

Secretary General

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60th IUIS Council Meeting – Minutes

Date: Thursday, August 22nd, 2013; 09.00 – 12.30 hrs
Place: MiCo - Milan Congress Center, Room “Amber 3”

INVITED:

- Executive board 2010-2013
- Council members 2010-2013 (elected at the 14th General Assembly on August 22, 2010)
- Committee chairs (non-voting)
- Regional Federations (non-voting)
- Liaisons and Affiliated organizations (non-voting)
- Jean-Loup Romet-Lemonne, IUIS Program Director
- Representative of the 15th ICI 2013 in Milan - Alberto Mantovani
- Representatives of the 16th ICI 2016 in Melbourne – J. Villadangos, I. Barr, A. Lew
- IUIS Central Office in Vienna, Gerlinde Jahn

Present:

- Executive board 2010-2013: Stefan Kaufmann (president), Jorge Kalil (president-elect), Nicholas King (treasurer), Seppo Meri (secretary general), Peter Doherty (past-president), Gerlinde Jahn from the Vienna IUIS office (Vienna Medical Academy, VMA)
- Council members 2010-2013: Olivier Boyer, Margarida Carneiro, Jeffrey Frelinger, Shigeo Koyasu, Michael Ratcliffe, Franca Ronchese, Chris Rudd, Reinhold Schmidt, René van Lier, Anna Erdei, Daniel Lopes, Alberto Mantovani, Cielia Maria Riera, Xuetao Cao, Alioune Dieye, Ahmed El-Gohary.
- Committee chairs (non-voting): Olivera Finn, Narinder Mehra (Gender Equality and Career), Pablo Engel (Nomenclature), Michelle Letarte (Education), Wayne Hein (VIC), José Luis Franco (Vice-Chair; PID), Reinhold Schmidt (CIC), Rudolf Valenta (Quality Assessment and Standardisation)
- Regional Federations (non-voting): ALAI: Luis F Garcia, EFIS: Anna Erdei, Catherine Sautes-Fridman, FAIS: Willem Hanekom, FIMSA: Nicholas King
- Liaisons and Affiliated organisations (non-voting): FOCIS: Abul Abbas (point 8a), ICSU: Nicole Moreau, Gilbert Faure (point 8c)

AGENDA:

1. Welcome and opening of the council meeting (Stefan Kaufmann)

The IUIS President Prof Stefan Kaufmann welcomed members of the IUIS Council and other participants.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 59th council meeting, Lima, Perú 2012

The minutes were approved.

3. President's report (Stefan Kaufmann)

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Stefan Kaufmann presented the highlights of IUIS activities. These included increased awareness of immunology, visibility, image and communication tools of IUIS, organisation of a successful International Day of Immunology (April, 2013), provision of the Else Kröner–Fresenius Award to Ruslan Medzhitov (July, 2013) and a successful active Council meeting in Lima in 2012.

Michelle Letarte raised a question about the highlights of the past year. The President replied by mentioning the successful Lima meeting, increased awareness and the Else-Kröner Fresenius-IUIS Prize. The SG added successful collaboration with Frontiers, and interest in IUIS activities in the form of 4 bids for the 2019 ICI meeting and the nomination of 5 IUIS Vice President candidates.

4. Secretary General's report (Seppo Meri)

The Secretary General provided an outline of main events during the past year and described his IUIS activities. These were summarised in the report provided. The main duties were to take care of the Union's key functions. A major task was to participate in the site visits in relation to organising the 2019 ICI meeting.

IUIS is undergoing administrative changes because of the forthcoming retirement of the key person in the Vienna secretariat, Gerlinde Jahn. These will be discussed in the new ExCo to be elected in the GA meeting. The website of IUIS has been revised and the Frontiers website is at the disposal of IUIS members, as well. The SG pointed out that there are more opportunities in using the websites than have been realised.

5. Treasurer's report 2012 (Nick King) and budget for the year 2014

The IUIS Treasurer presented the report of financial activities from the fiscal year 2012 (attachment).

Rudi Valenta expressed a wish to have Committee budget under IUIS accounts. Otherwise there could be problems with taxing or if the money needs to be transferred to personal accounts.

Another question was raised about the budget for the Project Manager. Stefan Kaufmann replied that the original agreement was made for 2 years, and this period will come to its end at the end of September, 2013. Thereafter, a Project Manager could serve to help IUIS, but with a self-financing principle.

The Council approved the Treasurer's report.

(Discussion of the budget was moved to the meeting of the new Council 23.8.2013)

6. Standing committees' reports (because of time constraints, there were no individual presentations)

a. Clinical Immunology, Reinhold E. Schmidt (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/clinical-immunology-committee.html>)

Michelle Letarte commented that she would like to see more meetings and collaboration with the Education Committee.

b. Nomenclature, Pablo Engel (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/nomenclature-committee.html>)

Alberto Mantovani informed about new nomenclature for IL-1 family of cytokines (published in Nature Immunology 11: 973, 2010). Questions were raised about nomenclatures for chemokines and their receptors, especially about the division of tasks between the International Union of Pharmacology (IUPHAR) and IUIS, as well as with the "Big Pharma" companies. IUIS is expected to take a bigger role.

Pablo Engel reported that there are currently 5 active subcommittees. New nomenclatures will be published in Frontiers in Immunology.

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c. Gender Equality and Career, Olivera Finn (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/gender-equality-and-career-development-gecd-committee/activities.html>)

Olivera Finn praised the ICI2013 organisers for taking notice of wishes to increase female participation in the meeting. As a result 40% of speaker invitations went to women, and finally 27% of the speakers will be women. Potential reasons for the fewer approvals by women vs. men were discussed. It was also noted that the presentation of women in the IUIS Council could be improved. As a reason, too few female candidates was mentioned. As a solution, it was suggested that member Societies should be encouraged to propose more female candidates to the Council. Michelle Letarte suggested that the Gender Equality and Career committee could take an active role in this.

d. Education, Michelle Letarte (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/education-committee/supported-activities.html>)

e. Quality Assessment and Standardization, Rudolf Valenta (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/quality-assessment-and-standardization-committee.html>)

f. Veterinary Immunology, Wayne R. Hein (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/veterinary-immunology-committee.html>)

g. Primary Immunodeficiencies, José L. Franco (<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/primary-immunodeficiency-expert-committee/activities.html>)

As a general comment, it was suggested that the individual Committees should get together more often, and arrange meetings e.g. in connection with the Council meetings. Thereby, they could provide joint proposals to the Council.

Furthermore, Alberto Mantovani was nominated as the ExCo member to further collaboration between the ExCo and Committees.

h. Programs, Jean-Loup Romet-Lemonne (since JLRL was excused, this point was discussed between points 7 and 8).

JLRL gave a 4 minute presentation describing his activities in promoting IUIS activities, the website and contacts with industry. Negotiations with Médecins sans Frontières have led to an agreement that IUIS can use the slogan "Immunology without Borders" as long as it is not used for commercial purposes and does not violate the purposes of MSF.

Times have been difficult for obtaining industry sponsorship. Various suggestions for obtaining funding from the public sector or charitable foundations were made.

7. Federations' reports (5 minutes each) - <http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/regional-federations.html>

a. ALAI (Luis Garcia)

Next ALAI meeting will be held in 2015 in Medellin, Colombia. at the Plaza Mayor Convention Center.

b. EFIS (Anna Erdei)

EFIS has been active in promoting public awareness and in providing Immunology Prizes (e.g. for Day-of-Immunology and Acteria prizes). 150 x 500€ travel bursaries to ICI2013 were provided. Next EC1 meeting will take place in Vienna, Austria in September 6-9, 2015.

c. FAIS (Tom Kariuki)

FAIS has increased its communication to promote collaboration between different African Immunological Societies. FAIS has a new constitution. The FAIS Secretariat is located at the University of Cape Town,

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South Africa. The next FAIS meeting will be held in Nairobi, November 30 – December 4, 2014. FAIS is interested in developing a new, globally valid curriculum for immunology.

d. FIMSA (Xuetao Cao)

FIMSA has organised an Advanced Immunology Course in New Delhi, 2013 and a Winter School.

8. Liaisons and affiliated organizations' reports (5 minutes for selected items)

<http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/affiliated-organizations.html>

(name in italics - person not attending the meeting)

a. FOCIS (Abul Abbas) (discussed at 10.00 hrs because of lecturing by A Abbas)

b. ICLAS (*H. Rozmiarek*)

c. ICSU (Nicole J. Moreau, Gilbert Faure)

Nicole J. Moreau (The ICSU representative for IUIS) gave an overview of ICSU governing structure and strategy for 2012-2017. ICSU has developed research policies at the global level. For example, they promote freedom of research, responsibility, and a world data system. For the latter a separate Committee exists: Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA). ICSU will go through an external review in 2013-2014.

Gilbert Faure (The IUIS representative for ICSU) described ICSU Bio-Cluster meetings. These are joint meetings of biologically oriented ICSU members focusing on interdisciplinarity and communication. An example of another Society with activities close to those of IUIS is the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology – IUBMB. He also mentioned the IUPS Physiome Project attempting to explain how different human body components work as an integrated whole.

d. ISDCI (*V. Smith*)

e. ISIR (Sarah Robertson) - ISIR Report was to be submitted after the Council meeting

ISIR has a new Council, and the new president is Charles R. Wira. ISIR is an active society that organised its most recent meeting in Boston, 2013. Subjects include HIV, STD and immunological origins of infertility.

f. SMI (*J. Viney*)

g. WAO (Ruby Pawankar)

The President of WAO gave an overview of WAO activities, which are many. WAO has 30 Committees, a "TV" containing videos, interviews and media guides. It is active in providing initiatives. There is an allergy training school (WATS). WAO wishes to collaborate more with IUIS in basic science aspects.

h. WHO (Pascal Launois)

The connection with WHO is meant to translate basic science results for the implementation into activities in public health. Since Pascal Launois has moved to other activities in WHO, a search is ongoing to find a new WHO liaison for IUIS. The joint activities of WHO and IUIS offer potential for development, and new activities are welcomed. The list of current activities include work on nomenclature, standardisation and initiatives on vaccines. The SG will communicate with PL to find a new liaison and to develop communication and activities with WHO.

i. Archives (*T. Beck*)

j. Frontiers (Kendall Smith)

Frontiers in immunology has, during its close to 3 years of existence, continued successfully to be the official journal of IUIS and publish high level immunological research. Since October 2010 832 papers had been submitted and 652 papers published in the journal. The journal has 1688 editors at different levels. 93 Research Topics have acted as clusters for theme-oriented publications. The numbers of publications are on the increase. Recently Frontiers became a Nature Publishing Group journal, which again provides new opportunities. IUIS received a 19,000 USD rebate from Frontiers.

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9. Members - new members:

(because of time constraints this point was not discussed)

Malian Society - voting in GA, August 22, 2013

Nigeria – readmission (Nov. 2012) - <http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/societies/104-nigeria.html>

Ukraine - since Feb. 2013 - <http://www.iuisonline.org/iuis/index.php/societies/214-ukraine.html>

10. Forthcoming meetings (update)

(because of time limitation this point was moved to the meeting of the new Council 23.8.2013)

a. 62nd Council meeting 2014: time and venue?

b. 16th ICI in Melbourne 2016 (José Villadangos)

11. 17th ICI, 2019 – Presentation of bids (Beijing, Berlin, Kos, Moscow)

Four bids to organise the 17th ICI meeting in 2019 had been submitted to IUIS before deadline. Site visits had been made to each place by 2 ExCo members. SG had prepared reports from each visit and made a summary presentation for the Council. The process of decision making was explained first.

Representatives of each site gave 5 min presentations. The presentation order was determined by a raffle:

1. Beijing, 2. Kos, 2. Moscow, 4. Berlin.

After each presentation there was a discussion (5-10 min each).

After the last presentation the SG presented a summary of the site visits. After a general discussion the Council voted. The first vote (secret ballot) was between all the 4 bidders. Those eligible to vote were 1. Council members (n=16), 2. ExCo members and 3. International affiliates (who have paid their dues). If no applicant wins with a simple majority, a second vote between the top two applicants will follow.

The results of the 1st vote were:

Beijing 9, Berlin 6, Moscow 4 and Kos 1.

The results of the 2nd vote were: Beijing 14, Berlin 6.

Thus, a tentative decision was made to select Beijing as the site for the 17th ICI meeting in 2019. The decision was subject to ratification by the General Assembly, which could overturn the decision by a 2/3 majority vote.

12. Review of General Assembly business

- Election of Executive Committee (Secretary General, Treasurer)
- Election of new Councilors
- Election of new Vice President (5 min presentations by each candidate) - 5 candidates
- Approval of venue 17th ICI 2019

13. 61st Council meeting 2013 Milan, Italy

This meeting will be for the new council members to be elected during the 15th IUIS General Assembly on the afternoon (at 13.30 – 16.30) of August 22nd, 2013, Room "Amber 4", MiCo

The 61st Council meeting will take place on Friday 23rd at 13.30 - 15.00 in Room "Amber 8", MiCo

14. Other matters - PCO, administrative office

These were discussed, while SG gave his report. The decision for a new PCO for IUIS was to be decided by the ExCo later after a careful analysis of the candidates. Because of the retirement of Gerlinde Jahn, a new arrangement for the administrative office was required.

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15. Closing

The President closed the Council meeting at 12.13.

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