

IUPAC DIVISION-III
MINUTES OF THE DIVISIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING, ORGANIC &
BIOMOLECULAR CHEMISTRY, OTTAWA GA, AUGUST 9TH 2003.

Room 117, Lamoureux Building, University of Ottawa, Ottawa

1. THE MEETING convened at 09.00

PRESENT: Prof T.Tidwell (Div-III President), Prof L.K.Sydnes (IUPAC President-elect), Professors D.St.C.Black (Vice President), T.Norin (Past President), G.M.Blackburn (Secretary), S.Braslavsky, C.G.Cragg, M.Isobe, V.Ivanov S.S.Kim, G-J.Koomen, T.Krygowski, S.V.Ley, L.Mc-Elwee-White, W.H.Powell, M.Salem Ezzeldin, M.F.da Silva, and P.Tundo, and Young Observers: T.vanden Anker, R.Blackburn, N.Jayanaman, M.Ludwig, F.McDonald, R.Mohan, and J.Sweeney. Prof Peter Atkins was present for Agendum 5.

APOLOGIES: received from Profs. Q. Lin, G. Mehta, A.ur Rahman

2. MINUTES of past Meetings: Brisbane 2001, accepted.
Toronto 2002 accepted (with apologies from S.Braslavski noted).

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT from Tom Tidwell. This had been circulated June 2003 (copy attached).

(a) Special note was taken of:

Reorganisation of the Biotechnology Sub-Committee of IUPAC Division-III;

Nobel Prizes in Chemistry (<http://www.nobel.se/chemistry/laureates/>) ;

Biodiversity Meeting 2003 – Delhi;

New Materials – responsibility to be delegated to S/C on Structure & Mechanism;

Projects – some 10 now being supported but not all budget committed/spent. All S/Cs urged to generate new ideas for Projects. President identified: experimentation, travel, student stipend, small *ad hoc* meetings.

New Meetings planned: ISBOC-7 (Sheffield 2004), IC OS-15 (Nagoya 2004), ISBOC-8 (Florida 2006?), Photochemistry (Japan 2006?).

IUPAC Bureau restructuring Meeting (Paris Sept. 2003). General comments (TT, TN, GMB) to be taken to the Divisional Presidents Meeting in this Ottawa GA.

A discussion on Analytical Methods and Post-Genomic Developments identified G-J K and VI as interested committee members.

(b) **Report on Division Elections**

Proposed to reduce the size of Division-III Committee from 14 to 12 this year and thence to 10. An *ad hoc* Membership Committee under Prof. U.Pandit had received 19 nominations for 2 TM vacancies. It recommended a panel of 3 candidates, from which Profs. da Silva and Ley were elected.

Prof. T.A.Watson has resigned as NR (S.Africa). It was proposed and AGREED that S.Braslavski become NR (Germany). Further AR and NR positions will be decided later in the Meeting after due deliberation. Sectional representation might call for particular attention to Photochemistry and to Crystallography.

4. OFFICERS 2004-2005

The following were proposed and AGREED

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|-------|---------------------|----------------|
| (i) | Prof. D. StC. Black | President |
| (ii) | Prof. Vadim Ivanov | Vice-President |
| (iii) | Prof. G.M.Blackburn | Secretary |

The President raised the question of how to proceed in the event that Prof. Black were to be elected Secretary-General later in the GA. Prof. Ivanov proposed that this decision be delegated to the President. Prof. Tidwell asked for opinions to be presented to him if that situation arose.

5. **REPORT on TEACHING in CHEMISTRY**

PW spoke to the role of education in the public understanding of chemistry. He invited suggestions for opportunities of collaboration, e.g. the Latin-American project already in development. Special examples include: Nomenclature – developing translations of good books, especially IUPAC publications; translation of Russian works into English; joint activities in Toxicology & Health chemistry. Prof Nudelman enlarged on the LA project – sharing of students, achievement of common levels of attainment, general resumé if the project.

Prof Black spoke on the need to develop the image of chemistry through public education, especially of organic molecules, polymers. SB added photochemistry to this list. The need for experts in graphics to promote dynamic and shape excitement through electronic means of delivery. The question of an OUPAC standard for colouring elements in graphics was raised and recommended for further discussion.

6. **MEMBERSHIP**

After overnight deliberation, Professors Einar Uggerud (Norway) and Bilge Sener (Turkey) were nominated and elected as Associate Members while Martin Putada (Slovakia) was elected as a National Representative.

REPORTS of SUBCOMMITTEES (some circulated)

7. **Synthesis S/C** (Report received) Prof. Black enlarged on the Thieme Prize (to be awarded in Nagoya at ICOS-15). Prof. Ley suggested that we approach other publishing houses for additional endowments, e.g. VCH & Chemical Biology. A vigorous debate led to the proposal to pursue this idea further and develop proposals.
8. **Biomolecular S/C** (Report received) Prof Ivanov spoke to the practicality of merging the existing symposia on Natural Product chemistry and on Biodiversity, to be implemented in New Delhi in January 2004 under Prof Parmar. Plans were advanced for ISBOC-7 (Sheffield 2004) with proposals tables for ISBOC-8 (Florida or Brisbane 2006). The next Biodiversity Meeting was likely to be in Okinawa or Brisbane in 2006. A Project in Post-genomic Chemistry was in hand (Prof. Vartolomeev).
9. **Green Chemistry S/C** (Report received) Prof Tundo referred to his Reports on Green Chemistry (and Public Awareness, in Africa, in Education). Proposed an update of the latter. Green Chemistry in S. America (Portugese and Spanish) to be completed in 2003, published in 2004. Green Chemistry in Russia (with N. Tarussova) is a new proposal for August 2003. Further ideas include GC for Students and/or Teachers.
10. **Photochemistry S/C** (Re[port received) Prof Braslavsky deplored the long time-gap between submission of the completed Project on Chemical Actinometry (Jan 2002) acknowledged then but not yet published. The President agreed to take this matter to the Bureau. Profs Black and Norin recommended that this Project be used to improve the

relevant entries in the Gold Book. There was brief discussion of the Porter Medal and Prize.

11. **IUPAC Secretariat Visit** (this Agendum was deferred to 15.00 when Ted Becker, James Bull, and Laura Abernathy arrived)
General Secretary's contribution – (a) Funds still available for new projects that might be completed within this year. (b) Budget next year to remain the same, though reserves will be lower. (IUPAC subs up only 1%). (c) Conferences – sponsorship has to be understood to not imply any funding support. However, limited support can be available for Conferences in Developing countries. This might be achieved through designating eminent scientists as IUPAC Lecturers (d) New directions – Chemistry can be supported but only if totally innovative. It must be channeled through a Division.
Prof Bull (Editor of PAC) – (a) Conference proceedings need a good standard of peer-review: generally attained within Division-III. (b) PAC to offer active intervention in the editing of conference reports proceedings and special topic issues of PAC. (c) Need to cull articles from PL, IL, and CL zones of IUPAC Meetings and to achieve participation at a higher level than currently. Some editors may need assistance – at a distance! (d) The status and reputation of the IUPAC name in publishing has to be defended stoutly. In discussion, {Prof. Braslavsky noted that ICTNS has been inactive for at least a year. In a vigorous discussion, many ideas were suggested, especially publication of PLs in PowerPoint format (which is operative for some IUPAC sponsored Meetings). Some reduction of the 10-page allocation for Pls to make more space for Il and CL contributions.
12. **Structure and Mechanism** Prof Krygowski considered the viability of a Project (with Tundo) on Green Chemistry in Post-Socialist EE Countries. He promoted a general discussion of mechanistic themes and ideas though no general conclusions were reached.
13. **Biotechnology S/C** This item and the future composition/reorganisation of this SubCommittee was delegated to the Biomolecular Chemistry S/C.
14. **Scientific Aspects of Chemical Warfare Agents** Prof Braslavsky questions whether there is scope for re-educating general understanding of this area of chemistry. The President agreed to raise this issue at DM level and any other suitable opportunities. Prof Braslavsky claimed that considerable funds are being spent on pursuing chemistry in this area and would like this brought into the open.
15. **PAC** Prof Black said there was nothing to report on this item.
16. **Nomenclature** (Report received) Prof. Warren Powell described progress on several Projects: Nomenclature in Organic Chemistry; Inorganic Chemistry “Red Book”; Natural Product Nomenclature; Fullerene update – especially beyond C60 and C70 though nanotubes outwith present remit; alignment between inorganic and organic nomenclature; rotaxanes; cyclic macromolecules; chemically modified polymers; stereochemistry; interaction with IUB&B on steroids, alkaloids, enzymes, etc. WP accepted the idea of looking at systematized colour coding for elements in structures, especially in proteins. Prof Braslavsky enquired about electronic availability of documents for the Division. The President responded that POC glossary is thus available and agreed to see whether older glossaries might be inserted onto the web. (To be cross-checked with the Analytical Division). Prof Powell responded that much such material could be (put) in the GOLD Book on the IUPAC site. ACTION

TT

17. **Divisional Goals and Brochure**

A brochure from the Physical Chemistry Division had been received, which compared favorably to anything from Division-III. The Secretary was asked to look into the production of an improved brochure.

Rules - These were given general approval. Rule 9(a) to be adapted to regulate the

activities and membership of Division-III SubCommittees.

SubCommittees – normally limited to 15 members. Membership status terminates after 2 years unless renewed by invitation. Some discussion of the need for Project leaders to become S/C members but no decision reached.

Budget – President to allocate \$2000 to each S/C subject to (a) his approval for individual expenditure items and (b) his authority to reallocate unspent funds before the year end.

18. New IUPAC Prizes

Photochemistry – The means of working with the RSC on a joint RSC:IUPAC Photochemistry Award was discussed and Prof Ley identified a suitable means of advancing this.

Chemical Biology - VCH seemed a good target for this development.

Materials – The RSC was again identified in this context.

Catalysis – VCH was again identified in this context.

There was some discussion of the award of Poster Prizes at IUPAC Conferences but no decision reached.

19. Projects (a) Bacterial Resistance to Antibiotics – this project was described by Prof Koomen and is developing well. Its significance was illustrated by reference to Kanamycin resistance and to beta-lactamases in the environment.

Prof Braslavsky raised the issue of the public perception of chemistry which led to the idea of a Project focused on a public lecture to be delivered within an IUPAC Conference and in the town/city of its location; to be funded from IUPAC project sources; with local school children as the prime audience.

20. Budget allocations - nothing new to be reported.

21. Symposia dealt with under Agendum 3 (above).

22. Election of Officers and New Members Decisions under Agendum 4 (above) confirmed. Other matters as reported under Agendum 3 (above).

23. Appointments of Representatives to IUPAC Bodies – no actions.

24. Discussion of Projects - Prof Sydnes spoke briefly to the desirability of increasing the number of new projects. He emphasized the growing significance of biology within chemistry. He referred to the explosion of computer technology within chemical information and its stimulus on the flow of new ideas. He was appreciative of the presence of new younger members of the Division.

25. Approval of New Members on Sub-Committees – this was agreed formally.

26. Date and Time of Next Meeting Nagoya, August 7th (?) 2004.

27. AOB Prof Norin raised the question of access to chemical literature by colleagues in 3rd World countries. A brief discussion identified a general concern but no decision reached. The Meeting closed (Monday 11.08.2003 at 11.30) with a vote of thanks to all concerned from Professor Black.