

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

Minutes of the 100th Committee Meeting held on Thursday 30th September 1993 at 1.00 p.m. at the Biochemical Society, 59 Portland Place.

Present: P.Bayley, L.Fisher, K.Fox, D.Hukins, W.Hunter, R.L Leatherbarrow, G.Moore, D.Ogden, G.Roberts, M.Sansom, J.Thornton.

93/20 **Apologies for absence:** M.Ferenczi, S.Harding, S.Homans, A.North, A.Rees,

93/21 The **minutes of the previous meeting** were accepted, subject to altering 93/17 -(i) to :.. thanking Mark Carr and Paul Freemont for organising... and amending 93/16-(ii) to read: The joint meeting of the BCA has incurred a joint loss to us of £1400.

93/22 All **Matters arising** from the previous meeting were dealt with under separate reports.

93/23 **Honorary Secretary's Report**

- i) Professor A.C.T. North was elected General Secretary of IUPAB by the 12th General Assembly in Budapest. The secretary would write to congratulate him.
- ii) The Royal Society had written stating that Professor North assumes *ex officio* membership of the International Relations Committee, on his appointment as the Secretary General of IUPAB. Council therefore need to appoint a new member of the IRC to represent Biophysics. It was agreed that the BBS would nominate Professor G.C.K. Roberts as the new IRC member.
- iii) ACTN had written concerning his status on the BBS committee, since he had represented the Institute of Physics for several years and suggested that he resign from this position. It was agreed that ACTN should be coopted onto the committee *ex officio* in his role as IUPAB general secretary. ACTN would be consulted over a possible alternative representative for the IOP.
- iv) The Research Defence Society had written informing us that the "Talking Point" scheme had been transferred to the British Association for the Advancement of Science; this would also cover the physical sciences, maths and engineering.

93/24 **Honorary Treasurer's Report**

- i) DWLH reported that a further £326 had been received from the BCA to offset the loss incurred at the joint meeting
- ii) The database was complete. This had revealed many members who were not paying subscriptions. £600 had been obtained from renewed subscriptions.

93/25 **Honorary Meeting Secretary's Report**

Steve Harding was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a written report.

- i) *December 1993*. DNA Structure and Recognition: 40 years on. 17th December. Organised by Julia Goodfellow and Stephen Neidle. Venue: Wellcome Trust, London. GCKR presented a budget for the meeting. The Wellcome Trust would provide lecture theatre facilities and catering without charge. They would be asked to contribute to the cost of the speakers' dinner on the preceding evening. It was agreed to set the registration at £20 (£10 for students). The BBS would contribute £500, but would underwrite the cost

of the speaker's dinner, if necessary. The meeting would be advertised in the November Newsletter. For EBSA purposes this would be classed as the BBS Winter meeting.

- ii) *January 1993*. Biological Mechanisms from Crystal Structures, 5 January, NIMR, organised by Peter Turner. Arrangements were well advanced. The BBS contribution had been fixed at £500. Registration would be £15 for members, £20 for non members, £10 for students. Peter Turner would be provided with a membership list.
- iii) *April 1994*. Structure and Function of Ion Channels, David Ogden & Mark Sansom, Liverpool. 14-15 April. A joint meeting with the ion channels group of the Physiological Society. David Ogden presented a draft budget. With 200 people attending the registration could be set at £25. A draft programme would be ready for the November Newsletter.
- iv) *December 1994* Oligosaccharides, 19-20 December 1994 organised by Steve Homans and Liz Hounsell. This would be coorganised with the Molecular Graphics Society. Steve Homans would present a draft budget and programme at the next committee meeting.
- v) Joint meeting with the Biophysical Chemistry subgroup of the Faraday Division of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Several possible titles were suggested. It was agreed on *Mechanical properties of macromolecules and tissues*, and would be held at Easter 1995. DWLH agreed to coorganise the meeting together with someone from the Faraday division.
- vi) *Future meetings*

A one day meeting on *FTIR spectroscopy of biomolecules* had been proposed by Professor Dennis Chapman and Dr P. Haris. It was agreed that the BBS would underwrite this to a maximum of £500.

Possible joint meeting with the Australian Biophysical Society. GCKR had written to Dr Frances Separovic, Secretary of the Australian Biophysical Society. They would prefer a meeting on a specific subject. They had previously held joint meetings in Hawaii. It was thought that their strengths lay in the areas of Biological NMR and Photobiology. A joint meeting would need clear definition of the share of the profits/losses by each society. The possibility of having this Anglo-Australian meeting as a satellite meeting for the 1996 Amsterdam IUPAB congress was discussed.

93/26 IUPAB General Assembly

ACTN had been elected general secretary of IUPAB for six years

The assembly voted to recommend that the 1999 congress be held in New Delhi

93/27 Relations with the Biophysical Chemistry group of the Faraday Division.

GCKR had attended part of their inaugural meeting, 16-17 September, Bristol on "Molecular Forces in Biological Organization". GCKR also represented the BBS on their committee. This had been attended by about 90 people. The biophysical chemistry subgroup would be formally announced from 1st January 1994.

93/28 Date and Place for AGM

To be held during the DNA structure and recognition meeting, 1.50 p.m., 17th December at the Wellcome Trust.

93/29 New committee members

DWLH and KRF had stated their intention to resign as treasurer and secretary.

Robin Leatherbarrow had agreed to take over as treasurer, Mark Sansom as Secretary. These would be proposed at the AGM.

David Ogden and Geoff Bedford had also completed their term of office, leaving a total of four possible vacancies. DWLH and KRF were available to be coopted onto the committee, if necessary, for a short period. Several possible new committee members were considered. Further suggestions should be given to GCKR or KRF, who would then canvass opinion.

93/30 AOB

Database of members: It had previously been agreed to circulate a list of members. The most convenient means of doing this was discussed. DWLH would investigate the possibility of sending out a disc version.

EBSA The EBSA general Assembly had been held during the Budapest congress, involving delegates from 18 countries. The BBS had contributed £220 through the auspices of EBSA to enable a Rumanian (Mr Gheorghiu) to attend the congress.

PB presented a list of the new EBSA officers, which will be included in a forthcoming Newsletter.

One plenary speaker (Huber) at Budapest had been supported by EBSA.

There was a possibility of holding an EBSA congress, possibly in Grenada, February 1995 hosted by the Spanish Biophysical Society.

The formation of a European Biophysical Society was discussed

93/31 Date of the Next Meeting: Tuesday 4th January 1994, Biochemical Society.