

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

The 52nd Meeting of the Committee will be held at 14.15 on
TUESDAY, 27th SEPTEMBER at the Biochemical Society Rooms,
7 Warwick Court, High Holborn, London WC1R 5DP.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of 51st Meeting (previously circulated)
3. Matters arising
4. Report of the Secretary
5. Report of the Meetings Secretary
6. Report of the Treasurer
7. Representatives' reports
8. 6th International Congress on Biophysics, Kyoto, 1978.
9. Any other business
10. Date of Next Meeting

For Signature

BRITISH BIOPHYSICAL SOCIETY

The 51st Meeting of the Committee was held at 2.15 p.m. on Monday, May 9th 1977 at the Biochemical Society Offices, London.

- Present:
- Professor R.H. Pain (In the Chair)
 - Dr. M.E.J. Holwill (Secretary)
 - Dr. H.C. Watson (Treasurer)
 - Dr. G.L. Kellett (Meetings Secretary)
 - Dr. K.A. Cammack
 - Dr. P. Eagles
 - Dr. P. Harrison
 - Dr. P.J. Highton
 - Dr. J. Miller
 - Professor C.F. Phelps
 - Dr. E.R. Pike

Apologies for absence were received from Professors March and Blundell.

- 77/11 Professor R.H. Pain was welcomed as the new Chairman of the Committee
- 77/12 The Minutes of the 50th Meeting, with minor modifications, were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 77/13 Report of the Secretary. Dr. Holwill reported that the Royal Society had kindly sent the B.B.S. some tickets for the Jubilee Exhibition, and requested applications for their distribution.
- 77/14 Report of Meeting's Secretary.
 - (a) N.M.R. Meeting, March 1977. Dr. Kellett reported that the Meeting had been successful and timely. Some concern was expressed about the relatively small number of B.B.S. Members who attended the Meeting, but this was balanced by the feeling that the B.B.S. exists to promote Biophysical knowledge within the U.K. and is not a restrictive organisation. Thanks were expressed to Dr. R. Dwek for organising the meeting and obtaining considerable financial aid from a variety of sources to support the Meeting. The proceedings of this Meeting are to be published by Academic Press. There was general concern from the Committee that this should not set a precedent for future Meetings, since many authors were discouraged by the prospect of preparing a full manuscript for publication and such pressure might affect the characteristic 'free' atmosphere of B.B.S. Meetings. A majority of the Committee agreed, after some discussion, that there was no need to depress, from the Academic Press N.M.R. Publication, a note to the effect that the Meeting had been run by the B.B.S.
 - (b) Cell Motility, December 20-22, 1977. The Committee accepted the revised programme and the provisional accounts for this meeting presented by Dr. Holwill.
 - (c) Excitable Membranes, 3-5 April, 1978. Dr. Kellett presented a provisional programme and budget for this Meeting. It was suggested that the organisers be asked if possible to reduce the number of speakers to 3 in the morning of 4th April. Because of the topic of the Meeting, it was suggested that the Physiological Society be asked if it would be prepared to sponsor the Meeting jointly with the B.B.S.
 - (d) Subjects for Future Meetings. Dr. Watson agreed to investigate the possibility of holding a Meeting on Active Sites of Enzymes in December, 1978. Subjects were also provisionally agreed as follows:

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- (i) Easter Meeting, 1979 Metal Ion transport and storage;
 (ii) Winter Meeting, 1979 Electron transport.

(e) Correspondence. Dr. Watson reported that he had received a letter from a B.B.S. Member who claimed that the objectives of the Society had been considerably modified since its formation. While recognising that the views of Members must be considered in planning Meetings, it was noted that the subject area defined by 'Biophysics' had developed since the Society was formed.

77/15 Report of the Treasurer. Dr. Watson reported a net loss in Membership of the Society of 20% since the higher Membership Subscription came into effect. Some new members, many from abroad, had joined the Society. It was felt that a positive effort should be made to recruit members by a) bringing the Society to the attention of scientists who are at present non-members, but who might benefit by joining the Society; b) sending letters to those graduating with degrees in biophysics.

Dr. Watson noted that he was about to revise the mailing list for Posters and would send Membership information with the posters for the Winter Meeting.

In discussion of correspondence received by the Treasurer, concern was expressed that Membership of the Society had been used to infer a professional qualification. To avoid misunderstandings, the Secretary agreed to write a letter, which could be sent in response to appropriate enquiries, indicating the conditions of Society Membership.

In response to a letter, Dr. Watson noted that the B.B.S. Subscription was recognised by the Inland Revenue as Tax Deductable, and he would include a note to this effect in the next circulation.

77/16 Organisation of Meetings. It was felt that the organisation of Meetings might be improved if a member of the Committee were appointed to liaise closely with the local organiser; it was noted that satisfactory co-operation could best be achieved if the Committee member worked close to the proposed Meeting location. It was agreed that the instructions to Organisers should be revised and Dr. Kellett agreed to prepare a document for discussion at the next Committee Meeting. Drs. Pike and ~~Growth~~ offered to supply copies of similar documents used by the Institute of Physics and the Royal Microscopical Society respectively. It was agreed that an official representative from the Committee should attend each future Meeting.

77/17 Reports from Representatives.

a) Physical Biochemistry Group. Dr. Miller reported that the following meetings were planned:

i) Light Scattering November 22nd 1977

ii) Biological Semiconductors or Membrane Techniques Summer, 1978.

b) Inorganic Biochemistry Discussion Group. Dr. Harrison reported that the following meetings were planned for 1977:

Evolution of Metalloenzymes, Metalloproteins and related Material Sussex, June 30 - July 1.

A.G.M. Sussex, July 1.

Metal Ion Transfer Manchester, 19-20 December

A Meeting, in collaboration with the Chemical Society, on inorganic mechanisms is also planned.

77/18 Undergraduate Biophysics Seminar on Membranes,
Lancaster University 17-20 April, 1977.

Professor Phelps presented a written report to the Meeting. The Seminar had been successful and was attended by some 80 students and 6 lecturers. It was regretted that very few physicists had participated. A questionnaire given to the students at the end of the Seminar provided information which will be of value if future seminars of this type are organised.

Appreciation and congratulations were offered to Professor Phelps for organising what was clearly a successful innovation in Biophysics education. The Secretary agreed to prepare a report of the Seminar for publication in Nature.

77/19 The Next Meeting will be held in the Biochemical Society Offices on 27th September 1977.

Roger H. Lane

27.9.77