



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR RADIATION RESEARCH

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Minutes of the IARR (Old) Council Meeting held in the Arts Block, Room A109, at University College, Dublin at 2.00 p.m. on Sunday 18th July 1999

AGENDA

1. Opening by the President and adoption of the Agenda
2. Any amendments to the minutes of the Interim Council Meeting held in Oxford on 27th September 1997 (previously circulated November 1997) and adoption of the Minutes
3. Matters arising from the Minutes not covered by the Agenda
4. History and Aims of the IARR (President)
5. Financial status of the IARR and Auditors' report (Sec/Treasurer)
6. H. S. Kaplan Distinguished Scientist Award for 1999
7. Requests for IARR support for other meetings
8. Membership of Israel following death of Dr. Riklis
9. Other matters for the General Assembly
10. Report on the 11th ICRR (C. Mothersill)
11. Preparations for the 12th ICRR (R. Martin)
12. Any other business, followed by close of meeting

Present:

J. Broerse (President), E. Hall (Vice-President), M. Fielden (Sec./Treasurer), J. Carlsson, K. Chomiczewski, R. Cooper, D. Goodhead, J. Hopewell, R. Martin, A. Shima, H. Paretzke, M. Sasaki, F. Stewart, P. Wardman and J. Zimbrick

Apologies received from:

P. O'Neill and Professor Pan

1. The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if they approved the Agenda. The Agenda was accepted.
2. Minutes of the Interim Council Meeting held in Oxford in September 1997 There were no amendments to the Minutes and they were adopted.
3. Matters arising from the Minutes The Secretary asked Dr. Martin if the Medical Physics Meeting to be held in Australia in 2003 was confirmed. Dr. Martin said this meeting would take place in Sydney the week following the ICRR and he understood that there was to be a small meeting on Auger Effects in Melbourne a few days before the ICRR in Brisbane.
4. History and Aims of the IARR The President reported that for various reasons the additional work to bring the History of the Association up to date had not yet been completed. Both he and the Secretary were working on this and hoped to have the document finished by October, which would also enable some details of the Dublin meeting to be included. He felt it was important to bring the History up to date and, to maintain the link with the New Council, he proposed that Dr. Hall be included in the list of revising authors. The Vice-President asked about the Aims of the Association and the Secretary replied that this formed a preface to the Constitution. The printed copies of the Constitution were considerably out of date, as some 5 or 6 byelaws had been adopted and passed by various Assemblies since the original adoption of the Constitution in 1974. The Vice-President felt that a brief statement of the aims of the Association should appear in the publications associated with the ICRRs, to remind all delegates of the purpose of the IARR. As this would apply to future ICRRs it was agreed that the incoming President should present this proposal to the New Council.
5. The Secretary/Treasurer had pre-circulated all Council members with a copy of the accounts for the last 4 years, as agreed with the Audit Committee. A copy of the Auditors' Report, under the chairmanship of Dr. W. Hanson, had also been pre-circulated with the accounts, and a proposed budget for the period 1999-2002. The Auditors agreed with the accounts and complimented the Treasurer on his book-keeping and management during his period in office. The Treasurer reported

that some Societies had become remiss in paying their dues and at the end of the last accounting period (Dec 31st 98) there was a shortfall of some \$11,000. During the last 6 months this had been pursued and the Treasurer was happy to report that as of that day over \$10,000 of the overdue fees had been collected and the accounts were in a good shape to be handed over to a new Treasurer. Bank interest had been higher than anticipated, due to the strength of Sterling and high interest rates. Dollar interest rates were less than Sterling, but by appropriate fixed term deposit deals interest income had been maximised without risk. The Wurzburg meeting had returned ~\$27,000 of the \$35,000 advanced by the IARR and, of the loans to assist smaller meetings, several had repaid the loans in full. IARR advances to both the Wurzburg and Dublin meetings were \$25,000 plus another \$10,000 nearer the time of the meetings. With the present healthy state of the IARR accounts, he proposed that the next Council should consider a recommendation that the Brisbane meeting be guaranteed \$35,000 from the outset. Expenditure items were all within budget.

The Vice-President asked how the Kaplan Award was funded. The Treasurer said that when the award was set up at the Interim Council Meeting in 1985 no source of funds for the award was identified. Messrs. Taylor & Francis had proved very helpful and on two occasions gave \$1,000 and in 1998 had generously donated \$1,500 towards the prize. A further difficulty had been that the value of the award had not been fixed, and it was inappropriate for Council to fix the value of the award once the candidate was nominated. This position had been regularised at the Interim Council Meeting in 1997 when the award was fixed at \$3,000, made up of a prize of \$1,000 and \$2,000 towards the expenses of the recipient and spouse to attend the meeting. The Treasurer felt that on present income an award of that magnitude was sustainable, and he foresaw no need to propose an increase in membership fees for the next 4 years, since the accounts now held a reserve comparable to a 4-yearly expenditure in the current accounting period.

One of the duties of the Treasurer was to propose a budget for the next 4-yearly accounting period and to present it to the IARR General Assembly. A proposed budget had been circulated with the Council papers, which showed a comparison with the actual expenditure figures for 1991-94, and the proposed and actual figures for 1995-98, as well as the proposed budget for 1999-2002. The proposed budget was conservative in terms of membership fees and interest, and with expenditure little changed, based on the last accounting period.

The President and Vice-President thanked Dr. Fielden for his work as Treasurer and Secretary over the last 8 years and proposed that the accounts be accepted. This was seconded by Dr. Goodhead. All were in agreement.

6. The President reported that there had been two nominations for the Kaplan Award, both of whom would have been very worthy recipients. As it was felt that we could only make one award at a time, a difficult decision had to be made and, as probably everybody knew by now, Professor J. B. Little from Harvard was the recipient for the 1999 award.

7. The Secretary had received two requests for support for meetings in India in January 2000. Two similar requests had been received at the previous Interim Council Meeting in Oxford.

One request was from the Indian Member Society (ISRAPS) and was not properly formulated, in that it did not give details of the meeting, nor a guarantee that any money loaned would be used to support young investigators from different countries. The Secretary had responded to this request by asking for further details, but also pointing out that as this was a biennial meeting sponsored by ISRAPS it would appear to be a regular meeting of an IARR member society (albeit with some delegates from other countries). As such it would not be eligible for IARR funds (although they had in fact received assistance some four years ago.) It was a written matter of IARR policy (since 1979) that IARR money to support smaller meetings could not be used for IARR member society meetings.

The second request, from Dr. Rao, concerned a Workshop on Radiation and Photochemistry, to be held in the University of Pune. By its timing (18-20th January 2000) this would appear to be a satellite meeting associated with the other meeting described above. The application gave full details of the meeting, with a proposed budget, and a request for a loan of £700 (US\$1100). The application was tabled and circulated. A previous application for a similar meeting had been approved at the Interim Council Meeting in 1997, and following the meeting an officially audited statement of accounts was received by the Treasurer, as required by the rules of the IARR. The Treasurer said that with the present state of the IARR finances this loan could be made, and the Council approved of the Treasurer granting this loan.

8. The President reported that for the last ~16 years Israel's membership of the IARR had been handled by Dr. Riklis. Following the sad death of Dr. Riklis last year, neither the Secretary nor the President had been able to locate any other member of the Israeli Society for Radiation Research, and from the last correspondence with Dr. Riklis it would appear that he was attempting to re-form the Society. Through Professor Quastel we now had contact with Dr. Gorodetsky, who was working in radiobiology, and had been asked if it was feasible to re-form the Israeli Society. The Treasurer said that as Israel's membership was only in arrears by 2 years there was still one year of grace before Council could consider their membership lapsed. It was proposed that no action be taken at this time, but that the new Secretary report back to the Interim Council Meeting in 2001 regarding the viability of Israel's membership.
9. The Secretary had circulated the nominations for new Elected Councillors and Officers, as prepared by a Sub-Committee under the chairmanship of Professor Streffer. No additional nominations had been received and ballot papers had been made up, based on Professor Streffer's list. This would be voted on at the General Assembly to be held on Tuesday 20th July. The Secretary had received notice of voting delegates appointed by the membership societies.
10. In the absence of Dr. Mothersill, no up to date report on the 11th ICRR (Dublin) was available.

11. Dr. Martin reported on the preparations for the 12th ICRR in Brisbane in 2003. He reported that the organisation was proceeding well. A Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) had been appointed and a representative of that company was at the Dublin meeting, armed with advance publicity for the 12th Congress, and information on Brisbane and Queensland in particular, and Australia in general. All delegates to the Dublin meeting had received a postcard requesting an indication of their likely intention to attend the Congress in 2003 and whether they wished to present a paper. It was hoped that this would be returned by delegates during the week, and from the replies received several names would be drawn to receive bottles of Australian wine, as an inducement to return the completed cards. The national committees had been appointed and an Interim Programme Committee of 4 Australians and 5 international scientists had been appointed. Dr. Cooper said that he was looking into reduced price airfares and special group rates, and had a preliminary indication that Delta Airlines were prepared to make an offer. There was a discussion as to whether Member Societies could sponsor charter flights (thought unlikely, because of difficulty getting enough people to fill a plane from any one country). It was suggested that the IARR could stimulate its member societies to look into group travel arrangements, although the general experience of members was that it was extremely difficult to get individual scientists to agree to both a common start and return date. Several members recalled the excellent arrangements that had been made by the UK company, Express Boyd, to get delegates from the UK and other European countries to Tokyo in 1979, followed by a tour of several Far Eastern countries, at a very good price. Attempts to organise something similar for Toronto in 1991 was not successful as competition for transatlantic flights kept fares low and there was too little a margin to produce a cost effective package. Councillors from the British and Netherlands societies will investigate the possibilities for arranging joint travel from Europe to Australia in '03.

Dr. Martin was thanked for his presentation.

12. Members of Council expressed their appreciation to the President and Secretary for their efforts over the years. Dr. Hall pointed out that Martin Fielden had served on the IARR Council for 20 years, the last 8 as Secretary/Treasurer, and his knowledge of the Association and its Constitution would be missed.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 3.15 p.m.
