

2014-2018 International Union of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (IUPHAR)
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
May 23rd, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

The Paris Function Room
Sofitel Conference Center on Renmin Square, Xi'an, China

Participants

Executive Committee

Darrell Abernethy, USA, Chair of Clinical Pharmacology Division
Leigh Ann Arbuckle, USA, Treasurer's Assistant
James Barrett, USA, Councilor
S. J. Enna, USA, President
Graeme Henderson, United Kingdom, First Vice President
Masamitsu Iino, Japan, Second Vice President
Lynn LeCount, USA, Administrative Support
David LeCouteur, Australia, Secretary-General, Clinical Division
Francesca Levi-Schaffer, Israel, Councilor
Eeva Moilanen, Finland, Councilor
Bhagirath Patel, India, Councilor
Michael Spedding, France, Secretary-General
Petra Thürmann, Germany, Treasurer
David Webb, United Kingdom, Vice Chair, Clinical Division
Yongxiang Zhang, PR China, Councilor

Guest

Paul Vanhoutte, Hong Kong, Past President 2002 - 2006

Afternoon Guests

Guanhua Du, China, Chinese Pharmacological Society President
Yongxiang Zhang, Chinese Pharmacological Society Secretary
Ying Zhao, Chinese Pharmacological Society Administrative Officer

Unavailable

Patrick du Souich, Canada, Past President 2010 - 2014
Maria Isabel Lucena, Spain, Treasurer, Clinical Division

Discussion Topics

President's welcome

President S.J. Enna thanked the group for traveling to Xi'an with a special acknowledgment to Dr. Yongxiang Zhang and his colleagues in the Chinese Pharmacological Society (CNPHARS) for their efforts in hosting the meetings and symposium. Dr. Enna noted the Xi'an events are an excellent example of leveraging the Executive Committee meetings to interface with IUPHAR member societies to gain a better understanding of how IUPHAR can offer assistance in developing regional pharmacology education and research.

Secretary-General comments

Secretary-General Michael Spedding observed the agenda was lengthy and the Executive Committee had many objectives to accomplish during today's meeting. Since funding is critical to achieving many of those goals, he introduced Treasurer Petra Thürmann to provide a summary of the IUPHAR finances.

Treasurer's report

Summary of 2014 financial reports

Dr. Thürmann announced during 2014 the IUPHAR investments and checking accounts lost ~US\$59.5k due to currency and market fluctuations. She discussed with the IUPHAR liaison at UBS the possibility of realigning the investment strategy, however, the current portfolio contents are already

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considered to be conservative and in compliance with the Canon of Basel regulations for not-for-profits. During 2014 IUPHAR received ~US\$194.2k in income but expended ~US\$233.8k for a loss of ~US\$39.6k. Together with the decrease in investment and currency values, IUPHAR experienced a net loss of ~US\$99.1k for 2014.

Summary of 2010-2013 finances

Dr. Thürmann provided an overview of the 2010 through 2013 cash flow. Despite annual losses, the IUPHAR cash balance of ~US\$626.9k at the end of 2014 is comparable to the cash balance of ~US\$652.6 at the beginning of 2010.

(Amounts in USD Thousands)				
Category	2010	2011	2012	2013
Cash Balance January 1	652.6	815.5	743.0	739.9
Total Income	436.1	317.0	210.9	165.1
Total Expenses	309.0	345.8	268.7	199.5
Unrealized investment gain/loss	35.8	-43.7	54.7	20.5
IUPHAR Net	162.9	-72.5	-3.1	-13.9
Cash Balance December 31	815.5	743.0	739.9	726.0

Member societies with outstanding dues through 2014

As of July 6, 2015, the following IUPHAR member societies have unpaid dues:

Society	Prior years	2012	2013	2014	Total
Argentine Society		786	827	835	\$2,448
American Society of Clinical Pharmacology Therapeutics				675	\$675
Association of Pharmacologists of Ukraine			1126		\$1,126
Bulgarian Pharmacology Society	320	168	176	185	\$849
Chilean Society of Pharmacology				385	\$385
Colombian Pharmacological Association	320	168	176	185	\$849
Indonesian Pharmacological Association	320	168	176	185	\$849
Kenyan Society for Basic and Applied Pharmacology		35	110	115	\$260
Latin American Association of Pharmacology	1170	615	645	675	\$3,105
Pakistan Pharmacological Society	320	168	176	185	\$849
Pharmacological & Therapeutic Society of Thailand				185	\$185
Philippine Society of Experimental & Clinical Pharmacology	444	234	245	185	\$1,108
Serbian Pharmacological Society		505	530	557	\$1,592
Slovak Pharmacological Society				557	\$557
Spanish Association of Pharmacology				2770	\$2,770
Swedish Society for Pharmacology				767	\$767
Venezuelan Society of Pharmacology	320	168	176	185	\$849
West African Society for Pharmacology				675	\$675
Total					\$20,668

Dr. Thürmann reported the Argentine Society of Pharmacology has contacted her to work through the economic challenges they are facing at this time. The Treasurer's Assistant, Ms. Leigh Ann Arbuckle, clarified that delays in paying membership dues are occasionally a result of sending the IUPHAR invoice to the wrong person within a society while a few societies pay multiple years at once. Dr. Thürmann encouraged the Executive Committee members to contact her if they know a colleague within one of these societies who may be able to help her resolve the past due amounts.

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Dr. Thürmann recommended to the Executive Committee that membership dues be increased 5% per year. Dr. Darrell Abernethy, moved to empower the IUPHAR officers to increase membership dues up to 5% per year through 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

Actual vs. projected 2015 income and expenses

In summarizing the 2015 year-to-date financials against the projected budget, Dr. Thürmann pointed out among the projected income sources that the IUPHAR portion of the proceeds resulting from the 2014 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology in Cape Town is expected any time. She noted among the 2015 expenses that the biannual payments in support of the team responsible for maintaining the GuideToPharmacology database ended during the first half of 2015. Dr. Thürmann observed that the largest expenses to IUPHAR are administrative services followed by the meetings of the Executive and Nomenclature Committees. The officers are seeking creative solutions for reducing such expenses to IUPHAR, or raising specific funding for them. Dr. Thürmann commented that this Executive Committee meeting in conjunction with a CNPHARS symposium was a successful example of those efforts. As of April 30, 2015, the IUPHAR investment portfolio had increased ~US\$16.5k over the value reported at the end of 2014 so Dr. Thürmann hopes that the global market will remain reasonably stable to retain the positive investment performance.

Audit reports

The externally audited financial files were reviewed and approved by the IUPHAR internal auditors, Drs. Johannes Knollmeyer (Germany) and Kathy Knights (Australia). Both internal auditors offered suggestions for improving the flow and presentation of the financial information, which will be implemented by Dr. Thürmann and Ms. Arbuckle.

Fundraising initiatives

Dr. Spedding explained historically the Nomenclature Committee (NC-IUPHAR) and the receptor database, which was combined a few years ago with the British Pharmacological Society (BPS) Concise Guide to Pharmacology to become the IUPHAR/BPS GuideToPharmacology, were able to raise sufficient funds from pharmaceutical sponsors to cover the ongoing operations and occasionally even yielded a surplus. IUPHAR congresses in past decades helped fund the shortages not covered by membership dues. The officers have agreed to include a 10% overhead charge in all future grant applications to help recover the administration costs incurred by IUPHAR, where this is allowable.

However, Dr. Spedding acknowledged the era of pharmaceutical company generosity (with the notable exception of Servier) and big pharmacology meetings has ended. Project-based requests for funding must offer the recipients value and visibility, which are time-consuming to establish but will offer longstanding benefits.

Past sources of IUPHAR funding

- Society dues
- Profits from World Congresses
- Pharma donations
- International Council of Science (ICSU) grants
- A major individual donation
- Grants for section activities (mainly NC-IUPHAR)

Historically, the Clinical Division (through their congresses) and NC-IUPHAR have raised significant amounts of money. Currently, IUPHAR congresses are combined

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and pharma donations have virtually dried up - refusals are usually long term, so the strategy over the last year has been to solicit grants for specific projects AND prepare the groundwork for highly targeted future requests to pharma. Consequently, grants have been a major goal, which requires substantial effort on behalf of officers and subcommittees, and clear demonstration of competitive expertise or therapeutic/educational need.

Funding for NC-IUPHAR and associated meetings has been via a Wellcome Trust grant (540K£ December 2012 - November 2015) and the BPS and IUPHAR matched funding, raised via sponsors (now finished), the BPS financing of two curators over five years (2015 – 2020) and an inverse pharmacology grant for one curator (via Dr. Jamie Davies).

Dr. Spedding has assisted the IUPHAR Gastrointestinal Section and the IUPHAR Immunopharmacology Section/NC-IUPHAR to submit sizeable grant applications (the latter has been granted, after this meeting).

IUPHAR/BPS GuideToPharmacology

Negotiations are nearing completion for the BPS to provide long term funding for two curators on the database team located at the University of Edinburgh. It is anticipated the stable funding will help IUPHAR attract other sponsors and donors. The current five year grant from the Wellcome Trust will expire this year. The immunopharmacology grant application will maintain the current level of support for another three years as a positive decision has been obtained.

Other Immunopharmacology grant applications

Although an initial grant application to the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) did not receive funding, Dr. Spedding and Dr. Francesca Levi-Schafer plan to reapply later this year. The European College of Neuropsychopharmacology is a possible partner with the IUPHAR Section on Immunopharmacology as they share a common interest in cataloging targets for neuroimmunopharmacology receptors.

Strategic discussions

Dr. Spedding reported that preliminary discussions with representatives at the Wellcome Trust, a major funding agency, and most major pharmaceutical companies have yielded positive feedback to collaborating with IUPHAR on initiatives that will fulfill their corporate objectives. He anticipates the outputs of such undertakings will be disseminated through IUPHAR sections and publications and the IUPHAR/BPS GuideToPharmacology, which will also help to raise the visibility of IUPHAR.

Strategic discussions had been initiated with the International Society of Study of Xenobiotics (ISSX) for a potential collaboration and database on enzymes transporters and metabolism, to be further discussed at the June ISSX meeting with the IUPHAR Drug Metabolism and Drug Transport Section chair, Dr. Ann Daly, Dr. Spedding and NC-IUPHAR.

Translational pharmacology remains a useful funding opportunity but a plan has yet to be enacted.

Better results have come from face-to-face strategy meetings with big organizations such as Wellcome Trust. Dr Spedding has had preparatory informal meetings with Wellcome Trust, Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI), Gates Foundation (T. Mundell), EFPIA and ICSU Future Earth. In general, discussion propositions were to partner with India Industry Grants Initiative, approach Japanese Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Initiative, and apply for European COST grants. A major individual donation to NC-IUPHAR some years ago indicates that it may

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well be worthwhile approaching retired pharma executives and pharmacologists generally for donations.

Proposed ad hoc committee for long term financial stability

Dr. Thürmann reminded everyone that during the inaugural meeting of the 2014-2018 Executive Committee last year, the group agreed that long term viability for IUPHAR was a high priority. An ad hoc committee, chaired by Dr. Thürmann, was formed to brainstorm mechanisms and sources of income to be reviewed by the Executive Committee during its next meeting. The individuals who agreed to serve included Dr. Spedding, Vice President Graeme Henderson, Dr. James Barrett, and Dr. David LeCouteur. Dr. Thürmann clarified that the ideas should be applicable to the whole of IUPHAR and not just a portion of the organization. Dr. Enna asked the Executive Committee members to share their ideas with the ad hoc committee.

Regional challenges

Each Executive Committee member was asked to identify the obstacles to improving pharmacology or the related healthcare concerns within their geographical region. Dr. Spedding encouraged them to think about areas where IUPHAR may be able to partner with local organizations to benefit both financially. Many of the suggestions they offered will be taken into consideration by the ad hoc financial stability committee. Dr. Bhagirath Patel invited members of the Executive Committee to the annual meeting of the Indian Pharmacological Society in December, 2015. Dr. Spedding will represent IUPHAR during those proceedings.

Encouraging pharmacology in developing countries

Dr. Henderson reminded the group that one of the priorities established during the 2014 Executive Committee meeting is to seek ways to encourage pharmacology in developing countries. As a result of those discussions, he researched existing mechanisms and programs. Although the World Health Organization (WHO) offers scientists in developing countries an impressive array of journals through the HINARI website (<http://www.who.int/hinari>), librarians are not motivated to market the free articles. Dr. Henderson encouraged the Executive Committee members to alert their colleagues in developing countries to the online publications being offered at no cost.

He also identified a few online mentoring websites. The more universally available organization is called AuthorAID, a not for profit NGO in Oxford, United Kingdom. Based on keywords, it offers software that pairs researchers in developing countries with an online network of global researchers to obtain assistance in becoming published. Dr. Henderson proposed that IUPHAR encourage AuthorAID to establish a pharmacology section then recruit experienced pharmacologists to register on the website to serve as online mentors. It was agreed that Dr. Henderson will write an article to appear in *Pharmacology International* to solicit feedback and endorsements from IUPHAR member societies and pharmacologists and the information about both resources will be shared with the pertinent IUPHAR interest groups and possibly distributed to the officers of the IUPHAR member societies.

IUPHAR mission

Dr. Spedding highlighted some of the points described in a draft of the IUPHAR mission and objectives. In order to ensure it met the needs of the various

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IUPHAR stakeholders, he individually telephoned the Executive Committee members as well as the chairs of the IUPHAR Sections and Subcommittees. Many action points ensued from these conversations. He hopes to use the document as a template when seeking collaborators or grants to describe how IUPHAR can advance the identification of molecular targets as related to disease, and can also defend pharmacology as a key science. While the majority of the Executive Committee members felt the document contained many useful ideas and was an excellent tool for internal planning, the consensus was, in its current format, the text was too long and should be customized depending on the recipients. To create a succinct overview of IUPHAR, it was suggested to start with the current tagline of “Better medicines through global education and research” then add a few bulleted statements to create a mission statement. Dr. Spedding will revise the text to a brochure-sized document for further review by the Executive Committee. He feels it is urgent to develop an organizational description that will explain pharmacology, and may accompany invitations to collaborate or partner with IUPHAR, and to explain the advantages of IUPHAR to individual pharmacological societies.

Education initiatives

- Dr. Enna provided a brief history of the Pharmacology Education Project (PEP) website, which is primarily funded by the American Society for Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (ASPET). Under the leadership of Drs. Simon Maxwell (United Kingdom) and John Szarek (USA), the configuration has been completed in Drupal with the assistance of the database team at the University of Edinburgh. As the editorial board has now been assembled, the next priority is to begin importing curated data and establishing links to external resources that have been evaluated for quality. Dr. Henderson observed that the Pharmacology Education Project homepage may benefit from a dropdown menu offering the project introduction in multiple languages, even though the content is in English. Dr. Enna encouraged the Executive Committee members to invite their own societies to collaborate on the project.
- Dr. James Barrett alerted the group that ASPET is working through the Association of Pharmacology Chairs to help attract the latest teaching materials. Dr. Thürmann observed that the Federation of European Pharmacological Societies, with input from the European Association of Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics, has established a European Certified Pharmacologist program. She felt there may be value in linking the Pharmacology Education Project website to it.
- Dr. David Webb reported that the BPS is building an evidence-based database to help develop base-level requirements for a core curriculum and offer government policy makers a clearer understanding of the value of pharmacology. Dr. Levi-Schafer added that a Horizons 2020 initiative is also analyzing the contributions to society by the discipline of pharmacology.

2014 activity reports

- Dr. Spedding invited the individuals who were in the room to summarize their written reports listed below. Based on his recent telephone interviews, Dr. Spedding provided a verbal summary of the remaining activity reports. He reported that all the IUPHAR Sections and Subcommittees cited a lack of funds as the primary obstacle to being more actively engaged with the pharmacology community.

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They also commonly felt that the communication to and between the various Sections and Subcommittees could be improved.

Reports from IUPHAR representatives to other organizations

International Council for Laboratory Animal Science (ICLAS liaison: J.R. Haywood)

There were no comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

International Council for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (ICMAP liaison: Yongixang Zhang)

Dr. Zhang invited the Executive Committee members to the IUPHAR World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicine being held in Singapore July 22 – 24, 2015. The Section for Pharmacology of Natural Products is likely to collaborate with ICMAP for their next conference, tentatively to be held in Hungary.

International Council for Science (ICSU liaison: Urs Ruegg)

There were no comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

ICSU Committee on Data for Science & Technology (CODATA liaison: Richard Neubig)

There were no comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

ICSU CODATA Versailles Project on Advanced Materials and Standards (CODATA/VAMAS liaison: Darrell Abernethy)

Dr. Abernethy offered a brief description of the activities and the recent meeting in France.

International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC liaison: Michael Spedding)

There were no comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

International Union of Toxicology (IUTOX liaison: John Miners)

Dr. Enna described the reciprocating symposia arrangement approved by the 2010 – 2014 IUPHAR Executive Committee. He noted the IUTOX symposium held during WCP2014 had been well attended and felt the exchange of ideas had worked well. The current Executive Committee agreed to continue the reciprocating symposium.

International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS liaison: John Miners)

Dr. Enna explained that IUPS had recently inquired about the level of interest that IUPHAR had in arranging reciprocating symposium with IUPS as IUPHAR is currently doing with IUTOX. He clarified that the topics must be approved by the meeting organizers to ensure quality symposia. The Executive Committee agreed to try the exchange to see how well it was received by the IUPHAR Congress participants.

Pharmacology for Africa (PharfA liaison: Douglas Oliver)

Dr. Spedding reported that Graeme Henderson and Don Birkett have agreed to assist PharfA in continuing their efforts to build capacity within the African continent to support pharmacological education and research. The group plans to convene a teleconference.

IUPHAR liaison policy

Due to time constraints, Dr. Enna volunteered to draft a policy to be reviewed by the IUPHAR officers then forwarded to the Executive Committee for their consideration. The topic will be revisited during the next Executive Committee meeting.

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Committees

NC-IUPHAR chaired by Stephen Alexander

- Dr. Spedding summarized the recent organization changes and reiterated the efforts to secure long-term funding for the GuideToPharmacology. Dr. Alexander recently agreed to serve as the chair with an Oversight Committee to help evaluate and implement strategic opportunities. Dr. Jamie Davies is the chair of the Database Team responsible for maintaining the GuideToPharmacology. Dr. Spedding feels it's important that NC-IUPHAR draw more interactions with the IUPHAR Sections and Subcommittees.
- Dr. Webb inquired about the status of the NC-IUPHAR Translational Subcommittee. Dr. Spedding noted there has been a partial commitment and a single meeting but he hopes it will become more active over time. Dr. Abernethy feels that, before undertaking the next step, it's important the context be analyzed carefully due to the number of variables and models. Dr. Spedding proposed to supply a brief report of how translational pharmacology may be linked to the GuideToPharmacology database, which will be discussed by the Clinical Pharmacology Division.

Division of Clinical Pharmacology chaired by Darrell Abernethy

- Dr. Abernethy highlighted the recent symposium, Understanding and Optimising the Effects of Multiple Medicines in Old Age, which was chaired by Drs. Sarah Hilmer and Danijela Gnjidic, on May 20th during the joint meeting in Hong Kong organized by the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists (ASCEPT) and the BPS. The speakers were members of the IUPHAR Geriatric Clinical Pharmacology Subcommittee. Dr. Abernethy described the recent formation of the Pharmacoepidemiology Subcommittee, led by Milou-Daniel Drici. They are currently planning an event in Egypt. The Clinical Pharmacology in Developing Countries Subcommittee is putting together a workshop in Botswana and Drs. Lars Gustafsson and Spedding are working on recommendations for academic drug discovery for rare and tropical diseases.
- Dr. Thürmann announced that the Council for International Organizations of Medical Sciences (CIOMS) is considering the hire of a clinical pharmacologist as their new Secretary-General. She encouraged Dr. Masamitsu Iino to invite both CIOMS and the World Health Organization to propose symposium for the 2018 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology.

Sections

Drug Metabolism and Drug Transport (DMDT) Section chaired by Ann Daly

The DMDT Section is collaborating with the Pharmacogenomics/genetics Section and has sponsored a few symposia. The Secretary General has been in communication with Drs. Daly and John Miners about a possible collaboration with the International Society for the Study of Xenobiotics.

Education Section chaired by Simon Maxwell

There were no additional comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

Gastrointestinal (GI) Pharmacology Section chaired by Duan Chen

Dr. Spedding expressed his disappointment that a Horizons 2020 grant application submitted with Dr. Chen was not successful but they are thinking about possible next applications.

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Immunopharmacology Section chaired by Francesca Levi-Schaffer

Dr. Levi-Schaffer offered a presentation on the activities accomplished since being approved as a Section in 2013. She emphasized their efforts to secure funding in order to add immunopharmacology and antibodies data to the GuideToPharmacology. In particular, members of the Immunopharmacology Section are interested in collaborating with the Pharmacology of Natural Products Section. They are supporting meetings by sending speakers to the May 6-10, 2015 meeting of the European Histamine Research Society in Málaga, Spain and Immunopharmacology - VACCIPHARMA 2015 organized in conjunction with the Cuban Society of Pharmacology on June 14 – 19, 2015 in Varadero Beach, Cuba.

Pharmacology of Natural Products Section chaired by Yong-Xiong Zhang

This is seen to be a very important field for IUPHAR as there is currently a divide between synthetic chemistry products, which are the basis of much recent pharmaceutical activity even if the precursor molecules may have been natural products, and natural products that may also be mixtures. IUPHAR could help resolve this gap. The IUPHAR / Chinese Pharmacological Society symposium scheduled for the next day will concentrate on the pharmacology and the regulatory background to natural products. The informal and formal contacts will be followed up in July at the IUPHAR World Conference on the Pharmacology of Natural and Traditional Medicine in Singapore, which is being organized by Drs. Yongxiong Zhang and Fred Wong. There is a natural products section in the GuidetoPharmacology, which will be expanded. An action plan will be generated from this meeting.

Pediatric Clinical Pharmacology Section chaired by Greg Kearns

Dr. Abernethy reported that Dr. Kalle Hoppu represented IUPHAR during a recent WHO meeting on essential medicines for children. There were no further comments or suggestions from the Executive Committee.

Pharmacogenetics/genomics (PGx) Section chaired by Guilherme Suarez-Kurtz

The PGx section sent speakers to the March 11 – 13, 2015 Golden Helix conference on next generation pharmacogenomics in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Dr. Suarez-Kurtz has identified educational materials to share with the Pharmacology Education Project organizers. The PGx Section is also thinking about publishing a “10 Things Pharmacologists Should Know about PGx” to help increase global awareness.

Neuropsychopharmacology (NPP) Section

Dr. Abernethy inquired how the NPP Section would interface with the American and/or European Colleges of Neuropsychopharmacology. Dr. Spedding hopes the establishment of such a section within IUPHAR will help increase the opportunities for collaborating on projects with the Colleges of Neuropsychopharmacology. In particular, IUPHAR works with the European College to curate nomenclature for antipsychotic compounds. Dr. Abernethy moved to approve the application of the NPP Section. The application was approved unanimously. Dr. Enna will notify Dr. Filippo Drago, who submitted the proposal.

Dr Spedding had reported that during his discussions with the Sections and Subcommittees that they may increase (low cost) membership by enrolling prestigious corresponding members, increasing international impact, power and sustainability of subcommittees. Such members are a means of adding additional experience, prestige, and work capacity of a group.

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Sections and Subcommittees could also link molecular targets from their areas (e.g., ageing, psychiatry, natural products, etc.) with GuidetoPharmacology by flagging specific therapeutic targets, so as to pull out sections of the database linked to therapeutic areas, which would then be the IUPHAR GuidetoPharmacology sections for ageing, psychiatry, natural products, etc. This idea has to be worked up, and would require some funding, but would also be a source of funding. Dr. Spedding proposed that the Sections and Subcommittees could create plans for the next Executive Committee meeting in 2016.

Publications with the IUPHAR badge

Dr. Spedding recommended the creation of an IUPHAR editor role to help the Sections and Subcommittees generate publications to enhance their visibility and opportunities for collaborations. Dr. Abernethy suggested a requirement be instituted that speakers who receive travel support from IUPHAR must write a manuscript. Dr. Enna reminded the group that every publication under the auspices of IUPHAR is supposed to be approved by the Executive Committee so this would be an excellent responsibility to delegate to an editorial board. They will also be held responsible for formulating policies regarding publications on behalf of IUPHAR groups. After some discussion, it was agreed by the Executive Committee to appoint an IUPHAR Editorial Board of three individuals chaired by an IUPHAR Editor. If possible, the board members will be chosen from among current or past Executive Committee members. As Dr. Eliot Ohlstein is already serving in this capacity for NC-IUPHAR, Dr. Spedding will consult him about putting together such a group to offer publication assistance to the IUPHAR Division, Sections and Subcommittees.

Elsevier offer to collaborate

Drs. Enna and Levi-Schaffer notified the Executive Committee that they have editorial responsibilities with Elsevier. They were contacted by Elsevier about the possibility of publishing IUPHAR articles. Following an exchange of communications, the Elsevier representative sent a letter, which was disseminated to the Executive Committee members, describing various ways in which Elsevier may be able to collaborate with IUPHAR. The Executive Committee members were receptive to the idea of organizing conferences together in which the scientific output would be published in an Elsevier journal through the IUPHAR Editorial Board. Dr. Enna will report back to the Elsevier representative and request more information about sponsoring an upcoming conference in conjunction with IUPHAR to be forwarded to the IUPHAR Editorial Board once it is appointed. *Nature Drug Discovery* has also offered to publish IUPHAR articles so that invitation will be forwarded to the IUPHAR Editor.

IUPHAR representation at large meetings

Dr. Spedding explained that one strategy by which IUPHAR could enhance its visibility among pharmacologists is to sponsor or co-organize symposia at disease- or systems-based international conferences. Dr. Eeva Moilanen announced that the European Congress of Pharmacology will be held in Istanbul, Turkey on June 26-30, 2016, and this would be an excellent opportunity to have an IUPHAR representative present. Dr. Levi-Schaffer volunteered to serve as the IUPHAR representative and offer an immunopharmacology-related proposal as a speaker. The idea to increase

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IUPHAR representatives at major meetings will be further explored at the next Executive Committee meeting.

Potential areas for future IUPHAR sections

Based on his experience with the NC-IUPHAR model, Dr. Spedding feels an Industrial Pharmacology Section could help guide IUPHAR in meeting the needs at a preclinical level among pharmaceutical companies. Given the recent infrastructures being formed between academic institutions and major pharmaceutical corporations, the need for such a section was questioned. Dr. Spedding clarified that the GuideToPharmacology can be quickly adapted to disseminate specialty area data in a neutral environment. Dr. Thürmann cautioned that such a section would have to be fully transparent to avoid the perception of conflicts of interest between IUPHAR and pharmaceutical companies.

Another area of opportunity for IUPHAR is in environmental pharmacology. The number of pesticides and allergens released into the Earth's air and water systems are growing rapidly. Dr. Spedding highlighted the opportunity to collaborate with ICSU on their Future Earth Initiative as well as IUTOX.

IUPHAR World Congresses

2014 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2014)

Dr. Enna reported that WCP2014 generated a surplus to the South African Society of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology and IUPHAR. The proceeds are expected to arrive any time.

2018 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology (WCP2018)

Dr. Masamitsu Iino announced they have recruited regional pharmacological societies as well as representatives from the Japanese Pharmaceutical Manufacturer's Association to serve on the WCP2018 advisory committees. To help draw interest, the WCP2018 organizers are arranging joint symposia with BPS and ASPET during 2017. The organizers plan to apply for support from the Japanese National Science Academy later this year. The Nobel Laureate, Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, has agreed to be the keynote speaker on the topic of pluripotent stem cells. At this time, the local organizing committee is being formed.

2022 World Congress of Basic and Clinical Pharmacology

Dr. Webb reported that BPS has reserved potential venues and hotels for 2022. The WCP2022 organizers will carefully follow the lead of their Japanese colleagues for advice and guidance.

Next Executive Committee meeting

Dr. Enna reminded the group that, when feasible, the Executive Committee meetings are held in conjunction with IUPHAR member societies. Current possibilities for the next Executive Committee meeting include a joint meeting with the Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists during their annual meeting in November, 2016 in Melbourne or a joint meeting with the NC-IUPHAR and GuideToPharmacology meeting to be held in Edinburgh, United Kingdom in April, 2016. The group endorsed that a proposal should be discussed with the Australians and agreed that should the next Executive Committee meeting occur in November, 2016, an interim teleconference will be arranged during early 2016.

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Dr. Spedding concluded the discussions by reminding the Executive Committee that their efforts should continue beyond this annual meeting and he encouraged each individual to promote IUPHAR during their daily routines. He thanked the hosts; Dr. Guanhua Du, President of the Chinese Pharmacological Society, and Dr. Yongxiong Zhang, Secretary-General of the Chinese Pharmacological Society, for their remarkable welcome. As there was no other business or closing remarks, the meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m. China Standard Time.

Michael Spedding, PhD, FBPhS
Secretary General

Lynn LeCount, CMA
Administrative Officer