

UKEMS

MINUTES OF AGM AT UNIVERSITY OF WALES SWANSEA

4 JULY 2000

1. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD 23 JUNE, 1999 AT COLERAINE UNIVERSITY

Two minor typographical amendments to the minutes were suggested at the meeting and they were then signed by the President as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

This was proposed by Steve Dean and seconded by John Ashby.

2. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President began by thanking Jim Parry for organising such a successful millennium meeting and for his efforts with Mutagenesis. The membership were encouraged to support the Journal by submitting high quality. The society has now achieved charitable status which should transform our ability to support student travel and to run first-class meetings. The President made mention of the four recent Fellows, Jim Parry, John Ashby, Stan Vennitt and Colin Arlett, with some reference to the suitability of the acronym.

The future fortunes of the society depend heavily on the continued success of Mutagenesis and the membership were encouraged to support the Journal by submitting high quality manuscripts and by citing references in the Journal where appropriate.

Finally, the society was encouraged to explore links with other groups such as those with an interest in DNA repair?

3. TREASURER'S REPORT

UKEMS now has money in two CAF (?) accounts - £15k in a high interest savings account and £10k in a chequing account. The plan is to evaluate moving all our funds into CAF accounts, though we may need to consider changing the way in which we receive subscriptions..

The provisional accounts for 1999 were presented, subject to verification. We now have 6 sustaining members and the Coleraine meeting yielded a profit of £5000, so the balance grew from ca £30k on 30/1/99 to £46k by December 1999. It stands today at ca £50k.

It was pointed out that for 1999, subscriptions yielded only £2888, suggesting we have fewer than 150 paying members. It is clear that we need to review the system for requesting and ensuring prompt payment, since many members may have paid at previous rates, or not at all.

Eian Massey proposed the accounts for acceptance subject to final signatures and John Ashby seconded this.

4. MUTAGENESIS EDITOR'S REPORT

The attached report was reviewed by Jim Parry. Although there was a small drop in subscriptions from 496 in 1988 to 477 in 1999, we are expecting little change between 1999 and 2000. The question of the "gratis" copies was addressed, most being for UKEMS fellows and copyright libraries worldwide. Jim Parry made a plea for review papers, since these are very popular and tend to receive plenty of citations, important for the Journal's impact factor. The ranking of Mutagenesis within Current Contents is not bad, but apparently could be improved by being listed in the Toxicology category as well. Relating to the Treasurer's report, the UKEMS Committee is concerned that the revenues from Mutagenesis has halved this year. This is connected with costs incurred in setting up the on-line publication of the Journal, but Jim Parry, Barry Elliott and Kevin Adams will visit OUP later this year for clarification.

Bill Morgan is stepping down as the US Executive Editor, but is recommending Jeffrey Schwartz as suitable substitute. The Editorial board has decided to accept this recommendation, initially for a period of 3 years. Finally, Makoto Hayashi who was attending the meeting and AGM was thanked for his support as Associate Editor for Japan. Barry Elliott proposed that the AGM accepted this report, and Diana Anderson seconded this.

5. IGG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

IGG has had two successful meetings since the last AGM, one in December 1999 on cytotoxicity and the second in May to discuss the COM guidelines. Tomorrow's symposium organised by IGG is on Guidelines and Strategies. We are looking for ideas from the membership for development work or collaborative trials, which IGG could take responsibility for arranging.

6. MEG CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Since the last AGM MEG has had the winter meeting in December in London, and yesterday's symposium here in Swansea. The next meeting, for which some places are still available, is a joint meeting with the BACR near Lake Windermere. MEG is showing a small surplus financially.

7. COMMITTEE ELECTION AND APPROVAL BY AGM

The AGM gave approval of the nominations for Andrew Collins as Vice-President (President Elect) and for Anthony Lynch as Treasurer Elect. A total of 42 votes were cast in favour, with none against and one abstention.

8. NOTTINGHAM 2001

Mike O'Donovan confirmed that next year's meeting would take place at the Conference Centre in Nottingham, with Conference Nottingham handling the general administration. The scientific subcommittee can then concentrate on the programme, which provisionally includes a session on senescence, immortalisation and oncogenic transformation, and a session to address issues relating to the use of animals. The conference dinner is planned for a Victorian Monastery.

9. AOB

The AGM was delighted to give wholehearted approval to the nominations of both Professor John Ashby and Professor Jim Parry as UKEMS Fellows, with all voting in favour.