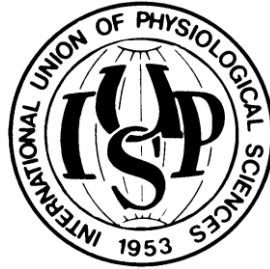


INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PHYSIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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IUPS Council Meeting

8-9 July 2011

Oxford University, England

Present: D. Noble, W. Boron, Q. Pittman, X. Wang, C. McMillen, S. Semnanian,
J. Rettig, T. Wang, M. Gordon, A. de Carvalho, P. Hunter, P. Moody-Corbett, L. Price
Excused: M. Slak Rupnik, D. Ricquier

The President called the meeting to order on Friday, July 8, at 10:05 a.m.

1. Approval of minutes of July 2009 Council meeting

The minutes were approved.

2. Daniel Ricquier's resignation

D. Ricquier resigned from the IUPS Council due to personal reasons. D. Noble and W. Boron will write a letter thanking him for his work on the Council. The IUPS constitution allows Council to fill vacancies (ARTICLE VI, Item 4). The selection of someone to fill the vacancy was tabled.

Action: D. Noble and W. Boron will write a thank you letter to D. Ricquier.

3. Constitutional amendment to create Board of the General Assembly

The Executive Committee recommended adding a constitutional amendment to create a Board of the General Assembly (BdGA). This would make IUPS more transparent and give the adhering members a mechanism for participation between Congresses. There would be 15 members of the BdGA, who must be GA delegates from their countries. The Board would select 50% of the Nominating Committee and Council the other 50%. The Council discussed options of how Board members would be selected and who would be the presiding officer. It was recommended that the BdGA should meet in person at the Experimental Biology meeting in April, 2012. M. Gordon moved to adopt the intent as outlined in the outreach documents and authorize the Executive Committee to develop the amendment. P. Hunter seconded. The Council approved the motion unanimously.

Action: Executive Committee will develop the amendment more completely and submit to Council for approval before sending the document to GA delegates.

4. Reports of the Officers

- *Report of the President:*

D. Noble wrote an editorial in *Physiology* [June 2011, 26 (3)]. There seems to be a paradox in the fact that physiology departments are disappearing, but IUPS Congresses are being very well attended and people are excited about the speakers. The answer to the paradox, he believes, is that university administrators have been trained to work at the genetic level and have reorganized biological sciences in universities to that end. However, physiology has made a come back because of the genome project completion. There is confusion about the name "physiology."

The Long Range Planning report recommended that "IUPS add a suitable motto or rider to the IUPS logo" as a form of marketing. P. Hunter thought that physiology should be emphasized as the integrative science, reaching out to systems biologists to recognize physiology. S. Semnalian thought that the number of attendees at each congress should be put on the website. L. Price and M. Slak Rupnik will take care of this. The Council thought it important to advertise through the congresses and website what physiology is and what IUPS does for physiology.

Action: L. Price and M. Slak Rupnik will put number of attendees at previous Congresses on the website.

- *Report of the Secretary General:*

Marion Siegman, Chair of Physiology at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, was formally invited to become the new IUPS archivist to succeed Paul DeWeer, the retiring archivist. She accepted and Council approved the replacement.

According to conversations with P. Hansen, ADInstruments will give money to the Education Committee for a lecture or symposium at Congress 2013. The contract has been drawn up by ADI.

Letters were sent to Peter Wagner (APS), Mike Spyer (TPS) and Jonathan Ashmore (TPS) summarizing the amendment proposal, dues structure, mission and governance of IUPS. A meeting was arranged to occur at PhysSoc 2011 with APS and TPS to discuss what they feel will work in those three areas. W. Boron and M. Gordon have asked the U.S. National Committee biological science societies to donate money to pay for the 2011 U.S. dues. There is concern that if the U.S. does not pay its dues, they will no longer be members of IUPS and other countries might leave also.

The Secretary General spoke to David Eisner, the other co-chair of the International Scientific Planning Committee (ISPC). Even though there are 13 people from TPS on ISPC and only 12 from IUPS, if a vote were taken, IUPS gets two votes. René Bindels was appointed to fill the position of chair of Commission V, Secretion and Absorption.

There was discussion concerning what action could be taken to show everyone that IUPS is the international organization for physiology. Besides the Congress, IUPS needs to market itself in other ways. The mission statement needs to be rewritten to make it short and clear so Council members can quickly say it to someone who asks what IUPS does. A slogan under the logo would catch people's attention.

Action: Council members will think about ways IUPS can advertise. A slogan under the logo needs to be written. The Executive Committee will write a short, clear mission statement and send it to Council for comments and approval. L. Price will put all governance proposals on the agenda to be discussed with the GA at the 2013 Congress.

- *Report of the Treasurer:*

M. Gordon reported on the 2010 audit and the 2011 June statement. The audit is every two years and includes a financial report on the year that is not audited. The audit should be a public document on the website. The audits do not segregate different budgets. All income is invested as a whole.

In return for funds supporting the Education Committee at the 2013 Congress, ADInstruments wants to be considered a sponsor. The sponsorship is only for 2013. In exchange for support of the workshop, ADI has requested the following: exhibition booth space at the satellite meeting and acknowledgement of sponsorship on any print or web material IUPS uses or produces. They will provide satchel bags, notepads and pens, and a complimentary gift such as an USB memory stick for everyone at the workshop. The ADI sponsorship needs to be coordinated with the ISPC so there is no overlap. The Council accepted the ADI requirements listed in the contract. L. Price will contact David Eisner about the cost of booth space.

Action: L. Price will contact David Eisner about the cost of booth space for exhibitors at the 2013 Congress.

Reconvened at 3:05

5. Regular Business of the Council

- *Commissions and Committees*

Ethics Committee – It was suggested that the Committee could convene all physiology journal editors at the 2013 Congress to remind them that they should have an ethics policy. The members of the Committee need to be asked if they would like to do so. This would involve identifying the names of the physiology journals and their editors.

Action: W. Boron will write a letter to the Ethics Committee members informing them that Council discussed talking to a group of editors about ethics policies and asking for feedback.

Education Committee – The Physiological Society does not want symposiums during the Congress. It was pointed out that only a fraction of the people who go to symposiums do not attend Congress. Council requested responses from the Committee to two items: will the symposium be independent or affiliated with IUPS and would the Education Committee be willing to teach research methodology, especially needed by young physiologists from countries which do not have a large group of senior physiologists as teachers.

Physiome Committee – Andrew McCulloch is the new chair of the Committee. P. Hunter, the former chair, will educate him about the Physiome project. He will also work with A. de Carvalho to focus on making Brazil part of the project. The project is making connections with systems biologists. It was suggested that it be a major item on the IUPS website. P. Hunter doesn't want IUPS to advertise that it has been started until general physiologists are able to use the project. The funds to support the project do not come from IUPS, but from the Virtual Physiological Human Institute (VPH). The IUPS logo is on the project's website to validate the connection. VPH has a membership fee of 10K euros. It was suggested that P. Hunter contact VPH and ask if they would like to become a sponsor of Congress.

Action: P. Hunter will talk to VPH about being a sponsor for the 2013 Congress.

Membership Committee – The Council thanked S. Semnanian and S. Orsoni for the large amount of work that was done. Their report addressed several categories: the dues system; encouraging members to move from associate to adhering in order to have a vote at Congress; the need to give the Committee a way to pursue new member countries through the use of media. L. Price will distribute the presentation to Council and ask the members to give the Committee names of people in countries that are not currently members.

The benefits of membership document should be updated to include help with acquiring visas to attend IUPS events. A "benefits of membership" video could be put on the website. D. Noble said the cost to make the video would be small if IUPS uses a company he knows. Internet access to the textbook could also be offered.

It was noted that there needs to be a development program for sponsorships to increase the amount of income from the congresses. This will make IUPS less reliant on dues. A fundraising committee should be activated under M. Gordon's supervision. IUPS needs a committee of three people to continuously work on raising money. Council members were asked to consider being on the committee.

It was agreed that the present system of dues is not viable. However, societies are extremely different and some financial plans will not be equitable. Only two societies have large financial resources. The Membership Committee was asked to come up with two or three models of formulas dealing with the number of members, the GDP per capita and the wealth of the society itself. They agreed to have the models ready by December 2011. The aim is to simplify the fee per adhering body, to be equitable and to end up with same total yearly income. It was suggested that IUPS talk to APS and TPS about making donations. S. Semnanian asked to have council members help get statistics from countries that the committee has no information on. To show that IUPS funds are used to promote physiology, plenary lectures could be given at biology congresses. Congress has not lost numbers. IUPS needs to actively look for more presence and education at meetings which are for scientific societies that have physiological aspects.

Action: L. Price will distribute the Powerpoint presentation to Council and ask that they give the Committee names of physiologists in countries that are not members.
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Financial Assistance

In previous years it was decided to continue making annual contributions of \$2000 to any of the commissions or committees which submit a detailed proposal and that is approved by the Executive Committee. C. McMillan responded that \$2,000 is not enough to give grants to organizations which send a proposal for an event and ask for financial assistance. She suggested that the commissions and committees receive \$4000 every two years. There were responses which proposed that they receive \$8000 every four years or \$6,000 every three years, each with the stipulation that they plan more seminars. Currently, IUPS gives \$100,000 in financial support every four years to help students and postdocs attend congresses.

-Special Reports

XXXVIII International Congress, 2013 progress report by David Eisner, President of Local Planning Committee

The FEPS meeting, TPS meeting and Scandinavian Physiological Society meeting will occur at the IUPS congress. Other societies are being contacted to see if they are willing to have their meetings at the 2013 Congress. M. Gordon and C. McMillan liked the idea of "rising stars," younger physiologists who are doing impressive research. They felt it is important to give attention to this group. The ISPC will select the rising stars.

The fees for registration will be 295 pounds and 95 pounds for students. It was observed that people from the US are actually paying more because dollars are worth less than pounds. D. Eisner explained that TPS is willing to spend as much as possible to make sure the congress will go well. Income will come from sponsorships, registration, etc.

In February 2012, the next meeting of the ISPC, symposia will be selected. Council asked D. Eisner to explain how selections are made. He will present the idea of an explanation to ISPC. The Planning Committee requested that a few symposia be left open for late-breaking hot topics. One way to increase attendance is to have satellite symposia, which will cause people who need visas to stay longer.

Women in Physiology Report presented by Susan Wray

Seven women from five countries presented at the 2009 Congress and the room was completely filled. The social event was extremely crowded and Shisedo gave out cosmetics. S. Wray will be organizing another women's event during the 2013 Congress. This event will be discussed at the ISPC meeting in 2012. For 2013 the presentations will be more focused than those in 2009. Ideas for topics include: younger physiologists, is there a glass ceiling?; the peer review system bias against women authors; what would be a system that has adapted to women; women from different countries giving reports on physiology to get a broader picture of what is happening around the world; what are ways that women can move into senior positions.

- Regional Activity

Africa

The present regional organization is the African Association of Physiological Science (AAPS). They gave a report at the Kyoto General Assembly, but the Physiological Society of South Africa (PSSA) said the report did not represent them. D. Noble met with both groups individually during the Congress, however no agreement was established. IUPS was trying to decide how to mediate the two groups, but that led to realizing there can be no resolution. It was thought best to ask for collaboration between IUPS and societies which have members in Africa (TPS, APS, SDP [France]). It was proposed that IUPS ask those societies to encourage Africans to come to the 2013 Congress and then have a meeting with all African physiologists on how IUPS should relate to Africa in the future. It was suggested that IUPS be a mediator through the 2013 Congress by having the three societies (TPS, APS, SDP) coordinate to work on Africa. PSSA has about 400 members. The number of members for AAPS is not known. They have had no events in the last five years. IUPS told AAPS that they need to explain how they meet the requirements of a regional society. Council approved of the proposal to confer with all the African physiologists who attend the 2013 Congress.

FAOPS – A well organized conference in Taiwan is coming up and it is a strong organization.

FEPS – It is in good shape, however there is no IUPS representative.

ALACF – This group is sound, but repression of scientists in Venezuela is still a problem.

6. XL International Congress, 2021

The call for bids for the location of the 2021 Congress will be sent to the member societies in February 2012 with the deadline of February 2013. The document defining the expectations of host countries will be sent along with the call for bids. The Executive Committee will review the bids and select the best three candidates. The makeup of the ISPC should be worded "in addition."

Action: L. Price will put new wording in the expectations of host countries document.

7. Relations with international organizations

ICSU

W. Boron reported. This organization changed its name because the mission had changed. Half of the dues for membership in ICSU are paid by governments. The Council is mainly interested in bringing unions together to solve societal issues. The bio-unions had their first meeting in ten years before the ICSU General Assembly in 2010. Right now, the geophysicists have control of ICSU because more of them are on the council.

The bio-unions will have a one day meeting before the ICSU assembly in September, 2011. ICSU put out a call for grant proposals. Consideration will be given to a proposal only if it is submitted with supporting applicants from more than one union. There are other stipulations as well. The bio-unions were going to put together a grant proposal to host a series on systems biology. Angelo Azziz is being nominated for ICSU council. He suggested a biunion seminar the day before the ICSU meeting, but ICSU vetoed it. He thinks that membership in ICSU is still important. It needs to exist because it has to help scientists in countries where they are not allowed to leave the country. Working on visa issues was put forward by the bio-unions to ICSU and was not vetoed. If IUPS took a leadership role in pushing developing countries to accept science, it might be something that ICSU would put on their agenda. The biochemists would team up with IUPS to have symposiums in Africa and the regional offices of ICSU might also be part of the team.

ICLAS:

P. Moody-Corbett gave information on ICLAS in the report of the Ethics Committee.

IBRO:

As the new IUPS representative to IBRO, Q. Pittman's goal is to find out more about what the organization does. Right now the major activity is to give lectures on neuroscience over a five day period in developing countries. The Program Committee supplies suggestions for symposia. As IBRO's new treasurer, he would like to improve communication between IBRO and IUPS.

CIOMS:

P. Moody-Corbett went to her first meeting at CIOMS. It is working on a revision of biomedical research guidelines.

8. Publications

IUPS website

P. Hunter, M. Slak Rupnik and M. Gordon feel that a simple website is all that is necessary. They agree that what is needed is a more modern website designed within a modest budget. M. Slak Rupnik [participating by phone] said he could design it at a cost of \$10,000 and is willing to oversee it. There would be no additional ongoing cost. He was asked to submit a proposal for consideration. W. Boron mentioned that his department has a search engine that IUPS can use. M. Slak Rupnik and L. Price volunteered to take care of adding and updating the content. There has been no increase in the number of hits on the website. It was suggested that there be an editorial committee of three people.

Action: M. Slak Rupnik will submit a proposal for designing a new website.
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IUPS relationship with APS concerning *Physiology* (The Journal)

W. Boron noted that the impact factor for the journal is at 8. He wrote an editorial for the August issue (circulation 11,000) proposing the publication should include letters in the format of those in Nature and Science that have been rejected by those two journals. Eventually *Physiology* might come out

once a month. One problem is the question of how APS keep their books to always show a deficit. IUPS should exert itself to become more involved in the journal.

There is a joint management committee for the journal that is supposed to include members of IUPS and APS. M. Gordon is an ex officio member, but IUPS needs to appoint two Council members. P. Hunter and T. Wang volunteered to be on the committee. It was suggested that APS should be told that IUPS is sorry it has not been doing its part on the *Physiology* managing board. Because of this, it would like to introduce two new IUPS members for the board. The union could also offer to alternate journal meetings between IUPS and APS.

9. Other business

The audit will be emailed by L. Price to the council members.

When the new dues structure is selected, it will be reviewed and given a time table. Council members will be asked for feedback. The funds that are collected from dues should be used for items that IUPS normally pays for with money from its budget. APS and TPS will be asked for contributions instead of dues. It is important to identify items in the IUPS budget that could be funded by donations from APS and TPS.

M. Gordon suggested that the bylaws for the Board of the General Assembly include that it will only vote on specific financial matters, similar to the voting rights that ICSU uses for their Board of the General Assembly.

The Council meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Price
Manager