

MINUTES OF THE 14th UKEMS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD DURING THE
XXth EEMS MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YORK, 23 JULY 1990

AGENDA

1. Minutes
2. Matters Arising
3. Presidents reports
4. Treasurers report
5. Journal - Editors report
6. AOB
7. Elections

There were 48 attendees

1 Minutes

The minutes of the 13th AGM were circulated, agreed, and signed as a correct record.

2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

3 Presidents Report

Dr Fox thanked the local organising committee at York for their hard work in preparing for the XXth EEMS meeting. The Society had been through a very busy year. The statistics book had been published despite its birth pangs, caused in the main by the difficulties posed by typesetting and proof reading the many mathematical formulae within the book. The final product was well presented and the editor, Dr David Kirkland, various authors and working groups were thanked for their efforts. This book and the first copies of the new version of Part I of the guidelines were visible on the stands of Cambridge University Press displayed at this meeting. Full UKEMS members who had paid their subscriptions will receive a free copy of Part I in the near future.

The Steering Committee had called together the working parties to begin drafting chapters for a revision of Part II of the guidelines.

The next UKEMS meeting will be held in Sheffield, 15-17 April 1991. Dr Steve Kelly is the local organiser. The programme will include papers on p450 enzymes, various aspects of metabolism, glutathione transferases and possibly a special lecture on DNA adducts.

The 1992 meeting will be held around Easter time at the University College of Swansea in conjunction with the DNA Repair Network. The local organiser will be Professor Jim Parry.

A statistics workshop is to be held at the University of Kent in Canterbury. This will give 'hands on' experience with the statistical approaches outlined in Part III of the guidelines. The proposed dates are 24-28 September 1991.

The Industrial Genetic Toxicology Discussion Group has held a successful meeting on techniques such as 32p post labelling. Another meeting is planned for October 1990 to discuss techniques to detect aneuploidy (provisional).

Dr Fox thanked the retiring committee members, Dr Tweats and Dr Orton, for their hard work and service and wished the new committee and members, Dr Kirkland, Dr Coles and Dr Combes every success in the future.

Dr John Ashby, as the incoming President, then took the chair. Dr Ashby thanked Dr Fox and Dr Tweats for the contributions to the Society. He then outlined two new ventures involving the UKEMS. The first is a joint exercise with the British Toxicology Society to determine the optimum criteria for setting doses for short-term in vivo studies. At ICI and other companies LD50's are no longer carried out. Should toxicological criteria be used such as marked bodyweight loss? Some groups have used more trivial toxicological effects. This group will set a sufficient standard for the required criteria. The chairman will be Dr Robin Fielder from the Department of Health. The rest of the committee is not fixed but will include toxicologists, genetic toxicologists, a veterinarian and a Home Office inspector. The views of this committee need to carry weight. A report will be given at the Sheffield meeting.

Dr Terry Orton and others had brought to attention the increasing problems being faced with the use of Aroclor for the induction of liver enzymes. The importation of this material is now illegal and its correct disposal and incineration is problematical. A group is being called together under the chairmanship of Dr Barry Elliott to review published and unpublished data on the use of phenobarbitone and B-naphtho flavone for the same purpose. A report will be given at Sheffield and the review will be published in Mutagenesis.

4. Treasurers Report

The Statement of Accounts was circulated to the membership. The Treasurer, Dr T Brooks, commented that the Swansea workshop had broken even and a further £250 was to be credited to the Accounts. Dr D Tweats proposed that the Accounts should be accepted, this was seconded by Dr L Henderson and agreed by the members present. Dr Brooks stated that it was likely that in the current year there would be an excess of expenditure over income of approximately £4000. This would be due in part to payment for the free copies of the guideline books, £500 for EEMS subscriptions; sponsorship of seven students to the York meeting and subscriptions to Mutagenesis for copies of the journal for Eastern European Societies.

It was noted that £450 had been received for royalties on sales of Part III of the guidelines. The Treasurer proposed that the annual UKEMS subscription should be raised to £10 per year from 1991. This was seconded by Dr D Kirkland and carried unanimously.

5. Journal

Professor Parry reported that the problem of increasing time between acceptance and publication had been partly alleviated by an increase of 15% in the number of pages per issue.

It was noted that the results of the UKEMS third collaborative study had been published as a supplement to Volume 5. This had been made possible by a financial gift from Burroughs-Wellcome, which thus saved pages for other articles. Burroughs-Wellcome had not had any editorial rights over this issue. UKEMS members had received free copies of the supplement due to sponsorship from HSE.

It had been agreed that the abstracts from the forthcoming Gesellschaft fuer Umweltmutationsforschung (GUM) meeting will be published in Mutagenesis. GUM has agreed to pay for the extra pages.

Each journal is rated in Citation Index using a calculation based on the average number of times an article is cited in other journals. Mutagenesis has a rating of 2.2 compared to Mutation Research at 1.85 and Carcinogenesis at 2.35. This has pleased the publishers.

Professor Parry stated that, although the journal does not yet make a contribution to reducing the overall publishers debt accrued since the launch of the journal (now standing at approximately £53,000), this was not unexpected. In 1989 the Journal made a profit on the year until overheads were accounted. The estimated number of subscriptions for 1990 is 390 and the aim by 1995 is to have 700 subscriptions. To date most goals set by the publishers have been achieved.

The rejection rate of papers submitted to the journal has risen to 25 this year and was likely to be 30 in 1991. Thus, it would appear that the average quality of published papers is rising.

It has been agreed with the publishers that any subscriptions paid in the UK on behalf of scientists in developing countries, will be charged at the personal member rate. Professor Parry encouraged industrial members present to approach their companies to consider sponsoring copies for such people, which would both help advance the science in these countries and provide good publicity for the companies concerned.

Professor Parry stated that the journal will stay bimonthly at the moment, but monthly publication will be considered when circulation reaches 700-750.

Following a question from Dr P Wilcox, Professor Parry stated that the number of subscriptions in the USA had risen from 119 to 130. Japan was proving difficult as there has been a general cut back on library holdings of Western journals. In the USSR there is likely to be a continuing increase in sales as libraries were being supplied with some hard currencies.

6. AOB

Accreditation

Dr C Arlett reported on the current status of the 'Register of Genetic Toxicologists' which had been set up five years previously. This list contained names of people whose qualifications and experience had been vetted by an expert panel. As agreed in the beginning the continuance and maintenance of this list is being reviewed at the five year point.

The UKEMS committee had agreed to set up a small working party to judge the need for such a register and to canvass opinion of other European societies. Members of the working party are as follows:

Professor Bryn Bridges, Dr John Ashby, Dr Colin Garner,
Dr Colin Arlett and Dr Robin Fielder

Professor Parry stated that the opinion of UKEMS members in contract houses should be sought. Dr D Anderson mentioned that the machinery exists for upgrading the register through the auspices of the Institute of Biology. Dr Arlett stated that there are three options as follows:

- (i) To discontinue the list
 - (ii) To carry on maintaining the list
 - (iii) To upgrade the list to underwrite the professional standing of genetic toxicologists
- The last option would cost the registrants money. This option was being considered by the Working Party who would report back at the Sheffield meeting.

7. Elections

Incoming secretary's note:

Details of elections held in 1990:

Dr David Kirkland had been proposed for the position of Vice-President (proposer Dr D Scott, seconder Dr P Wilcox), no other nominations had been received. Dr Bob Combes had been proposed for the position of Secretary (proposer Dr D J Tweats, seconder Dr D G Gatehouse), no other nominations had been received.

There were three nominations for the position of ordinary member, Dr Jane Cole (proposer Dr L Henderson, seconder Mrs M Richold), Dr Barry Elliott (proposer Dr J Ashby, seconder Dr J M Mackay) and Dr Ian de Mitchell (proposer Dr R D Combes, seconder Dr J Clements). A postal ballot had been held and the Secretary announced the results as follows:

Dr Jane Cole	68 votes
Dr Barry Elliot	40 votes
Dr Ian Mitchell	24 votes



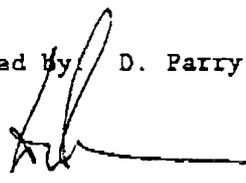
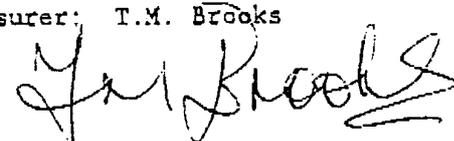
THE UNITED KINGDOM
ENVIRONMENTAL MUTAGEN SOCIETY
(The United Kingdom Branch of the
European Environmental Mutagen Society)

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Debit</u>
Balance at 1.1.90.	13,666-73	
<u>Subscriptions</u>		
From: 1990 224 @ £5,	1,120-00	
15 @ £1,	15-00	
1991 3 @ £10,	30-00	
To: EEMS		571-26
Biological Council		56-99
<u>Meetings</u>		
Sponsorship, EEMS, York		700-00
UKEMS Steering Group		60-80
Accreditation		27-20
Swansea Workshop, 1989	250-00	
Stats workshop		35-90
<u>Guidelines</u>		
Part II Sales	62-80	
Postage		21-33
Part II Update Meetings		102-64
Statistics to members		1,983-04
Royalties	434-17	
Part I to members		2,775-00
<u>Mailings/Postage</u>		
		119-63
<u>Advertisements/mailshots</u>		
	240-00	
<u>Mutagenesis Subscriptions</u>		
		168-00
<u>Interest</u>		
Deposit Account	91-27	
National Savings Investment Account	1,231-95	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£17,141-92	£6,621-79
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£10,520-13	
Deposit Account	831-95	
Current Account	427-64	
N.S.I.A.	9,260-54	
Closing balance 31.12.90	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£10,520-13	

Audited by D. Parry

Treasurer: T.M. Brooks

 (F.C.I.S.) 

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