

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RADIATION RESEARCH

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MINUTES OF THE IARR INTERIM COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON FRIDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER 1985, AT THE MRC RADIOBIOLOGY UNIT, HARWELL, DIDCOT, UNITED KINGDOM

Present:

A.C. Upton (President); G.E. Adams (Vice-President); J.J. Broerse (Secretary-Treasurer); M.M. Elkind; E.M. Fielden; U.F.W. Hagen; E.J. Hall; J.R. Maisin; B.D. Michael; H. Suit; L. Tallone Lombardi; H. Tanooka (representing T. Kumatori) and G. Walinder.

1. Opening

The president called the meeting to order at 9h23 and informed the council that apologies for absence were received from M. Imamura, A.M. Kellerer, A.W.T. Konings, J. Kroh and A. Plonka.

2. Minutes Amsterdam council meeting

The minutes of the IARR Council Meeting held on 8 July 1983 at Amsterdam were discussed. The two paragraphs listed as item 2 should be read as 2a and 2b. With reference to the minutes, Dr. Fielden explained in a letter to the Secretary that the dates for the 8th ICRR (item 2a of the minutes) were chosen to avoid clash with University functions in the United Kingdom. At the Amsterdam council meeting it was decided that an amount of Dfl. 50.000,-- would be made available for the organizers of the 8th ICRR for young investigator travel grants, under the provision that all fees from member societies will be received. Since this item is again on the agenda for the interim council meeting, the council decided that it is unnecessary to include the statement in the old minutes. After renumbering of the above mentioned two paragraphs the minutes of the Amsterdam meeting were accepted.

3. Report 7th ICRR

In his capacity as Secretary-General of the 7th ICRR, Dr. Broerse provided some additional information on his final report, which was already circulated in July 1984. Additional copies of the report were distributed. The organizers of the 7th ICRR felt rather satisfied that the post-congress issue of the proceedings was published within three months after the congress. The council paid attention to the financial aspects of the organization of the 7th ICRR. One year after the congress the financial budget showed a negative balance of Dfl. 16.000,--. Fortunately at that time some private donations could be called upon to solve this problem. The break-even point for running the congress would have been a minimum number of 1300 scientific participants. Dr. Hall accentuated that organizers of scientific congresses can easily fall into a hole (which was far more disastrous for the 16th International Congress of Radiology organized in 1985 at Hawaii). After the 7th ICRR an approximate number of 130 additional proceedings were sold. Some council members expressed their views that better promotion could have increased the sales of the proceedings. At present an approximate amount of Dfl. 3000,-- has accrued from interest and sales of a few proceedings. This amount will be transferred to the organizers of the 8th ICRR.

In view of his own preparations, Dr. Fielden inquired about the number of replies received from the first announcement. Dr. Broerse promised to trace this information. At the end of the discussion Dr. Upton congratulated the Secretary-General with the success of the 7th ICRR and expressed the appreciation of the council and all participants for conducting this event.

4. Preparations 8th ICRR

In their respective capacities as President and Secretary-General, Dr. Adams and Dr. Fielden provided information on the preparation of the 8th ICRR for which the UK colleagues received the mandate during the 1981 interim council meeting at Brussels. Dr. Fielden handed out the freshly made copies of the first announcement. The organizing committee has already obtained support from charity funds and is in the process of acquiring assistance from industries. A number of plenary sessions are

foreseen; due to various reasons the ratio of poster to oral presentations will probably be around 4:6. Attention will also be given to non-ionizing radiation: hyperthermia, microwaves, ultrasound and NMR. Dr. Broerse called attention to the declining interest and financial support for radiation research projects at the European continent. As an example he mentioned that there is a great risk that the CEC Radiation Program will probably not be continued after 1990. The American council members have the feeling that in the US the situation is again improving (DOE is shrinking, but NIH is expanding and takes over responsibilities). Anyhow it will be useful if specific topics such as public health policy, risks of low doses of ionizing radiation and risk assessment of chemical agents versus radiation could be fashioned in the program of the 8th ICRR. All council members are kindly asked to study the scientific program and express their opinion on specific aspects, if necessary, to the chairman of the scientific program committee, Dr. Jack Fowler.

5. Venue 9th ICRR

Concerning the invitations to host the 9th ICRR in 1991 the council members had studied the invitations from India and Poland. Dr. Tallone Lombardi gave a short explanation on the Italian offer and Dr. Hagen mentioned that the German societies will extend an invitation to organize the 1995 congress in the Federal Republic of Germany. They consider this year to be very appropriate for holding the congress in Germany since this is the 100th year anniversary of the discovery of X-rays by Wilhelm Röntgen. After some introductory remarks of Dr. Suit, Dr. Whitmore gave a full exposé on the invitation to host the conference in Toronto, Canada. All council members received a provisional leaflet which contained the following information:

venue: Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto, Canada

time period: 7-12 July 1991

officers for the congress: Dr. Whitmore (president), Dr. Ward (vice-president), Dr. J.D. Chapman (secretary-general), Dr. Epp (treasurer), Dr. Dewey (program chairman) and Dr. Rauth (local arrangements).

The council appreciated the suggestion for a moderate registration fee. The members of the council realized that the tentative budget is based on the current rate of expense. It was the general feeling of the council that the registration fees should include the proceedings, participation in the congress banquet and other social activities.

The council members were asked to express in a secret ballot their first and second preference out of the four candidate countries. With a more than two-third majority, Canada was chosen as the venue for the 9th ICRR to be held in 1991. The secretary-treasurer will inform all inviting countries about the decision of the council.

6. Young investigator travel grants 8th ICRR

The secretary-treasurer informed the council that he was approached by the President and the Secretary-General of the 8th ICRR, with a request for an advance payment for the organization of the Edinburgh Congress. Although this had not been pursued at earlier occasions, the council could decide to allocate the funds for young investigator travel grants already in 1985. The financial status of the IARR allows to earmark the same amount as for the 7th ICRR (Dfl. 50.000,--) for this purpose and this proposal was supported by the council under the condition that an international committee would be installed for the allocation of the funds. The council further agreed that a lot of emphasis should be placed on the scientific quality of the contribution of the young investigators, however, special consideration should also be given to their country of origin. At a later stage of the meeting Dr. Fielden inquired about the possibilities of increasing the contribution from the IARR for young investigator travel grants.

7. Financial affairs over 1983 and 1984.

Concerning the summaries supplied by the Secretary-Treasurer no specific comments were made. At the end of 1984 the majority of the balance was placed on a fixed guilders account, which provided an interest of approximately 5.5 percent. The council asked the Secretary-General to investigate other ways of storing the money at a better profit.

8. Nomination of finance committee

The IARR President asked whether any council member would volunteer for these positions. The council gladly accepted the assistance of Dr. Hagen (chairman), Dr. Michael and Dr. Tanooka for the task of auditing the accounts over the period 1 January 1983 - 31 December 1986. The Secretary-Treasurer will mail the documents in triplicate to the chairman of the finance committee in February 1987.

9. Support for other meetings

In accordance with the constitution the council agreed to support other meetings in the area of radiation research, with the objective of furthering the field and keeping it vicarious. The council decided that this support should be given under the following conditions: the upper limit should be 10 per cent of the running costs of the conference and the total yearly support should not exceed 15 per cent of the income of the Association. The support for the Gray meeting which was held from 2-4 September 1985 at Manchester meets these criteria.

The council decided favourably to the request of Dr. Fielden to obtain additional funding for young investigator travel grants for the 8th ICRR to a maximum of Dfl. 10,000.--. This amount will be made payable in the first half year of 1987. Further financial commitments of the Association may include a contribution to the travel costs and the cash award for the Henry S. Kaplan Distinguished Scientist Award.

10. Institution of the Henry S. Kaplan IARR Distinguished Scientist Award

The council reacted favourably to the actions taken by Dr. Elkind and Dr. Adams. It was decided that Dr. Upton will draft an announcement on the Award which will be submitted to a number of journals in the area of radiation research. Dr. Broerse informed the council about his attempts to obtain financial support from publishers. A negative reply was received from Springer Verlag, no answer up to that moment from Academic Press, whereas Taylor and Francis will be happy to contribute \$1000.-- once every four years to this award and will review the amount on each occasion. Dr. Broerse will approach other publishers including Pergamon Press. The selection committee will consist of three members,

namely the former president, the actual president and the president-elect. The Secretary-Treasurer will act as the clearing house for all nominations and further administrative affairs.

11. Nominating committee for the new IARR council

The composition of the nominating committee was discussed especially in view of a broad international representation. The council asked Dr. Hall to serve as chairman and Dr. Imamura as other council member for this task. After some discussion it was decided to ask Dr. Fowler, Dr. Quintiliani and Dr. Skarsgard to assist in this committee. The council suggested to Dr. Hall that Prof. Kesavan from India could be considered as one of the possible candidates for the new council.

12. Membership from other countries

The contacts with our Chinese colleagues initiated after the 7th ICRR have not yet resulted in a formal relationship. Dr. Fielden informed the council that he could discuss this item again during a future visit to the People's Republic of China. Upon the initiative of the Secretary-Treasurer an application for membership was received from the Indian Society for Radiation and Photochemical Sciences (ISRAPS) with 55 members. The council made the unanimously favourable decision to admit the ISRAPS to full membership of the Association.

13. Miscellaneous

The president thanked the council members for their cooperation, expressed the gratitude of the council to Dr. Adams for his efficient local organization for this meeting and the great hospitality (which was continued during a very pleasant evening at the house of Dr. Adams and his wife) and closed the meeting at 17h05.

Rijswijk, 6 November 1985

J.J. Broerse