

**Minutes of Australian Society for Biophysics General Meeting held in Building 12 (Rm 2, Lvl 7)
RMIT University, City Campus, Melbourne, Tuesday 26th November 2013**

Meeting opened at 17:50

Chair: F. Separovic

Minutes: A. Battle

Attendance: Navid Bavi, Alan Mark, Serdar Kuyucak, Dharmeshkumar Patel, Adam Mechler, Michelle Gee, Ron Clarke, Jamie Vandenberg, Philip Kuchel, Andrew Clayton, Trevor Lewis, Brett Cromer, Matthew Perry, Chai-An Ng, Megan O'Mara, Boris Martinac, Ben Corry, Anton Le Brun, Hans Coster, Adelle Coster, Frances Separovic, Andrew Battle, Charles Cranfield, Pierre Moens, Brett Hambly, Ray Norton, Haibu Yu, Celine Boiteux, Michael Thomas, Cyril Curtain, Sabah Alkhazaaly, Glenn King, Mary Beilby, Peter Barry, Gary Bryant, Marc Antonie Sani, Evelyne Deplazes.

Apologies: Cris dos Remedios

Minutes of 2012 AGM:

No business arising.

Move to accept Minutes: B. Hambly, Seconded: P. Moens. Carried by meeting.

President's Address: F. Separovic congratulated Gary Bryant and his team for a very successful ASB meeting in 2013. Met with applause from the floor.

F. Separovic recognised A. Coster for ten years of exceptional service as Treasurer of ASB, which was met with acclaim from the floor. Also thanked the secretary Andrew Battle, applause from floor.

During 2013, Jamie Vandenberg was elected representative of the Biological Science cluster of STA. Next year will be a lot of work with IUPAB 2014 being hosted in Brisbane in August.

Financial Report: A. Coster

Member statement as of 30th June 2013: 206 members in 2013. People are encouraged to renew membership and come to IUPAB in Brisbane, August 2014.

ASB Meeting 2012- joint with the Australian Physiological Society operated at a loss. It was noted that stand-alone ASB meetings work well.

Nett income from 2013: \$3,130- up 3.2% from 2012. Met with applause from the floor. The membrane transporter meeting held on 6th December 2012 was also a success and operated with a profit- floor congratulated this.

R. Clarke inquired whether membership was higher for the 2013 ASB meeting. A. Coster stated that there were 24 new members registered, but no direct comparison to the 2012 meeting can be made due to the joint nature of this meeting.

R. Clarke asked whether stand-alone meetings were preferred, which was open to the floor; the floor agreeing that was the case.

F. Separovic asked about qualifying the \$101k in reserves; which also included trust funds for prizes.

Move to accept Financial Report: J. Vandenberg; Seconded G. Bryant. Carried by meeting.

Business arising from Treasurer's and President's report:

A. Coster asked to handle ASB related finances for 2014 IUPAB- agreed

Other Business:

A. Coster will step down as Treasurer in 2014. F. Separovic nominated Ron Clarke as ASB Treasurer in 2014. Accepted: R. Clarke, which was agreed by and met with applause from the floor. A. Coster to be

removed from ASB signatory with R. Clarke and F. Separovic to be added as signatories in addition to A. Battle who remains a signatory on the account.

Moved: A. Coster; Seconded: A. Battle. Carried by meeting.

IUPAB: B. Hambly

Noted that this is the biggest event with which ASB has been involved; and interest and attendance at the current meeting encourages him.

Thanked G. King and J. Vandenberg for their continuing organisation of IUPAB 2014.

There are 40 invited speakers, with eight themes; it was noted that there may be a small risk with having eight themes, but all abstracts will be considered.

Eight plenary speakers: five have so far been selected including two Nobel Laureates.

F. Separovic suggested contacting B. Hambly or P. Moens if members have recently bought equipment, etc., from companies. Best to use a personal approach to companies.

Exhibitors: P. Moens has had some success, but noted the current tough environment.

Assistance from members to both B. Hambly and P. Moens in approaching exhibitors would be appreciated.

Promotion of IUPAB: Promoted by F. Separovic at EBSA in Portugal in July 2013; and Biophysical Society meeting in February 2013, Philadelphia, USA.

Promotion was expected at a Chinese Symposium in September 2013, but was cancelled.

The joint ASB-Japan Biophysical Society meeting was successful. 1600 delegates with good exposure of the IUPAB meeting. Several ASB members in attendance, with approx. 200 people anticipated to attend IUPAB from the Japan Biophysical Society.

Promotion of the meeting is encouraged at a local level, e.g. local symposiums and meetings. Promotion at a university level was also suggested, with all members asked to make an effort in promoting IUPAB.

Satellite meetings: A number of these are planned.

Financial support to attend meeting:

- (1) ECR/student support intended for overseas attendees.
- (2) \$150k allocated for support
- (3) ASB to provide some support for local student attendees.
- (4) Local financial support suggested from ANSTO, Universities, Victor Chang Cardiac Research Institute, CSIRO. B. Hambly suggested members talk to heads at a department/faculty level to support students, etc., to attend.

Students also asked to help assist in getting international delegates to the conference.

A meeting will be held on the 27th November 2013 with the IUPAB executive committee and the ASB executive committee.

F. Separovic suggested that flyers/postcards be taken to meetings for IUPAB advertising.

B. Martinac: an international meeting will be held in May 2014 on Mechanobiology, and he is happy to promote IUPAB at the meeting with flyers. Also suggested an extension to registration times.

F. Separovic noted the excellent Plenary Speakers already confirmed, with invited speakers needing to be confirmed.

Other Business:

J. Vandenberg discussed the Japan Biophysical Society-ASB reciprocal relationship; they are keen to send more speakers to Australia and for ASB members to go to Japan, which was strongly supported by B. Hambly. Noted that the initial contact with Japan Biophysical Society was five years ago and encouraged to continue.

C. Curtain asked about progress on the updating of the constitution; which requires that Secretary take over the Public Officer role. F. Separovic & A. Battle to follow up with Victorian Department of Justice.

Next stand-alone ASB meeting may be hosted from Armidale in 2015.

ASB Web Site: With stepping down of A. Coster as treasurer, a new member is required to maintain the ASB web site. E. Deplazes will take on this role.

Alan Walker: Foundation member Alan Walker passed away on 28th October 2013. A. Coster and B. Martinac represented the society at the memorial service.

Election of state representatives: New state representatives: Andy Ng and Matthew Perry – NSW; Megan O'Mara - QLD; Michael Thomas – WA; Gary Bryant – VIC; Renwick Dobson – NZ.

Meeting Closed 18:20