

IIS Board of Trustees Meeting March 12th 2010

Present: Crist Filer, Dave Hesk, George Ellames, Ruth Hough-Engel, Carolee Lavey, Alex Susan

Apologies for absence: Brad Maxwell

1. BoT Election Reform

CF updated the new BoT that this item was discussed at the December 18th BoT meeting in response to concerns expressed by some of the membership through the BoR, about the geographic composition of the new BoT. After a substantive discussion, a change in election procedure was made to eliminate the practice of candidates running for more than one office at a time, a change which did not require a change in the IIS Constitution.

GE stated that several members of the BoR felt that this change did not go far enough and that a more comprehensive change in the BoT election should be considered in time to implement any changes before the next election cycle. GE proposed that a Sub-Committee be formed to examine potential changes and present a recommendation to the BoT for approval. CF stated that he has already approached BM as 2011 President and Chairman of the Election Committee, and confirmed that BM would be willing to serve on this new Sub-Committee. CL and GE also agreed to serve along with a member of the BoR, which GE stated he would arrange. This proposal was agreed to by the BoT.

Action: GE to canvas the BoR for an additional representative to serve on the BoT election reform sub-committee.

2. Canadian / Central US Chapter Discussion

CF updated the BoT on recent email exchanges regarding the future of the Central US Chapter in light of falling membership due to continuing consolidation in the pharmaceutical industry. In the email exchanges, the Central US Chapter President stated that he is in favour of merging the Central US chapter with the North East US Chapter. CF added that other opinions in the correspondence expressed reservations about this approach, as the local Chapter meetings would be in danger of losing their local character and a more centrally held US meeting, would require more travel and reduce participation by members who can only attend the locally held meetings.

AS added that during the founding of the IIS, he envisaged the setting up of local chapters as a way to run local meetings that would be small enough to allow isotope scientists to attend a major meeting (such as ACS or RSC) in addition to attending a IIS local Chapter meeting. In response to a question from GE regarding the size of the Central US Chapter, DH stated that although the membership of the Chapter currently

stands at 86, this number includes a number of three year memberships which are current through the end of 2010, which will likely not be renewed to consolidation in the pharmaceutical industry. DH estimated the current active membership of the Central Chapter at closer to 50 members. DH stated given the small membership base, the Chapter may wish to consider holding smaller scale local meetings and could perhaps employ a model previously used by the NE US Chapter which held one day meetings on the company site of the individual hosting the meeting. CL also noted that the status of the Canadian Chapter was briefly discussed during the last BoT teleconference and an idea was put forward that the North East and Central Chapters should reach out to Canadian members to see if they would like to join the US Chapter in closest proximity to them. CL stated that this idea could be taken further by potentially combining the Central US and Canadian Chapters into a new Chapter.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was agreed that the BoT would prefer the Central US Chapter to continue to operate, but at the same time members of the BoT recognized that the Chapter may not have the means to hold a local meeting every year, but should try to do so as often as practical. Furthermore it was agreed that reaching out to the Canadian membership to either restart the Canadian Chapter, or failing that, potentially merge the two chapters should be explored.

Action: CF to notify Central Chapter President of the BoT's decision.

Action: DH to provide CF with a listing of Canadian members.

Action: CF to write to Canadian members to gauge interest in either restarting the Canadian Chapter and/or combining with Central US Chapter.

3. IIS Fellow Discussion

The proposal made by Bill Wheeler for the IIS to consider creating an IIS Fellow designation was discussed. Such an award would be given to individuals who have given outstanding service to the IIS. CF noted that a brief discussion on this proposal was held during the previous teleconference with a decision taken to defer further discussion to the new BoT. While it was generally agreed that the proposal had merits, it was also concluded that given the size of the Society, the existing IIS Award fulfills the role of recognizing individuals who have given outstanding service to the IIS.

4. IIS Membership Proposal

CL presented a proposal on a potential way to increase IIS membership. CL noted that there are numerous articles published in the scientific literature in the field of isotopes from authors who are not members of the IIS. CL stated that she would be willing coordinate a literature search and compile a list of authors publishing in the field of

isotopes. These individuals could then be contacted via a letter from CF inviting them to participate in future IIS Symposia and join the IIS as members.

DH noted that GE has also presented ideas on how to increase academic membership in the IIS, to respond to the falling membership base from the pharmaceutical industry, but tight finances have prevented the BoT from moving forward with his idea. GE noted that in his contacts with the E. China Chapter President, it was felt that the IIS could broaden its focus on the applications and uses of isotopes in addition to the traditional focus on synthesis. RHE stated that she has a contact at Villanova University that she will pass on to CL. GE stated that the UK Chapter has had a scientific committee in place for several years which has four members of academia serving on it. This helps ensure involvement from academia in the planning and organization of the UK Chapter meetings. GE suggested that the US Chapters may wish to consider setting up similar committees.

There was general agreement to proceed with CL's proposal and CF stated he would draft a letter to send to the individuals identified.

Action: CF to draft the above letter to be sent to non-IIS members publishing in the field of isotopes.

5. AOB

Financial Update

RHE updated the BoT on the IIS finances. RHE stated that there is a total of \$193,345 in the New Century Account. RHE also stated moving the account from Sovereign gained an extra 0.5% in interest.

Post meeting note: DH reported that there is a total of \$34,747 in the Synergy business checking account.

Heidelberg Update

CF stated he would contact the Heidelberg organizers to see if there were any new developments to report. As approved by the Board at the August 26th 2009 meeting, the organizers are invited to participate in BoT teleconferences as '*ex officio*' members of the BoT.

Local Meeting Update

GE stated the Bad Soden meeting will be held on Sept 23rd and 24th. DH stated that the North East US meeting will be held on Oct 21st and 22nd. GE additionally stated the UK meeting will be held on Oct 14th.

Next BoT meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the BoT will be in June 2010 and will be arranged by CF.

David Hesk
IIS Executive Secretary