

IIS Board of Trustees Meeting August 26th 2011

Present: George Ellames, Dave Hesk, Ruth Hough-Engel, Carolee Lavey, Brad Maxwell, Alex Susan

Apologies for absence: Crist Filer

1. Heidelberg Update

DH updated the BoT on behalf of the organizers on the status of the Heidelberg meeting. The two key note speakers, Prof. Leisinger and Prof. Maas and the Plenary speakers, Profs Beller, Fürstner, Langstroem, Glorius, Rowland and Guengerich have all accepted invitations.

The scientific advisory board has met several times in the past month to select co-chairmen for the scientific sessions and has almost completed this activity. In addition the scientific advisory board is in the process of identifying suitable individuals to give invited lectures to introduce or lead off the parallel scientific sessions. The board is next planning to meet on Aug 30th to complete both the session chairmen selection process and complete the list of invited lectures. Following this meeting, it is planned to send out formal invitations to the selected session chairmen.

Plans are still to have the registration template go live in November or December of this year. The organizers also plan to have one day registration options available to allow for people to attend selected parts of the conference if they wish.

2. Melvin Calvin and IIS award nominations

The BoT discussed the candidates for the Melvin Calvin and IIS awards. It was noted that all candidates nominated were of outstanding quality. After discussing the candidates for each award, the BoT took a formal vote and selected the award winners. BM will contact the award winners by email and invite them to receive the awards at the Heidelberg meeting.

3. WCI Update

DH reported there have been no new developments with WCI since the last BoT meeting.

4. 7ICI Symposium

BM will be attending the 7ICI in Moscow and has submitted a technical abstract to be given during one of the medical sessions, and also has been given a 15 minute slot in one of the plenary sessions for an IIS Discussion. The slide deck that BM intends to present was previously distributed to BoT members for comment. The final slide in the deck outlines some possible proposals for differing levels of cooperation between the IIS and the WCI. Four options will be presented and at the suggestion of CL, it was

agreed that BoT members should email BM the option they most favour. In response to a question from RHE about gauging the response to the presentation, BM stated he hopes to meet with several members of the WCI leadership to discuss these options. It was noted that discussions regarding closer cooperation between the IIS and WCI have gone on for several years without any real outcome achieved and a real effort should be made for the two groups to agree upon a common strategy moving forward. The four options presented in the slide deck by BM are designed to offer some different scenarios to move forward and conclude these discussions.

Action: BoT members to provide feedback on the slide deck to BM, including the WCI option slide.

BM will also forward a copy of the technical programme from 7ICI to AS.

5. EC Consultation of Scientific information in the Information Age

BM stated that Ken Lawrie had forwarded him a copy of suggested responses to a survey sent by Wiley to scientific societies for which it has published journals. This was originally distributed by the European Commission seeking to gather feedback to assist the EC in adopting a recommendation on access and preservation of digital scientific information. Wiley has already responded to the survey and is asking the IIS to also add their views through completing the survey. After a discussion, it was agreed to circulate this to the BoR for further comment and discussion.

Action: GE to distribute the link to the survey to the BoR, along with the responses suggested by Wiley.

Action: BM to respond to Ken asking for more information regarding timelines for responses, etc.

6. ^{14}C shortage Update

DH reported that the supply situation appears to be easing somewhat as it appears to be easier to obtain basic ^{14}C starting materials that were previously unavailable or very restricted in quantity. The price however still remains significantly higher than pre-shortage. AS also stated that he has learned that the shortage was caused by a technical issue with the reactor, but also stated that due to the three year cycle time, the current supply shortage will not be likely fully alleviated until 2013. AS also stated that one of the co-organizers of 7ICI is part of Izotop, which is the sole authorized distributor of isotopes in Russia and it would be worth trying to connect with him while at the conference.

7. Elections update

BM stated that the Election Committee has been formed but one of the members has informed him that while his job status will be changing he would to continue to serve as

long as it makes sense. BM also stated that he plans to send out an announcement in October to open nominations for officers. In response to a question from CL regarding communicating the new constitution and election procedures to the membership at large, DH stated that he needs to send out emailing lists to members of the BoR to allow them to distribute this information. CL also suggested that when the nomination forms are sent out, there should be a one page summary explaining the new process and stating that members can only run for a single office as opposed to the past practice where members could run for multiple offices.

Action: DH to send emailing lists to BoR members for distribution of new constitution and election procedure information to their respective chapters.

8. BoR update

GE reported that he has communicated the results of the constitution election to the members of the BoR. The members of the BoR will cascade this to their respective Chapters upon receipt of the emailing lists from DH. GE also said that he received some feedback on the survey responses forwarded by Wiley (See Item 5) from European members of the BoR representing chapters in EC states, but in contrast did not get any response to the Radioactive Waste inquiry from any the members of the BoR.

9. Membership update

DH stated that 2011 paid membership currently stands at 231, with a total of 316 if members from China, Russia and Romania are included. In comparison from 2010, approximately 108 members have since not renewed their membership in the society due to a multitude of reasons, but consolidation and reduction in size of isotope groups by Big-Pharma being a primary reason. In contrast only 17 completely new memberships have been recorded in 2011.

DH also stated that some former members of the Pharma groups have moved to positions in isotope CRO's, but also many have left the field entirely. DH also stated that in general the percentage of isotope scientists who are working for CRO's who are members is lower than the corresponding percentage for the Pharma groups. A discussion was held among the BoT to consider ideas on how to increase membership uptake rates from the isotope specialty CRO's. It was suggested that the IIS should contact the CRO's directly and ask them to consider budgeting funds for IIS memberships for their isotope scientists.

Action: DH to compile a list of isotope CRO's and contact them to see if the rate of IIS membership can be increased.

10. Financial update

RHE reported that there is a total of \$179,701.46 in the general IIS funds. DH also reported that the Garden State Community bank account has a balance of \$42,000. In

response to a question from CL regarding the expenses for the Heidelberg meeting, RHE stated that apart from a small number of incidental expenses, for simplicity the Heidelberg treasurer has gone directly to the CED for start up funds which has avoided the need to transfer significant funds from the main IIS accounts to date.

11. Radwaste Committee inquiry

BM reported in response to the action item from the previous BoT meeting, he has contacted Mike Marx to obtain further details about the nature of the inquiry. The inquiry was made to gauge the experience of other IIS members with radioactive waste disposal costs as from Aptuit's experience, the cost of waste disposal appears to be rising.

12. 2011 Goals update

BM reported that he has been working with Slava to set up three discussion groups through Google Groups. Three such groups have been set up, ^3H , ^{14}C and analytical. These groups are password protected and will be only available for members who will be only able to join by invitation. It is planned to present membership of these groups as a benefit of IIS membership. BM plans to pilot the process with the BoT members prior to sending out a more general invitation to IIS members through Slava. Ideally these will be fully launched prior to the local chapter meetings to be held this autumn. Additionally there are three members who are interested in running these groups and BM will contact and update them on current progress.

13. AOB

None.

Next BoT meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the BoT will be held at the North East meeting on the morning of October 27th at the Madison Hotel. DH will arrange the conference room which will also have teleconferencing capability.

David Hesk
IIS Executive Secretary