

## Minutes of the IUPAc Division VII Drug Discovery and Development Subcommittee Meeting, April 28, 2018, Nashville TN

### Participants

Tom Perun

Janos Fischer

Paul Erhardt

Wayne Childers

Michael Liebman

Neel Balasubramanian (secretary)

Gerd Schnorrenberg (chair)

### Welcome and Introduction

The message from Rita Cornelis, the new President of the IUPAC Division VII, was introduced by Gerd. Tom communicated on the recent changes in membership of the Division VII titular and associate members (see IUPAC homepage). V. Gubala will serve as Division VII secretary and H. Möller Johannessen as Division VII Vice President.

In her message Rita referred to the IUPAC General Assembly in July 2019 in Paris celebrating the 100 years of IUPAC. There was endorsement by the D3 Subcommittee to increase the visibility of IUPAC's achievements and thanked Janos for his report on Successful Drug Discovery book series.

The new strategic direction to strengthen IUPAC's role parts of the world, e.g. Africa, will be supported by the D3 SC by nomination of potential new SC members from these regions. **Action:** D3 SC members

### Project Updates

The newly introduced one pager on project updates was presented by Gerd. Aim is the increase in transparency on the status of ongoing projects, potential

shift of timelines and budget implications. The improved project tracking should also provide better utilization of the D3 SC budget (see also **D3 Project Budget**) for new project proposals.

Paul reported on submission of his paper on “glossary and terms of metabolism”, after publication the paper will also be submitted to other relevant journals to maximize impact. **Action:** Paul

Two new training courses were proposed, one by Neel (Balu) with the aim to continue in 2019 with his “Course on Medicinal Chemistry, Drug Discovery and Development in India with modifications based on feedback from participants of the last course.

The second proposal was presented by Wayne. Goal is to prepare an advanced D3 training course based on a survey to industry (big pharma and start-ups) and academic medicinal chemists to learn which aspects beyond a basic training course should be in focus. It was suggested to distribute the questionnaire first to D3 SC members to collect their input. **Action:** Wayne and SC members

Deliverable will be a paper summarizing the content/topic recommendations before scoping and planning the advanced training course.

There was a general discussion on how to maximize the impact of training courses by a) extending from local countries to larger territories and b) by utilizing online training courses.

The funding by IUPAC was strongly recommended by the SC members for the initiation phase, for continuation the funding from local territories' societies/industry is expected. Differences with respect to development status of drug discovery and development in the territories need to be considered for IUPAC funding recommendation.

Another project proposal was given by Michael on analyzing root causes of Phase III failures. He presented a detailed analysis tool with patient- and disease-related causes. The SC will work together on a refinement of the proposal. Following aspects should be considered: information sources, selection of a specific disease (to facilitate analysis), status of already published

results on Phase III failures and relation to IUPAC strategic directions. **Action:** Michael to distribute the proposal (done). Paul, John, Gerd to comment

The results will then be followed in a joint telecon with SC members to prepare a refined proposal.

Paul presented a proposal on a survey on a human Drug Metabolism Database. Aim is to prepare a paper end of 2018 on the value of providing such a database.

The SC members discussed in general on the need to keep both such databases and also papers on terms and glossaries updated to secure impact in the respective scientific community. How to secure updating will be a topic of future SC meetings.

Janos presented an update on the status of SDD Vol 4 which is already final by ~60%. He presented his first thoughts on Vol 5 preparation and proposed to shift more responsibility on section editors. This proposal was endorsed.

**Action:** Janos to prepare outline and topics of Vol 5 and distribute it to SC members, SC members to nominate section editor candidates

### **D3 Project Budget**

The budget guidance from Rita was presented by Gerd. **Action:** Following aspects will be taken up by Gerd with Rita: a) Is a 1/3 of Division VII budget an adequate share for D3 SC? b) How to generate more budget flexibility within Division VII by co-funding by other societies?

### **How to stimulate SC members to actively participate in D3 SC work? How to encourage younger medicinal chemists to engage in D3 SC?**

There was general agreement that D3 SC face-to-face meetings need to continue. These meeting should be opened to online participation. Online teleconferencing in general should be considered as additional option to enable more members to participate and enable younger medicinal chemists to contribute. The SC members endorsed Gerd to ask IUPAC to provide a standard teleconferencing tool to Divisions and SCs.

There was agreement that D3 SC meetings should be always connected to relevant and attractive medicinal chemistry conferences considering following aspects: a) alternation of meeting locations in the US and EU, b) location should be selected where direct transatlantic flights facilitate travelling. **Action:** SC members to propose attractive medicinal chemistry conferences taking both aspects into consideration

A specific question came up with respect to the next D3 SC meeting location being Ljubljana on September 1, 2018 as originally planned. As alternative the Division VII meeting in Boston the week before on August 25/26, 2018 was proposed, offering the opportunity to exchange with the other SCs of Division VII. **Action:** Gerd to clarify with Rita whether other SCs of Division VII are planning back-to-back meetings in Boston and then decide on the next meeting location

### **Wrap up**

Gerd thanked the D3 SC meeting participants for their committed contributions and asked for input on how to structure/improve SC work in the future.

Signed

Gerd Schnorrenberg

### **Distribution list**

D3 SC members

Rita Cornelis

Fabienne Meyers