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IUPS Executive Committee Teleconference Meeting January 3, 2017

Meeting Minutes

Present: D. Noble, J. Chan, W. Boron, P. Wagner, S. Webster
With Regrets: P. Hansen

1. J. Sengupta travel support for IUPS -2017

S. Webster reported that BGA Chair J. Sengupta asked about the possibility for travel support for IUPS-2017. S. Webster stated that the only travel budgeted for this year was for S. Webster to attend EB and IUPS-2017. P. Wagner asked if there was any precedent for the BGA Chair to attend the Congress. S. Webster answered that there was not, as the last BGA Chair, K. Spyer, lived near enough to the location of IUPS-2013 to commute. D. Noble stated he will write an official letter to J. Sengupta informing her of the inability of IUPS to fund her travel. The principle is that BGA members are a subunit of the GA, which is made up of representatives selected by their national societies who should support their attendance. IUPS with its limited budget is completely unable to support the travel of the GA.

2. IUPS Travel Awards

W. Boron presented his draft of the IUPS Travel Award document. He asked if providing “up to \$1000” was appropriate language. S. Webster stated that for 2013, awards between £750-1000 were provided. D. Noble stated he was in favor of giving as many awards as possible. W. Boron asked about adding a gender question to the application form. D. Noble stated that organizations could be required to provide gender information if asked to prove there was no impropriety. S. Webster suggested adding an option to not reply. ExCo agreed to this addition. W. Boron asked if IUPS should require a letter of intent as part of the application. ExCo deemed this unnecessary.

3. Call for Proposals to Host IUPS-2025

W. Boron presented the draft Call for Proposals to Host IUPS-2015. J. Chan suggested moving Phase 1 back to February 15 to allow more countries to submit bids. ExCo agreed, and approved April 15 as the due date for Phase 2. S. Webster was instructed to distribute the Call as widely as possible, and replace the old version immediately.

4. IUPS Server

W. Boron announced that the IUPS file server, currently hosted locally in his lab, will be transitioned to a Box.com web server. He stated that this will allow ExCo to access IUPS's documents without having to go through email, and will smooth transition to the new ExCo. S. Webster reported Box.com also provided free mobile and tablet applications for easy access. J. Chan asked if the service was similar to Dropbox. W. Boron confirmed it was.

5. IUPS Fenn Lecture

W. Boron reported on the effort to recruit a new speaker for the IUPS Fenn Lecture, following the passing of R. Tsien. He stated that efforts to reach the 2016 Nobel laureate, Y. Ohsumi, met with a dead end. He reported that B. Machado suggested making A. Yonath, already booked to give a plenary lecture, the Fenn Lecture. W. Boron stated he had a "friend of a friend" connection with another Nobel laureate. He asked if it was appropriate to ask this person so late in the planning cycle. ExCo approved W. Boron to reach out informally to his friend to ask about speaking.

6. Any other business.

S. Webster announced he will be on vacation with limited internet access from January 18-27.

Action Items

1. D. Noble to write to J. Sengupta regarding travel funds.
2. S. Webster to distribute Travel Award notice.
3. S. Webster to update "Host a Congress" page on IUPS website, and distribute Call for Proposals
4. W. Boron to reach out informally to Nobel laureate to ask about Fenn Lecture.