

Minutes

The International Society of Zoological Sciences

Executive Committee Meeting

Held at the Second International Symposium of Integrative Zoology

Beijing, A501, Institute of Zoology
1:30-4:00pm, December 10th 2007

In attendance: Dr J. Buckeridge, (President, Australia), Dr. J-M Jallon (France), Dr. R. Polymeni (Greece), Dr. M. Schmitt (Germany), Dr. Z. Zhang (China), Dr. E. Cooper (USA), Dr. Y. Xie (Executive Secretary)

Observer: Dr. W. Xiong (China, Secretariat).

Apologies: Dr Song Daxiong.

Minutes of the previous meeting (October 20th 2006):

These minutes were circulated, and endorsed with minor corrections.

Minutes to be circulated.

Action: Yan Xie

1. Dr. Song Daxiong

Dr. Song Daxiong was absent due to health problem. The Executive Committee asked that its sympathy be communicated to Dr. Song.

Action: Zhibin Zhang

2. Corporate membership

If a national society is a corporate member, its sub-societies may also be the corporate members. National, regional or sub-societies will be treated the same and can join ISZS separately. This will encourage countries without national societies. Professor Cooper will ask the American Society of ?? to become a corporate member.

Action: Edwin Cooper

It was agreed that letters should be written to societies who are not yet members

Action: Secretariat

3. Hosts for the 21st Congress of Zoology

The Executive has been informally advised that the Brazilian Zoological Society wishes to host the 21st congress. This is not yet confirmed. If Brazil does not confirm this, the Japanese Zoological Society has offered to host the event. Professor Dov Por (Israel) is the champion of the

Brasilian application. He has been contacted regarding this, but this needs to be pursued by the Executive, with confirmation required by the end of this month.

Action: Rosa Polymeni

4. Congress meetings

Professor B.M. Arora from India may be able to provide useful advice regarding whether India could hold a congress in the future. He certainly indicated to Professor Buckeridge that money was not an issue for the Indian Zoological community.

Action: Secretariat

5. Encourage individual membership

Members of an institution that holds Corporate Membership will automatically become members of the ISZS. Although it was agreed that this was not a problem for the Society, we should make this option clear during the XXth ICZ and our website.

Action: Jean-Marc Jallon

6. Distribution of a recent issue of *Integrative Zoology* at the Paris congress

This should be shipped to Paris before the conference.

Action: Secretariat

7. Posters at the XXth ICZ

Poster presenters often find it very difficult to get financial support for registration on the basis of poster presentation alone. However, posters contribute the essence of science well, and can be most useful for emerging researchers. It was agreed that the host committee should arrange a short time for the promotion of posters at the Congress.

Action: Jean-Marc Jallon

8. Funding support to participants to the XXth ICZ

Support for countries in which scientists are clearly disadvantaged financially was discussed (there was an (impassioned plea from the Bangladesh delegate). It was also noted that the ISZS does not have funds to undertake the level of support needed. The Congress host has indicated that it is exploring options, but is not confident that significant funding can be obtained.

Action: Jean-Marc Jallon/ISZS Secretariat

9. *Integrative Zoology*

Messrs Mark Robertson and Jensen Liu from Wiley-Blackwell joined the meeting to discuss *Integrative Zoology*. *IZ* has had “free access” for two years, with another free year in 2008. However there will be subscription charges from 2009. Current usage is low with only 8863 downloads this year. There will be a Library campaign over the next 12 months, in addition, marketing is required to attract wider subscription (e.g. at the Paris Congress). The first imperative is to get excellent papers in the journal, the second to improve citation for these articles.

Action: Secretariat, Jean-Marc Jallon and Executive Members

10. Impact factor of *Integrative Zoology*

We should apply later for ISI. Criteria to consider are publishing on time, and an active Editorial Board. As the journal is in new area – *Integrative Zoology*, we are providing an umbrella for other zoological societies. The ISZS was asked to organize special issues (e.g. on specific themes or regions). It was agreed to appoint subject editors to organize specific themes.

Action: Secretariat and Executive

11. ISZS Executive changes

Professors Buckeridge, Schmitt and Song have advised that they will resign from the ISZS Executive, effective August 28th, 2008. Thus there will be 3 vacant positions. It was agreed that the position of Past President, be established, with this person being an *ex officio* member of the ISZS Executive.

Note: There should be a “balance” with respect to geography and discipline amongst the Executive. People from Africa, Asia and South America should be encouraged. The General Assembly will decide on the new Executive Members, although the new Executive will elect the president. Pre-selection (shortlisting) of candidates will be made by the current Executive on the basis of geography and discipline.

The Secretariat is to advise all members of the process, and to call for nominations, which in addition must be seconded by a current member of the Society. Nominations are to be accompanied by a *curriculum vitae* and a statement, of no more than 100 words, of how the nominee believes he/she can contribute to the Society. Nominations must be signed by the nominee.

Nominations for the Executive must be submitted to the Secretariat by 2nd April 2008.

Action: Secretariat/Executive Members

The meeting closed at 1610 hours.

Next meeting: Paris, 28th August, 2008.