

IUPAC – DIVISION III: Subcommittee on Structural and Mechanistic Chemistry

Meeting to be held on Saturday 6th July 2019 at 14:30, Palais de Congrès, Paris,
during the 50th IUPAC General Assembly

MINUTES

Present: Moises Canle (Spain), Jason Harper (Australia), Henrik Ottosson (Sweden), Einar Uggerud (Norway) and Ian Williams (UK, Chair) + committee members of IUPAC Division III: Francesco Nicotra (Italy, President), Nikolay Nifantiev (Russia, Vice-President), Slawomir Jarosz (Poland), Xuefeng Jiang (China), Zhen Xi (China), Priyani Paranagama (Sri Lanka), Ganesh Pandey (India), Michele Vittadello (USA, observer).

- 1) **Apologies** for absence had been received from Manabu Abe, Igor Alabugin, Jin-Pei Cheng, Maria Cristiano, Eduardo Humeres, Miroslav Ludwig, Anat Milo, Heidi Muchall, Charles Perrin, Hans-Ullrich Siehl.
- 2) The previously circulated **agenda** was approved.
- 3) The previously circulated **minutes** from the last SSMC meeting (Faro, 2 July 2018) were approved.
- 4) **Chair's business.**
 - (a) Updated contact details were sent to IUPAC Secretariat (January 2019)
 - (b) The Revised (January 2019) Operating Procedures for IUPAC Division of Organic and Biomolecular Chemistry (Div III), and particularly the terms of reference of the Subcommittee on Structural and Mechanistic Chemistry had been previously circulated. Ian apologized for sometimes calling it the S/C for Structural and Mechanistic Organic Chemistry, and commented that the name had been changed (from Physical Organic Chemistry) when Charlie Perrin had been the Chair, in order '*to broaden the topic at a time when POC was viewed as narrow and old-fashioned*' and that '*it should include organometallic chemistry, gas-phase chemistry, computational chemistry, and synthesis of novel molecules that probe our theory of structure*'. It was commented that the S/C normally met during each ICPOC, but that there had not been a meeting during an IUPAC General Assembly since 2011.
- 5) **Membership.** Heidi Muchall has stepped down from the S/C, and was thanked for her service. There are currently 15 members, of whom 5 were appointed during the past 3 years. Suggestions for new members were invited, with a view to maintaining participation. **Action: all members**
- 6) **ICPOC25**, 5 – 10 July 2020, Hiroshima. A written update from Manabu Abe had been received. The Conference home page (<https://icpoc25.jp>) is being updated regularly with confirmed speakers; an A0 size poster will be distributed to people in the field of organic chemistry to publicize the conference; a cruise ship has been reserved for the Banquet. Prof Abe will be asked about the inclusion of female plenary and invited speakers. **Action: IW**
- 7) **ICPOC26**, 2022, Beijing. A written update from Jin-Pei Cheng had been received. The conference is planned to be held from August 28th to September 1st, and a suitable venue has been selected. Two preliminary international symposia on Mechanism and Synthesis are planned for 2019 and 2021 as a means by which to identify potential ICPOC speakers. Financial commitments have been received to support ICPOC26 from university and industrial sources, and work is continuing to gain more support from industry.
- 8) **Venues for future ICPOCs**
 - (a) **Process for bidding.** In view of the fact that multiple informal expressions of interest had been received to host ICPOC26 in 2022, an open and fair process for submission and consideration of formal bids was established, and two bids were received by the stated deadline (31st October 2018). The merits of each were carefully considered by S/C members, with questions to the bidders being channelled through the S/C Chair. Voting took place by email, leading to a clear majority in favour of

the bid from Beijing. This approach was reviewed and was considered to be fair and transparent. The opportunity to ask questions of the respective bidders was appreciated.

- (b) **ICPOC27**, 2024. Informal enquiries will be made during the autumn to see whether previous expressions of interest remain.

Action: all members

9) **Projects:**

- (a) **Glossary of Terms in Physical Organic Chemistry.** The Task Force had met in Faro after last year's ICPOC, and Charlie Perrin submitted the agreed document to *Pure and Applied Chemistry* in October 2018. Reports from 7 reviewers were received in mid-May, which were forwarded to all members of the Task Force, who recommended that Prof Perrin should respond to all the comments and revise the Glossary accordingly. Support will now be sought from IUPAC to assist with technical issues for preparation of the final document for publication in PAC and on the web.
- (b) **Aromaticity.** Henrik Ottosson has re-invigorated the (unofficial) project on Aromaticity. A conference was held in Mexico late last year for 60 invited speakers to bridge recent theoretical and experimental research on aromaticity. A new working party is being convened, with 6 experimentalists and 6 theoreticians, and 2 industrialists to produce an updated short description /definition of aromaticity for IUPAC along with a longer description of the concept, and IUPAC funding as an official project will now be sought.

10) **Any other business.**

Ian asked S/C members about what support (if any) they received from their respective National Adhering Organizations. It seems that this varies from country to country.

Ian Williams (7 July 2019)