

UKEMS: MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD AT THE AECC ABERDEEN

26 AUGUST 2003

1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 2 JULY, 2002 AT UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

The minutes were reviewed and agreed by the membership. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Anthony Lynch and seconded by Diana Anderson and subsequently they were signed by the President as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The main achievement of the past year has been the organisation of this joint meeting of the UKEMS and EEMS. Members of the committee have taken a major role in organising the various symposia, recruiting trade displays and raising sponsorship. The European dimension is an important one, and our involvement was emphasised by the successful nominations of Jim Parry for the Frits Sobels prize and Marcus Cooke and Gareth Jenkins for EEMS Young Scientist Awards. The planning for next year's meeting of the society in Loughborough is in hand and a short presentation by Liz Martin and Karen Brown will be given later in this meeting.

Andrew Collins announced that the committee had decided to accept the invitation for the UKEMS to join the BioSciences Federation – an umbrella organisation for biological societies. It is anticipated that the BSF will function as a powerful lobby at both national and international levels. Martin Brinkworth is to attend meetings on behalf of UKEMS. There have been no elections to the committee so far this year but David Dixon's term will come to an end in November and there will shortly be a call for nominations.

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented the draft unaudited accounts for 2003 and the main points were as follows:

- The UKEMS Membership 2002 stands at 10 Fellows, 201 Full Members and 68 Student Members making a total of 279.
- The Financial status (as of August 1, 2003) was a total of **£55,104.19**. The detailed figures are given at the end of these minutes.
- The society now has 10 Sustaining Members, namely:
AstraZeneca, Covance, GlaxoSmithKline, Huntingdon Life Sciences, Kinetic Imaging, Perspective Instruments, Pfizer, SafePharm Laboratories, Syngenta CTL and Unilever.

Anthony Lynch presented the audited accounts to the society. Jim Parry suggested that we are holding too much money. AL responded that there are proposals in hand to increase expenditure and also noted that the BTS has a reserve of ~£200,000, which is a similar figure to ours on a pro rata basis. Michael Green suggested that we view the Mutagenesis money as a windfall and invest it for the future. Others considered this to be a conservative view and that there was no reason to expect the income not to continue for the foreseeable future. Peter Jenkinson proposed that the financial accounts are accepted and this was seconded by I Mitchell; a majority of the membership voted to accept the accounts.

4. MUTAGENESIS EDITOR'S REPORT

David Phillips reported on changes to the print version of the journal and its new cover. He also informed the membership of a new 5-year contract with OUP. There had been 136 papers submitted in 2002 of which 82 had been accepted, 44 rejected and 10 were in revision (most will be accepted). The decision had been taken to move to online submission of manuscripts, which is advantageous to editors, reviewers and authors. The software that will be used is called Manuscript Central and is provided by ScholarOne and the start-up costs will be offset by future savings.

The impact factor is now 1.864, which is increased by 21% on the previous year and means that Mutagenesis is number 21 out of 76 toxicology titles and 62 of 150 in Genetics. DP thanked his editorial board and the panel of reviewers and commented that they had all been very thorough in their work for the journal. Jim Parry commented that he had had trouble when using the online submission system operated by Carcinogenesis. DP responded that a new version of the software was to be adopted following trial by other Journals and hence there would be a delay of a few months. A second question from Jim Parry was whether or not we were getting an income from online subscriptions? DP responded that we were. David Kirkland asked about the situation with the number of Japanese subscriptions. DP answered that he didn't have the exact figures, but the records show that over the last few years Japanese subscriptions have been running at about a total of 13 - 21, to which should be added about 30 members of the Japanese Mutagen Soc. who subscribe through their membership. He also noted that there were slightly more papers submitted by Japanese authors this year. DP informed that there were to be some changes to the editorial board and that these were to be handled sensitively. Michael Green commented that because Mutagenesis was a small journal that we might not get the full benefit from being online. DP considered this to be not the case because the journal is part of a consortium.

5. IGG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Julie Clements reported to the membership that the previous IGG meeting on the subject of 'When genotoxins are not what they seem' had had a record attendance. The committee now consisted of Julie Clements (current Chair but term of office due to finish in 03), Alison Wolfreys (Secretary), Jim Harvey (Treasurer), Nick Edwards (term of office also comes to an end in 03), Eian Massey and new members Phil Clay, Mick Fellows, Patricia Collins and Carol Beevers. Mike Kelly withdrew from the committee due to time constraints. The committee is now up to a full complement going forward, taking into account the end of the term of office for both Julie and Nick in 03. Now that the new committee is in place, a committee meeting will be held in September to organise the December meeting (date and topic to be confirmed). JC also reported that the Group's finances were in order and that the group has organised a session of the EEMS meeting for the next day. Jim Parry asked whether there was to be a report of the last meeting and JC confirmed that there was.

6. MEG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

CW told the meeting that the MEG committee meets 3 to 4 times per year and that the current balance of the group was approximately £3500. CW informed that the next 1-day meeting will be 4th December 2003 and was the one postponed from May. The subject was adverse drug reactions with the sub-title 'Interactions between toxicologists, epidemiologists and the pharmaceutical industry'. The AGM will also be held on the 4th December 2003. In 2004 MEG will also organise a 2½ day meeting in Windermere in September on the use of biomarkers in assessment of risk of chronic diseases.

7. COMMITTEE ELECTION

PJ announced that there would be a vacancy on the committee following the end of David Dixons 3-year term of office in November. Proposals for candidates are invited together with a C.V. that will go to the membership with the ballot paper.

8. LOUGHBOROUGH 2004

A PowerPoint presentation was given that provided brief details of next years meeting, which is to be held at the University of Loughborough..

9. UKEMS LOGO

The membership were informed that the new logo had been agreed and that it would be presented to the membership via the next newsletter following a few minor amendments to the design.

10. UKEMS WEBSITE

An update on the new website was given by AL and a request for any images and photographs to be provided by the membership for inclusion on the website.

11. AOB

It was announced that the winner of the logo competition had been David Phillips.

UKEMS 2003 Accounts (Unaudited)

Current Bank Balances

Lloyds Cheque Account	£14,529.12
CAF Account	£40,575.07
Total	£55,104.19

Balance Dec 2001	Balance June 2002	Balance Dec 2002	Balance July 2002
51,660	74,794	59,773	55,104

Major Income to July

Lloyds Interest	203.36
CAF Interest	508.01
Sustaining Members (10)	4500.00
Mutagenesis	15295.00 outstanding
Member's Subscriptions	2690.00 tbc

Major Expenditure to July

Travel Bursaries to Nat/Int Mtgs	4000.00
IOB/BF/EEMS etc	1251.88
Mutagenesis	3000.00
UKEMS/MEG Com Activities	3546.83
Accountant	587.50
Loughborough Mtg	5510.00 outstanding
Web Design	816.00
Subs Refunds #	# tbc

Sustaining Members [10]

AstraZeneca, Covance, GlaxoSmithKline, Huntingdon Life Sciences
Kinetic Imaging, Perspective Instruments, **Pfizer**, SafePharm Laboratories, Syngenta
CTL, Unilever.

UKEMS Membership

	June 2002	Dec 2002	July 2003
Fellows	9	10	10
Full Members	188	199	201
Students	50	55	68
Total	247	264	279

Student Bursaries to EEMS (2003)

Swansea
S Fradley
P Fowler

Ulster
B Doherty
M Gallus

ICSM
C Smith

Leeds
K Healey

Leicester
K McLuckie
J Sandhu

Plymouth
S Leaney

Bradford
J Taylor

Nadya Messoug (Morrocco, £500)