

REVISED MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF UKEMS

Held at University College, Swansea, Wales,
Wednesday, 25 March, 1992

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING 17 APRIL, 1991 (UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD)

These were held to be a true record and were proposed by Jane Cole and seconded by Anton Alldrick and were formally accepted.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The membership directory is essentially finished although not ready for publication by the meeting and has had to be checked against the subscriptions list. There are about 40 forms that have not been returned and these will be included as appropriate without details such as telephone and fax numbers. It will be published as an A5 size booklet, the front cover bearing the society logo. The idea is to circulate it very shortly. The European listing is more than one year away, Fritz Wurgler has been encountering similar problems with regard to receiving completed forms. Although we are going ahead with our own directory, the EMS has agreed to include ours in its new version to be published shortly. It will be a very useful source of information, about a thousand telephone numbers and should be issued with the July EMS newsletter. It should cost the society about £150 - £300 and we are seeking your permission to proceed with this. The idea is to eventually produce a list with all society members from Europe and Japan, possibly incorporated into the EMS list.

[The motion was proposed by Jim Parry, seconded by Sue Hubbard and carried unanimously].

We have received a request from Alec Morley for a contribution to the IEMS meeting in Melbourne, 1993. The EMS is donating \$20,000. The committee is seeking your permission to donate £1000. It should be possible to get publicity for the society via a donation.

[The motion was proposed by Jim Parry, seconded by David Tweats and there was one against in the vote, so the motion was carried and the Treasurer is to arrange for the donation. It is to be explained to Dr Morley that the amount represents ca 10% of our reserves].

The issue of increasing and improving the image of the society is being addressed by forming a publicity sub-committee, consisting of the current president, vice-president and secretary. This is to produce a brochure and a poster to advertise the society and the annual meeting, and is to consider other ways of encouraging

membership generally and especially from academia. The membership application form has been approved by the committee and from now on all new members will have to complete a form and be proposed by a UKEMS member. This vetting procedure, together with the membership listing should ensure a way of meeting future needs for legislation and the link with the Institute of Biology in this respect is no longer an issue. Nevertheless, we should continue to avoid isolating ourselves by monitoring the accreditation issue.

A further initiative concerns the establishment of a meetings sub-committee which is to consider improving meeting planning and information such as the printed programme for this meeting. We have a good deal to learn from the EMS as was brought home to me when I attended as a councillor. Information from the first meeting that I attended has been passed on to David Kirkland as next president. The EMS has established a set of committees comprised of anyone from the membership. These committees are specific to a variety of topics and month by month there is an update provided on outstanding issues that need to be resolved.

The UKEMS committee has been considering future collaborative trials. The IGG is interested in organising one on the *in vitro* micronucleus assay. Any offers for cooperation and other ideas would be welcome and suggestions should be communicated to the executive committee. A possible topic would be genetic specificity. It would be nice to identify chemicals that could only exert one type of effect, rather than inducing several different end-points, as most do. Does anyone believe in genetic specificity, like benomyl inducing aneuploidy? David Kirkland is discussing potential collaboration with the EMS and the Japanese who have been investigating the relative merits of using CHO and CHL cell lines in chromosomal aberration tests. The first part of this investigation is now completed and there are still many unanswered questions concerning the protocol and no defined format for any further work. Another possible collaborative study could be a comparison of postlabelling technology and David Phillips may be reporting on this next year.

3 TREASURER'S REPORT

A copy (attached to these minutes) of the 1991 accounts is circulated. More income has been generated this year from the increase in subscription and due to new members joining (20 full, 16 students). Whilst there has been an increase in the overall number of students, there has been a decline in the number of full subscriptions paid. One of the largest expenses in the year was due to the Sheffield meeting which incurred a deficit of £1500, mainly owing to student grants, little sponsorship and

outgoings for overseas speakers. Also a larger than normal subscription was paid out for Mutagenesis due to paying twice over (with no refund from OUP). There will, however, be no subscription to the publisher next year. The society is sending copies of the journal at reduced rates to several countries in the eastern block (eg Czechoslovakia ' £50 pa). The Editor could monitor more closely to whom or where copies actually go and a list should be sent to the EEMS council, as EEMS councillors receive copies as gifts and some may retain them for themselves. One issue of the journal also is being sent to Brazil and there are 4 in total being sent as gifts. Apparently members of the editorial board of Environmental and Molecular Mutagenesis receive free subscriptions, and the publishers are happy for free copies to be circulated.

[David Tweats proposed that we assist Czechoslovakia further by providing a free subscription to Mutagenesis. This was seconded by Leigh Henderson and carried unanimously by vote].

EEMS subscriptions are to rise shortly, probably by double the current amount. This is partly due to the suggestion of UKEMS that the chairperson should be supported by EEMS and this can only be financed by increasing subs. Nevertheless, UKEMS subscriptions should remain the same for the time being due to last year's increase, especially as this meeting will break even. Also income has been boosted by royalties from the 2 books, which is encouraging, particularly as the next book is nearing completion.

The closing balance of £14000 was noted.

[Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Colin Arlett, seconded by David Scott and unanimously carried by vote].

4. COMMITTEE CHANGES

4.1 Election results

The secretary reported that there had been only one nomination each for treasurer and vice president, these were Terry Brooks and David Tweats, respectively. There had been the same time for nominations to be received for these posts as for the others. There had been 4 nominations for the 2 ordinary member positions and the results were:

Gerry McKenna.....	47 (votes)
Barry Elliott.....	52
Barry Phillips.....	48
David Gatehouse.....	66

Thus it was clear that David Tweats, Barry Elliott and David Gatehouse would be joining the committee. Thanks were extended to Colin Garner as outgoing ordinary member. Leigh Henderson will be remaining on the committee.

4.2 Composition of committee (1992/93)

The composition of the current committee is attached.

5 MUTAGENESIS EDITOR'S REPORT

Details of subscriptions and manuscript submissions were presented (see attached). Subscriptions currently are keeping up with the publisher's original forecasts despite increasing pressure upon libraries (particularly in academia). Indeed the sales figures are improving, with 350 subscriptions as of now and we should achieve 400 by the year end. These are a bit thin in certain areas, notably Japan still and efforts are being made to improve the situation, including the establishment of a Japanese editorial office. Editorial board changes are being discussed. Currently there is a 21% rejection rate and 2% of ms are accepted directly with a very high revision rate. The average turn round time from receipt of ms to publication was ca 3 months. One of the problems is the sometimes the very extended times for authors' revisions to be returned. Matters will improve when the journal appears monthly. There is no hard and fast rule, but referees are given ca 2 weeks, followed up with a nagging letter. Discussions on how to improve the image and content of the journal are under way. One suggestion is for regular mini reviews, perhaps written by each member of the editorial board, as a condition of their membership.

[Natalie Danford recommended to members that they should keep reminding the publishers that they are UKEMS members, to ensure receiving the journal at a reduced rate.]

6 IGG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

This was delivered by Leigh Henderson for Mike O'Donovan. Two meetings have taken place since last year: one last spring on Regulatory Guidelines, designed to assist with submission of data with discussion of protocols, and the other on the micronucleus test, including a contribution from Hayashi on the peripheral erythrocyte assay. Other activities have involved a questionnaire on the *in vitro* micronucleus assay and a collaborative trial may be organised. This will be discussed at the next IGG meeting. A further potential collaborative exercise will involve aspects of *in vitro* cytogenetics assays, for example the optimum harvest times and determination of cell cycle effects in the human lymphocyte assay.

The report of the last IGG meeting will be appearing in Mutagenesis shortly. The next IGG meeting is scheduled for June 17 (Royal Society of Medicine, London) and will cover testing of unusual samples, eg oils, particulates, gases. A change to the IGG constitution is proposed by the IGG committee and will be voted on at the IGG AGM. IGG is to use headed note paper and wishes to incorporate the UKEMS logo. The UKEMS executive committee has agreed to this.

7 AOB

7.1 IGG/UKEMS

The president acknowledged the idea of IGG to incorporate the UKEMS logo into its headed paper as a very good idea. He mentioned that Brian Kilbey, a past president of UKEMS had resigned from the committee recently. BK's contribution to the society was formally acknowledged and the incoming president was requested to send a letter to BK indicating this.

7.2 Presentations

The president, on behalf of the society, acknowledged the outstanding service rendered to the society by David Tweats as secretary, who had steered UKEMS through difficult and busy times. The fact that the society was in such good shape now was in no small measure due to David's hard work. DJT was presented with a train original framed picture. David expressed his thanks to the president and the Society. The president acknowledged Margaret Fox's important contribution to the success of the society also, as immediate past president. Margaret had been given a Gucci scarf in recognition of this.

The president then handed over to the incoming president, David Kirkland.

The new president thanked John Ashby, on behalf of the society, for his hard work and leadership during the term of his office. He also thanked Colin Garner for his contribution as a committee member. Grateful thanks and congratulations were extended to Jim Parry and his team, especially Sally James, for organising such an interesting and enjoyable joint meeting this year.

DJK mentioned the efforts afoot to achieve closer international harmonisation over study designs for genotoxicity assays. He looked forward to the day when there would be no need for national guidelines, since many people were thinking in the same way. At the International meeting in Melbourne (1993) there will be a symposium on regulatory comparisons and a 2 day workshop on regulations. This will be similar to an IARC meeting

with the idea of producing a document for publication at the end of the workshop. The idea is to resolve differences as far as feasible and to report to bodies such as the OECD saying that this is what is required to achieve harmonisation. Invitations will be sent to some members of UKEMS to participate.

The 17th International Congress on Genetics is being held 15-21 Aug 1993 in Birmingham and UKEMS is to organise a workshop/symposium.

7.3 Forthcoming meetings

The secretary reminded the meeting about the Berlin EEMS meeting and reported that travel package quotes had been obtained, variously for accommodation and travel, from American Express, BA and Lufthansa (flights only), Status and Express Boyd. Overall, it seems that hotels are very expensive and cheap ones are difficult to find. Despite extensive efforts, no improvement on those being offered by Fahrige, also in conjunction with the German tourist board, could be found. It was noted that Fahrige had covered a wide price range. Many other hotels are in the vicinity of the meeting but most of these are still relatively expensive. There was little joy either for cheap discount flights to Berlin with the numbers anticipated. Thus there will be no UKEMS organised trip this year and members were advised to book their own travel and accommodation through the meeting organiser. Registration had to be secured by the beginning of May to ensure the lower rate. Efforts were underway to offer a package for the international meeting in Melbourne, 1993 and members would be informed of this and of other related meetings in the next newsletter.

8. AOB

There being no other business, the meeting was declared closed.

DJ Kirkland

5/5/93.

UKEMS COMMITTEE (1992)

President.....DAVID KIRKLAND (1992-94)
Vice President.....DAVID TWEATS (1992-94)
Secretary.....BOB COMBES (1990-93)
Treasurer.....TERRY BROOKS (1992-95)
EEMS Councillor.....LEIGH HENDERSON (1991-93)
Guidelines Chairperson..MARGARET FOX (1990-93)
Mutagenesis Editor.....JIM PARRY (-1997)
IGG Chairperson.....MIKE O'DONOVAN (1991-93)
Member.....DAVID GATEHOUSE (192-95)
Member.....JANE COLE (1990-93)
Member.....BARRY ELLIOTT (1992-95)

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Mutagenesis

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION.

Total subscriptions for 1990 = 351
Total subscriptions for 1991 = 388
Total subscriptions for 1992 = 344 (as of 4th. March 1992)

Target number of subscriptions for 1992 = 398

GEOGRAPHICAL BREAKDOWN.

	1990	1991	1992
United Kingdom	52	62	62
Europe	119	135	111
North America	143	149	138
Japan	24	28	24
Rest of the World	13	14	9
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	351	388	344

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Mutagenesis

STATUS REPORT

Totals for 1990

Total submissions	=	93	
Total processed	=	89	
Accepted	=	68	(76%)
Rejected	=	21	(24%)
Pending	=	4	

Totals for 1991

Total submissions	=	89	
Total processed	=	79	
Accepted	=	57	(72%)
Rejected	=	22	(28%)
Pending	=	10	

Totals for 1992 (as of 9/3/92) = 20

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THE UNITED KINGDOM
 ENVIRONMENTAL MUTAGEN SOCIETY
 (The United Kingdom Branch of the
 European Environmental Mutagen Society)

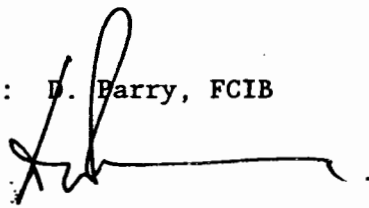
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS, 1991

	<u>Credit</u>	<u>Debit</u>
Balance at 1.1.91.	£10,520.13	
<u>Subscriptions</u>		
UKEMS	2,173.00	5.00
EEMS		568.78
Biological Council		82.00
<u>Meetings</u>		
EEMS, York	2,722.64	
UKEMS, Sheffield		1,524.95
UKEMS, Swansea		1,000.00
Alternative to S9		401.00
Dose setting		67.50
Aneuploidy		174.60
UKEMS Committee		223.04
<u>Guidelines</u>		
UKEMS II meetings	1,600.00	1,160.13
HSE grant		
Royalties - UKEMS I	964.43	
Stats	494.11	
<u>Mailings/Postage</u>		119.78
<u>Adverts/Mailshots</u>	135.00	
<u>Mutagenesis Subscriptions</u>		384.00
<u>Interest</u>		
Deposit Account	86.92	
National Savings Investment Account	1,035.09	

	£19,731.32	5,710.78

Deposit Account	2,829.87	
Current Account	895.04	
N.S.I.A.	10,295.63	

Closing balance at 31.12.91.	£14,020.54	

Audited by: D. Barry, FCIB


Treasurer: T.M. Brooks
