the meeting, due to travel commitments. V. Antunes represented SBFis. He reported that SBFis was still working on revising the budget, bases on J. Chan's notes. Once the budget is completed, they will start work on travel grants. He also stated that the 2017 Congress website is expected to go live in November.

V. Antunes brought up the issue of registration fees for the recent Pan Am Congress hosted by SBFis. SBFis introduced a graduated registration fee system for the Congress. Feedback showed that this system was not received favorably by anyone surveyed. He stated that SBFis will re-evaluate the registration for 2017. He stated that they will utilize travel grants in order to encourage lower income societies to participate. He pointed out that it was harder for younger researchers and students to receive funding from their respective governments.

3. Review 2017 Congress Contract

The 2017 Congress was further revised.

4. Report on Pan Am Congress from P. Hansen

P. Hansen reported on her visit to the Pan Am Congress run by SBFis. She reported that it was attended by over 900 registrants. She said the Congress was well run and organized, SBFis contracting an outside company to run registration and day-to-day operations. There was a great deal of interest in regionalization. There was some discussion of another Pan Am Congress in four years. P. Hansen reported that speakers had to pay part of their own way to the Congress. But as that was part of the agreement, nobody had a problem with this. She also reported that B. Machado did not feel that SBFis lost money on the event.

Action: D. Noble to write B. Machado a letter of congratulations on a successful Congress.

5. Dues Revision Process Update

P. Wagner delivered a report on the dues revision progress. M. Spyer submitted the “white paper” to the BGA and S. Webster reported that approximately half had responded. P. Wagner stated the response was positive. There was some discussion from members about substituting a society’s budget for the country’s GDP. P. Wagner and M. Spyer discussed this while creating the white paper, but decided that GDP was a better option for several reasons. Firstly, it was felt that it would be difficult to receive annual budgets from the various societies. Additionally, not all member societies generate revenue in the same way. For example, the American Physiological Society generates 80% of its budget through publishing journals, while the Japanese Physiological Society generates revenue through member contributions. P. Wagner felt that once this rationale was explained to members of BGA, they would understand.

P. Wagner expressed some of the BGA’s dissatisfaction with IUPS annual budget. He reported that members resented paying for IUPS administration and travel. BGA feels, as well as ExCo, that funds should be used to support physiology programs worldwide. P. Wagner asked that S. Webster continue to solicit membership information from member societies. With the positive consensus from BGA, D. Noble suggested holding further discussion during the face to face meeting in Oxford this coming October.

Action: S. Webster to continue to compile a membership tally for member societies. This is to be completed with all speed.

Action: ExCo to discuss Dues Revision at face-to-face meeting in Oxford.

6. Letter of Support for Nigerian Congress

IUPS received a letter from the Physiological Society of Nigeria seeking funding for their upcoming congress in October. P. Hansen reported they had invited her to participate, although they were having difficulties in funding. The organizers are able to provide hotel accommodations for

speakers, but not travel. She also mentioned that they had received at \$1500 grant from the Education Committee. ExCo decided not to approve the funding.

Action: D. Noble to write letter to Physiological Society of Nigeria.

7. Ethics Committee Terms of Reference

The IUPS Ethics Committee submitted draft Terms of Reference for ExCo's discussion. P. Hansen volunteered to review the TOR and adapt them to fit a common format. D. Noble suggested this common format would be useful for other committees to write their own TOR. W. Boron suggested ExCo could also do something similar with ExCo and the Council. The Terms of Reference will be discussed at the face-to-face meeting in Oxford.

8. Education Committee Fund Raising Request

The Education Committee requested the ability to create a fund raising sub-committee. It had previously only raised funds in an *ad hoc* manner. The committee made the request to ExCo to avoid interfering with other fund raising efforts. D. Noble suggested that the matter would be best discussed during ExCo's meeting in Oxford.

Action: ExCo will discuss Education Committee funding at Oxford Meeting

9. Nominations Received from Japan

K. Mikoshiba sent a list of Nomination for IUPS Committees. The candidates will be discussed by ExCo at the Oxford meeting.

Action: ExCo will discuss nominations at Oxford meeting.

10. Financial Report

P. Wagner reported on IUPS's finances. Total account value is about \$390,000. He asked that S. Webster add in the budget projections for the year to the spreadsheet. W. Boron asked if individual income sources were being tracked, for example restricted funds versus unrestricted funds. P. Wagner said those funds were not currently being traced on a month-to-month basis.

11. Other Business

The upcoming face-to-face meeting at Oxford was discussed. It will be held Monday, October 6th, through Tuesday, October 7th. ExCo members will arrive in Oxford Sunday, October 5th. It was decided to invite BGA President M. Spyer and PhysSoc President R. Vaughan-Jones to dinner. P. Wagner suggested inviting M. Spyer to the day's meeting to work on the dues revision issue.

The next ExCo teleconference meeting will be held on September 30th.