

International Society of Zoological Sciences

Minutes of the International Society of Zoological Sciences Institutional Member Meeting

**Held in the Meeting Room C101 of the Institute of Zoology,
Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, China**

0900–1200 on 28 June 2013

Attending: Chunxu Han, Abraham Haim, Sarita Maree, Zhibin Zhang, Hongying Sun, Longying Wen, Palaniswami Rajendran, Pramod Ramteke, Anil Kumar, Chadwick Tan, Shripad Upsani, Saber Mohamed Abd-Allah, Bariushaa Munkhtsog, Yoshitaka Nagahama, John Buckeridge, Jürgen Heinze, Valery Neronov, Jean-Marc Jallon, Nathalie Fomproix, Anastasia Antonevich, Wenhua Xiong, Wei Zhang, Terry Boyd-Zhang (23 attending)

Issues for discussion:

1. ISZS Business Report: ISZS has made good progress. Han gave highlights from the ISZS business report, which was presented in full during the 5th International Symposium of Integrative Zoology Opening Ceremony in Meeting Room B105, IOZ, CAS on 26 June 2013. The Society will continue to focus on an International Zoological Congress (every four years), special symposia, INZ, BCGC, as well as other international training programmes concerning the zoological sciences. ISZS membership currently consists of 112 Institutional Members from 26 countries (which representing over 30,000 zoologists) and 1086 Individual Members from 58 countries.

Action: ISZS members will discuss what members, both institutional and individual, can contribute to ISZS business and development.

Action: ISZS members will discuss how to increase membership.

Agreed.

2. Integrative Zoology Report: INZ is currently publishing 4 issues per year; this year included a Supplement. For details on performance, see Wiley's INZ annual report. There was a 40% rise in downloads and the IF rose 6%. Downloads show an international distribution.

Action: ISZS members are to actively promote the journal and to address the following in particular:

- To whom should the ToC alerts be sent? Who should we target?

- How should we increase subscriptions?
- How should we increase diversity of authors and topics?

Agreed.

3. BCGC Program: The BCGC Program holds 1 or 2 meetings per year, covering topics such as:

- Impact of global change on the biological invasion of alien species
- Impact of global change on the abundance and range shift of endangered species
- Impact of global change on community structure and biodiversity of different ecosystems
- Nonlinearity and interactions of global change in affecting biological populations

The BCGC Program Action Plan for 2013–2015 is as follows:

1. Program network expansion: to attract more scientists and partners and to globally promote its influence and increase research capability
2. Website and Data-base construction: to build an open access database and to promote data sharing among scientists
3. International symposia or workshops: on range shift of species under global warming and on responses of biodiversity change to human disturbances
4. Publications: to publish 2 special issues of BCGC in INZ
5. International training course on BCGC: to organize 2 international training classes under the theme of BCGC

Action: ISZS members will undertake action to expand the network of scientists in the BCGC Program.

Action: ISZS members will implement the Action Plan.

Action: ISZS members to propose further research topics for the BCGC Program.

Agreed.

4. ISIZ: ISIZ symposia are held between Congresses.

Action: A group photo of the 5th ISIZ participants will be sent to everyone.

Agreed.

5. ISZS website: Website and data base development is important to ISZS. It is essential that the ISZS web site be up-to-date.

ISZS members are encouraged to provide their information that they wish to put on ISZS website.

Action: Wenhua will work on website and data base development.

Action: Terry will keep it updated.

Agreed.

6. Newsletter: The editorial office prepares an ISZS newsletter twice per year. ISZS members are encouraged to provide their email addresses, and those of the contact persons for local societies, in order to receive information from the Society. They are also encouraged to provide their information that they wish to disseminate through ISZS newsletter.

Action: Terry will prepare the newsletter and inform members when it is available for download from the ISZS website.

Agreed.

7. 22nd International Congress of Zoology Status Report: The **22nd ICZ** will be held in **Okinawa, Japan, 12–17 Nov 2016**. It will be hosted by ISZS, Zoological Society of Japan (ZSJ) and the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University (OIST). The local organizing committee is: K. Agata (Kyoto), Yoshi (Matsuyama), N. Satoh (Okinawa) and H. Takeda (Tokyo); the tentative theme of the congress is “Frontiers of Zoological Sciences”.

Concerns about the dates were raised, but bookings for venue and accommodation have already been made; further, the weather is more agreeable at that time.

The website will be available soon.

Action: Dr. Nagahama will set up an International Steering Committee for the ICZ.

Agreed.

8. Institutional Representatives: 13 Institutional member representatives did a brief introduction on their institutions. They are:

- Longying Wen: Leshan Normal University
- Sarita: Zoological Society of Southern Africa (ZSSA)
- Palaniswami Rajendran: Vivekananda College
- Hongying Sun: Jiangsu Zoological Society (JSZS)
- Valery Neronov: Russia Academy of Sciences (RAS)
- Anil Kumar: Government V. Y. T. Postgraduate Autonomous College
- Chadwick Tan: St. Paul University Quezon City
- Anastasia Antonevich: Russian Theriological Society, RAS
- Shripad Upsani: Arts and Science College
- Ramod W Ramteke: Society of Biosciences
- Saber Mohamed Abd-Allah: Reproductive Biology and Genetics Society

- Jürgen Heinze: German Society of Sciences
- John Buckeridge: Australian Academy of Sciences

Action: ISZS members will discuss issues raised by the ISZS Institutional Members.

Agreed.

9. Discussion:

- Both Japan and South Africa are good choices for the ICZ and, the Congress can also be used to organize **Regional Meetings**, on regional topics. For example, regions such as Asia Pacific and Africa. Other African countries could also become members of ISZS.
- ISZS members need to discuss the interaction of ISZS with local societies, and how to develop membership. ISZS needs to start having institutions pay for membership, and this needs to be communicated clearly to the members: that we have 2 types of membership (Institutional and Individual) and membership is paid with voting rights or free with no voting rights.
- In Haifa, it was suggested that the **2024 ICZ** be held in **India**, perhaps **with the Indian Society of Zoology?**
- Dr. Jallon frequently attends a zoological conference for French nations, such as France and North African countries, including Egypt. The conference is in French, but Dr. Jallon is hoping that will be more English used in the future, and that more Arabic nations will become involved. It would be excellent for Israel to be involved as well. The conference this year includes Mediterranean biology and will be held on a boat on the Nile River. A Tunisian professor is organizing the conference this year.
- IUBS is a good contact. Do we have plans to make more links and collaborations with other international organizations? Different committees create confusion because all cover the same subjects and, as a result, there are too many meetings with the same themes. We should merge and work towards greater co-operation with kindred societies. Perhaps BCGC could be merged into World Earth and ISZS could consult with Nils about this. Dr. Neronov could also contact ICCA Earth Science and UN Environment Program for Global Change. Dr. Jallon could discuss with UNESCO about an interaction to develop zoological organizations within them. If INZ IF increases, then ISZS will be in a better position to talk to UNESCO.
- Online membership registration is needed. Currently, the form must be downloaded and sent to the office through email.

- ISZS Society emails are good because a member can forward them to colleagues.
- Questions to consider: Dr. Palaniswami Rajendran, Head, PG and Research Department of Advanced Zoology and Biotechnology, Vivekananda College, India raised issues related to students opting for higher studies and Research in Zoology. It includes: How to increase the number of students choosing to study zoology? How to increase the strength/quality of the students, and their research? Students do not study about animals because of the recent fields such as biotech, etc. Because of this, we may lose good and efficient students for Zoology and it will curtail the future research developments in the field. Dr. Zhibin Zhang, President of ISZS agreed to this point and he said more students opt for recent subjects like Bioinformatics. How to change this situation? Dr. Jean-Marc Jallon, Past President of ISZS suggested that an integrative approach is a good one and perhaps can serve to get applied science and zoology back together. The Society should think about giving grants for student work and research. Some students dream of becoming a “National Geographic Explorer”, but they do not know about the advantages of traveling to conferences, etc. Therefore, the Society should show them the possibilities in zoology.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1155.