

International Society for Diatom Research

15th General Meeting (at the 23rd International Symposium)

11th September 2014 – Nanjing

1. Apologies from Council Members

Sarah Davies (Secretary), Keely Mills (Treasurer), David Mann (Immediate Past President), Steve Juggins (Webmaster), Eileen Cox (EiC Diatom Research), Koen Sabbe (Last Symposium Organizer), Eugenia Sar, Geraldine Reid, Luc Ector, Viv Jones.
Ca. 40 members are present.

2. Minutes of the 14th General Meeting (at the 22nd Symposium, Ghent, 2012)

available at <http://www.isdr.org/news/minutes-14th-general-meeting-isdr>
were approved

3. Deceased members

Francoise Gasse (April 2014),
Grethe Hasle (November 2013),
Edward Markham (January 2014),
Ruth Patrick (September 2013),
Anna-Maria Schmid (May 2013),
Sam VanLandingham (Jan 2013)

4. President's report (to include summary of reports from Diatom Research Editor, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster)

Diatom Research Editor (presented by Marina Potapova)

Comments: Patrick Rioual pointed out that main problem is low impact factor of the journal, this is, for instance, important in China.

Regine Jahn: the key to increase the impact factor is to cite more papers published in Diatom Research

Treasurer report (presented by Suzanne McGowan)

Comments:

Mark Edlund asked whether special issues are bringing money to ISDR or to T&F.

Suzanne McGowan & Regine Jahn suggested that they probably go to ISDR.

Mark Edlund suggested promoting ISDR membership at various meetings.

Kevin McCartney proposed to broaden organization to include members studying other siliceous algae.

Regine Jahn reminded that there was a suggestion expressed at the Ghent meeting to use an umbrella organization.

Secretary & Webmaster

President's report: Additions to their reports:

- Change of **Chief Editorship** for Diatom Research: in the fall 2013 at an eCouncil Meeting it was decided to restructure the Chief Editorship of Diatom Research from 2 (limited to either Europe or North America) to one. Chief Editor will now receive 500 pounds yearly to cover some of the expenses.
- **New website**: news can be presented more on time and timely. More structure for the website possible (e.g. include curators and herbaria list, Diatom terms, Diatom names, recent papers on diatoms, etc.). One or two **WEBMASTER needed!**
- We have a new **members' only** site on our website; members will get a personal entry. In addition: a listserver for members only?
- Botanical Garden Meise, Belgium (Bart) has offered to be the **Archive** for our society (Back Issues of Diatom Research, Proceedings, pictures, etc.).
- **Diatom names backbone** was supported by the last ISDR General meeting in Ghent. Databases with a substantial number of names are CalAcadCAS (orphaned), INA (not all digitized), Algaebase, AlgaTerra; the new species file of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia (not all digitized). They all serve different purposes, none of these is complete, an index would be best.

Comment from Pat Kociolek: CalAcademy Catalogue will move to Boulder at the end of 2014

- **Registration of Diatom names** was supported by the last ISDR General meeting. The special committee on registration of IAPT supports this idea but so far no other institution except BGBM Berlin (for all algae names) has shown interested to implement this. Diatom Research could be a trial Journal to automatically fetch IDs.
- Council's discussion and decisions: How to increase **membership** (also geographically) – why would people want to become members?
 - **Student's subscription** can endure for the entire studentship (proof) plus immediate postdoc time up to 2 years (40/25 pounds).
 - **Reduced rates for LDC countries** (20/10 pounds); currently we have members from 66 countries but only 1 from an LDC country (Ethiopia).
 - Membership in council should not be depend on money: financial support for Honorary Officers and Council Members (if needed and from LDC countries) so that they can attend the IDS.
 - In addition to website and members' only listserver, our society should be present on **Facebook** and **Twitter**. Who is willing to do/supervise this?
 - Our **constitution** needs to be updated (future task).
- Proposal for honorary membership (min. 10 years of service for Diatom Research):
 - 1991-2003: Michael J. Sullivan, USA (already!)
 - 1986-1996: **David G. Mann**, UK

- 1997-2013: **Karen K. Serieyssol**, France

This proposal was unanimously approved.

5. **Election** of Council Members: Results

Stepping down is Koen Sabbe (past conference organiser); he will be replaced by the current conference organizers Xiangdong Yang and John Anderson.

Stepping down is Steve Juggings (Webmaster): we need a new webmaster and also volunteer(s) for the social media.

Votes for Council (30% of membership voted):

Rosa Trobajo, Oscar Romero and Ines Sunesen have been elected.

They are replacing: Luc Ector, Viv Jones, Bart Van de Vijver.

Mark Edlund has been elected as Vice-President;

this means that Marina Potapova is now President and

Regine Jahn is replacing David Mann as immediate past president.

Thanks to all past council members for their contributions to the functioning of our society!

6. **The next IDS venues – 2016 and 2018**

2016: Canada: Québec, Laval University, organized by Reinhard Pienitz, 21st – 26th August 2016 (last week of August), approx. 350 €

Website: www.cen.ulaval.ca/IDS2016

2018 under discussion: London/Midlands (UK) or Berlin (Germany)

Comments:

Suzanne McGowan pointed out that there are a critical number of people available in UK to organize the **meeting**.

Maxim Kulikovskiy said that Berlin might be a better choice for those who need visas as getting UK visa is more difficult than a visa to Germany.

Jonas Zimmermann noted that the price for attendance would be lower in Germany.

Roger Flower argued that the price may be not that high if the meeting is held in UK.

John Andersen mentioned that UK visa may soon be easier to get for Chinese.

Regine Jahn suggested that the voting may be done online prior to 2016 meeting.

Bart Van deVijver suggested to postpone the vote until 2016 meeting and the audience agreed with this suggestion.

Rong Wang asked whether the IDS meetings may not meet every second year;

Regine Jahn replied that European meetings are held every year.

Rick Jordan suggested to hold a terminology **workshop** at an IDS.

Kevin McCartney pointed at the success of the European siliceous microfossil workshops organized by Jacob Witkowski, thus suggesting that broadening the scope of the society may attract more members.

Evelyn Gaiser suggested to organize a number of topic-oriented sessions within IDS; papers on such topics may be contributed to a special issue of Diatom Research.

Rick Jordan noted that membership is running out of fossil diatomists and suggested to organize a special session on fossil diatoms at the next IDS.

John Anderson commented that a reason for the declining membership is the journal availability through university libraries. There should be other incentives to become members than the journal subscription.

Regine Jahn reminded that \$5000 is now available to support various initiatives within society.

Patrick Rioual proposed to use some **funds** for supporting SEM investigations.

Bart Van deVijver argued that \$5,000 is not likely to be sufficient for that purpose.

Regine Jahn suggested that council discusses the use of any available funds.

Andrzej Witkowski recommended to organize a space for donations on the ISDR website.

Maxim Kulikovskiy suggested more support for **young people** to attend ISDR and for publishing open-access papers. He also expressed a wish for getting more help with language editing for non-native English speakers.

Rick Jordan proposed encouraging younger people to be active ISDR members and to invite young people to council.

Kevin McCartney recommended actively recruiting young people.

Evelyn Gaiser suggested allocating funds to support students, web management, newsletters.

Pat Kociolek proposed asking young people what they like to do, having a dialogue.

Thierry Finville pointed out that advisor usually recommends that student joins a group because of support that group/society may provide for the student's research.

Patrick Rioual mentioned that society should give some perks to students for submitting papers in the journal.

Bart Van deVijver proposed to have a series of workshops for young people (ISDR members) prior to meetings. These workshops may provide help with diatom identification, statistical analysis, taxonomy, etc.

Rong Wang and several other members supported this idea.

Rick Jordan commented that these should be short workshops, lasting not longer than a day before the meeting, because of the financial problems.