

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS MEETING OF THE U.K. SECTION OF THE
EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL MUTAGENESIS SOCIETY

OWEN'S PARK, MANCHESTER - MONDAY, APRIL 4TH 1977

FUTURE ORGANISATION AND ACTIVITIES

Chairman: Prof. B.A.Bridges

(a) FORMATION OF A COMMITTEE

It was decided that a committee was necessary to organise the U.K. section of the EMS. Previously this had been run by Dr. Jim Parry as U.K. councillor for the EEMS. The following people were suggested for the following posts;

Chairman: Dr. J. Parry	(Univ. of Swansea)
Treasurer: Mr. fl. Dean	(Shell Ltd.)
Secretary: Dr. D. Anderson	(ICI Ltd.)
Councillor Dr. D. Scott	(Paterson Lab.)
Councillor: Dr. M. Lyon	(Harwell) - proposed by B Dean.

(D. Scott was thought to have another year to complete as councillor, but this was not the case. However, he is to remain on the committee).

It was suggested that these people remain on the committee for at least two years or that their terms of office would overlap particularly those of the treasurer and secretary so that one person would help continuity.

It was suggested that the proposed committee would represent a good cross section of the views of people who might be involved in the U.K. section.

It was resolved that the committee should draw up a draft constitution based on the constitution of the parent EEMS society and be presented at a future meeting.

Dr. D. Pratt proposed that the nominees of the steering committee be accepted and that a draft constitution be drawn up. The motion was seconded by Dr. B. Kilbey and was carried nem. con.

It was suggested that there may be links of the U.K. section of the EMS with the Genetics Society or the MRC Mutagenesis Unit, University of Sussex.

Prof. Bridges pointed out that a link with the latter would form an unnecessary precedent whereas a link with the Genetics Society was already present since Dr. Mary Lyon was on its committee.

(b) VENUE FOR. NEXT YEAR'S MEETING

Dr. Harper of Hazleton Labs. suggested that the meeting be held in Harrogate in 1978. Various people suggested the price of hotels in Harrogate may be too expensive but Dr. Harper pointed out that he had investigated prices and found them to be suitable.

Dr. Garner of York University suggested that York may be a better venue and said he too would investigate accommodation prices.

It was left for the committee to decide the better of these options.

Other members were urged to think of venues for meetings in the more distant future.

(c) PUBLICATION OF ABSTRACTS

Since the American and Japanese sections of the EMS publish abstracts of national meetings, the question was raised whether the U.K. section should publish its abstracts.

It was generally decided that the British abstracts should not be published and the meetings should be kept as internal as possible.

(d) EDUCATION - PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS

The problem of education in the form of workshops, of people who might belong to the U.K. section was raised.

Due to the success of workshops held in Zurich and Edinburgh, it was thought that workshops in general were very useful. It was pointed out that if people wanted to learn various methods they might go to a particular laboratory where in general they could learn no more than two or three methods, whereas if they went to a workshop for 1 or 3 days, all methods could be demonstrated.

However, Professor Auerbach highlighted that if a technique such as that for *Drosophila* were to be learned thoroughly by e.g. an industrial concern it would take at least 4 to 6 weeks.

Another suggestion was that future meeting might be divided into two parts: one part devoted to invited speakers giving review type papers on existing methods and bringing methods up to date, and the other part for free communication.

(e) MEMBERSHIP OF U.K. SECTION

More British members are required (we are second in numbers to the Germans and our voice in Europe will depend on our numbers). Dr. Brian Kilbey, the secretary of the EEMS, would be prepared to help anyone to join the EEMS who wishes to do so. There is at present an arrangement whereby if the national section is prepared to collect a subscription in its own country it only has to pay half the value of the 15 Dutch Florins to Holland. It still costs the prospective member the same amount. Different financial arrangements may occur when the U.K. section has become organised.

(f) OTHER POINTS

It was decided that the proposed U.K. section would readily fit into the parent association since the EEMS itself is a flexible enough organisation to house the various types of national sections, e.g. that of Soviet Union where the section is part of the National Academy of Sciences and of other countries where the national section may only have a few members.

DA/VMG
27.6.77