Minutes:  54th IUIS Council Meeting  
Taipei, 16 October 2008

Present:  Laurence Boumsell, Gérard Chaouat, Mohmed Daha, Alioune Dieye,  
Peter Doherty, Anna Erdei, Gilbert Faure, Olivera Finn, David Hafler,  
Wayne Hein, Jorge Kalil, Stefan Kaufmann, Michelle Letarte, Seppo  
Meri, Marianna Newkirk, Clelia Maria Riera, Sergio Romagnani,  
Christopher Rudd, Reinhold Schmidt, Kiyoshi Takatsu, Rudolf Valenta

Observers:  Masa Myasaka, Yousuke Takahma, Margarida Carneiro (webmanager)

Excuses:  Elopy Sibanda, Dexian, Zheng, Rolf Zinkernagel, Kenneth Söderhäll,  
Pascal Launois, René A.W. van Lier, Christopher Parish, Helen Chapel

1. Opening  
Professor Peter Doherty, President of IUIS, opens the meeting. He first thanks our hosts  
of FIMSA and then welcomes all delegates and observers.

2. Minutes of the 52nd and 53rd Council Meeting, Rio 2007  
Prof. Doherty thanks Prof. J. Kalil for the excellent ICI-meeting held in Rio, 2007. No  
comments are made about the minutes because most of the relevant items are on the  
agenda. The minutes are approved unanimously.

3. President’s Report (Prof. Doherty)  
Prof. Doherty’s report is included in the attachments of the meeting. Most important  
point is a proposal of the EXEC to launch an e-journal. This item will be discussed later.  
Additionally Prof. Doherty is happy that we have succeeded in recruiting a website  
manager (Dr. Margarida Carneiro).

4. Secretary General’s Report (Prof. Daha)  
Moh Daha has prepared a report which is included in the attachments of the meeting. He  
mentions that the business of IUIS has entered a stable phase again after the retirement of  
Sylvia Trittinger. He is happy with the contribution of Margarida Carneiro and is looking  
forward to hear the discussion about the possibilities to set up an e-journal that will give a  
face to IUIS that is unique and that hopefully will boost the identity of IUIS.  
Two new societies, Tunisia and Gambia, have become members of IUIS and a third  
application of the Estonian Society for Immunology already has been received. It seems  
that some administrative matters about the Singapore Society for Immunology are still  
not completed. Both FIMSA and IUIS will try to sort this out.

5. Treasurer’s Report  
The budget for 2008 has been approved already in Rio according to proposal B., which  
meant that in general higher amounts than before were allocated to those committees that  
required more operational costs. IUIS has two operating accounts, namely: one in US  
Dollars and one in Euros. This facilitates bank transfers and saves costs. The treasurer,  
Marianna Newkirk, indicates that our investment portfolio has suffered recently from the  
economic slowdown and that we are busy sorting out which board members of IUIS have  
signing authority. Once this is established, the EXEC, following consultation of the  
Council (especially Drs. Hafler and Rudd), will take a decision when and where to
reinvest our portfolio so that we are on safer grounds. However it is clear that we will have to wait until the markets have settled down again. A remark is made that the audit of “Jupiter” is dated with the wrong year (2007) and therefore is not valid. Gerlinde Jahn reports that she will ask Jupiter for a new audit letter. The discussion about the budget proposal for 2009 is moved to agenda 8a.

6. IUIS website
Margarida Carneiro, our website manager, has updated the website and has contracted various Council and Committee members for their help. She demonstrates that the site can be accessed readily and she has established direct links on the site with many member societies and other relevant institutions. Clearly there is much more room for improvement and especially the updating of information will remain to be one of the major issues. All Council and Committee members are requested to provide the missing pieces of information to Margarida. At present the website is visited approx. 400 times per month.

7. Standing Committee Reports
1. Education Committee:
Michelle Letarte has sent her report, which is included in the annexes of the meeting. This Committee has been very active and has achieved a lot in a short while. The Committee functions well and there is rapid communication and decision making by the members. Dr. Letarte mentions that there is strong overlap between the work of the Education Committee and that of the Clinical Immunology Committee. She indicates also that the budget of the Committee is too tight.

2. Nomenclature Committee:
Laurence Boumsell has sent in her report. The Committee has been active on many fields. Some of these have achieved their goals and a number of them are slowed down by less progress. Overall the Committee is content with the achievements.

3. Quality Assessment:
Dr. Rudi Valenta indicates that a number of subcommittees have completed their work and that some committees are dormant. Additionally there are quite a number of active members and he has also indentified two important areas that need strong support. He would like to have his budget reinstated to 10,000 USD as has been the case before. The report of the committee was received in time.

4. Veterinary Immunology:
Dr. Wayne Hein mentions the successful symposium on Veterinary Immunology in Rio and indicates that the work of the Committee is going very well. The Committee is active in many fields and is getting a lot done with a small budget.

5. IUIS primary Immune Deficiency Expert Committee:
This Committee does not receive support from IUIS; however its work is of much importance for IUIS. Dr. Helen Chapel has sent a concise report of the work that the committee is doing. She could not be present at the meeting.
6. **Clinical Immunology Committee:**
Dr. Sergio Romagnani joins the meeting after lunch. He explains that raising funds in this field is full of hurdles because there are many medical prescribing specialties that are operative in this field and are the first choices of companies for fund donations. While IUIS is directly involved in basic studies concerning the field of immunology in general, many disease oriented specialties attract direct attention from companies. He proposes a more close cooperation with FOCIS. David Hafler explains that FOCIS has found a way to cooperate with a number of companies in such a way that both, FOCIS and the companies, feel that it is an attractive cooperation.

7. **Federation Report:**
1. **ALAI:** The President of ALAI was not able to attend. In his place Dr. Celia Riera reports that ALAI was very happy with the success of the Rio meeting and that ALAI was now involved with the organization of the next ALAI meeting in 2009. She mentions that transfer of funds in South America remains a problem, and that a number of transfers still require attention.

2. **EFIS:** The President of EFIS, Dr. Stefan Kaufmann, sums up the many activities that EFIS has initiated and he is happy that EFIS can rely on income from 2 journals namely Immunology letters and European Journal of Immunology. EFIS is helping to promote Immunology in the broadest sense, as is clear from the tabled report, including the organization of the Day of Immunology. He is especially delighted with the booklet that was launched by the Japanese Society for Immunology. He mentions also that EFIS is in the process to launch a special movie in 2009 about the importance of immunology in general so as to acquire more understanding for immunology by the general public.

Dr. Reinhold Schmidt mentions that the pan European Immunology Meeting will take place in 2009 in Berlin. Dr. Letarte is delighted to hear the fantastic achievements of EFIS and would like to discuss more cooperation at the educational level.

3. **FAIS:** No formal report was received from FAIS. Dr. Alioune Dieye, representing Dr. A. El-Gohary, mentions that 2 new member societies have become a member of IUIS recently and that more applications are coming soon. The FAIS website functions well and he would like to ask attention for more support by IUIS or other institutions. Working in Africa remains a point of attention because of the difficult contacts. In this regard more help can be arranged via the IUIS website. FAIS will contact Dr. Carneiro to discuss the best way of cooperation.

4. **FIMSA:** Dr. Kiyoshi Takatsu mentions that the preparations for the next ICI Meeting in Kobe (2010) are progressing well. He is also delighted to have the Council Meeting and its members in Taipei and is looking forward to a fruitful meeting. He thanks IUIS for the support that FIMSA has received in 2008. A question is raised about the complete absence of delegates from mainland China at the FIMSA 2008 Meeting. This is an important matter and FIMSA will discuss this in detail later in the week and then report back to IUIS. Thereafter IUIS will decide about a possible “objection letter” to either FIMSA or the “The Chinese Society for Immunology-Taipei”.

5. **AAI and CSI:** Dr. Olivera Finn mentions that AAI has not decided yet whether it wants to host an ICI-meeting in 2016. On the other hand FOCIS would be delighted to work together with AAI to prepare a possible bid. Marianna Newkirk mentions that
Immunology Montreal has been funded to do several activities in the context of the DOI like providing educational material for children in Canada.

8. Liaisons
1. WHO: A full report was received and was included with the agenda. WHO has undertaken several important activities in the past year in South America and Africa.
2. ISIP: No contacts
3. ISDCI: No response
4. ISIR: Dr. Gerard Chaouat is very excited about the developments in this field and with the many activities that were undertaken in the past year, including a symposium in Brazil. He looks forward to the exciting novel developments in this area of Immunology.
5. SMI: No response
6. WAO: Moh Daha will contact Dr. W. Kanonika (ask advice from Dr. Valenta)
7. FOCIS: Dr. David Hafler mentions that FOCIS has reached a good and stable cooperation between science, clinical immunology and companies active in the field of immunology in the 10 years since its establishment. He looks forward to more cooperation with IUIS and hopes to work together with the Japanese Society for Immunology to organize a number of symposia at the 2010 ICI Meeting in Kobe. FOCIS would be interested to co-organize an ICI-Meeting in 2016 together with (possibly) the AAI.

8a. Finances
Since there is room in the budget a number of committees have asked for an increase of budget for the fiscal year 2009. Overall an increase in spending over the proposed amount by Dr. Newkirk of 44,000USD (due to the surplus received from ICI Rio) is proposed. Following a short discussion this increase in spending is accepted unanimously. Dr. Newkirk will send a revised budget to the IUIS office which will be distributed together with the minutes of the present meeting.

9a. Archives: No further information
9b. ICSU-membership:
Dr. Gilbert Faure gives an explanation why IUIS is asking for readmission to ICSU. In the meantime we have collected the necessary numbers of supports from different Federations and Societies and we are awaiting the outcome of the voting in the ICSU meeting that will be held in MAPUTO on the 24th of October, 2008. Dr. Elopy Sibanda has agreed to represent IUIS at this meeting and Moh Daha and Gilbert Faure have provided Dr. Sibanda with a short PowerPoint presentation for this purpose. Additionally, Dr. Faure indicates that the French Society for Immunology has agreed to help Dr. Sibanda with his expenses with the meeting. IUIS is delighted with the generous support (Update: in the meantime ICSU has decided to readmit IUIS to ICSU).

10. Congresses
1. 13th ICI, Rio: Dr. J. Kalil gives a short overview of the meeting itself and the impact it has on young scientists in Latin America. He was delighted about the total number of visitors of about 5,000 and the excellent quality of the scientific component. In the meantime all financial aspects have been finalized. The president of IUIS thanks him and his team again for the excellent organization of the 13th ICI and for the great hospitality.
2. 14th ICI, Kobe: Dr. Masa Miyasaka gives details about the composition of the different committees that will be operational to execute the various components of this congress that will be held between August 22 and 27 in Kobe, Japan. Abstract handling will be done by the VMA and a contract between IUIS and the JSI foresees in the details of the agreement. Dr. Miyasaka is a little concerned about the downturn in the economic situation and he contemplates to raise the registration in Japanese Yens in place of US dollars. It is possible that the registration fees will have to be adjusted with about 10-15%. The JSI had proposed to offer a significant number of travel grants of USD 1000,- a piece. This may not be sufficient for young investigators from developing countries and it is suggested that each application should receive the proper attention so that certain investigators are supported in full. In this regard one should realize also that a number of institutions in South Africa receive generous support via other sources as well. Dr. Miyasaka is aware of the possibilities and difficulties and will stay in close touch with IUIS. Finally it seems that a few committees could potentially benefit from an increase in number of female scientists, especially if possible from Japan.

3. 15th ICI, Rome 2013: Dr. Sergio Romagnani is excited that SIICA is going to organize this meeting and he is confident that it will deliver in time. For the moment there are no specific matters of attention.

4. Call for 2016 ICI-Meeting: Thus far we have received notifications of three possible Societies / Federations:
   1. Australia
   2. FAIS (Elopy Sibanda)
   3. AAI / FOCIS

   There is more than sufficient time to finalize this item in the coming 2 years. A decision should be taken at the Kobe meeting in 2010.

11. Time and venue 55th Council Meeting

   IUIS has received a kind of invitation of Dr. Ahmed El-Gohary to host the Council at the next FAIS meeting. The Council is delighted with the invitation and unanimously agrees to meet in Egypt. The location is Sharm El-Sheik.
   - Arrivals for the EXEC have to be at the latest in the evening of the 5th of November 2009 in Sharm El-Sheik. The EXEC board will meet at 7.30AM (breakfast) on the 6th of November.
   - Following extensive discussion it is agreed that not only the CIC, but also the other standing Committees will prepare a one page summary of their goals and future expectations of each committee. It is also agreed that we will take more time at the next Council meeting for a structural discussion under the guidance of a facilitator for a full day on the 6th of November, followed by definition of the goals for IUIS for the coming years. A short discussion paper by each Committee will be submitted to the website of IUIS (please check details with Margarida Carneiro), with access to all Committee and Council Members. The discussion papers should be at the site not later than March 30, 2009. Each IUIS representative will be able to access the site using a protected password and comment directly on the site. For the CIC, Drs. S. Romagnani, R. Schimdt, J. Kalil and D. Hafler agreed to prepare the discussion paper. The other Committees will prepare the discussion papers in consultation with their Committee members. The EXEC agrees
to look for a suitable facilitator and a budget of max. 15,000 USD will be reserved for the purpose.

- The 7th of November is reserved for the regular Council Meeting.
- The FAIS meeting will be from 7-11, 2009. Moh Daha will inform Dr. El-Gohary that all committee members and council members are strongly committed to participate in the FAIS meeting as speakers.

12. E-journal
Moh Daha explains that IUIS has tried to find an existing journal which would be willing to work together with IUIS so as to create a “face” for IUIS and that possibly would lead to more income for IUIS. None of the efforts undertaken by the EXEC have resulted in a positive outcome. Now we would like to start with a web based IUIS journal ourselves. This option is put forward for discussion in the council with the purpose to find out whether there is sufficient support for this idea.

Dr. Chaouat feels that we do have to find a niche for ourselves that is distinct from other existing journals. The question is what we want to cater and for whom. It is agreed that Moh Daha and Margarida Carneiro will draw up a one page discussion paper about the contents and the goals of an e-journal. It is suggested that the contents be about people, grants etc. An example could be to follow the design of “LABOR Journal” (suggestion R. Schmidt), or like “BNC-Immunology”.

- The next issue is the name of the journal, options are:
- World Immunology, Global Immunology, Immune Response, The Immunologist.
- We will require a logo. Reinhold Schmidt may have suggestions for a person who can design this for us.
- Editorial board: Moh Daha is willing to be an editor for the journal together with Margarida Carneiro as deputy editor.
- It would be good to have an editorial board of well known immunologists and a long list of young associate editors.

The first action is to write a discussion paper, which will be placed on our website for comments. Once an agreement is reached, we would like to start with possible preparation of the first issues. Distribution of the e-journal is proposed via internet to a large number of e-mail addresses. Therefore the help of all committee and council members will be required to help to build up strong, reliable and large email database.

13. Closing
The chairman closes the meeting and thanks all who are present for their contribution to the discussions and invites all for the informal continuation of the meeting later in the evening. He is especially delighted with the help of our hosts to facilitate the Council for meeting in Taipei.

Leiden, 18 November 2008
M.R. Daha