

UKEMS AGM AT UNIVERSITY OF YORK HELD 7 APRIL 1998

1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 16 SEPTEMBER 1997 AT UNIVERSITY OF KENT

No amendments to the minutes were suggested at the meeting, and as members had received the draft before Christmas, Kevin Adams proposed that they be accepted, Barry Elliott seconded this and the AGM gave approval for the President to sign the minutes as a true record.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As it was only a few months since the last annual scientific meeting, this has possibly affected the numbers attending the York event, and fewer than 100 delegates were present. Furthermore, conflict with a meeting in Edinburgh to mark the retirement of John Evans, and the proximity to international meetings such as EMS and AACR, will also have caused a reduced interest in this year's UKEMS meeting. The programme, we hope, has been well worth seeing.

Also since the last AGM, both IGG and MEG have held further one-day meetings and others are planned for later this year. One of this President's main aims was to increase membership and with the introduction of the MEG, we have seen membership exceed the 300 milestone, a substantial increase over the last two years. We have also seen an increase in the subscription rate and taken our first, substantial, payment from OUP.

Regarding MEG, RCG is to stand down as president at the next MEG AGM but hopes to remain as an ordinary member of the committee. He sincerely hopes that the group will continue to thrive. EEMS are going to accommodate a workshop in Salzburg and it is hoped that this will form the beginnings of a European Molecular Epidemiology network - we should be proud that the initiative began in the UK. It also emerges that the US has an MEG but there is some friction and debate over where its affiliation should lie - AACR or EMS. At the moment, the former appears to be favourite. Finally, RCG thanked Jenny Duckmanton, without whose able assistance his term as President would have been very difficult.

Jim Parry noted that EEMS does intend to form an MEG and that Colin Garner is their preferred candidate for Chairperson of this new group. Clearly we will need to consider the relationship between the European and UK groups.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

Kevin Adams began by apologising for the late call for renewal of subscriptions and the fact that the accounts were only preliminary. At this time, the MEG accounts were still being finalised and need to be consolidated with the UKEMS figures. The balance on Dec 31 1997 was £19,668.24, a marked improvement over the Jan 1 1997 balance of £8006.29. This was

*M H A Green
23/6/98*

thanks mainly to the OUP profits but was also helped by the two sustaining members (and we need to attract more). Unfortunately, as the accounts are not complete, they could not be approved by the AGM, and it is likely that the members will be circulated audited accounts with a future Newsletter for approval. We are also awaiting the final account from the BTS/UKEMS Canterbury meeting. The draft accounts as of Dec 31 1997 are attached.

4. MUTAGENESIS EDITOR'S REPORT

The Mutagenesis editor's update is attached. Figures for 1996 and 1997 are very similar, and we are predicting an increase in subscriptions in 1998. UK subscriptions appear to be declining gradually, but the OUP prize presented in Toulouse, and a similar prize to be presented at JEMS are both expected to yield growth in non-UK subscriptions, particularly in Japan. There is also a steady stream of review articles and we should see such a review in almost every edition. Barry Elliott asked for confirmation of how OUP splits the profits with UKEMS and Jim Parry confirmed it was 50:50. Rejection of manuscripts is almost always on the basis of quality with very few rejected as being irrelevant or inappropriate. The relationship with OUP appears to be healthy. For information, Mutagenesis has a Journal Impact Factor of 2.19, compared with 1.95 for EMM and 2 for Mutation Research.

5. IGG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT (given by Peter Jenkinson)

The accounts currently show a balance of £1,200 which is the lowest figure for about 2 years. This is mainly due to speaker expenses for the last 2 or 3 meetings. The last meeting was on 27 November 1997 which looked at regulatory issues, the mouse lymphoma assay, *in vitro* micronucleus trials and spent the whole afternoon discussing frontier technologies. The next meeting will be kindly hosted by Glaxo at Stevenage and has the working title of "Back to Basics". The plan is to look at problems, complications & interesting data sets from the standard mutagenicity assays. As Robert Rees retires from the committee this year, elections will take place.

6. MEG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The next MEG meeting will take place on 6 May and deal with the subject of environmental oestrogens. After this, in November the meeting will deal with diet and cancer, and it is hoped to invite Walt Willet from Harvard School of Public Health as a key speaker. It was hoped that all UKEMS members would consider supporting these meetings and contribute to the proceedings. There has been discussion of having a joint meeting with the AACR-affiliated US MEG, possibly in Rome in 1999. The aim will be to stimulate wider collaboration. MEG accounts are still incomplete as there are a few bills outstanding from the last meeting. Finally, the AGM was informed of the intention to increase the MEG committee from 6 to 9 in order to ensure smoother transition and continuity as the officers change.

7. AOB

7.1 *Committee Elections*

The AGM gave its approval for Barry Elliott becoming the Vice President and for both Mike O'Donovan and Brian Burlinson joining as Ordinary Committee members.

The AGM wished to express its gratitude to the retiring President, Colin Garner, and to Ian Mitchell and Valerie McKelvey-Martin for their service over their terms of office.

7.2 *Coleraine 1999*

The whole meeting was shown a promotional video describing the programme and venue for this meeting. The AGM was encouraged to support next year's meeting with enthusiasm.

7.3 *Relationship of MEG to UKEMS*

This issue was introduced by Colin Garner, speaking on behalf of some members of MEG. Due to the multidisciplinary nature of both UKEMS and those interested in Epidemiology, these latter who are not closely involved with UKEMS felt some discomfort that much of our society's activities were of very limited interest. It was proposed that MEG members who wished to join UKEMS should pay £25 with £10 going to MEG. Those solely interested in MEG should pay £10 to the group. It was remarked that whereas MEG was encouraging UKEMS members to support MEG activities, this was inconsistent with the wishes of some MEG members to dissociate the group from UKEMS. Indeed, several members present expressed the view that a dissociation of the two groups was undesirable. One suggestion was that the group might seek additional affiliation with the Society of Social Medicine, thus bridging two different societies in an area of common interest. MEG should be reminded of the benefits of UKEMS affiliation. For example, it was suggested that MEG would be asked to contribute a session at the millennium Swansea meeting and that UKEMS funding would be available for this. Furthermore, students wishing to attend MEG meetings should be eligible for bursaries and poster awards may be presented for MEG meetings.

7.4 *The New President*

Michael Green expressed his delight at becoming President and, on behalf of the Society, thanked Colin for an excellent two years, an act which will be a challenge to follow. Finally, all were encouraged enthusiastically to attend next year's meeting in Coleraine.



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

**UKEMS 1998 Annual Scientific Meeting at
The University of York, 6-8 April 1998**

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

RECEIPTS

Registration fees/accommodation/food		£13 612.20
Exhibition stands		£2500.00
Leaflet distribution in delegate packs		£350.00
Bank interest	Moneymaster A/c	£85.89
	Treasurer A/c	£97.00
		£16 559.20

PAYMENTS

Refund to UKEMS for room deposits paid directly to UoY Conference Office on 1.12.97.		£1200.00
University of York Conference costs		£10 053.10
Speakers' costs		£829.57
Grand Assembly Rooms (conference dinner)		£2438.30
'Hot-Not Bothered' - band		£270.00
Michael Woodward - pianist during wine reception and dinner		£50.00
Reliance Motor Services (coaching - conference dinner)		£200.00
Birthday cake, candles, holders, card for Dai Games		£10.00
Covance (UKEMS printing 120 booklets x 40 pages)		£430.05
Avery labels		£22.31
Delegates badges		£26.28
Contribution towards JBUEC's costs		£632.32
Refund to G Bolcsfoldi on his registration/accommodation costs		£189.00
Bank charges		.72
		£16 351.65

RECEIPTS IN EXCESS OF PAYMENTS

£207.55

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Mutagenesis update for the UKEMS Committee Meeting September 1998

1. Manuscript Submission Summary

1998

Total number of manuscripts received	53 (as of 22/9/98)
Accepted	26
Rejected	8
In Progress	19

1997

Total number of manuscripts received	94
Accepted	69 (74%)
Rejected	26 (26%)
In Progress	1

1996

Total number of manuscripts received	90
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1995

Total number of manuscripts received	88
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1994

Total number of manuscripts received	88
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2. Subscriptions

1997

	Full	Soc/Pers	Total	Gratis
UK	63	11	74	53
Europe	93	42	135	6
North America	118	15	133	26
Japan	15	36	51	13
Rest of World	7	3	10	2
Total	296	107	403	100

1998 (at 12/9/98)

	Full	Soc/Pers	Total	Gratis
UK	63	12	75	53
Europe	87	42	129	7
North America	117	16	133	25
Japan	15	31	46	13
Rest of World	9	2	11	2
Total	291	103	394	100