



The International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP)
Minutes for 1st Meeting ISPP Executive Committee (EC) (2013-2018)

Thursday 29th August 2013 0700 to 0830

Theme for new ISPP President: “Plant Health is Earth’s Wealth”

Quote from the web “Imagine if Trees gave off wifi signals, we would be planning so many trees and we’d probably save the planet too. Too bad they only produce the oxygen we breathe.”

Venue: Room 310 Beijing International Conference Center

Attendance: ISPP EC and Secretariat for 2013-2018 and EC for 2008-2013 and members of the 2018 organizing committee.

Present:

Executive: President - Dr Greg Johnson [greg.johnson@velocitynet.com.au]

Secretary General – Prof Brenda Wingfield [Brenda.Wingfield@fabi.up.ac.za]

Vice President – Prof Thomas Evans [tomevans@UDel.Edu]

Vice President - Serge Savary [Serge.Savary@toulouse.inra.fr]

Immediate Past President - Prof M. Lodovica Gullino [marialodovica.gullino@unito.it]

Business Manager – Dr Peter Williamson; Editor [business_manager@isppweb.org]

Treasurer: Prof Zamir Punja [punja@sfu.ca]

Editor in Chief, Food Security – Richard Strange [r.strange@sbc.bbk.ac.uk]

Chair Task Force on Global Food Security – Prof Lise Korsten [Lise.Korsten@up.ac.za]

ISPP Historian: Prof Charlie Delp

ISPP Past President -Richard Falloon [FalloonR@crop.cri.nz]

APS President-Elect - Prof Rick Bennett [rbennett@uark.edu]

APS Immediate Past President -Prof Mike Boehm [boehm.1@osu.edu]

APS Executive Vice President – Ms Amy Hope [ahope@scisoc.org]

Apologies

Chairperson ISPP 2013 organizing committee -Professor You-Liang Peng [pengyl@cau.edu.cn]

Vice President (SMCs) ISPP 2013 -Dr Wafa Khoury [w.elkhoury@ifad.org]

ISPP Newsletter Editor Brian Deverall [Brian Deverall <brian.deverall@sydney.edu.au>]

Welcome, agreement on agenda, and Presidents Report Greg Johnson

The President welcomed everyone and introduced the new committee and the representatives of APS who will be organizing the 2018 ISPP meeting. The president reflected that the ISPP meeting has been a good one. There have been presentations from individuals from at least 50 different countries and that the organizing committee should be congratulated on this.

Discussion on the meeting and recommendations/suggestions from APS

Recommendations:

Presentation of the Eriksson medal and recognition of ISPP fellows should be at the opening sessions.

Task force Plenary or Keynotes should be part of the regular meeting schedule and not in the evening

Dinner should be moved to the last day to ensure attendance at closing ceremony and last sessions.

Poster viewing time has been too short. Good agreement to follow APS style of evening time viewing with beer and such available as an additional attraction.

There was extensive discussion about the abstract book and carbon foot print. Suggestion that there could be an App for tablets. Agreement that embracing technology was a good idea but that we need to be mindful that this is an international meeting and the not all delegates have access to the same technology. The abstracts do however; need to be available before hand on the website.

Tours – detract from the attendance at meeting. Either the tours should be offered both before, after and during the meeting with the potential that perhaps there should be an afternoon “free” during the meeting to allow for some sightseeing.

Need directed grants available to assist particularly Africans and South Americans to attend the meeting.

Suggestion that there could be live streaming of at least the plenaries for the meeting. Could also have satellite venues for this in other parts of the world.

Mike Beohm indicated that the concept of meeting in Boston is firstly that it should be a good partnership. The APS also understand that diversity is important for this meeting. There will be accommodation including dormitories for students. Registration will be kept as low as possible. In addition they undertake to have representation from the rest of the world on organizing committee.

In 2017 there will be a pre meeting of the EC preferably in Boston.

Amy Hope will be the direct APS contact person (Tom Evans as VP ISPP is also a key liaison point).

Thank you from APS - flasks

Richard Fallon – next to reflect on the success of this meeting. 99% of this meeting has been very successful.

The Task Force on Global Food Security

Prof Lise Korsten was asked to lead this discussion. The draft minutes of task force afternoon committee meeting had been circulated previously (but Greg and Lodovica had some concerns about accuracy). The second task force session at the meeting was well received but there was concern that as it was held in the evening that the attendance had been lower than expected (only about 60 by GJ count). One of the outcomes of the meeting will be a review and updating of Task Force webpage on the ISPP web site giving members access to details regarding activities.

Future of the Task Force and Congress Challenge

ISPP has had two successful Challenge projects. The way forward will be to review the focus of the Task Force with the view to revitalizing this or considering whether the aims have been achieved in stimulating committees and projects which will then continue after this specific task force [Committee of Biotic Constraints to Food & Fibre Production should be seen as a continuation of one of the components of the Task Force]. The ISPP should then consider if it wants to launch another Task Force (on a different topic).

Subject Matter Committees

There has been growth of some of the ISPP subject matter committees. Others are less active and perhaps we should be looking to the more active committees to provide a model for less active committees. Some committees have formal structures that go beyond the ISPP.

Currently listed *inactive* and active committees are listed and need to be reviewed:

Biological Control

Biotic Constraints to Food & Fibre Production

Chemical Control (non-responsive in 2008-2013)

Citrus Diseases (Chair has retired)

Common names of Plant Diseases (chair wants to hand over)

Environmental Effects on Plants

Epidemiology

Extension (Chair wants to handover)

Forest Pathology

Fusarium

Genetics and Breeding for Resistance

Grapevine Trunk Diseases

Molecular Plant Pathology & Biotechnology

Phytophthora

Plant Pathogenic Bacteria

Plant Virus Epidemiology

Plant Quarantine and Biosecurity

Postharvest Pathology

Rhizoctonia

Sclerotinia

Seed Pathology (need new chair)

Soilborne Plant Pathogens

Special Projects

Taxonomy of Plant Pathogenic Bacteria

Teaching

Greg Johnson suggested that we should we consider some changes in the constitution so that chair of committee should serve on the Council– this would need changes in the Statutes/Rules. Also that editors in chief should potentially have voting rights. Voting rights of SMC Chairs also need to be reviewed. These changes can be done by E-mail but should be done early on in this term after necessary consultation with Council and SMCs.

Action 1/1 President to consult further with EC and subsequently Council and SMCs on proposal to broaden Council Voting rights to EiC, SMC Chairs SMCs

Action 1/2 Identify more active committees to provide a model for less active committees. Serge

Financial support and items from committee reports.

Greg Johnson led the discussion with input from Tom Evans and Zamir Punja. There is need to work on five year budget. Currently the ISPP receives about US\$ 15 000 from societies and income from Springer for the journal. Thus we are living on our reserves (and profit from ICPP2008). Need to review society payments as well as ensure that all societies pay their dues annually and timeously. Also should consider more funding raising activities for the society including receiving donations. One suggestion is that we could have a banner that is shipped around to meetings to get donations to ISPP. In addition we need to ensure that a

percentage of the profit from each ICPP meeting goes to ISPP – this needs to be part of the bid agreement.

Zamir Punja will send out an annual budget to make sure that the funds do not run too low. In addition there is a recommendation that we could get assistance from other societies with regards to our finances, Tom Evans suggested the APS would be more than willing to assist in this.

The issue of ISPP providing funding for attendance of ISPP meeting was raised at the council meeting. There has perhaps been a lack of transparency with regards to this and there needs to be a sharing of experiences from the organizing committees as this is a recurring problem. These demands are often from regions/persons which should have access to funding to attend ISPP meetings. Furthermore the requests can become rather persistent and difficult for the organizers to deal with.

There is a need to insure ISPP [Executive committee and Secretariat] against losses/liabilities.

Action 1/3 There is a need to insure ISPP [committee] against liabilities/losses.
Zamir/Tom

Council

Items from Councilor's and Subject Matter Committee Chair's suggestions.

Council meeting went well [about 50 people]. The consensus was that it would be good to have a better forum for discussion at this meeting. Should have food and drink before and afterward meeting. This should be organized specifically in this manner in 2018.

Action 1/4 There is a need to provide clearer guidelines as to the role of the council meeting and the attendance of the councilors at the meeting. This should be provided to the societies and to their representatives when these details are available. Brenda to develop these get okay from EC and circulate them

The formal part of the meeting should be more obvious. There is a need to make specific decisions at this meeting and people do need to vote and know what they are voting for.

The President listed the issues raised by Council for EC to consider since they need to be dealt with under the requirements of ISPP Statutes 16 and 17¹. He also noted that he had responded to the points in Council and had subsequently spoken with two of the people who raise issues (Councilor from Nigeria, Carollee Bull) :

Equity/transparency in relation to financial support for invited speakers (mentioned under 5)
Support for developing countries and ICPP not frequent enough! (mentioned under 5)
Comparative lack of participation by Latin America and Africa (mentioned under 5)

¹ Statute 16: The Council **shall determine general policy and respond to recommendations of the Executive Committee** in the organization and management of the ISPP.

Statute 17: The Executive Committee **shall implement policy and conduct the business of the ISPP subject to approval by the Council.**

Guidelines for promoting fungicides – session organization (Raised by KPNV Councilor)
(See Council Minutes)

The President also noted that we needed to improve the way in which ISPP budgets/audits are presented to Council to meet with requirements of Rule 2 (a) and (b)²

Action 1/5 The issues raised by Council will be considered further in next EC meeting.

Memberships and Invitations

Report from the ICPP2018 committee (Tom Evans)

Suggestions for the Website www.isppweb.org (Peter Williamson)

Forward strategy (Greg)

Direction that we are going is good – Task Force needs to have focus and an end [finite time]. Should thus need to look at TOR for current Task Force, do we need a new Task Force and what should this on? A Task Force could morph into a Subject Matter Committee? Should the challenge programme be self-sustaining? Need to review the Food Security Task Force in this system. Opportunity to buy journal might be able to assist in the funding but do we know where publishing is going to be in 20 years.

Ask Task Force to review and recapture vision (in consultation with EC). Richard S and Lise to discuss this for consideration by EC.

Then should we not be looking at another theme/task force for ISPP?

ISPP could have on web site the full spread of what is Plant Pathology. --- link to education, curricula.

The theme for Greg's term "Plant Health is Earths Wealth" – brought from Australian Plant Pathology Society.

New Business (Greg)

EC Meetings 2008-2013 (Greg/Brenda)

Plant Pathology meetings that should be on everyone radar and could be used to bring EC together:

IHC Brisbane August 2014

APS Minneapolis August 2014 [Zamir offers to host an EC meeting in Vancouver]

5th Asian Conference for Plant Pathology - Chiang Mai Thailand, – November 2014

Phytopathology Society of Japan Centenary March 28 2015

APPC Perth Australia, September 2015?

IPPC Germany – Berlin 24-28 August 2015 <http://www.ippc2015.de/>

125 Anniversary of the KNPV (Dutch Society) in 2016

APS meeting August 2017 – this is essential and as much as the APS meeting is not in Boston the EC meeting needs to be in Boston

APPC Brisbane Australia, September 2017

ICPP 2018

² ISPP Rule 2 (a) and (b) The General Assembly shall, in accordance with Statute 15 of the Statutes, be convened to receive: (a) reports on the work of the ISPP submitted by its officers, committee chairs and the Council; (b) **audited accounts of the ISPP submitted by the Treasurer with the approval of the Council;**

The basic suggestion is that we should try to align executive meeting with the highlighted meetings. We really need to meet regularly. Also can do skype meetings. Suggestion that we could pay for additional level on skype to allow for meetings with more than two people. The ISPP cannot cover much in the way of funding to attend meetings but can potentially cover the cost of an additional night (nights) accommodation for EC members to attend an ISSP EC meeting.

Specific topics we need to deal with before the end of the year

Finances – position

Task Force decision of way forward

Congress – pool opinions about how it will happen – align with APS

Consultation/Revision of Statutes and Rules for minutes

Appreciation

Greg Johnson expressed his thanks to Lodovica Gullino and outgoing members for service to ISPP. He expressed he expectation that ISPP would hope to be able to call on them in the future as the need arises.

Charlie Delp presented a first edition of the history of the society to Lodivica in appreciation of her service to ISPP.

Greg Johnson also gave all members of the EC committee a copy of the first edition of history of the society.

Yellow shirts and purple shirt organizers and volunteers will be invited to attend the closing ceremony.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned shortly after 8:30am

Action points:

Action 1/1 President to consult further with EC and subsequently Council and SMCs on proposal to broaden Council Voting rights to Eic, SMC Chairs SMCs

Action 1/2 ISPP should be looking to the more active committees to provide a model for less active committees. Serge

Action 1/3 There is a need to insure ISPP [committee] against losses. Zamir/Tom

Action 1/4 There is a need to provide clearer guidelines as to the role of the council meeting and the attendance of the councilors at the meeting. This should be provided to the societies and to their representatives when these details are available. Brenda to develop these and get okay from EC before circulating them.

Action 1/5 The issues raised by Council will be considered further in next EC meeting.

Specific topics we need to deal with before the end of the year

Finances – position Zamir

Task force decision of way forward- Lise Korsten and Richard Strange for EC to consider
Congress – pool opinions about how it will happen – Greg Johnson and EC to interact
proactively with APS

Revision of by laws for minutes Greg Johnson

