



Asian Association of Societies for Plant Pathology
House of Delegates Meeting
Minutes

Room 311A, Beijing International Convention Centre
12:00-13:30, Wednesday 28 August 2013

PRESENT

David Guest (President), Somsiri Sangchote (Vice-President), Chenggui Han (Secretary-General), Wong Jia Yih (Singapore), Yong-Hwan Lee (Korea), Wenhua Tang (China), Christian Camagun (Philippines)

AGENDA

1. Apologies

None received

2. Minutes of previous meeting Darwin, 26 April 2011 (circulated)

Accepted

3. President's report (attached)

4. Treasurer's report (not available at the meeting)

Funds from the Darwin conference (approx. 5,000 AUD) are being held in trust by APPS. It is not possible for an a/c to be opened in Australia but APPS can be invoiced via Peter Williamson for the money when there is a need to spend this money e.g. if the funding is required for Thailand then an a/c could be opened there and Peter invoiced.

AASPP committee members at this meeting need to discuss:

- 1) how best the existing funding can be invested to promote the objectives of AASPP and how much should be dispersed.
- 2) how to grow this funding e.g. by using small percentage of any profit from Thailand conference or other appropriate means of raising funding.

The Meeting discussed the issues raised by Dr Mohammed.

- The meeting asked if AASPP could set up a bank account under ISPP? If this was established in Australia as preferred by the members at the Meeting, this would require a change in the AASPP Constitution to allow for the Treasurer to be permanently based in Australia. Prof Guest to investigate.
- Prof Guest will discuss with Dr Mohammed developing a proposal on how best to use the funds. The Meeting suggested that funds could be used to
 - pay for ISPP affiliation,
 - for a float to assist with future ACPP organisation, and
 - for assistance for students to attend future ACPPs, either as discounts on registration or travel bursaries.
- The meeting also discussed the need to develop a policy on sharing the costs and surpluses with future ACPP organising committees. The funds generated from the 4th ACPP in Darwin is the first time AASPP has had resources to support its activities, and this income stream needs to be formalised. The meeting authorised Prof Guest and Dr Mohammed to prepare a proposal to present to the organisers of the 5th ACPP, based on the formula used by ISPP in its relationship to ICPP organizing committees. This proposal should be prepared, discussed and approved to be in effect for the 5th ACPP.

5. Letter from OMICS offering *Plant Pathology and Microbiology* as the official journal of AASPP (circulated)

After discussion it was unanimously agreed to decline the offer.
Prof Guest to respond to OMICS.

6. 5th ACPP: 3-6 November 2014, Chiang Mai, Thailand

Prof Sangchote gave a presentation on the conference, to be held 3-6 November, 2014, in Chiang Mai. He noted that the conference will coincide with the famous Loy Kratong Festival. Details will be available on the conference website, with a link placed on the AASPP website.

7. Feedback on the AASPP website

The President sought feedback on the AASPP website, established with the help of Peter Williamson (Business Manager, ISPP)

<http://www.isppweb.org/AASPP/>

He noted that the website was only as useful as the information provided by member societies, and encouraged greater input and participation. It is essential that links and contact details of affiliated national societies be regularly updated and maintained.

Members suggested:

- providing links to National and affiliated societies websites and newsletters
- advertising upcoming meetings and workshops
- Archiving past abstracts from past ACPPs

Prof Yong-Hwan Lee offered to develop a Facebook page for AASPP, to encourage participation from younger members.

8. Any other business

8.1. 6th ACPP 2017

Prof Yong-Hwan Lee, on behalf of the Korean Society for Plant Pathology, offered to host the 6th ACPP in Korea in 2017. The meeting unanimously accepted the nomination, and Prof Guest

will send an official letter of invitation.

8.2. Proposed changes to the AASPP Constitution

Prof Wenhua Tang suggested that the Constitution should be modified to allow minor changes to the positions of Office in AASPP. Under this proposal, the Office holders would be:

- President
- Past President
- Vice-Presidents (one elected, the second the Chair of the Organising Committee of the next ACPP)
- Secretary-General (China)
- Treasurer (Australia)

Professor Guest will discuss these proposals with the AASPP Executive and Dr Johnson, President of ISPP, and bring recommendations to the next House of Delegates meeting for approval.

The meeting closed at 13:30.