

Minutes for the 63rd IUIS Council Meeting

Date & Time Tuesday, 13 October 2015, 09:00-15.30 (COT)

Place Andes 2-3-4, Hotel Poblado Plaza, Medellín, Colombia

- Invited
- Executive Board 2013-2016
 - Council Members 2013-2016
 - Committee Chairs (non-voting)
 - Regional Federations (non-voting)
 - Liaisons and Affiliated organizations (non-voting)
 - Representative of the 16th ICI 2016 in Melbourne (non-voting)
 - Representative of the 17th ICI 2019 in Beijing (non-voting)
 - Frontiers in Immunology (non-voting)
 - IUIS Central Office in Berlin (non-voting)
- [*Actual list of participants with abbreviation used throughout the minutes](#)

All five ExCo members and 10/16 Council Members in attendance (WH came at point 3c).

Absent Council Members: Ahmed El-Gohary, Paola Castagnoli, Wei He, Shigeo Koyasu, David Gray, Reina Mebius

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Agenda:

1. **Welcome address from IUIS President Jorge Kalil**
The IUIS President Jorge Kalil welcomed everybody to the Council Meeting and thanked the organizer of ALAI 2015 for the opportunity to have the IUIS Council Meeting in Medellín.
2. **Approval of the minutes of 62nd Council Meeting, Nairobi, November 30, 2014**
The [minutes](#) were approved.
3. **Society review**
 - a. **Members Societies**
 - i. New members

Three new Regular Members of the IUIS were approved (immunological societies of Kosovo, Mali and Montenegro) via an online vote of the General Assembly ending July 2, 2015. [Voting results](#) are posted online.

It was confirmed that Regional Federations have the first responsibility in helping integrate new societies to the Union.

RV suggested that more is done to bring in the Eastern European and Western Asian countries.

ii. Executive statement

On March 31, 2015, the IUIS Executive Committee (ExCo) issued a [statement on membership dues increase](#) for 2016.

- IUIS has two membership categories: low and high income. Classification of countries follows the World Bank five income groups, whereby Low to Lower-Middle Income shall be IUIS “low income” countries and Upper-middle to High Income shall be IUIS “high income” countries.
- The ExCo proposes to raise the IUIS membership fees from \$US 2.75 and \$US 7.50 to \$US 3.00 and \$US 9.00 for low to middle income and high income member countries, respectively.

The Cuban Society explained its difficult financial situation and requested to remain at the low income membership fee status. The Council discusses the issue and votes in favor of this proposal for the next fiscal year when new fees are due (14 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained). In this case it is year 2017, because fees for 2016 have already been paid.

iii. [Vote on increasing dues](#)

The Council voted in favor of increasing the membership fees according to the proposal in 3.a.ii (14 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstained). Thus, from 2016 onwards the IUIS membership fee is \$US 3.00 per individual member for societies in low to middle income countries and \$US 9.00 per individual member for societies in high income member countries. These are categorizations drawn from the World Bank per capita gross national income (GNI) purchasing power parity (PPP) list.

DK raised the point that IUIS members should have a better access to IUIS materials and IUIS should be more visible to the scientific community. Accordingly, after a subsequent discussion it was decided that IUIS Central Office would send 1) a list of IUIS membership benefits and achievements to its members and 2) a Power Point presentation about IUIS to Council Members for use in advertising IUIS activities in various types of presentations.

b. Executive Committee

i. President's report

The President gave an oral report, which included the directional focus of the Union:

- strengthening IUIS with a 3-year functional and financial planning
- increasing IUIS finances e.g. with the contributions from private foundations and companies
- engaging more countries in IUIS activities
- highlighting activities of IUIS Committees and Federations

Discussion follows on actual attempts regarding fundraising for IUIS (see 3.e.iv).

ii. Secretary General's report

SM gave a general account of his main activities, which were summarized in a [separate report](#).

Documents of IUIS activities have increasingly been available on the IUIS website. In general, requested better communication between IUIS and National Societies on one hand and between

ExCo and Council Members on the other are presented. It was suggested that non-confidential synopses of IUIS ExCo teleconferences and meetings should be shared with Council Members (e.g. on a website).

In addition, whenever appropriate, the Council Members could be provided an opportunity to review draft agreements that IUIS ExCo is making with third parties under the conditions that any comments to be taken into account are received by the ExCo within two days of submitting the draft. It is reiterated that, in general, the ExCo has the mandate of the Council to prepare and negotiate such contracts. Confidentiality issues need to be carefully considered when discussing the contracts.

iii. Treasurer's report

NK reported on finances from year 2014 (audit), the budget for 2015 and the tentative budget for 2016.

NK informed that IUIS is increasingly moving to 3-year planning periods. This is because during the year of triennial ICI meeting, more income is expected. To maintain a nonprofit (tax-exempt) status, auditing and indication of actual nonprofit in accounts is integrated from a back-up period of 5 years. The accounts of IUIS are held in Vienna, Austria. Also the auditor is based in Vienna.

In the discussion, the proposed budget for 2016 was previewed. JK pointed out that a new strict accounting system for IUIS concerning financial reports from Committees and Federations has been implemented. ST noted that no assets from the Julius Bär account were taken out. CR asked about the level of return from this account. NK responded that the investment has been made conservatively on purpose. The return level is currently approximately 3%. OF requested a curve of the investment return from recent years could be prepared and sent to Council Members.

AM and AB noted that the fees for K.I.T. will increase for 2016. ST replies that this is pending the possible income from the sponsorships arranged by K.I.T. If K.I.T. does not manage to bring in income from outside the fee for IUIS will be reduced by 50%. Also, part of the cost is related to abstract handling of the ICI2016 meeting.

RS suggested that K.I.T. would be invited to participate in other meetings, where IUIS is one of the organizing parties. SM and ST mentioned that this is already the case and part of the strategy of IUIS. JK emphasizes that K.I.T. is taking the financial risk of organizing meetings, where it is the main PCO.

Council approves of 2014 accounts and 2015 budget (see 5.a)

c. Committees

i. Report from Committee-ExCo meeting, October 12, 2015

Each of IUIS's Committee chairs presented summaries of wider discussions carried out on the day prior to the Council Meeting. The reports were made available to the Council Members at the IUIS website prior to the Council Meeting. Activities were described and discussed Oct 12th and are shown as [ppt-summaries](#). Focus was on justification of the budget requests of the individual Committees.

ST had prepared a summary of Committee and Federation presentations.

ii. Roundtable discussion

CIC has planned 4 immunology courses (South, West, North, East) in Africa in collaboration with EDU as well as focused expert meetings. CIC and EDU collaborate with Immunopaedia and Clive Gray. First experiences have been very positive. Room exists for more funding support. JK pointed out the limited resources of IUIS and explained that the provided funding in the budget is seed money to help applying for further support. Sources include Volkswagen Stiftung and potentially BD and other sponsors. RS mentioned the fact that CIC has already been able to bring in money to CIC.

Luis Garcia expressed a hope to support Clinical Immunology in connection with the forthcoming ALAI meeting in Mexico. NM expressed a wish for the CIC to take a more active role in organizing high level workshops in the areas of autoimmunity, HIV and other issues directly in the domain of CIC. AM summed up the discussion and expressed the need to balance the allocated finances with activities and consider CIC courses in connection with the ICI meetings.

EDU has had 7 courses since the 2014 Council meeting in Nairobi. 60 students participated in the course in ImmunoColombia. The cost of the course was \$US 50 000. Additional support from the AAI and BMGF was acknowledged. Participants received a keyword for unlimited access to the Bellanti Immunology textbook materials. SM was happy to hear that – despite the cost – the Bellanti book with its related electronic materials was found to be useful for the students. AM wished for more visibility and contributions of EDU in the *Frontiers in Immunology* journal. SM wanted to have a link from Immunopaedia to the IUIS website and vice versa. It was suggested that forthcoming courses should be named as IUIS ImmunoXxxx (as e.g. IUIS-ImmunoTunisia), whenever relevant. The suggestion received unanimous support.

GEC organized a successful symposium in Nairobi, referred by some to be the highlight of the FAIS meeting. Also a similar meeting was to be held in Medellin. Whenever organized the gender symposia have been very successful. No addition to the suggested funding was requested.

ITH is a new Committee led by Chris Rudd. He referred to immunotherapy as being the new “revolution” in immunology welcomed suggestions of new members to the Committee.

NOM was not represented at the general discussion meeting. PE now presented shortly the activities. The 9 subcommittees have been active in publishing in *Frontiers* and other journals. SM presented a hope to have all the publications open access. SK referred to the system imposed e.g. by NIH and Wellcome Trust to have all studies published by their support to be open access. SM suggested that this should always be requested in the case of articles with general importance, like those related to nomenclature and standardization. Publishing in *Frontiers in Immunology* should be preferred, particularly if supported by IUIS.

PID will organize a business meeting in Barcelona in 2016. The Committee has been active in publishing and in attending immunodeficiency-related meetings.

QAS has 7 subcommittees that operate semi-independently. The task of the chair (RV) has been to glue the subcommittees together, remind of the role of IUIS and to organize joint meetings of the subcommittee chairs. A chairperson has been suggested. OF presented a wish to have also a female vice-chair. RV told of his experiences of having run the committee for a long while and was greeted for his activities.

VAC is a new committee that is getting into form. WH expressed a wish for rationalization of the Committee. A chair and a vice-chair will soon be nominated for the Committee by the ExCo.

VIC is active in organizing a satellite meeting in relation to ICI2016 and is establishing contacts to China in preparation for the ICI2019 meeting in Beijing. Funding to VAC is coming also from sources other than IUIS.

d. Regional Federations

Report from Regional Federations-ExCo meeting, October 12, 2015
Representatives of IUIS's Federations (ALAI: Leopoldo Santos-Argumedo; EFIS: Winfried Pickl; FAIS: Hatem Masmoudi; FIMSA: Bo Huang) present summaries of wider discussions carried out

on Oct 12th.

HM offers to host the 66th IUIS Council Meeting during FAIS 2017 (December, 10th FAIS meeting). He also requests additional funding for 2016 IUIS course. It is suggested that there alternative forms of funding may be available from the Gates Foundation and the European Union.

LG is thanked for organizing the 2015 ALAI meeting and for arrangement concerning the 63rd Council meeting. LSA became the new president of ALAI on Oct 16th, 2015. JK expressed a wish to widen the activities of ALAI beyond organizing meetings. WH asked how resources from Committees could also be used for collaboration with the Federations. One proposal was to have more representatives of Federations in the Committees.

The upcoming meetings are:

- FAIS 2017 – December, 4-8 2017, Tunis, Tunisia
- FIMSA 2018 – November 2018, Bangkok, Thailand
- ALAI 2018 –May 14-18, Cancun, Mexico

e. Partner Organizations, Affiliates and Sponsors

i. WHO Liaison

OF suggested Jane Kengeya-Kayondo could be the official IUIS Liaison to the WHO

ii. ICSU and ICLAS Representative

JK proposed the IUIS support the ICSU Biocluster with an annual support of \$US 3 000 (approved)

iii. Affiliates

No Affiliate representation is present.

The International Complement Society (ICS) is suggested for new IUIS Affiliation

1. FOCIS
2. WAO
3. ISIR
4. ISDCI
5. SMI

iv. Sponsors

In reply to a question from OF, JK mentioned discussions with Danone on 1) supporting Day of Immunology prizes, 2) having inserts of support on IUIS website and 3) using IUIS label on publications.

Council concluded there are no problems with points 1 and 2 or with foreseen sponsorship. Attitudes towards using IUIS label/logo in commercial products or publications promoting them are, however, more critical. It was the general impression of the Council that IUIS should keep high ethical standards and stay independent and not promote any particular products. The name of IUIS should not be misused for any inappropriate purposes.

Further discussions with potential sponsors and forms of sponsorship included Becton-Dickinson, BioLegend and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. An application to the latter for support IUIS congresses and courses yielded a negative result (WH mentions that support is primarily aimed at capacity building, not e.g. to congresses as such as a possible explanation). In contrast BMGF provided generously fellowships and travel bursaries e.g. to participants of ICI 2013 in Milan and

ImmunoColombia 2015 meetings. An application to the BMGF is ongoing for ICI 2016.

f. Elections

It was suggested that the General Assembly be contacted early with exact dates and procedures to promote higher attendance numbers at the ICI2016 GA meeting.

An Election Committee is approved consisting of JK, AM and OF.

Councilors will be reminded to submit nominations first. The National Member and Regional Federation societies will be contacted at the beginning of November with the call for nominations.

Deadline for nominations is 31 December 2015.

- i. 2016-2019 Officer positions / nominations
- ii. 2016-2019 Council elections & reelections / nominations
- iii. 2016-2019 Committee Chair nominations

4. Activities review

a. Meetings

i. ICI 2016

1. Report

AB reported on the [ICI 2016 progress](#) up to the present. 52% of invited speakers and 41% of chairpersons are women. The geographical representation has improved since the Nairobi meeting. Many sponsors have been recruited already and generous support from e.g. AAI and the BMGF has been promised in the form of travel grants. ≈4000 participants are expected, ≈25% from Australia.

2. IUIS involvement

A presentation is available on the IUIS website: [IUIS ICI 2016 Report](#)

The IUIS meetings have been planned as follows:

ExCo meeting 19.8.2016; Council meeting 20.8.2016 (+Committees) and GA on 21.8.2016. Meeting of the new Council will be held during the ICI2016 meeting. A possible meeting with Committees was suggested to be held after the ICI2016 meeting.

José Villadangos (JV) communicated to ST that sessions involving EDU, GEC, NOM and QAS could be possible.

3. Satellite Meetings

JV does not want too many satellite meetings, which would compete with the ICI 2016 scientific program. Satellites of Veterinary immunology and of Mucosal immunology have been planned.

4. Joint Symposia

The following joint symposia were suggested:

- WAO with RV and Ruby Pawankar (WAO) as chairpersons
- FOCIS with RS as a chair
- EFIS, EEACI and other Affiliates were also suggested

5. Workshops

RV suggested that NOM and QAS workshops could be well-received.

ii. ICI 2019 update

BH gave an overview of the work being done to prepare the 2019 congress. The pending agreement (between IUIS and CSI) signing ceremony in Beijing (November, 2015) was mentioned. The new financial dynamic is also presented. Collaboration between the IUIS and local PCO is subject to the overarching agreement between IUIS and CSI.

iii. ICI 2021/2 update

A question of moving the congress to a bi-annual was addressed and dismissed due to the organizational difficulties it would pose to the Regional Federation congresses, as well as the conferences of the National Member societies.

The new name was presented: IUIS 2022, 18th International Congress of Immunology

The updated RFP was presented. Concerns arose regarding the clarity of financial responsibility and profit-share. ST is to address these issues, update the draft and resubmit to Council for approval.

iv. Regional Congress

1. FIMSA 2015 was held in Singapore
2. ECI 2015 was held in Vienna (3630 delegates participated, 2361 posters and 555 symposia)
3. Immunocolombia 2015 is being held in Medellin (≈1200 participants)
- 4.

b. Publishing

KS is searching for section editors to Frontiers in Immunology (now 18) in the following areas

- Microbial immunity (now Christine Biron)
- Immunotherapy and Vaccines (now Jean-Luc Teillaud)
- Molecular and Innate Immunity (now Claudia Kemper)
- Antigen Presenting Cells (now Hemran Wagner)

i. Overview of journal partnership

This was discussed in connection of SG report.

ii. Ongoing project: Research Topics

An opportunity to publish as Research Topics is presented to meetings and workshops organized by IUIS and its affiliates and committees.

All IUIS members are invited to edit a Research Topic. Council Members and Committee Chairs in particular are asked to lead by example.

c. Teaching/training courses: discussed in connection with Committee activities.

K.I.T. could support in developing tools for teaching courses or in turning towards 3rd party vendors. Dedicated people, like Veronica Coelho, should be supported.

d. Networking/community activities

DOI prizes were approved (2 @ € 500 and 2 @ € 1 000). ST is to approach EFIS regarding co-sponsorship.

e. Public awareness – no further discussion

f. Travel grants – no further discussion

g. Other – no further discussion

5. Budget review

a. 2014 Finance Report and Audit

The Council voted in favor of approving the 2014 accounts (15 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions).

b. 2015 Budget

The Council unanimously approved the 2015 budget (15 for, 0 against and 0 abstentions).

c. 2016 Budget and 2016-2019 Budget projections

NK presented the budget for 2016 discussing requested budgets of individual Committees and Federations point by point.

After discussion the budget was provisionally approved unless substantial mistakes are found in closer review by the Council members during the next 48 hours. The revised budget is to be sent to Council members by e-mail.

6. Communication review

a. PUB Committee

JK proposes a Post-doc be hired to work at K.I.T. with an annual salary of \$US 30 000. NK suggests these costs could be covered by a fellowship set with a 3-year term.

The ExCo and Central Office are asked to provide a job description (including science writing, IT activities, website, newsletters).

b. Meeting tools

ST offers the Central Office communication tools for the use of all Chairs and Council Members.

c. Website

ST insists that updating the website to improve the overall IUIS communications platform is essential. She notes it cannot be done without a dedicated person to take on the task. Taking videos of Committee chairs and placing them in Youtube/IUIS website was suggested as one tool. AM asked: how many times the IUIS website had been accessed. ST will provide the graphics.

d. Newsletter

ST reminds Council that the Central Office produces a quarterly newsletter distributed amongst the IUIS constituents. OF suggested that the newsletters could be placed to National Society websites.

e. Social Media

f. Society ppt

Council requests the short society presentation be expanded to include activities of the committees. ST is to use the presentations from the 12 October 2015 meeting as an initial source of data.

Committee Chairs are requested to submit their edit comments regarding the individual committee logos. The monochrome orange squares are not seen as sufficiently representative.

7. Other matters

No other matters were raised

8. Closing

JK closed the meeting at 16.35