

Minutes of the AsCA Council Meeting 2018

Date and time: Wednesday, December 5th, 2018: 1:10 – 2:10
Location: Lecture Theatre 260-055, Conference Venue

IN ATTENDANCE

Executive Council Members

Jennifer L. Martin (President) {JLM}
Xiao-Dong Su (Vice-President) {XDS}
Pinak Chakrabarti (Past-President) {PC}
Edward R.T. Tiekink (Secretary/Treasurer) {ERTT}

Nominated Councillors (up to X votes)

Australia (X = 4): Chris Ling; Megan Maher; Helen Maynard-Casely; Michael Parker
China, People's Republic (4): Jianping Ding; Cong Liu; Lawrence Wong; Na Yang
China, Taipei (3): Chun-Jung Chen
Japan (4): Genji Kurisu; Takashi Ohhara (on behalf of Shin-ichi Adachi); Takashi Ida (on behalf of Takashi Kamiyama); Kunihisa Sugimoto (on behalf of Eiji Nishibori)
Korea (2): Sangho Lee
New Zealand (2): Kurt Krause; Ted Baker
Malaysia (1) Irene Ling
Singapore (1): JJ Vittal
Thailand (1): Kittipong Chainok

Others

Ruchi Anit (India); Nei-Li Chan (China, Taipei); Wonyoung Choe (Korea); Chwan-Deng Hsiao (China, Taipei); ~~Takashi Ida (Korea)~~; Rajni Kant (India); Tan Yee Seng (Malaysia); Jim Simpson (NZ); J. Sivaramen (Singapore); Ally Chien Ing Yeo (Malaysia)

Apologies

Bun Kim Ngun (Cambodia); Chris Squire (NZ); Champika Hettiarachchi (Sri Lanka); Neil Bascos (The Phillipines); Duong Ngoc Huyen (Vietnam)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The meeting commenced at 1:10 pm. Jenny Martin {JLM} welcomed all to the meeting and established there was a quorum. The meeting agenda was coordinated and run by ERTT and minutes were taken by JLM.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Saturday, August 26th, 2016, 1:30 – 14:45, in MR 2.01, Hyderabad International Conference Centre, were approved. The approval was proposed by Kurt Krause, seconded by Xiao-Dong Su and passed by Council.

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3. AsCA FINANCIAL REPORT

The statement of finances was prepared by Mark Spackman on behalf of the AsCA trustees, Mark Spackman, Alice Vrielink and Charlie Bond, all based at the University of Western Australia, and presented to Council by ERTT:

DETAILS SUPPRESSED

Acceptance of the report was moved by JLM, seconded by Megan Maher and accepted by Council.

Subscriptions for category B members: JLM moved that the current policy "Category B members should pay the fee if they were able, but could retain membership if they made the case that they were unable to pay." Seconded by Kurt Krause. This motion was approved by Council.

4. GENDER EQUITY AND DIVERSITY POLICY {JLM; KK}

Jenny Martin reported that the IUCr is establishing a gender equity and diversity committee to ensure that its activities are inclusive.

A summary of participation at AsCA2018 was presented by Kurt Krause and a written version provided by Chris Squire is included here:

The conference attracted a total of 477 registrants from 28 countries:

By country: Australia 106, Austria 1, Belgium 1, Canada 3, China 47, Croatia 1, Czech Republic 1, France 3, Germany 7, Hong Kong 8, Hungary 2, India 19, Japan 86, Malaysia 4, New Zealand 86, Pakistan 1, Poland 1, Singapore 7, South Korea 34, Spain 1, Sri Lanka 1, Sweden 2, Taiwan 29, Thailand 1, UK 18, UAE 1, USA 20, Viet Nam 1.

By gender: 131 female, 295 male; 31:69%. There were also 51 undisclosed

Additional breakdown:

Organising Committee members (total 10): 3 female, 7 male. Co-chairs; Chris Squire, Kurt Krause

International Program committee (total 14): 6 female, 8 male. Co-chairs: Ted Baker, Sally Brooker

Plenary/keynote lecturers (total 10): 6 female, 4 male. Plenaries: David Eisenberg (USA), Susan Lea (UK), Cameron Kepert (Australia), Amy Rosenzweig (USA). Keynote: Yanli Wang (China), Hiroshi Kitagawa (Japan), Richard Neutze (Sweden), Catherine Day (New Zealand), Deanna D'Alessandro (Australia), Ayana Sato-Tomita (Japan).

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Chairs, Microsymposia (total 38): 18 female, 20 male

Chairs, Main lectures (total 10): 4 female, 6 male

Speakers in microsymposia (total 107): 33 female, 74 male

5. IUCr FUNDING FOR MEETINGS {JLM}

A new policy is being developed for IUCr support of conferences - these include a conference speaker policy that supports gender equity, and reporting of statistics.

6. IUCr ARCHIVE SERVICE {JLM}

IUCr can archive on-line abstracts (\$2000 for 500). AsCA may wish to use this service to archive conference abstracts, but further discussion with IUCr needed on price and whether the on-line program could also be archived. JLM to follow up.

7. DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS / SHARING OF PROFITS FOR SCANZ-HOSTED MEETINGS {JLM}

Discussion centred on the distribution of funds (profits) and sharing of risk (loss) of co-branded AsCA/local scientific meetings such as the current AsCA/SCANZ meeting. It was agreed that for this AsCA/SCANZ meeting, AsCA would share 50% in the profit or loss, and that because U Auckland took on the risk of loss in the contract, that the remaining profit or loss should be shared equally between U Auckland and SCANZ (i.e. 25% each). For future meetings, AsCA council resolved to develop a statement that will be voted on by email. JLM to draft a statement, for approval by the Executive Committee and then for voting by council members.

8. PROGRESS REPORT FOR AsCA 2019 (16TH AsCA CONFERENCE, SINGAPORE) {JJ Vittal}

JJ Vittal, the Local Chair of AsCA 2019 to be held in Singapore gave an update. Please refer to the AsCA2019 Conference website:

<http://www.chemistry.nus.edu.sg/events/CommunityOutreach/asca2019/asca19.htm>

Some concern was raised at the prospect of having 4 parallel sessions rather than 3 and using one of these specifically for marginalised groups. Recommendation by IPC chair of Auckland meeting was to keep to a maximum of 3 concurrent sessions. Feedback also suggested having 2 rather than 3 Keynote lectures.

The IPC membership required approval from AsCA EC before invitations are sent out and the IPC should have good representation from each of China, People's Republic, Japan and India. A gender equity policy needs to be developed for the website, and JLM offered to help craft this.

9. PROGRESS REPORT FOR AsCA 2021 (17TH AsCA CONFERENCE, MALAYSIA) {Irene Ling}

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The Conference will be held in downtown Kuala Lumpur in December 2021 and will be hosted by the Malaysian Crystallographic Association. A local organising committee is being formed and a Conference Organiser will soon be appointed.

10. BIDS FOR AsCA 2022 {ERTT}

Participants were asked to consider making a bid for AsCA2022. Proposals will be presented to the AsCA Council during AsCA2019 in Singapore (December 2019).

11. POSTING MINUTES OF AsCA MEETINGS ON THE WEBSITE {JLM}

JLM proposed that AsCA meeting minutes be posted on the AsCA website, without the inclusion of financial details. Seconded by Helen Maynard-Casely and carried.

12. AsCA PRIZE FOR EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO AsCA {GENJI KURISU}

Genji Kurisu (GK) proposed a prize to honour those in AsCA who have made an outstanding contribution to AsCA over a prolonged period of time. Having gained the assent of the meeting, GK agreed to prepare a more detailed proposal to present to Councillors.

13. UPDATE ON IUCr 2023 {MICHAEL PARKER}

Michael Parker updated the meeting on progress with the organisation of IUCr 2023 to be held in Melbourne. Preliminary details are available at https://www.melbournecb.com.au/event/general-assembly-and-congress-of-the-international-union-of-crystallography-iucr/conventions_3477/.

14. AsCA ELECTIONS FOR EC {JLM}

Elections for President, President-elect and Secretary/Treasurer will be held during the next Council meeting during AsCA 2019 in Singapore. Nominations will be sought before the meeting. Please consider diversity and representation in nominations

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A report of AsCA2016 (Hanoi), prepared by Duong Ngoc Huyen was tabled and will be distributed with the minutes. A modest surplus was achieved.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 14:10.

Minutes prepared by Jenny Martin/Edward Tiekink and vetted by the Executive Committee